

When confirmed by the Senate, Josh will take over from a superb public servant, Mitch Daniels. Mitch has watched over the budget with a sharp eye and the common sense of a strong executive. He's insisted on good management of the people's money. He's done his job with great energy and consistent good humor. I have a feeling that Mitch's days in the public service are not over. I want to thank Mitch for serving our country so very well.

And now I'm pleased to introduce my choice as the next Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Josh Bolten.

[At this point, Joshua Bolten made brief remarks.]

The President. Thank you all. Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:58 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Director-designate Bolten.

Statement on the Earthquake in Algeria

May 22, 2003

On behalf of the American people, I extend condolences to the people of Algeria for the terrible losses caused by yesterday's earthquake. I was deeply saddened to learn of the hundreds of deaths, the many injuries, and the major damage in towns east of Algiers and in the capital city. Our prayers are for the victims, their families, and the entire Algerian nation. The United States stands ready to help.

Statement on United Nations Security Council Action To Lift Sanctions on Iraq

May 22, 2003

Today's unanimous vote by the United Nations Security Council adopting Resolution 1483 to lift sanctions on Iraq will help the Iraqi people to rebuild their country and work toward a more prosperous and secure future, one in which they will govern them-

selves, rejoin the world economy, and remain at peace with their neighbors. The nations of the world have demonstrated their unity in their commitment to help the Iraqi people on their path toward a better future.

The Security Council's resolution affirms that the United Nations will have an appropriate vital role in Iraq's reconstruction and transition to a new government. It establishes a strong and important framework for many nations to participate in these activities. I look forward to the Secretary-General's appointment of a Special Representative as we work together to help Iraq recover from three decades of brutal dictatorship. I also look forward to the establishment of an Iraqi Interim Administration that is broadbased and represents all of Iraq's people so that Iraqis can participate as quickly and as fully as possible in the revitalization of their country.

The United States and its coalition partners will remain in Iraq as long as necessary to help put Iraq on the path toward democracy, with a united, representative government that respects human rights and the rule of law. We call on all countries to join in helping the Iraqi people achieve this goal as quickly as possible.

Statement on House of Representatives Passage of an Unemployment Insurance Extension

May 22, 2003

I commend the House of Representatives for passing an unemployment insurance extension that will continue important additional assistance for American workers as our economy recovers. Combined with action on the jobs-and-growth package, Congress has taken important steps to help America's unemployed workers. I also urge Congress to pass legislation to create the innovative Re-employment Accounts I proposed to give certain unemployed individuals additional benefits and incentives to find work. I look forward to signing these measures into law.