

as much—probably more from them than they do from me.

And so one time, one of the guys said, “How do you—how can you handle all this business, and what do you do?” And I said, “Well, one of the things, I like to exercise. I like to stay fit as part of a daily routine.” He said, “What do you do?” I said, “Well, I ride mountain bikes.” And Lou happened to be the captain of the Stanford mountain bike—regular bike time, but felt like he was strong enough to ride with a 59-year-old. [Laughter] And it turns out, he was strong enough to ride. [Laughter]

At any rate, it’s been fun. He’s a part of Peleton One, and—as was Lauren. I’m not going to tell them about the other bikers that didn’t quite it make from your class, Lou—[laughter]—but I really enjoy it. I got a chance to see the caliber and the quality of the people who come to Washington, DC, to serve, and I am impressed by the program.

I guess what I’m telling you is, thanks for being a part of it; thanks for seeing to it that the program continues on. I appreciate you helping to find people to come to Washington, DC, to be a Fellow. I want to thank you for setting a good example for others in the community in which you live. And thank you for allowing me to come by and celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the White House Fellows.

Finally, may God bless you all, and may God bless our country.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:44 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Louis O’Neill and Lauren Zucker, White House Fellows 2004–05.

Remarks on the Resignation of the Vice President’s Chief of Staff

I. Lewis Libby

October 28, 2005

Today I accepted the resignation of Scooter Libby. Scooter has worked tirelessly on behalf of the American people and sacrificed much in the service to this country. He served the Vice President and me through extraordinary times in our Nation’s history.

Special Counsel Fitzgerald’s investigation and ongoing legal proceedings are serious,

and now the proceedings—the process moves into a new phase. In our system, each individual is presumed innocent and entitled to due process and a fair trial.

While we’re all saddened by today’s news, we remain wholly focused on the many issues and opportunities facing this country. I’ve got a job to do and so do the people who work in the White House. We’ve got a job to protect the American people, and that’s what we’ll continue working hard to do.

I look forward to working with Congress on policies to keep this economy moving. And pretty soon, I’ll be naming somebody to the Supreme Court.

Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:51 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Patrick J. Fitzgerald, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois and Department of Justice CIA leak investigation Special Prosecutor.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President’s public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

October 22

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President made additional disaster assistance available to Louisiana by authorizing an increase in the level of Federal funding for Public Assistance projects undertaken as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

The President made additional disaster assistance available to Mississippi by authorizing an increase in the level of Federal funding for Public Assistance projects undertaken as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

October 23

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff to discuss preparations for Hurricane Wilma.

October 24

In the morning, the President had separate telephone conversations with R. David Paulison, Acting Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida to discuss Hurricane Wilma.

Later in the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President-elect Lech Kaczynski of Poland to congratulate him on his October 23 election victory and to discuss other issues. He then had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President met with Ambassador to Afghanistan Ronald E. Neumann. Later, he dropped by a meeting between the National Security Council and Minister of Industry and Energy Viktor Borisovich Khristenko of Russia.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ben S. Bernanke to be a member and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The President declared a major disaster in Florida and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Hurricane Wilma beginning on October 23 and continuing.

October 25

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing and a briefing on Hurricane Wilma. Later, in the Rose Garden and the Yellow Oval Room, he and Mrs. Bush posed for their official portraits.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President participated in a photo opportunity with 2005 National Physical Fitness Champions.

October 26

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with Ambassador to Iraq Zalmay Khalilzad. He then met with Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, Senate Majority Whip Mitch McConnell, Speaker of the House of Representatives J. Dennis Hastert, and

House Majority Whip Roy Blunt to discuss legislative priorities.

Later in the morning, in Room 350 of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building, the President participated in a bill signing ceremony for S. 397, Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.

During the day, in the Oval Office, the President met with President John Agyekum Kufuor of Ghana.

In the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with Associate Justice-designate Harriet E. Miers.

The President announced his intention to nominate Bernadette M. Allen to be Ambassador to Niger.

The President announced his intention to nominate Janice L. Jacobs to be Ambassador to Senegal and Guinea-Bissau.

The President announced his intention to nominate Marilyn Ware to be Ambassador to Finland.

The President announced his intention to appoint Bradley P. Clawson, James E. Lockey, and John W. Poston, Sr., as members of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health.

The President announced his intention to designate Naomi Churchill Earp as Vice Chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The President made additional disaster assistance available to Louisiana by authorizing an increase in the level of Federal funding for Public Assistance projects undertaken as a result of Hurricane Rita.

The President declared a major disaster in New Hampshire and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding on October 7–18.

October 27

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with Associate Justice-designate Harriet E. Miers.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Miami, FL. Upon arrival in the afternoon, he traveled to Pompano Beach, FL, where he toured the areas damaged by Hurricane Wilma.

Later in the afternoon, the President traveled to Miami, FL, where he toured the National Hurricane Center. He then participated in a briefing with R. David Paulison, Acting Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida on Hurricane Wilma recovery efforts. Later, he returned to Washington, DC, arriving in the evening.

The President announced his intention to nominate Patricia N. Moller to be Ambassador to Burundi.

The President announced his intention to nominate Carol van Voorst to be Ambassador to Iceland.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ross Wilson to be Ambassador to Turkey.

The President announced his intention to appoint Stephen Friedman as a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board and, upon appointment, to designate him as Chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board and member and Chairman of the Intelligence Oversight Board.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board: James L. Barksdale; Arthur B. Culvahouse; William O. DeWitt, Jr.; Adm. James O. Ellis, USN, (Ret.); Donald L. Evans; Martin Faga; Lee Hamilton; Ray Hunt; David E. Jeremiah; John L. Morrison; and Elizabeth Pate-Cornell.

The President announced his intention to appoint Stefanie R. Osburn as Executive Director of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

October 28

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Norfolk, VA.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC. Later, he met with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld.

Later in the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Camp David, MD.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted October 25

Aida M. Delgado-Colon, of Puerto Rico, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, vice Salvador E. Casellas, retired.

Submitted October 26

Bernadette Mary Allen, of Maryland, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Niger.

Janice L. Jacobs, of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Senegal, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau.

Marilyn Ware, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Finland.

Submitted October 28

Patricia Newton Moller, of Arkansas, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Burundi.

Carol van Voorst, of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Iceland.