

Secretary Rumsfeld's energetic and steady leadership is exactly what is needed at this critical period. He has my full support and deepest appreciation.

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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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.

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#### ***April 8***

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

#### ***April 10***

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Fuad Siniora of Lebanon to the White House on April 18.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan to the White House on April 28.

#### ***April 11***

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Columbia, MO, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Doris Hickman. He then traveled to Jefferson City, MO, where he visited Lutheran Senior Services at Heisinger Bluffs retirement community during a Medicare prescription drug plan enrollment session for senior citizens.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Des Moines, IA, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Anjana Chandran. He then visited Wesley Acres retirement community during a Medicare prescription drug plan enrollment session for senior citizens.

In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC.

#### ***April 12***

In the morning, the President met with Vice Premier Wu Yi of China to discuss the results of the recent Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade session. Later, he had an intelligence briefing. He then met with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

In the afternoon, in the Yellow Oval Room, the President and Mrs. Bush hosted a social lunch for President John Agyekum Kufuor of Ghana and his wife, Theresa.

Later in the afternoon, the President traveled to Annandale, VA. Later, he then returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush hosted a retirement dinner for former U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and her husband, John.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany to the White House on May 3.

The President declared a major disaster in Arkansas and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and tornadoes on April 1–3.

#### ***April 13***

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had a telephone conversation with President Alejandro Toledo of Peru to congratulate him on the signing of a U.S.-Peru trade agreement.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Vice President Dick Cheney. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Camp David, MD.

The President declared a major disaster in Kansas and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, tornadoes, and straight-line winds on March 12–13.

The President declared a major disaster in Oklahoma and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and tornadoes on March 12.

The President announced his intention to nominate Anita K. Blair to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Anne E. Dersé to be Ambassador to Azerbaijan.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert S. Ford to be Ambassador to Algeria.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mark V. Rosenker to be Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate Leslie V. Rowe to be Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu.

The President announced his intention to nominate Daniel S. Sullivan to be Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs.

The President announced his intention to appoint Craig J. Duchossois and Robert Pacheco as members of the Board of Visitors to the U.S. Naval Academy.

#### **April 14**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

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### **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

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### **Checklist of White House Press Releases**

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The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

#### **Released April 10**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of Prime Minister Fuad Siniora of Lebanon

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of President Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan

#### **Released April 11**

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 1259, S. 2116, and S. 2120

Fact sheet: Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage: Enroll Now and Start Saving

#### **Released April 12**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary: President Bush To Welcome German Chancellor Merkel

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Arkansas

#### **Released April 13**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.J. Res. 81 and H.J. Res. 82

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Kansas

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Oklahoma

Fact sheet: The President's Small Business Agenda: Helping Entrepreneurs Prosper

#### **Released April 14**

Announcement: President and Mrs. Bush Release 2005 Tax Return

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### **Acts Approved by the President**

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#### **Approved April 11**

H.R. 1259 / Public Law 109-213

To award a congressional gold medal on behalf of the Tuskegee Airmen, collectively, in