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great job. He really is. And he said he's down there—somebody said he was fishing with him recently. So when you see him again, tell him to get back to work. [*Laughter*]

Finally, I want to say something about the judiciary. I've had no stronger ally than Orrin Hatch in making sure that we appoint judges who know the difference between being a judge and a legislator. One of my most important responsibilities is to make sure we have people on the Federal bench who strictly interpret the Constitution and not use the bench from which to legislate. And I had the honor of naming two members of the Supreme Court—and I took my time, and I looked at a lot of good folks, and I came up with some fine names. And thanks to the support and leadership of Senator Orrin Hatch, Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Sam Alito now sit on the bench, and the United States is better off for it.

He just told me, if I didn't end, he's going to make me listen to one of his songs. [*Laughter*] Actually, the man has got some talent. [*Laughter*] And he's a great songwriter but not as good a Senator—as he is a Senator. And that's saying a lot. You've got a fine man in the United States Senate in Orrin Hatch. He's decent; he's honorable; he gets the job done. I thank you for supporting him. Send him back to Washington, and Utah and America will benefit—continue to benefit from his service.

I thank you for the warm welcome here. It's been such a joy to come back to your beautiful State. May God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11 a.m. at the Grand America Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Jon M. Huntsman, Jr., of Utah, and his wife, Mary Kaye; Joseph A. Cannon, chairman, Utah Republican Party; LaVar Christensen, candidate for Congress in Utah's Second Congressional District; former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; Usama bin Laden, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization; Ayman Al-Zawahiri, founder of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad and senior Al Qaida associate; Gen. John P. Abizaid, USA, combatant commander, U.S. Central Command; and Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan.

Message on the Observance of Labor Day

September 1, 2006

I send greetings to those celebrating Labor Day 2006.

America is the most innovative Nation in the world because our free enterprise system unleashes the talent and creativity of our people. American workers are vital to our Nation's economic prosperity, and they help us confront the competitive challenges of the global marketplace.

My Administration remains committed to fostering an environment where innovation succeeds and opportunity thrives. Since August 2003, our economy has created more than 5.7 million jobs, and manufacturing production has risen 5.6 percent in the last year. Our economic expansion is lifting the lives of millions of our citizens, and we will continue to work toward developing sound economic polices that keep our economy moving forward and create more jobs for American workers.

Each year on Labor Day, we recognize the dedicated men and women of our Nation's workforce. By working hard each day, these highly-skilled individuals build better lives for themselves and their families and make America stronger.

Laura and I send our best wishes on this special occasion.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

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.

August 26

In the morning, at the Bush family home in Kennebunkport, ME, the President had an intelligence briefing.

August 27

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

August 28

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing followed by a briefing on Hurricane Ernesto. He and Mrs. Bush then traveled to Biloxi, MS. While en route aboard Air Force One, they participated in an interview with April Ryan of American Urban Radio Network. Upon arrival at Kessler Air Force Base in Biloxi, he met with U.S. military personnel.

Later in the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush participated in a walking tour of a neighborhood damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Gulfport, MS, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Ken Wetzel. Later, they traveled to New Orleans, LA, where they had dinner with State and local officials.

August 29

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, at Betsy's Pancake House, he had breakfast with Mayor C. Ray Nagin of New Orleans. Then, at the Windsor Court Hotel, he and Mrs. Bush participated in an interview with Garland Robinette of WWL Radio of New Orleans.

Later in the morning, at the St. Louis Cathedral, the President and Mrs. Bush attended a service commemorating the first anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush toured the Musicians' Village housing development and hosted a lunch for Habitat for Humanity volunteers. He also presented a National Medal of the Arts to entertainer Antoine "Fats" Domino as a replacement for the original medal which was lost during Hurricane Katrina.

Later in the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush participated in an interview with Brian Williams of NBC News. Later, at the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport, he and Mrs. Bush participated in a photo opportunity with the New Orleans Saints professional football team. He then traveled to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX.

The President announced his intention to nominate Robert T. Howard to be Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Information and Technology).

The President announced his intention to nominate Collister Johnson, Jr., to be Administrator of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

The President announced his intention to nominate Sara Martinez Tucker to be Under Secretary of Education.

The President announced his intention to nominate Peter E. Cianchette to be a member of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board.

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

The President announced his intention to designate James R. Kunder as Acting Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development.

August 30

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Little Rock, AR, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Joy Cameron.

In the afternoon, at a private residence, the President attended a luncheon for gubernatorial candidate Asa Hutchinson. Later, he traveled to Nashville, TN, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Patricia Gray.

In the evening, the President traveled to Salt Lake City, UT, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Sam Delis.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Amir Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah of Kuwait to the White House on September 5.

The President announced his intention to nominate Terrence W. Boyle and William

James Haynes II to be U.S. Circuit judges for the Fourth Circuit.

The President announced his intention to nominate William Gerry Myers III and Norman Randy Smith to be U.S. Circuit judges for the Ninth Circuit.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael Brunson Wallace to be a U.S. Circuit judge for the Fifth Circuit.

The President declared a major disaster in New Mexico and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding on July 26 and continuing.

August 31

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) at their Administration Building.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Camp David, MD.

The President announced his intention to recess appoint Paul DeCamp as Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division at the Department of Labor.

The President announced his intention to recess appoint Michael F. Duffy as a member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission.

The President announced his intention to recess appoint Daniel Meron as General Counsel of the Department of Health and Human Services.

The President announced his intention to designate Michael J. Sullivan as Acting Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

September 1

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced that he has named Marc Thiessen as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Speechwriting.

The President announced that he has named Martha Miller as Special Assistant to the President for Presidential Personnel.

The President announced that he has named David Trulio as Special Assistant to the President and Executive Secretary of the Homeland Security Council.

The President announced that he has named Dennis C. Wilder as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for East Asian Affairs of the National Security Council.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

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

Checklist of White House Press Releases

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 August 28

Transcript of a press gaggle by Deputy Press Secretary Dana Perino

Fact sheet: President Bush's Visit to Biloxi and New Orleans

Fact sheet: A New Mississippi: Rebuilding in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina

Released August 29

Transcript of a press gaggle by Deputy Press Secretary Dana Perino

Transcript of a press briefing by Gulf Coast Region Recovery and Rebuilding Coordinator Donald E. Powell and U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Thad W. Allen

Fact sheet: Keeping the Promise of Jackson Square: A More Hopeful Louisiana

Released August 30

Transcript of a press gaggle by Deputy Press Secretary Dana Perino

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary on the death of Egypt's Nobel Prize Laureate in Literature, Naguib Mahfouz