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of America. We've got people who feed the hungry, provide care for the homeless, love a neighbor in need, and it doesn't require one law from Washington, DC. Many of these folks respond to a higher law, a higher calling. This is a compassionate, decent, fantastic country, and it's been my honor to be your President for 7½ years.

I'm proud to be here with you. I'm proud to call you friend. This is not a farewell address. [*Laughter*] I'm sprinting to the finish. [*Laughter*]

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:38 a.m. at the Greenbrier. In his remarks, he referred to James H. "Buck" Harless, chairman of the board, International Industries Incorporated; William B. Raney, president, West Virginia Coal Association; and Mayor Debbie Fogus of White Sulphur Springs, WV.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting Budget Amendments

August 1, 2008

Dear Madam Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed amendments to my FY 2009 Budget for the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, the Interior, Labor, and State, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency. The amounts requested are fully offset by proposed reductions to other accounts.

Overall, the discretionary budget authority proposed in my FY 2009 Budget would not be increased by these proposed requests.

The details of these amendments are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

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.

July 26

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

July 28

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani of Pakistan. Later, in the East Room, he participated in a photo opportunity with members of the Texas 4–H and Youth Development Program. Then, in the Oval Office, he participated in an interview with John Chettle for his book "The Shaping of the President's Mind: What They Read and Why It Matters."

July 29

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, he and Mrs. Bush participated in a bill signing ceremony for H.R. 1553, the Caroline Price Walker Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2008.

During the day, the President met with Chinese human rights activists Bob Fu, Sasha Gong, Ciping Huang, Rebiya Kadeer, Wei Jingsheng, Harry Wu, and interpreter Alim Seytoff. Later, he dropped by a meeting between National Security Adviser Stephen J. Hadley and Minister of Foreign Affairs Yang Jiechi of China.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Cleveland, OH, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Linda Campbell. Later, he traveled to Euclid, OH, where he toured Lincoln Electric Company. He then traveled to Gates Mill, OH, where, at a private residence, he attended a Congressional Trust 2008 reception.