

DAILY BULLETIN

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BUSH EULOGIZES REAGAN IN SERVICE AT WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

Reflects on 40th president's life and political achievements

The 40th U.S. president, Ronald Wilson Reagan, "was optimistic that a strong America could advance the peace, and he acted to build the strength that mission required. He was optimistic that liberty would thrive wherever it was planted, and he acted to defend liberty wherever it was threatened."

So said President Bush in a eulogy reflecting on the life and political achievements of President Ronald Reagan at a state funeral service for Reagan on June 11 at the Washington National Cathedral. Among those attending the service was former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who offered a videotaped tribute to Reagan; former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney; and former President George H.W. Bush, who also spoke. Dozens of foreign dignitaries also were present, along with former Presidents Ford, Carter, and Clinton and 3,000 mourners with tickets to the service, which was aired nationally on television.

Bush, just back from the G-8 Summit this week in Sea Island, Georgia, recalled Reagan's early life, which he said "would see its share of hardship, struggle and uncertainty." Yet from those circumstances would emerge "a young man of steadiness, calm, and a cheerful confidence that life would bring good things.

Those qualities that "all of us have seen in Ronald Reagan were first spotted" decades ago: in a lifeguard

who kept “an eye out for trouble,” in a sports announcer who “made you see the game as he did,” and in an actor who portrayed “the handsome, all-American, good guy, which in his case, required knowing his lines -- and being himself.”

As president, Bush said, Reagan “believed in the power of truth in the conduct of world affairs.” While the ideology he opposed “throughout his political life insisted that history was moved by impersonal ties and unalterable fates,” Reagan trusted in “the courage and triumph of free men. And we believe it, all the more, because we saw that courage in him.

“As he showed what a president should be, he also showed us what a man should be,” Bush said. “Ronald Reagan carried himself, even in the most powerful office, with a decency and attention to small kindnesses that also defined a good life. He was a courtly, gentle and considerate man, never known to slight or embarrass others.”

Following is a transcript of President Bush’s eulogy at the funeral service for President Reagan:

Remarks by the President in Eulogy at National Funeral Service for Former President Ronald Wilson Reagan
The National Cathedral
Washington, D.C.

THE PRESIDENT: Mrs. Reagan, Patti, Michael, and Ron; members of the Reagan family; distinguished guests, including our Presidents and First Ladies; Reverend Danforth; fellow citizens:

We lost Ronald Reagan only days ago, but we have missed him for a long time. We have missed his kindly presence, that reassuring voice, and the happy ending we had wished for him. It has been ten years since he said his own farewell; yet it is still very sad and hard to let him go. Ronald Reagan belongs to the ages now, but we preferred it when he belonged to us.

In a life of good fortune, he valued above all the gracious gift of his wife, Nancy. During his career, Ronald Reagan passed through a thousand crowded places; but there was only one person, he said, who could make him lonely by just leaving the room.

America honors you, Nancy, for the loyalty and love you gave this man on a wonderful journey, and to that

journey’s end. Today, our whole nation grieves with you and your family.

When the sun sets tonight off the coast of California, and we lay to rest our 40th President, a great American story will close. The second son of Nell and Jack Reagan first knew the world as a place of open plains, quiet streets, gas-lit rooms, and carriages drawn by horse. If you could go back to the Dixon, Illinois of 1922, you’d find a boy of 11 reading adventure stories at the public library, or running with his brother, Neil, along Rock River, and coming home to a little house on Hennepin Avenue. That town was the kind of place you remember where you prayed side by side with your neighbors, and if things were going wrong for them, you prayed for them, and knew they’d pray for you if things went wrong for you.

The Reagan family would see its share of hardship, struggle and uncertainty. And out of that circumstance came a young man of steadiness, calm, and a cheerful confidence that life would bring good things. The qualities all of us have seen in Ronald Reagan were first spotted 70 and 80 years ago. As a lifeguard in Lowell Park, he was the protector keeping an eye out for trouble. As a sports announcer on the radio, he was the friendly voice that made you see the game as he did. As an actor, he was the handsome, all-American, good guy, which, in his case, required knowing his lines -- and being himself.

Along the way, certain convictions were formed and fixed in the man. Ronald Reagan believed that everything happened for a reason, and that we should strive to know and do the will of God. He believed that the gentleman always does the kindest thing. He believed that people were basically good, and had the right to be free. He believed that bigotry and prejudice were the worst things a person could be guilty of. He believed in the Golden Rule and in the power of prayer. He believed that America was not just a place in the world, but the hope of the world.

And he believed in taking a break now and then, because, as he said, there’s nothing better for the inside of a man than the outside of a horse.

Ronald Reagan spent decades in the film industry and in politics, fields known, on occasion, to change a man. But not this man. From Dixon to Des Moines, to Hollywood to Sacramento, to Washington, D.C., all who met him remembered the same sincere, honest, upright fellow. Ronald Reagan’s deepest beliefs never had much to do with fashion or convenience. His convictions were

always politely stated, affably argued, and as firm and straight as the columns of this cathedral.

There came a point in Ronald Reagan's film career when people started seeing a future beyond the movies. The actor, Robert Cummings, recalled one occasion. "I was sitting around the set with all these people and we were listening to Ronnie, quite absorbed. I said, 'Ron, have you ever considered someday becoming President?' He said, 'President of what?' 'President of the United States,' I said. And he said, 'What's the matter, don't you like my acting either?'" (Laughter.)

The clarity and intensity of Ronald Reagan's convictions led to speaking engagements around the country, and a new following he did not seek or expect. He often began his speeches by saying, "I'm going to talk about controversial things." And then he spoke of communist rulers as slavemasters, of a government in Washington that had far overstepped its proper limits, of a time for choosing that was drawing near. In the space of a few years, he took ideas and principles that were mainly found in journals and books, and turned them into a broad, hopeful movement ready to govern.

As soon as Ronald Reagan became California's governor, observers saw a star in the West -- tanned, well-tailored, in command, and on his way. In the 1960s, his friend, Bill Buckley, wrote, "Reagan is indisputably a part of America, and he may become a part of American history."

Ronald Reagan's moment arrived in 1980. He came out ahead of some very good men, including one from Plains, and one from Houston. What followed was one of the decisive decades of the century, as the convictions that shaped the President began to shape the times.

He came to office with great hopes for America, and more than hopes -- like the President he had revered and once saw in person, Franklin Roosevelt, Ronald Reagan matched an optimistic temperament with bold, persistent action. President Reagan was optimistic about the great promise of economic reform, and he acted to restore the reward and spirit of enterprise. He was optimistic that a strong America could advance the peace, and he acted to build the strength that mission required. He was optimistic that liberty would thrive wherever it was planted, and he acted to defend liberty wherever it was threatened.

And Ronald Reagan believed in the power of truth in the conduct of world affairs. When he saw evil camped

across the horizon, he called that evil by its name. There were no doubters in the prisons and gulags, where dissidents spread the news, tapping to each other in code what the American President had dared to say. There were no doubters in the shipyards and churches and secret labor meetings, where brave men and women began to hear the creaking and rumbling of a collapsing empire. And there were no doubters among those who swung hammers at the hated wall as the first and hardest blow had been struck by President Ronald Reagan.

The ideology he opposed throughout his political life insisted that history was moved by impersonal ties and unalterable fates. Ronald Reagan believed instead in the courage and triumph of free men. And we believe it, all the more, because we saw that courage in him.

As he showed what a President should be, he also showed us what a man should be. Ronald Reagan carried himself, even in the most powerful office, with a decency and attention to small kindnesses that also defined a good life. He was a courtly, gentle and considerate man, never known to slight or embarrass others. Many people across the country cherish letters he wrote in his own hand -- to family members on important occasions; to old friends dealing with sickness and loss; to strangers with questions about his days in Hollywood. A boy once wrote to him requesting federal assistance to help clean up his bedroom. (Laughter.)

The President replied that, "unfortunately, funds are dangerously low." (Laughter.) He continued, "I'm sure your mother was fully justified in proclaiming your room a disaster. Therefore, you are in an excellent position to launch another volunteer program in our nation. Congratulations." (Laughter.)

Sure, our 40th President wore his title lightly, and it fit like a white Stetson. In the end, through his belief in our country and his love for our country, he became an enduring symbol of our country. We think of his steady stride, that tilt of a head and snap of a salute, the big-screen smile, and the glint in his Irish eyes when a story came to mind.

We think of a man advancing in years with the sweetness and sincerity of a Scout saying the Pledge. We think of that grave expression that sometimes came over his face, the seriousness of a man angered by injustice -- and frightened by nothing. We know, as he always said, that America's best days are ahead of us, but with Ronald

Reagan's passing, some very fine days are behind us, and that is worth our tears.

Americans saw death approach Ronald Reagan twice, in a moment of violence, and then in the years of departing light. He met both with courage and grace. In these trials, he showed how a man so enchanted by life can be at peace with life's end.

And where does that strength come from? Where is that courage learned? It is the faith of a boy who read the Bible with his mom. It is the faith of a man lying in an operating room, who prayed for the one who shot him before he prayed for himself. It is the faith of a man with a fearful illness, who waited on the Lord to call him home.

Now, death has done all that death can do. And as Ronald Wilson Reagan goes his way, we are left with the joyful hope he shared. In his last years, he saw through a glass darkly. Now he sees his Savior face to face.

And we look to that fine day when we will see him again, all weariness gone, clear of mind, strong and sure, and smiling again, and the sorrow of his parting gone forever.

May God bless Ronald Reagan, and the country he loved

TOP U.S. OFFICIALS DISCUSS VIOLENCE IN BAGHDAD, RIYADH

Powell, Rice condemn latest terrorist killings

By Robert Fullerton
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- Murderous terrorist attacks in Iraq and Saudi Arabia "will not prevail," two top Bush administration officials said June 13, but both stressed that dangerous days lie ahead "as we move towards sovereignty" in Iraq.

Secretary of State Colin Powell made those points in three television interviews, while National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice discussed them on a fourth program.

The two spoke as terrorist violence accelerated in Baghdad, where two government officials were shot to death June 12 and 13, a car bombing near a U.S. military installation killed 12 Iraqis, and in Riyadh, one American was murdered and another kidnapped.

Regarding the latest violence in Baghdad, Powell, who was interviewed first, said U.S. and coalition forces "are going to do everything we can, using our military forces there and in Iraq, to try to defeat these murderers. I mean, let's be clear about what's going on here. We are trying to return sovereignty, and we will return sovereignty to the Iraqi people at the end of the month."

The secretary insisted attempts to defeat democratic efforts in Iraq ultimately will fail, but he said "it's going to be a dangerous period" before and after sovereignty.

"They're murderers," he said. "They're terrorists. They do not want the Iraqi people to have a government that rests on a foundation of democracy, freedom and the rule of law. The U.N. has passed a resolution that endorses all of that, and these people are against their own people."

While the violence comes after good news -- the United Nations' unanimous approval to support the new Iraqi government and its arrangement with U.S. forces -- Powell said it was no surprise.

"We knew that those remnants of the old regime, the terrorists who are taking advantage of the situation," would increase their attacks on government officials, he said.

Nonetheless, Powell said, 15 ministries are now under the control of Iraqis; "we're moving forward" to elections at year's end toward a transitional assembly; and "we're going to stay there with our 138,000 troops," as will other coalition partners, to "do everything we can to defeat this insurgency."

Regarding possible NATO troop increases in Iraq, as suggested in some news accounts, Powell said 16 of the 26 NATO nations already contribute troops to the Iraqi effort. There may be "other marginal additions of troops ... but we're not looking for [expecting] a massive increase." NATO forces, he said, already are occupied in the Balkans and in supporting "our efforts in Afghanistan." Some countries, such as France and Germany, have "made a judgment that they were not in favor of this war and they do not intend to send troops there, and we never expected they would.

“But they did join us in the unanimous passage of U.N. resolution 1546, which blesses the plan that we are under,” he said. “They have left themselves open to other ways of supporting our efforts in Iraq, through police training, through other things we might do with NATO. We are examining the possibility of a NATO headquarters becoming involved.”

In fact, Powell said, “real security” will come in Iraq as Iraqis build up their own forces and occupying troops eventually pull out. “They want the ability to protect themselves, and we are going to make our investment in that,” he said.

Asked if it might be possible to speed up the turnover of power before June 30, Powell said: “You have to give Prime Minister Allawi and the other leaders an opportunity to get themselves ready. We have to have a sensible, measured turnover. Now June 30 was the date that was selected, and it looks like a good date so far.”

Asked about allegations of torture at the Abu Ghraib prison, Powell said that “we have a number of investigations under way at the Pentagon, and I think we should let all of those investigations proceed.”

He said that President Bush has made it clear “that torture is not an acceptable activity on the part of U.S. armed forces, and he said we must comply with our international obligations.”

Asked about the Saudi violence, Powell said it is “a tough situation” there. The United States already has drawn down its official presence there and cautioned Americans against traveling there.

“We are working with the Saudis to go after these people,” he said. “The Saudis now know that they have a very serious problem within the kingdom, and they know that it’s going to require all their resources, not only their military and police resources” but cutting funding to organizations “that might have given comfort to these sorts of terrorist activities.”

He said that the Saudis are treating the violence with the utmost seriousness -- as an assault on their leadership. They “know that this is an enemy that is coming after them,” that the killing of foreigners is a “direct attack on the Saudi regime. It’s trying to disrupt normal commerce, disrupt the oil sector, and the Saudis are going to go after it with all the resources at their disposal, and we’re going to help them as much as we can.”

Asked about an assessment by some political experts that it was a bad idea for coalition forces to go into Iraq to begin with -- they contend the region has been further destabilized and al Qaeda recruitment increased -- Powell said: “There’s also no Saddam Hussein. There’s no dictatorial government that is about to take over. There is a new U.N. resolution that was approved unanimously that approves the way going forward, and so while we do have challenges ahead -- and the principal challenge is one of ... stopping this insurgency in Iraq -- and once we can get that security situation under control ... you will see reconstruction take off. You will see a better life for the Iraqi people being created. You will see elections. You will see a new constitution, and you will see something far better than the regime that is no longer there.”

Asked about Afghanistan, Powell said a lot has been accomplished, but much remains to be done. He praised President Karzai as a “visionary leader” who “has done a tremendous job.”

He expressed concern about a dramatic increase in opium and heroin production, characterizing it as “a major problem.” He said Karzai understands that “this shadow economy cannot be allowed to continue to exist. But it is a difficult problem to get on top of, as we have discovered with drug production in other parts of the world.”

Rice added in her interview that Saudi Arabia undoubtedly “is an area in which al Qaeda is trying to make a mark. We’ve known this for some time.” She said that “it’s a serious threat and we’re working very well together through both intelligence and law enforcement channels to try and deal with it.”

In retrospect, Rice said, the Saudis, “like many others in the world, didn’t fully understand the extent to which these nongovernmental organizations, many of them with very high-sounding names of charity, were really terrorist-financing fronts.” But they “have gone a long way” in recent months to deal with this problem, and it would be wrong to suggest, as some have, she said, “that there has not been good cooperation with the Saudis.”

Asked about news reports that Libyan leader Muammar al-Qadhafi had ordered the murder of Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Abdullah, Rice said, “We take the accusations very seriously; because we have told the Libyans in no uncertain terms that the only path to better relations with the United States would be a path in which they live up to their obligations ... to stop financing terrorism, to deal with weapons of mass destruction.”

While the Libyans have renounced terrorism, she said, “they have to follow up, and we have to make certain that they are living up to those commitments. ... We’re working with the Saudis. We have sent messages to the Libyans. And we’ll get to the bottom of it.”

Asked if and when Saddam Hussein would be turned over to the Iraqis, Rice said: “We are trying to help the Iraqis to get the system ready for these high-profile trials” and “at an appropriate time, Saddam Hussein will be handed over to the Iraqis for trial. ... We want to make certain that security is very, very tight, and can be provided.”

WORLD MUST ACT NOW TO BRING ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR, CONGRESS TOLD

Officials report continuing blockage of aid leaves millions at risk

By Tara N. Boyle
Washington File Staff Writer

Washington -- The emerging humanitarian crisis in Darfur is a “matter of highest priority” for the United States, but the U.S needs more help from its European partners to stabilize the region and get aid to refugees, a senior U.S. official told Congressmen at a briefing June 9.

Acting Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Charles Snyder said that he was “disappointed by the results of what we got from the Europeans” at a donor’s conference in Geneva, Switzerland earlier in June. The United States pledge of \$188.5 million in emergency aid for Darfur at that conference, which brought total U.S. aid for the region to \$300 million since February 2003, was not matched comparably by other donors.

Snyder also reiterated that the U.S. would not normalize relations with the government of Sudan until it took concrete steps to resolve the conflict in Darfur, where government-backed militias known as the jingaweit have attacked and terrorized civilians and forced more than one million people to flee their homes.

“The steps that have been taken have given some results, but frankly not enough. The ceasefire signed between the government [of Sudan] and the Darfur opposition

is only a basis to end the violence. It has not ended the violence to date,” he said.

Snyder spoke at a briefing organized by the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and attended by Rep. Trent Franks (R-AZ) and Rep. Thomas Tancredo (R-Colo.). Roger Winter, the assistant administrator for democracy, conflict and humanitarian assistance at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), also briefed the two congressmen on the conflict in Sudan, as did representatives from several non-governmental organizations.

Winter said that USAID has continued regular airlifts of supplies to Darfur, including shelters for 400,000 people. The agency is targeting its relief at western Darfur because that will be the area that will be “cut off as the rains actually begin to take hold,” he explained.

The population at risk of illness or death in Darfur and neighboring Chad is continuing to grow, and the United Nations now estimates that by September, there will be 2.2 million people “at risk” in Darfur, Winter added.

“We will do the best we can...but there are populations all over the place that cannot be reached adequately. That is how the large body count actually occurs.”

The Sudanese government is continuing to put new restrictions on humanitarian workers, Winter added. The UN’s World Food Programme, for example, has been told that it can only use Sudanese trucks to transport food to refugees, despite the high rates being charged by Sudanese drivers. A Sudanese government ministry has also threatened that drugs brought into the country by the United Nations Children’s Fund, UNICEF, will have to be tested in Sudanese labs, he said.

Another problem for aid workers is the continued violence in Darfur, despite the ceasefire agreement signed by the Sudanese government and opposition groups in April.

“The jingaweit attacks continue; their presence is still there; they remain armed in contravention of the provisions of the ceasefire agreement. There are no apparent restrictions on their activity by the government of Sudan,” Winter said.

Several speakers at the briefing, including representatives from Human Rights Watch and the International Crisis Group, said that more human rights monitors are needed in Darfur to prevent continued attacks on civilians.

Jemera Rone, a researcher on Sudan at Human Rights Watch, said that the United Nations needs to be given a mandate to monitor human rights in Sudan and establish a war crimes investigation into atrocities committed both in the recent conflict in Darfur and during Sudan's long-running civil war.

"In the long term, the peace agreement that's been signed between the North and the South has a lot of language about human rights in it, but no enforcement, and I think we now have to look at that agreement again and figure out how to put it into the implementation discussions that haven't occurred yet [in the peace process]," she said.

South African President Thabo Mbeki, who was speaking at a discussion sponsored by the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington later that day, highlighted African efforts to deal with the crisis in Darfur. Mbeki said he has discussed Darfur with Sudanese President Omar Hassan Ahmed al-Bashir, and that the African Union has agreed to send military observers to the region.

"It is important that the intervention of the African Union is made within Darfur at least to end the conflict. And I think that the presence of the African Union in the region... will impose certain obligations on everybody concerned, including the government of Sudan, to cooperate," he said.

REPORTED RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN SUDAN "GRAVE CONCERN" TO G8

Leaders urge end to Darfur conflict; look to U.N to avert "major disaster"

The political and humanitarian crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan and ongoing reports of gross violations of human rights are a "grave concern," the leaders of the Group of Eight (G8) countries said June 10.

In a statement issued on the closing day of their three-day summit, the leaders of the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, and the United Kingdom said they welcomed the May 26 signing of protocols by the government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) and urged the

parties to reach agreement to end "one of the world's most painful conflicts."

They called especially on the Sudanese government to disarm the "Janjaweed" and other groups that are responsible for "massive" human rights violations in Darfur.

G8 leaders pledged their assistance in ending the conflicts in Sudan and said they looked to the United Nations to lead the international effort to avert a "major disaster."

The leaders held their annual summit June 8-10 in Sea Island, Georgia.

Following is the text of the G8 statement as released by the White House:

June 10, 2004

G8 STATEMENT ON SUDAN

We, the Leaders of the G8, warmly welcome the May 26 signing by the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) of protocols on Power Sharing, Abyei, and on the Two Areas (of Southern Blue Nile and Nuba Mountains). We urge the parties to reach a final and comprehensive agreement which includes a timetable and security arrangements as quickly as possible. We hope that this agreement and its faithful implementation will end one of the world's most painful conflicts and begin a new era of Sudanese peace and prosperity.

We also wish to express our grave concern over the humanitarian, human rights, and political crisis in Darfur. We welcome the N'djamena ceasefire agreement of April 8, and the announcement on May 20 by the Government of Sudan that restrictions on humanitarian access will be eased. However, there are continuing reports of gross violations of human rights, many with an ethnic dimension. We call on all parties to the conflict to immediately and fully respect the ceasefire, allow unimpeded humanitarian access to all those in need, and create the conditions for the displaced to return safely to their homes. We call especially on the Sudanese government to disarm immediately the "Janjaweed" and other armed groups which are responsible for massive human rights violations in Darfur. We call on the conflict parties to address the roots of the Darfur conflict and to seek a political solution.

We support the African Union as it assumes the leading

role in the monitoring mission which is now being sent to the Darfur region to supervise the cease-fire agreement.

We pledge our countries' assistance in ending the conflicts in Sudan and in providing humanitarian aid to those in need. We call on all parties to the conflicts in Sudan to commit themselves to respecting the right of all Sudanese to live in peace and dignity.

We look to the United Nations to lead the international effort to avert a major disaster and will work together to achieve this end.

Please Note: Most texts and transcripts mentioned in the U.S. Mission Daily Bulletin are available via our homepage www.usmission.ch. Select "Washington File" from the drop-down menu under "News."