

is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the Taliban, is to continue in effect beyond July 4, 2001.

The Taliban continues to allow territory under its control in Afghanistan to be used as a safe haven and base of operations for Usama bin Laden and the al-Qaida organization who have committed, and threaten to continue to commit, acts of violence against the United States and its nationals. This situation continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy interests of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain these emergency authorities in force beyond July 4, 2001.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 2.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on the
National Emergency With Respect to
the Taliban**

June 30, 2001

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Taliban that was declared in Executive Order 13129 of July 4, 1999.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 2.

**Remarks Following a Meeting With
Leaders of National Service
Organizations and an Exchange With
Reporters**

July 2, 2001

The President. Good morning. Thank you all for coming. Laura and I are so honored to welcome leaders from five of the largest service organizations in our country: Kiwanis, the Lions, the Rotarians, the Optimists, the Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

First, thank you all for coming, and thank you for your service to the country. We've had a discussion that will really help change the country, I think, and that is all five organizations have agreed to join in urging their members to mentor a child.

We've set a goal amongst us to recruit one million mentors to provide love and comfort to children around America. I can't think of a more noble goal for the organizations here. So I want to thank you all very much for your commitment to America, for your love of the country. Please thank your members for their commitment, as well.

For others around the country who are wondering how best to help a neighbor in need, I strongly urge them to think about joining one of these service clubs, a club whose sole existence is to help make America a better place. And so, I know there are some in our country that say "What can I do to help?" Well, here is five good opportunities.

One of the things you do when you run for office is, you get to go to the service club lunches all around our country. [*Laughter*] And I will tell you, some of the most meaningful lunches as a gubernatorial candidate, for example, in Texas was at the service clubs in rural Texas or in urban Texas. I was able to meet a lot of really good, fine folks.

America is strong because of our people. America is strong because of the compassion of our citizens. And I believe we can meet the goal of a million mentors, so that everybody in America feels the great promise of our country and so that not one child is left behind.

Thank you all for coming.

Vice President Dick Cheney

Q. Who has a tougher schedule today, Mr. President? You or the Vice President?

The President. The Vice President is feeling great. I had a meeting with him. At Camp David, I was asked whether or not he would be at work on Monday. I said I was confident he would be there at 8 o'clock sharp, during our national security briefing, and there he was. He looks great. His spirits are high. He sets such a good example for Americans who may share the same condition he has, and that is to listen to your body, to take precautionary measures, and to be active. And he's active, and he's—we were all thrilled to see how good he looked this morning.

Q. Are you worried about him at all, Mr. President?

The President. No, I'm not worried about him. I'm not worried about him. He's doing great.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:04 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

**Remarks Prior to a Meeting With
New Jersey Gubernatorial Candidate
Bret Schundler and an Exchange
With Reporters**

July 2, 2001

The President. Mr. Mayor, congratulations. The Vice President and I are so honored you and Lynn came to the Oval Office. It gives us a chance to, one, congratulate you on winning the primary and congratulate you on being a great reformer in Jersey City. I don't think people understand, but that's a city with 6 percent Republicans, and yet, he continues to win overwhelmingly because he's got great ideas. And we look forward to helping you become the Governor of New Jersey.

I think you and I share something in common: We're always underestimated. And a lot of people didn't think I'd be sitting here. Of course, a lot of people didn't think you would be sitting here, either. And so, I appreciate your record.

I'm intrigued by the idea of eliminating the tollbooth in New Jersey. I think the working people in New Jersey are going to really

appreciate that idea, and when you couple that with your strong vision of education reform, I think you've got a good chance of winning.

[At this point, Jersey City Mayor Schundler made brief remarks.]

The President. You're going to win. [Laughter] We're glad to have you.

Vice President's Health

Q. How do you feel, Mr. Vice President?

The Vice President. Very good.

Q. Are you sore?

The Vice President. A little tender, still. It will pass.

Q. Are you taking any painkillers or anything?

The Vice President. No.

Florida Offshore Drilling

Q. Mr. President, did you talk to your brother about—

The President. We were thinking about doing some jumping jacks before you came in, but—

Q. Go right ahead. [Laughter]

Q. Did you ask your brother about oil and gas leases, Mr. President?

The President. What?

Q. Have you had a chance to talk to your brother about oil and gas leases, as they were announced today?

New Jersey Gubernatorial Election

Q. Are you going to campaign for him? Make any stops?

The President. What?

Q. Are you going to campaign in New Jersey for him?

The President. That's what we're going to discuss, how we can help him. We'd like to help him in any way we can. We want him to win.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:35 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A reporter referred to Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.