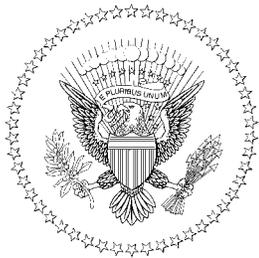


Weekly Compilation of  
**Presidential  
Documents**



Monday, October 14, 2002  
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**Editor's Note:** The Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents is also available on the Internet on the *GPO Access* service at <http://www.gpo.gov/nara/nara003.html>.

## WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

## PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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Week Ending Friday, October 11, 2002

**Proclamation 7602—Fire Prevention Week**

*October 4, 2002*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

Every year, fires needlessly take lives and destroy homes, natural habitats, and livelihoods. This year, as we observe Fire Prevention Week, I ask all citizens to take responsible steps to prevent fires at home and outdoors and to ensure that safety and emergency plans are in place and in practice.

Approximately 3,500 Americans die each year in home fires; and 85 percent of all annual fire fatalities occur in residences. To prevent this tragic loss of life, the National Fire Protection Association, in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the United States Fire Administration, and America's 26,354 fire departments, is sponsoring the 2002 Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Team Up for Fire Safety." I encourage all Americans to heed the recommendations of fire safety experts by ensuring that every home is equipped with the appropriate number of properly installed and maintained smoke alarms and that every family has fire safety and escape plans. These measures will help to prevent fires and protect our families, our communities, and our firefighters.

America has faced a devastating wildfire season this year, and much wildlife habitat has been destroyed by fires in our overgrown forests. To reduce the threat of these catastrophic wildfires and to restore the health of America's forests, we must continue to develop improved forest management plans. My Healthy Forests Initiative aims to ensure our environment's health by thinning dangerous overgrowth. Firefighters and forest experts agree that we could strengthen the health of our forests by targeted thinning of

dense forests and quickly restoring fire-damaged areas to prevent erosion. Through these improved forest policies, we can protect our citizens, prevent catastrophic fires, preserve healthy forests, and sustain wildlife habitat.

During Fire Prevention Week, our Nation also gives thanks for the invaluable service rendered by our firefighters, who risk their lives to preserve and protect our communities. These courageous public servants have inspired us with their dedication and professionalism. On September 11, 2001, we saw that our brave firefighters are among America's greatest heroes. As we remember the sacrifice of so many firefighters that day, let us draw great strength from their example of selfless service to others. These firefighters embodied the best of the American spirit.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 6 through October 12, 2002, as Fire Prevention Week. On Sunday, October 6, 2002, pursuant to Public Law 107-51, flags will be flown at half-staff on all Federal office buildings in honor of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service. I invite the people of the United States to participate in this observance by flying our Nation's flag over their homes at half-staff on this day, to mark this week with appropriate programs and activities, and to renew efforts throughout the year to prevent fires and their tragic consequences.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 8, 2002]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 5, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on October 9.

## **Proclamation 7603—Child Health Day, 2002**

*October 4, 2002*

*By the President of the United States of America*

### **A Proclamation**

On Child Health Day, we renew our commitment to the well-being and safety of our children. Parents, families, teachers, and neighbors all play important roles in preparing children to face life's physical, spiritual, intellectual, and emotional demands. For the future of our country, we must work together to provide our young people with the knowledge and skills they need to be safe, self-confident, and successful.

From maintaining a healthy environment and high safety standards to providing immunizations and quality health care, children rely on our vigilance and support. Each year, 30 million children require emergency care due to acute illness and injury. We can all take important steps to help prevent these accidents and to improve the health and safety of young Americans.

Parents and other caregivers should be aware of the latest safety precautions and pay careful attention to consumer safety warnings. They should always secure infants, toddlers, and small children in safety seats and booster seats. Children should be taught always to wear their seatbelts when riding in a vehicle and to use protective gear when riding a bicycle, roller blading, skate boarding, playing sports, and participating in other similar activities. Parents should set a good example by refraining from smoking and should teach their children about the health risks of tobacco, drugs, and alcohol.

Child obesity has become a serious problem in this country. About 8 million young Americans—almost 15 percent of all children—are overweight. Obesity can cause medical complications that can lead to hospitalization for type 2 diabetes, sleep apnea,

and asthma. Ensuring regular participation in physical activity can help children manage weight, control blood pressure, and maintain healthy bones, muscles, and joints.

My Administration is strongly committed to advancing programs that help children discover and understand the benefits of healthy living. The recently introduced HealthierUS Initiative will help Americans improve their health and quality of life through modest improvements in physical activity, nutrition, getting preventive screenings, and making healthy choices. Families play a vital role and can help to promote and encourage these beneficial habits.

By committing ourselves to health and safety, we better enable young people to achieve their goals, live longer, fuller lives, and we strengthen our Nation. The Congress, by a joint resolution approved May 18, 1928, as amended (36 U.S.C. 105), has called for the designation of the first Monday in October as "Child Health Day" and has requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 7, 2002, as Child Health Day. On this day, and on every day throughout the year, I call upon families, schools, child health professionals, communities, and governments to help all of our children discover the rewards of good health and wellness.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 8, 2002]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 5, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on October 9.

**Proclamation 7604—German-American Day, 2002**

October 4, 2002

*By the President of the United States  
of America*

**A Proclamation**

As the oldest and longest-lived democracy in the world, our Nation is committed to promoting freedom, protecting liberty, and pursuing peace. For over 225 years, America has been a place where people have come to realize their dreams and enjoy the blessings of religious tolerance and individual rights.

In 1683, 13 immigrant families left Germany to escape religious persecution and establish the first German settlement in North America in Germantown, Pennsylvania. Since that time, more than 7 million German immigrants have come to America, and through hard work, innovation, and dedication, they have influenced our Nation and strengthened our country. Each year, we celebrate German-American Day, which offers us the chance to reflect on the proud and important contributions that German Americans have made to the United States.

Carl Schurz, who emigrated from the Rhineland, served as a United States Senator and Secretary of the Interior. He said that German immigrants “could render no greater honor to their former fatherland than by becoming conscientious and faithful citizens of their new country.” As farmers, businessmen, scientists, artists, teachers, and politicians, German Americans have contributed to the values that make our Nation strong. Through his artistic abilities as a cartoonist and caricaturist during and following the Civil War, Thomas Nast established himself as a political voice for the underprivileged and champion of equal rights for all citizens.

The important work of Joseph Pulitzer helped to create the American legacy of freedom of the press and to advance the field of journalism. Oscar Hammerstein is known as an integral figure in the history of the United States opera for building his second Manhattan Opera House in addition to several other theaters. This tradition of excellence continued with the musical talents of

his grandson, Oscar Hammerstein II, as he elevated the American musical comedy to musical theater that Americans enjoy today. The efforts of German-American entrepreneurs Levi Strauss, the creator of blue jeans, and Walter Percy Chrysler, the first president of Chrysler Corporation in 1925, reflect the entrepreneurial spirit of our country. Today, German Americans continue to serve this Nation with distinction in our Armed Forces, in our communities, and throughout all sectors of our society.

On this day, we recognize the important and continuing relationship between Germany and the United States. Our friendship was forged after World War II and is based on mutual support and respect. Germany showed meaningful support for the United States after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. On this day, I am pleased to call all Americans to celebrate the contributions that German Americans have made to our Nation.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 6, 2002, as German-American Day. I encourage all Americans to recognize the contributions of our citizens of German descent to the liberty and prosperity of the United States, and to celebrate our close ties to the people of Germany.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 8, 2002]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 5, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on October 9.

## **The President's Radio Address**

*October 5, 2002*

Good morning. This week leaders of the Congress agreed on a strong bipartisan resolution authorizing the use of force, if necessary, to disarm Saddam Hussein and to defend the peace. Now both the House and the Senate will have an important debate and an historic vote. Speaker Hastert and Leader Gephardt and Leader Lott did tremendous work in building bipartisan support on this vital issue.

The danger to America from the Iraqi regime is grave and growing. The regime is guilty of beginning two wars. It has a horrible history of striking without warning. In defiance of pledges to the United Nations, Iraq has stockpiled biological and chemical weapons and is rebuilding the facilities used to make more of those weapons. Saddam Hussein has used these weapons of death against innocent Iraqi people, and we have every reason to believe he will use them again.

Iraq has longstanding ties to terrorist groups, which are capable of and willing to deliver weapons of mass death. And Iraq is ruled by perhaps the world's most brutal dictator, who has already committed genocide with chemical weapons, ordered the torture of children, and instituted the systematic rape of the wives and daughters of his political opponents.

We cannot leave the future of peace and the security of America in the hands of this cruel and dangerous man. This dictator must be disarmed, and all the United Nations resolutions against his brutality and support for terrorism must be enforced.

The United States does not desire military conflict, because we know the awful nature of war. Our country values life, and we will never seek war unless it is essential to security and justice. We hope that Iraq complies with the world's demands. If, however, the Iraqi regime persists in its defiance, the use of force may become unavoidable. Delay, indecision, and inaction are not options for America, because they could lead to massive and sudden horror.

Should force be required to bring Saddam to account, the United States will work with other nations to help the Iraqi people rebuild

and form a just government. We have no quarrel with the Iraqi people. They are the daily victims of Saddam Hussein's oppression, and they will be the first to benefit when the world's demands are met.

American security, the safety of our friends, and the values of our country lead us to confront this gathering threat. By supporting the resolution now before them, Members of Congress will send a clear message to Saddam: His only choice is to fully comply with the demands of the world. And the time for that choice is limited. Supporting this resolution will also show the resolve of the United States and will help spur the United Nations to act.

I urge Americans to call their Members of Congress to make sure your voice is heard. The decision before Congress cannot be more consequential. I'm confident that members of both political parties will choose wisely.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 9 a.m. on October 4 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on October 5. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 4 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

## **Remarks to the Community in Manchester, New Hampshire**

*October 5, 2002*

Thank you all very much. Please be seated, except for those of you who don't have a chair. [*Laughter*]

I've been here before. This was the site of the great pancake flip-off. [*Laughter*] A lot of time has passed since I was flipping pancakes in this armory. [*Laughter*] And I want to thank you all for coming. I want to thank my fellow citizens for taking time out of your day to give me a chance to come and talk about issues that confront our country, and my strong desire to work with all who live in America, to make America a safer, a stronger, and a better place.

My dream is for this country to be a strong country, as importantly, a safe country, and

a country in which each of us who live here realizes the great American potential belongs to everybody.

I want to thank you for bringing your families out to say hello. I want to thank you for sending some good people to Washington, DC. I'm proud to call Judd Gregg my friend. He's doing a great job as the United States Senator.

I'm honored that Governor Shaheen is here today. I appreciate her taking time out of her schedule to come and pay her respects to the Presidency. I appreciate the mayor of Manchester. I appreciate members of the congressional delegation, Congressman Charlie Bass and Congressman John Sununu, for joining us as well.

I'm glad—I am glad that your mayor, the mayor of Manchester, Mayor Baines, is with us today. Mr. Mayor, thank you for coming as well. Ray Wieczorek is here, who is on the New Hampshire Executive Councilor. I appreciate Ray.

But most of all, I appreciate my fellow citizens. I appreciate those of you who are here to work hard to make your community and New Hampshire a strong place.

I want to tell you one of the things on my mind, and it's, I worry about people being able to find work in America. Anytime anybody who wants to work and can't find a job, says to me we've got a problem, and we must do everything we can to grow our economy—that all of us together must work to do that which we can to enable our environment, our economic environment, to prosper, so people can find work. I want Americans to be able to put food on the table.

And we've got an issue here in the country, and we've got to work together to solve it. Now, you've got to know something: I am optimistic about our economic future. First of all, I understand the American spirit. We've got the best workers in the world. We've got the best entrepreneurs in the world. Our productivity is the best there is. Interest rates are low. Inflation is low. The foundation for growth is solid. But it's not good—going good enough.

Yesterday we had a good report: The unemployment rate dropped across the country. It's still not good enough, and we ought to continue to do that which is necessary to

grow our economy. And I've got a couple of ideas, and Congress can help. I readily concede my vision of Government is not to create wealth but to create an environment in which the small business can grow to be a big business, in which the entrepreneur can realize his or her dreams, in which our producers can find markets. The job of Government is to create an environment in which growth is possible.

That's why I am such a strong believer and strong advocate of letting people keep more of your own money. You see, it is when times are slow that you let people have money in their pocket. When somebody has more money in their pocket, they're more likely to demand a good or a service. And in the marketplace, when somebody demands a good or a service, somebody is likely to produce the good or a service. And when somebody produces a good or a service, somebody is more likely able to find work.

Tax relief came at the absolute right time. But the reason I'm still talking about it, the reason we have to talk about it is because there is a quirk in the Senate rules. On the one hand, they giveth; on the other hand, they taketh away, because after 10 years the tax relief package ends. All the relief that had happened resorts back to the way it was prior to last year. I know that's hard to understand. That's one of those Washington things.

But for the sake of economic vitality, Congress needs to make the tax cuts permanent. People need to be able to plan. Part of an environment which will encourage economic growth means people—there's certainty. And there needs to be certainty in the Tax Code. You can't have a Tax Code that's one way for a while and reverts back. That's not certainty.

The tax relief plan is incredibly good for small businesses. Most small businesses are sole proprietorships. Most small businesses are limited partnerships, which means the small business pays taxes at the income tax rate—personal income tax rates. And so therefore, when you reduce all rates, you inject needed capital into the small-business sector. Seventy percent of new jobs in America are created by small-business owners. For the sake of job creation, for the sake of certainty, for the sake of the growth of our small-

business sector, Congress needs to make the tax cuts permanent.

A stronger America—a stronger America is one in which people can find work. We have got a problem when it comes to construction projects in America. The terrorists hit us, and now—lot of folks who want to put steel in the ground can't get insurance. We need the Congress to act on terrorism insurance. We need to have Congress act as a stopgap for those who want to put construction projects forward. There's over \$15 billion of construction projects which are now on hold because we can't get terrorism insurance done. They've been talking about it, but we can't get it out of the—can't get it out of what they call the conference committee. Fifteen billion dollars' worth of projects are stalled, which means 300,000 jobs.

My call to Congress, before they go home, for the sake of jobs, for the sake of putting hardhats back to work, for the sake of letting people have a chance to put food on their table, we need a terrorism insurance package which does not reward trial lawyers but does reward the hardhats of America.

Like you, I'm concerned about the fact that 401(k)s are being affected, that people's savings have been eroded. I'm concerned about that. We need to create an environment in Washington which promotes growth and certainty.

One thing that will send a good message to markets and to our fellow Americans is if Washington can show some fiscal discipline. And that starts with understanding whose money we spend in Washington. We're not spending the Government's money. We're spending your money in Washington, DC.

See, we need to set priorities. We need to set clear priorities, winning this war on terror and protecting the homeland, making sure our kids get educated. We ought to set priorities, but we ought not to spend beyond those priorities. And here's the danger. There is no budget in the United States Senate. You see, if you don't have a budget, guess what can happen, particularly in an environment in which every idea sounds like a great idea? See, in Washington, every idea is—sounds wonderful. The problem in that town is, is that the price tag usually runs in the

billions. Without a budget, there is a danger that the Congress will overspend.

I submitted a budget that shows us getting back to balance in a reasonable period of time if there's fiscal sanity in Washington. For the sake of job creation, for the sake of improving the economic environment here in America, the United States Congress must fund our priorities, must not try to get re-elected with extraneous spending, and must remember whose money we spend in Washington, and it is the people's money.

I will continue to work to make America a stronger country by working hard to improve our economy, by working hard to help people find work, by working hard to bring confidence back into the American system.

And by the way, that started with me having the honor of signing the most significant corporate reforms since Franklin Roosevelt was the President. Here's the message: If you're running a corporation in America, we expect you to be open; we expect you to be honest; we expect you to treat your shareholders with respect; we expect you to treat your employees with respect. If you break the law, we're going to come and get you; you're going to spend hard time.

And we're going to work hard to make sure America is a stronger place, but my most important job is to make America a safer place. I'm reminded of that every time I come and give a speech and see the little ones here. I'm also reminded, since some of them are going to sleep, to keep my speeches shorter. *[Laughter]*

I want you to know that I say we have to work to make America a safer place because there is still an enemy out there who hates America. And they hate us because of what we love. They hate us because we love freedom in America. We love freedom to the point we will never back down and relinquish our freedoms. We love the idea of anybody in America being able to worship an almighty God anyway he or she sees fit. We love the fact that in our society there is discourse about elections and politics. A free society has open debate. We love that. We love a free press. We love everything about our freedoms. And that's why the enemy hates us.

It's hard for some youngsters to understand that. But you've just got to know there are people that don't value life, either. See, that's one of the things that differentiates us. America says, "Everybody counts. Everybody matters. Every life has worth. Everybody is precious in the eyes of the Almighty." And our enemy is willing to hijack a great religion and murder innocent life without caring. And so long as they're out there, we must do everything we can as a nation, as governments at the Federal, State, and local level, to protect the American people. It is our most important and solemn job, and I take it seriously.

I want you to know there are a lot of good people working incredibly hard on your behalf. We're doing a much better job of sharing information than we had in the past. I mean, after all, we now know that America is a battlefield. Anytime we get a hint, anytime we get an idea that somebody might be trying to do something to some American somewhere, we are moving; we're acting on it. We take every threat seriously. We are on alert as a nation. Times have changed, and you just need to know we have changed with the times.

Now, I have asked Congress to join me on creating what I call a Department of Homeland Security, and I want to share right quickly why I did that. There's over 100 agencies in Washington involved with securing the homeland, or 100 agencies involved with some aspect of doing their job that I expect them to do.

But the problem is, is that with so many agencies scattered around, it's hard to align authority and responsibility. It's hard to have accountability. It's hard to make sure the cultures of the agency are aligned properly. It's hard to make sure their number one job is to protect you. And so therefore, I said, "Let's create this Department so that we can say to the American people, we're doing everything we can to protect you."

The House passed a good bill. The Senate is still debating it. And here's the issue. The issue is whether or not the Senate is going to micromanage the executive branch and future Presidents or whether or not this President and future Presidents and the Cabinet Secretaries will be able to move the right

people to the right place at the right time to protect the American people. The question is this: Are we going to have rules, civil servant rules, which will make the process so cumbersome that we can't respond?

I'll give you an example. The Customs Service thought it appropriate that our inspectors wear radiation detection devices on their belts. That makes sense. If you're worried about weapons of mass destruction coming into America, you want your inspectors to have the tools necessary to do their job. The union said that they needed to have a negotiating session; they needed to go to collective bargaining as to whether or not the inspectors ought to be told to wear this, whether or not it would be involuntary or voluntary. That would take a long time to settle.

Nothing wrong with collective bargaining rights, I'm all for them. But what I'm not for is work rules that prohibit us from doing the job of protecting the American people.

This is a chance for people of both parties to come together and leave behind a legacy, because this enemy isn't going away anytime soon. And protecting the homeland is going to be an important job of future Presidents. So for the sake of the security of our country, I ask the Senate to be reasonable, to be realistic, and to understand their job is to leave a legacy behind that will allow those of us who have gotten the position you've elected us to, to do the jobs you expect us to do.

But the best way to secure the homeland in the short term and in the long term is to chase the killers down, one person at a time, and bring them to justice. And that is what we're going to continue to do. This is a different kind of war. We're not used to this kind of war we fight. In the old days, it used to be you could destroy an enemy's tanks or airplanes or ships, and you're making progress. The people we fight don't have tanks or airplanes. These are coldblooded killers who hide in caves or the dark recesses of certain cities and send youngsters to their suicidal deaths. That's why I say our job is to hunt them down, one at a time.

The doctrine that says, "Either you're with us, or you're with the enemy," still stands.

And as a result, there's still a coalition of freedom-loving countries that are after the killers. And we're doing a good job. Sometimes you'll see the progress on your TVs, and sometimes you won't, in this new war.

The other day, you saw progress when this fellow named bin al-Shibh, he popped his head up. [*Laughter*] He's no longer a threat to the United States and our friends and allies. He was the man who thought he was—wanted to be the 20th hijacker, bragged about the fact that he wanted to be one that was able to kill thousands of our citizens.

We're calling them in one at a time. I bet you we've captured over a couple of thousand of them. And a like number haven't been as lucky, and like number weren't as lucky because we have got a fantastic United States military. I want you to know I have great confidence in the men and women who wear the uniform of the United States. I have great respect for the men and women who wear the uniform. For the loved ones of those who wear the uniform, I thank you as well for your sacrifice, along with theirs, on behalf of a grateful nation.

I submitted to the United States Congress the largest increase in defense spending since Ronald Reagan was the President. I did so for two reasons: One, anytime we send our youngsters into harm's way, they deserve the best pay, the best training, and the best possible equipment; and secondly, I wanted to send a clear message to friend and foe alike that when it comes to the defense of our freedoms and values we hold dear, the United States is in for the long haul. There is no calendar on my desk that says, by such-and-such a date, we pretty well had it, time to quit. When it comes to the defense of that which we love, which is our country, when it comes to doing our duty, which is to protect the future for our children and our children's children, when it comes to the defense of the peace, the United States of America will stay the course.

I have sent that bill to the Congress. It hasn't made it to my desk yet. We are at war. I expect to get the defense bill, the defense appropriations bill, on my desk before the Congress goes home. For the sake of sending the right message, Congress should

not play politics with the defense appropriations bill.

Our job is to keep the peace. Our job is to make the world a more peaceful place. And sometimes it's a pretty steep hill to get there. Sometimes we're going to have to cross some hurdles. Sometimes we're going to have to anticipate problems before they become so acute that it will be difficult to keep the peace. One such area, where the Nation is now beginning an important national discourse, is with Iraq. This is a country which, 11 years ago, promised the world they would have no weapons of mass destruction. And yet, for 11 years they have lied and deceived the world community. This is a country run by one of the most brutal dictators in modern history. On Monday night, I will make the case to the country on TV yet again, but I want to share some of my thoughts with you here.

I want you to remember that this is a man who kills his opponents in cold blood. This is a person who suppressed people. This is a person who has used weapons of mass destruction on his own citizens. This is a person who has used weapons of mass destruction on people in his neighborhood. This is a person who hates America and yet still possesses weapons of mass destruction.

At one time, inspectors had a free hand in Iraq, like they should have, and they determined that had this man not been checked in the early nineties, he would have had possession of a nuclear weapon. He still wants to have a nuclear weapon. This is a man who has used weapons of mass destruction. This is a man who hates so much, he's willing to kill his own people, much less Americans. This is a man who would be a tremendous threat to world peace and security if he ever were to have and possess a weapon of mass destruction as devastating as a nuclear weapon.

I went to the United Nations the other day because I wanted to make it clear, a couple of things. One, I want the United Nations to be successful. We face a new threat for world peace. We're dealing with these treacherous terrorist organizations who have designs and desires to hook up with nations such as Iraq that have developed weapons of mass destruction. See, old Saddam might

not have to show up, but he might get a surrogate who could do it for him.

In order to deal with those new threats, in order to deal with the reality that America is no longer protected by two vast oceans, it seemed like sense to me that we should give the United Nations to be an effective peacekeeping body, somebody who would keep the peace, somebody who was strong enough. Well, I've told the United Nations, "Either you can be the United Nations, or you can be the League of Nations, your choice."

Sixteen different times the United Nations, an important world body, has said, "You must disarm." Sixteen times, and he's defied them all 16 times. He's lied, and he's deceived. And so now the choice is the United Nations' to make. The choice is also Mr. Saddam Hussein's to make. See, there's no negotiations. There's nothing to talk about. We don't want you to have weapons of mass destruction. You agreed to that; you said you would agree to that. Now you've got to show the world you don't have them. It's up to you, Mr. Hussein.

Nobody likes war in America. We're a peaceful nation. Nobody wants there to be war. On the other hand, a lot of folks—Republicans and Democrats, people who could care less about political parties—now are beginning to understand the true threat. In order to keep the peace, Mr. Hussein and the world community must work to disarm him. And if they won't, I will lead a coalition of nations, like-minded nations to send the world that we long for peace—send a message: We long for peace in this world, and we will not let the world's worst leaders threaten, blackmail, hurt America, our friends and allies with the world's worst weapons.

We owe this to our children. We owe it to peace. We owe it for a peaceful world to deal with the threats we see. We cannot ignore history. We must not ignore reality. We must do everything we can to disarm this man before he hurts one single American.

I am proud—I was proud the other day to stand in the Rose Garden with members of both political parties who agreed that this man is a threat—both political parties. We had the Speaker, and we had Dick Gephardt.

From the Senate we had Trent Lott and Joe Lieberman and John McCain and Evan Bayh, Republicans and Democrats alike. We're working on a resolution so this country can speak with one voice when it comes to the defense of our freedoms and our desire for peace.

This is not an issue of political parties. This is an issue of national concern. I look forward to hearing the debate. I welcome the voices on all sides. I understand the need for there to be a good and honest and open discourse on peace and security and freedom.

And as we work to secure the peace and to make the country a stronger and safer place, we've always got to remember to make America a better place, too, a better place for every single citizen who lives in this country. That starts with making sure that every child in America gets an education, not some but every child.

I was honored to work with Judd and Ted Kennedy. Believe it or not—[laughter]—it's amazing what can happen when people put their minds to do what's right for America and cast aside all the nonsense of the politics and focus on what's right. I signed a really good education bill. I want to share it with you because it's your responsibility, by the way, to make sure the citizens in this community get educated. See, I believe in local control of schools; that bill said that. But let me tell you two other things it said.

It said two other things that are really important. It said, in America, we believe each child can learn. And therefore, we must set high standards and high expectations. As a nation, if we want America to be a better place, we must challenge the soft bigotry of low expectations.

And you see, if you believe every child can learn, if you believe that—you've got to believe it; you just can't say it; you've got to believe it. You've got to believe our inner-city kids can learn. You've got to believe that a child whose parents may not speak English as a first language can learn. You have to believe it.

And if you do believe that, like I believe it, then you want to know. Then you want to know whether or not the children are learning. And therefore, in return for Federal

money, we have said, “Show us, New Hampshire. You show us. You show us whether our children are learning to read and write and add and subtract. You chart the path to excellence, and you measure. In return for the biggest increase in education spending in a long, long time, we expect every child to be educated. And when you find children in schools which will not teach and will not change, in order to make sure no child is left behind, you’ve got to demand something different. You’ve got to demand excellence in your schools for every single child.”

A better America is one that says, we’re going to help people in need, but we want them to work. Any good welfare reauthorization must have work as its central component. We’ll help you, fine. We’ll train you. But work leads to dignity. Work gives people a hopeful future.

A better America is one that recognizes that medicine has changed, but Government programs like Medicare haven’t. Medicine is modern. Medicare isn’t. For the sake of a better America, our seniors need to be treated with a Medicare program that includes prescription drugs and is a modern program.

But see, one of the things that you’ve got to understand about Government: Government can hand out money, but what Government cannot do is put love in a person’s life. What Government cannot do is put hope in hearts. And that’s why, in order to make sure that America is a better place, we’ve got to really unleash the great strength of America. And the great strength of this country is the people of this country. The great strength of America lay in the hearts and souls of our fellow Americans.

Today we are honored—and I was honored at the airport there—to greet Bonnie Monahan and Patrick Fraser. They are two of our fellow citizens. Bonnie is the vice president of the Timberland Company, and Patrick works for the City Youth—City Year Youth Service Corps. And the reason I bring them up is, there’s two examples about what I’m talking about, about the great strength of the country. Timberland offers employees 40 hours of paid leave to volunteer in their communities. This good company, this company, which is doing their best to look at the bottom line, also understands the bottom line

is more than just dollars and cents. The bottom line is being a good citizen. They provide paid leave for people to be involved with helping our community be a better place. They’ve got City Year Youth Service Corps, where Freedom Corps volunteers—kids who understand we can save America, one heart and one soul at a time—working in Timberland. I want to thank the City Corps, and I want to thank Timberland for coming.

I want to thank you all for being here. See, it’s an important signal that one person can’t do everything, but one person can do something to be a part of changing America. People have often asked me, “What can I do to help in the war against terror?” You can join the war against terror and fight evil by loving your neighbor just like you’d like to be loved yourself.

A better America is an America which understands that in the midst of our plenty, there are people who hurt. There are pockets of despair. There’s loneliness. Some communities you say, “Hey, American Dream,” and they go, “What does that mean? I don’t know what you’re talking about.”

If one of us hurts, we all hurt. And therefore, we must do everything we can to make this country a better place, a more optimistic place. And it starts with each of us. If you want to be a part of a change of America, all you’ve got to do is put your arm around a neighbor in need and say, “I love you.” Mentor a child. Start a Boy and Girls Club. Feed the hungry. Help house the homeless.

And it’s happening in America. The amazing thing about September the 11th—a day in which we still grieve as a nation; we still send our prayers to those whose lives were completely disrupted—but this Nation is so strong and so confident and so good, instead of being cowed by the enemy, we rose up. Out of the evil done to America is going to come some incredible good. I don’t know what was in the mind of the enemy. They must have thought we were so selfish and materialistic and self-absorbed that when they attacked us, we might file a lawsuit or two. [*Laughter*]

Instead, what they’re finding out about this country is, we love our freedom. And if we remain strong and focused and tough when we need to, if we continue to speak clearly

about right from wrong and defend the values, which are not American values but God-given values, we can achieve peace. We can achieve peace in the world. We can achieve peace for our citizens.

And here at home, if we remember the definition a patriot is something more than just putting your hand over your heart—the definition of a patriot in the face of the evil done to America is to serve something greater than yourself in life, is to help somebody in need, is to love a person, one at a time, as we remember that—which I know we will.

The enemy will have hit us, but America will be a stronger, more compassionate, better place for all of us. There's no question in my mind that we can meet our goals, that we can meet this challenge, because, my fellow Americans, this is the greatest nation, full of the finest people, on the face of the Earth.

Thank you for coming. May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:32 a.m. at the National Guard Armory. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Jean Shaheen of New Hampshire; Mayor Robert A. Baines of Manchester; Raymond J. Wicczorek, New Hampshire Executive Councilor for District Four; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

### **Remarks at a Reception for Senatorial Candidate John Sununu in Manchester**

*October 5, 2002*

Thank you all for coming. Listen, it's good to be back. I had the honor of speaking in the Armory before, and it's the place where I cut my teeth in New Hampshire politics by flipping pancakes. [Laughter] But it was reminiscent of some really good times for Laura and me, and I recognize a lot of faces here, and I want to thank you all for coming.

I'm here because I want to make it as plain as I can, John Sununu will be a great United States Senator for New Hampshire. It's in my interests. It's in New Hampshire's interests. It's in the country's interests that John Sununu be elected.

I want to thank you all for working hard for his election. There's no doubt in my mind

that we will be able to work together to do what's right for the country.

I'm impressed by his record. First of all, I know something about what I'm about to speak. He and I share something in common: We've both got mothers still telling us what to do. [Laughter] He assures me he's still listening to her—[laughter]—and I'm listening to mine—[laughter]—most of the time.

We both married above ourselves. [Laughter] I want to thank Kitty Sununu, mother of three, for standing by John's side. It's tough to run for office. It's hard on a family. But if you've got a good marriage and if you prioritize your family, you can do anything. And I appreciate the Sununus' love for each other, and I appreciate their family values a lot.

Laura sends her best. She made a lot of friends here in New Hampshire. She sends her love to her friends. She sends her best, of course, to the Sununus. She wishes she could be here. She is opening up a museum in Portland, Maine. You all drew the short straw. [Laughter] But she's doing great. She's doing great. I have been incredibly proud of her.

The country has seen her grace and her strength and her calm when the pressure was on. People began to realize why I asked her to marry me, and some are a little confused as to say why she said yes, but nevertheless. [Laughter] I love her dearly. She is a fabulous First Lady for the country.

I appreciate Judd Gregg. He's been a friend. He's a solid citizen. He's a really, really good United States Senator. He too married well. It's great that Kathy's here. But the Greggs are close friends of Laura and mine. We value their friendship, and I know you value his service to the great State of New Hampshire.

I want to say a word about Bob Smith. Bob served well in the United States Senate. I was incredibly impressed by his graciousness on what had to have been a very difficult night for Bob and his family. He was gracious about John. He was strong in his support. New Hampshire has been well represented by Senator Bob Smith. I too am proud to call him friend. And I appreciate his service to the country.

I'm also proud to serve in Washington, DC, with a fine United States Congressman, a fellow I got to know pretty well as I traveled on John's Winnebago all over the State of New Hampshire, and that's Charlie Bass. I appreciate you, Charlie.

I also look forward to being joined in Washington by the Congressman Jeb Bradley. I appreciate the campaign Jeb is running, and I'm honored to be here with the next Governor of the State of New Hampshire, Craig Benson. I appreciate you, Craig.

I know something about being a Governor, and I know what it takes to get elected. And I am impressed by the campaign that Craig is running. He takes nothing for granted. He's out there in those coffee shops and knocking on those doors. He is traveling this State. He has got a burning desire to do what's right for all the people of New Hampshire. I'm confident he's going to win, and I'm equally as confident that he'll do a great job as your Governor.

But most of all, I want to thank the grassroots activists of the State of New Hampshire for coming. I want to thank you for what you have done and, more importantly now, what you're going to do.

And I know what you can do in this State. You can turn out the vote. You can put up the signs. You can mail the mailers. You can get on the phones. John Sununu will be elected the United States Senator, not only because he's got a good message and a good heart but because of your hard work and your dedication to turn out the vote.

I want to thank the chairman of the party, John Dowd, and Tom Rath, the national committeeman, and Nancy Merrill, the national committeewoman, for leading an active, strong grassroots organization. You need to go to your coffee shops. You need to go to your churches or your synagogues or your mosques or any other place of worship. You need to go to your community centers. And you need to tell everybody in the State of New Hampshire, Republican, Democrat, or Independent, that you've got some fine candidates, that John Sununu needs to be the United States Senator.

And we've got some tough tasks ahead of us. We must work together to make sure Americans can find work. The way I like to

put it is, anytime anybody who wants to work can't find a job, we must do everything we can to seek to expand the job base.

Now, the role of Government—John and I know this—is not to create wealth. The role of Government is to create an environment in which the small business can grow to be a big business, in which the entrepreneur, the spirit of America, can flourish, in which our producers have got a chance to make a living. And so therefore, I need somebody in the Senate who understands that, somebody who also understands the importance, when the economy is slow, of letting people keep more of their own money.

New Hampshire citizens of all political stripes must understand that when the economy is slow, that you don't increase taxes on the American people, but you let people keep more of their own money. Because when they do, they demand a good or a service, and when they demand a good or a service, somebody in the marketplace is likely to produce the good or a service. And when somebody makes that decision to produce a good or a service, somebody is more likely to find work.

For the sake of jobs in New Hampshire, for the sake of economic vitality in this State, you need a United States Senator who will join me in making the tax cuts permanent.

John Sununu was with me from the beginning. There was no question in my mind where he stood. He didn't need to take a poll or a focus group to make his decision about tax relief. He knew it was the right thing for the national economy. The problem we have and the reason we have to continue to talking about this issue is because of a quirk in the Senate rules. And I'm going to let old Judd, after I leave back to go see my mother, tell you what—how this happened.

Let me just put it to you this way, in plain language. The Senate has got the kind of rule where you pass the tax cut, and then 10 years it goes back to where we were. The way I like to put it, if I can—in plain English is, on the one hand, they taketh away, on the other hand, they giveth. On the one hand they give tax relief; on the other hand, you don't get tax relief. It's hard to explain in Manchester, New Hampshire, and it's darn sure hard to explain in Crawford, Texas.

But this isn't hard to explain: That wouldn't happen if you had a United States Senate which would vote to make the tax cuts permanent, and that Senator would be John Sununu.

A couple of other things that we need to do in Washington to make sure our folks can find work. Listen, we've got a lot of construction projects which are on hold because people can't get terrorism insurance. The enemy hit us, and they affected our economy. And one way they did was a lot of construction projects—like \$15 billion worth—are not going forward because people can't get insurance, because of a potential terrorist attack.

I think it is a legitimate use for Congress to kind of underwrite terrorism insurance. There is 300,000 jobs going begging, 300,000 hardhats not finding work because we can't get terrorism insurance. It doesn't cost the American people anything if there's not another attack. But it'll help the economy grow. It'll help make people—it'll help people find work. John Sununu understands this. What we need to do is pass a terrorism insurance bill that does not reward trial lawyers but works to put our hardhats back to work in America.

And finally, there's a lot of things we can do to make the environment for economic growth strong. But one thing we need to do for certain is to elect people who understand whose money we spend in Washington. You need to listen carefully to the debates that goes on in our Nation's Capital. You see, some of them are—goes on with people trying to get to the Nation's Capital. Some of them, they talk about the Government's money. Folks, we don't spend the Government's money in Washington. We spend your money. And you better make sure you send somebody to Washington who is a fiscally responsible person.

I know firsthand that John is. After all, he's on the—he's vice chairman of the Budget Committee in the House. And by the way, the House Budget Committee passed my budget, so the House has a budget. It gets us back to balance quickly. It funds priorities. It gets us back to balance as quickly as possible. It says, "Let's be responsible with your money." We can't get a budget out of the United States Senate. And if you don't have

a budget and because every idea in Washington sounds like a brilliant idea, even though the price tag may run in the billions, we've got the danger of the Congress overspending. There's no question in mind that John Sununu will be responsible with the people's money when he becomes the United States Senator.

I think a lot about our economy. I'm going to do everything I can to increase the job base. I spend a lot of time on it. It's one way to make sure the country is stronger. Another way to make sure we've got a strong country is to make sure that our Federal bench is a bench full of judges that don't use their position from which to legislate. We've got plenty of legislators. We don't need our judges legislating, we need them strictly interpreting the Constitution.

That's an issue in this campaign—the bench is an issue in this campaign. I named a fabulous lady from Texas named Priscilla Owen. She'd been running statewide in our State several times, got elected overwhelmingly, had strong Republican support, strong Democrat support, number one in her law school class, or tops of her law school class. She's ranked the highest rating possible by the American Bar Association. She is a—you know, she'll interpret the Constitution; she's not going to try to rewrite it.

And I sent her name up there and they—they weren't fair with her record. They totally politicized the issue. They made this a huge political deal. For the sake of a solid judiciary, I need John Sununu in the United States Senate.

I named a new man named Michael Estrada to one of our higher benches. It's a great American success story. He couldn't speak English when he came here. He's now being nominated by the President to one of the highest benches because he's a brilliant lawyer. He's got fantastic support from Democrats and Republicans. John Sununu will cast his vote with Michael. Judd Gregg would. I wonder if the other candidate in this race would stand up and support the judicial nominees of a President George W. Bush. For the sake of a strong judiciary, we need John Sununu in the United States Senate.

I also appreciate his understanding that our most important priority is to protect the homeland. See, there's an enemy which stills hate America lurking around. And so long as they lurk, we must do everything we can to protect America. That's our most important job, is to protect you. There's a lot of good folks working hard to do this. Listen, we're running down every lead, every hint; every idea that somebody might hurt us, we're following up on.

But in order to make sure I can do a better job, I ask the Congress to join me in the creating of a Department of Homeland Security. Listen, when I was campaigning here I didn't say, "Vote for me. I want your Government to be bigger." I did say, "I want your Government to work where it needs to work." And it needs to work in protecting the homeland. There's over 100 agencies scattered around Washington that have got something to do with the homeland.

So for the sake of better managing the Department, for the sake of being able to get people to work together, I said, "Let's have it in one agency." The House heard it. Judd Gregg has heard it. Sununu supported it. But it's tied up in the Senate. And here's the issue. Some Senators want there to be a thick book of managerial regulations which will prevent a President from putting the right people at the right place at the right time in order to respond to an enemy. Some people want there to be more bureaucracy than managerial flexibility.

One example, just one of many: We believe, and the Customs Service believes, that people ought to be wearing radiation detection devices when they inspect cargo, to determine whether or not a weapon of mass destruction is coming into the country. The union representing the Customs agents said, "Wait a minute. You can't make people wear radiation detection devices. That's a matter for collective bargaining; we need a collective bargain over that," which could have taken a year to do that.

I need flexibility. I need a Senator who understands that this President and future Presidents—[*applause*].

The best way to protect America, however, is to chase these killers down, one at a time,

one person at a time. And that is precisely what we are going to do.

And they're out there. They just are. We're making progress. The doctrine that says, "Either you're with us, or you're with the enemy," still stands. It's just as important today as it was the day after the attacks on September the 11th. And so there's a lot of folks working with us. We've got good intelligence. We're sharing it better than ever before. We're cutting off their money. We're denying safe haven. If we can find them lighting somewhere, we get them on the run. And we pulled in a couple of thousand of them.

And sometimes it makes news when we do it, and sometimes it doesn't. This is just a different kind of war. In the old days, you destroyed an enemy's tanks, and you say, "Well, we're making progress," sunk a couple of ships and we're making progress.

These folks don't have ships. They don't have tanks. They hide in caves, and they send youngsters to their suicidal death. That guy al-Shibh, bin al-Shibh popped up, and he's no longer a problem. [*Laughter*] We hauled him in.

Slowly but surely, we are dismantling an Al Qaida terrorist network, and we've got a lot more work to do. By the way, we probably captured a couple of thousand of them, and just that many weren't as lucky, thanks to the United States military.

By the way, that doctrine that says, "If you harbor one of those terrorists, you're just as guilty as the terrorists," it still stands, too. But I want you to remind you—I want you to remind your kids, in all the midst of this talk about military this and that, that this great Nation did what it said it was going to do. And at the same time it upheld doctrine, it liberated people.

We didn't go to Afghanistan, nor will we ever go anywhere, to conquer anybody. See, we believe in freedom. That's why the enemy hates us. We believe in freedom, and we went into Afghanistan—we freed people. Thanks to the United States, young girls now go to—many young girls now go to school for the first time because of our belief in freedom. Everybody counts. Everybody has got worth.

I sent a bill up there to increase defense spending, a big increase, for two reasons. I hope you appreciate the reasons why. One, anytime we put our troops in harm's way, we owe it to our troops; we owe it to their loved ones, to make sure they've got the best training, the best pay, and the best possible equipment. And secondly, it's a clear signal that we're in this deal for the long haul, that there's not a artificial timeline that says: Well, we've had enough; we're kind of tired; let's quit.

See, we need to send a signal—we know this here at home, but others need to know that when it comes to the defense of things which we hold dear, namely our freedoms—our freedom to worship the way we see fit, the freedom to debate political issues in an open forum, the freedom of the press—when it comes to the defense of our freedoms, there is no timeframe. It doesn't matter how long it takes. It doesn't matter how difficult the task. The United States of America will defend our freedoms.

I haven't seen that defense bill yet. Judd voted for it, and John voted for it. I haven't seen it yet. It's stuck in committee. They don't need to be playing politics with the defense bill right now. They need to get the bill done before they go home. They need to get the defense bill on my desk.

I said we're in this deal for the long haul, and we are. We'll be chasing Al Qaida down. They think they can hide somewhere. They just cannot do that with America. The long arm of American and allied justice will seek them out.

We've got some other tasks ahead as well to keep the peace and to make our country secure. And that of course is Iraq. There's now a national debate, one which I encourage, one which I think is helpful, a national debate on how best to keep the peace, how best to secure the homeland, whether or not we ought to deal with threats before they become so severe that we may never be able to deal with them. It's an important debate.

Monday night I'll be giving a talk to the Nation about my take on the debate. I want to share some thought with you right quick, and it's this. The facts and the history of Iraq are pretty clear to me. This is a man who told the world he would not have weapons

of mass destruction, your chemical, your biological or nuclear weapons. For 11 years he has lied.

On the one hand, he said he wouldn't have them—he does. And remember, this is a guy who's used them. He not only has denied and deceived about possessing weapons; he's actually used the weapons of mass destruction. He's used the weapons of mass destruction against neighbors. He has used weapons of mass destruction against his own people. He hates America. He hates many of our friends. He hates Israel. He's a man who continues to kill his own people who might dissent. When the inspectors were able to go into the country and have unfettered access, it was discovered that he was a short period away from owning a nuclear weapon.

It's an important debate we're going to have here in America about how best to secure the homeland. I took the debate to the United Nations a while ago. One, I want the United Nations to be effective. I want there to be a body of freedom-loving nations that, when they speak, something actually can happen.

This is a man, as I reminded them, who has looked the United Nations in the eye for 11 long years and has defied them. Sixteen times the Security Council passed resolution after resolution after resolution after resolution, and 16 times he defied them.

My message was, "We want you to be effective. We've got a new kind of war we fight. You need to be effective. We want you to work. But it's your choice. You can either be an effective United Nations, or you can be the League of Nations. You get to pick."

I also have said as clearly as I can that this isn't an issue of inspectors. That's what the process-oriented people want. This is an issue of disarmament. This is a man who has said he would disarm. The United Nations said he must 16 times. He said he would, but he hasn't. The choice is his to make as well. And those choices will be made over time here.

But for the sake of our peace, for the sake of our children's future, if the United Nations will not act in strong fashion, if they continue to be ineffective, if Saddam Hussein makes the choice not to disarm, the United States and a lot of our friends will disarm him. For

the sake of peace, for the sake of freedom, for the sake of our future and our children's future, we will disarm him.

The use of our military is my last choice, not my first. I take my responsibilities very seriously as the Commander in Chief. The use of force is not my first choice; it's my last. But my first choice as well is not to allow the world's worst leader to blackmail, to harm America with the world's worst weapons.

The United States Congress will speak to this issue next week. It's a very, very important debate. This is not a partisan discussion, it's a philosophical discussion. It's a discussion that's a weighty matter. I look forward to the debate. I actually encourage the debate.

I was proud the other day when both Republicans and Democrats stood with me in the Rose Garden to announce their support for a clear statement of purpose: You disarm, or we will. We owe it to our children to think about this issue. We owe it to the future. My belief is, is that the enemy hit us, and out of the evil can come some incredible good. And one of the good that can come is peace.

The United States can lead the world to peace if we're clear and forthright and determined. If we speak clearly about terror and its threats, if we hold our values, God-given values in the forefront, and that is freedom, we can achieve a peaceful world.

And you know what else we can do here in America? We can achieve a better world for all of us too, better world for each person who lives in this country. There are pockets of despair and loneliness in America. My attitude is, when our citizens hurt, we all hurt. I recognize the limitations of Government, I think John does as well. I mean, we can—Government should educate, see that people are educated—passed a good education bill. John talked about—he was a strong stalwart, as was Judd, who actually was an author, of holding people accountable. It says every child can learn in America. We are going to challenge the soft bigotry of low expectations in this country, and we're going to insist every child learns.

Government can make sure the health systems are modern. Medicare is old. Medicine

has changed, Medicare hasn't. Medicine is modern. Medicare—and a really incredibly important program—has not changed with medicine. For the sake of our seniors, we need a prescription drug plan and a modern Medicare system. That's an important part of Government being involved with making our society better.

But what Government cannot do is cause people to love one another. Government cannot put hope in people's hearts. That's up to us, our fellow citizens. My call to America has been and will continue to be to love a neighbor just like you'd like to be loved yourself.

If you want to fight evil, do some good. Do some good. Help somebody in need. Mentor a child. Go to a Boy Scout—or run a Boy Scout or a Girl Scout troop. Feed the hungry. Find shelter for the homeless. There are many ways to fight the evil that has been done to our country.

You see, it's the millions of acts of kindness and decency by our fellow citizens that reflect the true nature and character of this country. No, the enemy hit us. They thought—they thought, they probably thought that after September the 11th, 2001, we would file a lawsuit or two. [*Laughter*]

What they didn't realize is, this country is plenty tough. And the world is beginning to see we're plenty—we're plenty compassionate too, that in our—that our strength is our will and our resolve and our dedication to values we hold dear, and our strength is our collective heart.

You know, one reason I got into politics was because I wanted to be a part of a cultural shift, just a small part of a change. I think the enemy accelerated that cultural shift from one in which it said, "If it feels good, just go ahead and do it, and if you've got a problem, blame somebody else," to a culture in which each of us understand we are responsible for the decisions we make in life.

If you are a mom or a dad, your most important responsibility is to love your child. If you're living in Manchester, New Hampshire, you have the responsibility for the quality of life. You have the responsibility to

making sure the schools work. If you're running corporate America, you have a responsibility to tell the truth and to treat your shareholders and employees with dignity and respect.

Perhaps the most vivid example about what I'm talking about, about serving something greater than yourself as part of a culture of personal responsibility, came on Flight 93. It's an important moment, in my judgment, about what took place on America on that terrible day.

We had citizens flying across the country. They were told on the telephone that the airplane they were on was being used as a weapon. They told their loved ones goodbye. They said a prayer—history will show they said a prayer. A guy said, "Let's roll." They took the plane in the ground.

They sent a clear signal to America that serving something greater than yourself in life is an incredibly important part about being the ultimate American, about serving our country.

No, when the enemy hit us, they didn't know who they were hitting. See, out of the evil done to America is going to come incredible good. The world will be more peaceful. This country will be able to eliminate—work to eliminate the pockets of despair.

There's no question in my mind we face challenges as a nation. But there's no question in my mind we can overcome them. After all, this is the finest nation, the greatest nation, on the face of the Earth.

Thanks for coming to help John. May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:15 p.m. in the Expo Center of New Hampshire at the Holiday Inn Manchester. In his remarks, he referred to Kitty Sununu, wife of Representative Sununu; Kathleen MacLellan Gregg, wife of Representative Gregg; Texas Supreme Court Justice Priscilla Owen, whose nomination to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit failed on September 5 when the Senate Judiciary Committee refused to send it forward for a vote by the Senate; Miguel A. Estrada, nominee to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit; Ramzi bin al-Shibh, an Al Qaida operative suspected of helping to plan the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, who was captured in Karachi, Pakistan; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

## **Statement on the Sniper Attacks in the Greater Washington Area**

*October 7, 2002*

In recent days we have witnessed a series of cowardly and senseless acts of violence in the greater Washington area. I have committed Federal resources to support the local law enforcement agencies that are in charge of the investigation, including FBI profiling experts and ballistics analysts from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms.

I have also directed the Departments of Education and Health and Human Services to assist the students, teachers, and families affected by the violence by providing counseling and other community health services.

I applaud the State and local law enforcement officials who are working around the clock to help solve these heinous crimes and protect our citizens. Laura and I send our thoughts and prayers to the victims and their families.

## **Executive Order 13275—Creating a Board of Inquiry To Report on Certain Labor Disputes Affecting the Maritime Industry of the United States**

*October 7, 2002*

**Whereas**, there exists a labor dispute between, on the one hand, employees represented by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and, on the other hand, employers and the bargaining association of employers who are (1) U.S. and foreign steamship companies operating ships or employed as agents for ships engaged in service to or from the Pacific Coast ports in California, Oregon, and Washington, and (2) stevedore and terminal companies operating at ports in California, Oregon, and Washington; and

**Whereas**, such dispute has resulted in a lock-out that affects a substantial part of the maritime industry, an industry engaged in trade, commerce, transportation (including the transportation of military supplies), transmission, and communication among the several States and with foreign nations; and

**Whereas**, a continuation of this lock-out, if permitted to continue, will imperil the national health and safety;

**Now, Therefore**, by virtue of the authority vested in me by section 206 of the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947 (61 Stat. 155; 29 U.S.C. 176) (the “Act”), I hereby create a Board of Inquiry consisting of such members as I shall appoint to inquire into the issues involved in such dispute.

The Board shall have powers and duties as set forth in title II of the Act. The Board shall report to me in accordance with the provisions of section 206 of the Act no later than October 8, 2002.

Upon the submission of its report, the Board shall continue in existence in order to perform any additional functions under the Act, including those functions set forth in section 209(b), but shall terminate no later than upon completion of such functions.

**George W. Bush**

The White House,  
October 7, 2002.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 8, 2002]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the *Federal Register* on October 9.

### **Address to the Nation on Iraq From Cincinnati, Ohio**

*October 7, 2002*

Thank you all. Thank you for that very gracious and warm Cincinnati welcome. I’m honored to be here tonight. I appreciate you all coming.

Tonight I want to take a few minutes to discuss a grave threat to peace and America’s determination to lead the world in confronting that threat.

The threat comes from Iraq. It arises directly from the Iraqi regime’s own actions—its history of aggression and its drive toward an arsenal of terror. Eleven years ago, as a condition for ending the Persian Gulf war, the Iraqi regime was required to destroy its weapons of mass destruction, to cease all development of such weapons, and to stop all support for terrorist groups. The Iraqi regime

has violated all of those obligations. It possesses and produces chemical and biological weapons. It is seeking nuclear weapons. It has given shelter and support to terrorism and practices terror against its own people. The entire world has witnessed Iraq’s 11-year history of defiance, deception, and bad faith.

We must also never forget the most vivid events of recent history. On September the 11th, 2001, America felt its vulnerability, even to threats that gather on the other side of the Earth. We resolved then and we are resolved today to confront every threat, from any source, that could bring sudden terror and suffering to America.

Members of Congress of both political parties and members of the United Nations Security Council agree that Saddam Hussein is a threat to peace and must disarm. We agree that the Iraqi dictator must not be permitted to threaten America and the world with horrible poisons and diseases and gases and atomic weapons. Since we all agree on this goal, the issue is: How can we best achieve it?

Many Americans have raised legitimate questions about the nature of the threat, about the urgency of action—why be concerned now—about the link between Iraq developing weapons of terror and the wider war on terror. These are all issues we’ve discussed broadly and fully within my administration. And tonight I want to share those discussions with you.

First, some ask why Iraq is different from other countries or regimes that also have terrible weapons. While there are many dangers in the world, the threat from Iraq stands alone because it gathers the most serious dangers of our age in one place. Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction are controlled by a murderous tyrant who has already used chemical weapons to kill thousands of people. This same tyrant has tried to dominate the Middle East, has invaded and brutally occupied a small neighbor, has struck other nations without warning, and holds an unrelenting hostility toward the United States.

By its past and present actions, by its technological capabilities, by the merciless nature of its regime, Iraq is unique. As a former chief weapons inspector of the U.N. has said,

“The fundamental problem with Iraq remains the nature of the regime, itself. Saddam Hussein is a homicidal dictator who is addicted to weapons of mass destruction.”

Some ask how urgent this danger is to America and the world. The danger is already significant, and it only grows worse with time. If we know Saddam Hussein has dangerous weapons today—and we do—does it make any sense for the world to wait to confront him as he grows even stronger and develops even more dangerous weapons?

In 1995, after several years of deceit by the Iraqi regime, the head of Iraq’s military industries defected. It was then that the regime was forced to admit that it had produced more than 30,000 liters of anthrax and other deadly biological agents. The inspectors, however, concluded that Iraq had likely produced 2 to 4 times that amount. This is a massive stockpile of biological weapons that has never been accounted for and is capable of killing millions.

We know that the regime has produced thousands of tons of chemical agents, including mustard gas, sarin nerve gas, VX nerve gas. Saddam Hussein also has experience in using chemical weapons. He has ordered chemical attacks on Iran and on more than 40 villages in his own country. These actions killed or injured at least 20,000 people, more than 6 times the number of people who died in the attacks of September the 11th.

And surveillance photos reveal that the regime is rebuilding facilities that it had used to produce chemical and biological weapons. Every chemical and biological weapon that Iraq has or makes is a direct violation of the truce that ended the Persian Gulf war in 1991. Yet, Saddam Hussein has chosen to build and keep these weapons despite international sanctions, U.N. demands, and isolation from the civilized world.

Iraq possesses ballistic missiles with a likely range of hundreds of miles—far enough to strike Saudi Arabia, Israel, Turkey, and other nations—in a region where more than 135,000 American civilians and service members live and work. We’ve also discovered through intelligence that Iraq has a growing fleet of manned and unmanned aerial vehicles that could be used to disperse chemical or biological weapons across broad areas.

We’re concerned that Iraq is exploring ways of using these UAVs for missions targeting the United States. And of course, sophisticated delivery systems aren’t required for a chemical or biological attack; all that might be required are a small container and one terrorist or Iraqi intelligence operative to deliver it.

And that is the source of our urgent concern about Saddam Hussein’s links to international terrorist groups. Over the years, Iraq has provided safe haven to terrorists such as Abu Nidal, whose terror organization carried out more than 90 terrorist attacks in 20 countries that killed or injured nearly 900 people, including 12 Americans. Iraq has also provided safe haven to Abu Abbas, who was responsible for seizing the Achille Lauro and killing an American passenger. And we know that Iraq is continuing to finance terror and gives assistance to groups that use terrorism to undermine Middle East peace.

We know that Iraq and the Al Qaida terrorist network share a common enemy—the United States of America. We know that Iraq and Al Qaida have had high-level contacts that go back a decade. Some Al Qaida leaders who fled Afghanistan went to Iraq. These include one very senior Al Qaida leader who received medical treatment in Baghdad this year, and who has been associated with planning for chemical and biological attacks. We’ve learned that Iraq has trained Al Qaida members in bombmaking and poisons and deadly gases. And we know that after September the 11th, Saddam Hussein’s regime gleefully celebrated the terrorist attacks on America.

Iraq could decide on any given day to provide a biological or chemical weapon to a terrorist group or individual terrorists. Alliance with terrorists could allow the Iraqi regime to attack America without leaving any fingerprints.

Some have argued that confronting the threat from Iraq could detract from the war against terror. To the contrary, confronting the threat posed by Iraq is crucial to winning the war on terror. When I spoke to Congress more than a year ago, I said that those who harbor terrorists are as guilty as the terrorists themselves. Saddam Hussein is harboring terrorists and the instruments of terror, the

instruments of mass death and destruction. And he cannot be trusted. The risk is simply too great that he will use them or provide them to a terror network.

Terror cells and outlaw regimes building weapons of mass destruction are different faces of the same evil. Our security requires that we confront both. And the United States military is capable of confronting both.

Many people have asked how close Saddam Hussein is to developing a nuclear weapon. Well, we don't know exactly, and that's the problem. Before the Gulf war, the best intelligence indicated that Iraq was 8 to 10 years away from developing a nuclear weapon. After the war, international inspectors learned that the regime had been much closer—the regime in Iraq would likely have possessed a nuclear weapon no later than 1993. The inspectors discovered that Iraq had an advanced nuclear weapons development program, had a design for a workable nuclear weapon, and was pursuing several different methods of enriching uranium for a bomb.

Before being barred from Iraq in 1998, the International Atomic Energy Agency dismantled extensive nuclear weapons-related facilities, including three uranium enrichment sites. That same year, information from a high-ranking Iraqi nuclear engineer who had defected revealed that despite his public promises, Saddam Hussein had ordered his nuclear program to continue.

The evidence indicates that Iraq is reconstituting its nuclear weapons program. Saddam Hussein has held numerous meetings with Iraqi nuclear scientists, a group he calls his "nuclear mujahideen," his nuclear holy warriors. Satellite photographs reveal that Iraq is rebuilding facilities at sites that have been part of its nuclear program in the past. Iraq has attempted to purchase high-strength aluminum tubes and other equipment needed for gas centrifuges, which are used to enrich uranium for nuclear weapons.

If the Iraqi regime is able to produce, buy, or steal an amount of highly enriched uranium a little larger than a single softball, it could have a nuclear weapon in less than a year. And if we allow that to happen, a terrible line would be crossed. Saddam Hussein would be in a position to blackmail anyone

who opposes his aggression. He would be in a position to dominate the Middle East. He would be in a position to threaten America. And Saddam Hussein would be in a position to pass nuclear technology to terrorists.

Some citizens wonder, after 11 years of living with this problem, why do we need to confront it now? And there's a reason. We've experienced the horror of September the 11th. We have seen that those who hate America are willing to crash airplanes into buildings full of innocent people. Our enemies would be no less willing—in fact, they would be eager—to use biological or chemical or a nuclear weapon.

Knowing these realities, America must not ignore the threat gathering against us. Facing clear evidence of peril, we cannot wait for the final proof, the smoking gun, that could come in the form of a mushroom cloud. As President Kennedy said in October of 1962, "Neither the United States of America nor the world community of nations can tolerate deliberate deception and offensive threats on the part of any nation, large or small. We no longer live in a world," he said, "where only the actual firing of weapons represents a sufficient challenge to a nation's security to constitute maximum peril."

Understanding the threats of our time, knowing the designs and deceptions of the Iraqi regime, we have every reason to assume the worst, and we have an urgent duty to prevent the worst from occurring.

Some believe we can address this danger by simply resuming the old approach to inspections and applying diplomatic and economic pressure. Yet this is precisely what the world has tried to do since 1991. The U.N. inspections program was met with systematic deception. The Iraqi regime bugged hotel rooms and offices of inspectors to find where they were going next. They forged documents, destroyed evidence, and developed mobile weapons facilities to keep a step ahead of inspectors. Eight so-called Presidential palaces were declared off-limits to unfettered inspections. These sites actually encompass 12 square miles, with hundreds of structures, both above and below the ground, where sensitive materials could be hidden.

The world has also tried economic sanctions and watched Iraq use billions of dollars in illegal oil revenues to fund more weapons purchases, rather than providing for the needs of the Iraqi people.

The world has tried limited military strikes to destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction capabilities, only to see them openly rebuilt, while the regime again denies they even exist.

The world has tried no-fly zones to keep Saddam from terrorizing his own people, and in the last year alone, the Iraqi military has fired upon American and British pilots more than 750 times.

After 11 years during which we have tried containment, sanctions, inspections, even selected military action, the end result is that Saddam Hussein still has chemical and biological weapons and is increasing his capabilities to make more. And he is moving ever closer to developing a nuclear weapon.

Clearly, to actually work, any new inspections, sanctions, or enforcement mechanisms will have to be very different. America wants the U.N. to be an effective organization that helps keep the peace. And that is why we are urging the Security Council to adopt a new resolution setting out tough, immediate requirements. Among those requirements, the Iraqi regime must reveal and destroy, under U.N. supervision, all existing weapons of mass destruction. To ensure that we learn the truth, the regime must allow witnesses to its illegal activities to be interviewed outside the country, and these witnesses must be free to bring their families with them so they are all beyond the reach of Saddam Hussein's terror and murder. And inspectors must have access to any site, at any time, without preclearance, without delay, without exceptions.

The time for denying, deceiving, and delaying has come to an end. Saddam Hussein must disarm himself, or for the sake of peace, we will lead a coalition to disarm him.

Many nations are joining us in insisting that Saddam Hussein's regime be held accountable. They are committed to defending the international security that protects the lives of both our citizens and theirs. And that's why America is challenging all nations

to take the resolutions of the U.N. Security Council seriously.

And these resolutions are very clear. In addition to declaring and destroying all of its weapons of mass destruction, Iraq must end its support for terrorism. It must cease the persecution of its civilian population. It must stop all illicit trade outside the oil-for-food program. It must release or account for all Gulf war personnel, including an American pilot whose fate is still unknown.

By taking these steps and by only taking these steps, the Iraqi regime has an opportunity to avoid conflict. Taking these steps would also change the nature of the Iraqi regime, itself. America hopes the regime will make that choice. Unfortunately, at least so far, we have little reason to expect it. And that's why two administrations, mine and President Clinton's, have stated that regime change in Iraq is the only certain means of removing a great danger to our Nation.

I hope this will not require military action, but it may. And military conflict could be difficult. An Iraqi regime faced with its own demise may attempt cruel and desperate measures. If Saddam Hussein orders such measures, his generals would be well advised to refuse those orders. If they do not refuse, they must understand that all war criminals will be pursued and punished. If we have to act, we will take every precaution that is possible. We will plan carefully. We will act with the full power of the United States military. We will act with allies at our side, and we will prevail.

There is no easy or risk-free course of action. Some have argued we should wait, and that's an option. In my view, it's the riskiest of all options, because the longer we wait, the stronger and bolder Saddam Hussein will become. We could wait and hope that Saddam does not give weapons to terrorists or develop a nuclear weapon to blackmail the world. But I'm convinced that is a hope against all evidence. As Americans, we want peace; we work and sacrifice for peace. But there can be no peace if our security depends on the will and whims of a ruthless and aggressive dictator. I'm not willing to stake one American life on trusting Saddam Hussein.

Failure to act would embolden other tyrants, allow terrorists access to new weapons

and new resources, and make blackmail a permanent feature of world events. The United Nations would betray the purpose of its founding and prove irrelevant to the problems of our time. And through its inaction, the United States would resign itself to a future of fear.

That is not the America I know. That is not the America I serve. We refuse to live in fear. This Nation, in World War and in cold war, has never permitted the brutal and lawless to set history's course. Now as before, we will secure our Nation, protect our freedom, and help others to find freedom of their own.

Some worry that a change of leadership in Iraq could create instability and make the situation worse. The situation could hardly get worse, for world security and for the people of Iraq. The lives of Iraqi citizens would improve dramatically if Saddam Hussein were no longer in power, just as the lives of Afghanistan's citizens improved after the Taliban. The dictator of Iraq is a student of Stalin, using murder as a tool of terror and control, within his own cabinet, within his own army, and even within his own family. On Saddam Hussein's orders, opponents have been decapitated, wives and mothers of political opponents have been systematically raped as a method of intimidation, and political prisoners have been forced to watch their own children being tortured.

America believes that all people are entitled to hope and human rights, to the non-negotiable demands of human dignity. People everywhere prefer freedom to slavery, prosperity to squalor, self-government to the rule of terror and torture. America is a friend to the people of Iraq. Our demands are directed only at the regime that enslaves them and threatens us. When these demands are met, the first and greatest benefit will come to Iraqi men, women, and children. The oppression of Kurds, Assyrians, Turkomans, Shi'a, Sunnis, and others will be lifted. The long captivity of Iraq will end, and an era of new hope will begin.

Iraq is a land rich in culture and resources and talent. Freed from the weight of oppression, Iraq's people will be able to share in the progress and prosperity of our time. If military action is necessary, the United States

and our allies will help the Iraqi people rebuild their economy and create the institutions of liberty in a unified Iraq at peace with its neighbors.

Later this week, the United States Congress will vote on this matter. I have asked Congress to authorize the use of America's military, if it proves necessary, to enforce U.N. Security Council demands. Approving this resolution does not mean that military action is imminent or unavoidable. The resolution will tell the United Nations and all nations that America speaks with one voice and is determined to make the demands of the civilized world mean something. Congress will also be sending a message to the dictator in Iraq that his only chance—his only choice is full compliance, and the time remaining for that choice is limited. Members of Congress are nearing an historic vote. I'm confident they will fully consider the facts and their duties.

The attacks of September the 11th showed our country that vast oceans no longer protect us from danger. Before that tragic date, we had only hints of Al Qaida's plans and designs. Today in Iraq, we see a threat whose outlines are far more clearly defined and whose consequences could be far more deadly. Saddam Hussein's actions have put us on notice, and there is no refuge from our responsibilities.

We did not ask for this present challenge, but we accept it. Like other generations of Americans, we will meet the responsibility of defending human liberty against violence and aggression. By our resolve, we will give strength to others. By our courage, we will give hope to others. And by our actions, we will secure the peace and lead the world to a better day.

May God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:02 p.m. in the Grand Rotunda at the Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal. In his remarks, he referred to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; former chief U.N. weapons inspector Richard Butler; and missing American pilot Lt. Comdr. Michael S. Speicher, USN. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

## Remarks to the Community in Alcoa, Tennessee

October 8, 2002

**The President.** Thank you all for coming. Thanks for coming. It's an honor to be back in East Tennessee. If I was dragging coming on this day, this Tennessee band kind of livened my step. [*Laughter*] I'm honored to see you all again. I'm proud to be in your presence. You represent a great university and a great State, and I'm honored you're here. I want to thank you all for coming. I've got some things on my mind, and I want to share them with you.

The first thing on my mind is this. I know—I know what it takes to be a good Governor. I know the characteristics necessary for someone to be able to assume that high office. Van Hilleary has what it takes to be a great Governor for Tennessee. I've also learned a lot about the United States Senate—[*laughter*—and I know we need Lamar Alexander in the United States Senate.

I appreciate so much Bill Frist. He's a distinguished citizen. He's a good friend, a good, honorable man who cares deeply about the citizens of this State, brings a lot of expertise to the Senate. He's kind of one of those fellows who can get something done in the United States Senate, and that's the kind of attitude we need in the United States Senate. And I appreciate Bill. I want to tell you how proud I am to be on the stage with Janice Bowling, who's going to be the next Congresswoman.

I appreciate my friend the mayor, the honorable Victor Ashe, for being here. I've known Victor for a long, long time. We both proved that you don't have to graduate from—with honors from college in order to hold higher office. I'm really proud to be with Victor's mother. I've known Mrs. Ashe for a long, long time. I'm proud to see you, Martha. Thanks for coming to say hello. I'm proud you're here.

I want to talk about the future of your State and the future of our country. First, let me talk about your State. It's important you get a good soul to be your Governor, somebody who shares your values, the values of hard work and family, the values of service

to others. It's important you get somebody who when they speak, they speak your language, who knows the soul of the citizens of the State. It's important to get somebody in there who doesn't need a poll or a focus group to tell them what to think, somebody who makes decisions based upon a philosophy, somebody who stands tall when sometimes the winds of public opinion may be drifting a different way, somebody you can count on, somebody, when they turn up the butane, the political butane, you know where they stand. That person, no doubt in my mind, is Van Hilleary.

One of the things I like about him is he—when the country called, he stepped up, and he served in Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Then he decided that he wanted to serve in Congress. He went to one of those districts where they said, "This is a district where a Republican can't possibly win." He went out and said, "Listen, I want to represent everybody. I'm not here just to appeal to a small segment of the district. I'm here to represent a philosophy and a way of life in a State I care deeply about." And he won where people didn't think he could win. And for a while, they didn't think he could win here in Tennessee. You watch what happens on election day. Van Hilleary is going to be the next Governor.

He understands agriculture, and that's important for this State. He understands budgeting. That's important for this State. [*Laughter*] He's been dealing with the Washington budget. If you can figure out the Washington budget, I can assure you, you can figure out the Tennessee budget. But the thing I like most about Van is, he understands the most important priority of a State is to make sure that every single child gets educated.

I like—when I was the Governor of a State that started with the letter T and has a university that wears orange and called UT—[*laughter*]—I used to say that education is to a State what national defense is to the Federal Government. It's "the" priority. And I want to tell you all something, and you need to tell your friends at the coffee shops and at your community centers, that when it came to writing one of the most comprehensive pieces of education reform ever in the

history of our country, Van Hilleary played a significant role.

And let me share with you right quick the philosophy, because it's important to understand the philosophy behind educational excellence, at least our philosophy. He mentioned challenging the soft bigotry of low expectations in order to make sure every child learns in America. We must do that. We can never assign any child to failure. Every child can learn. If you believe every child can learn, then you must have a Governor who's willing to set high standards and high expectations. If you lower the bar, you see, if you believe certain kids can't learn—"Let's just move them through to get them off our—get them off the agenda"—if you lower the bar, you're going to get bad results.

Secondly, you've got to trust the local folks. See, one in—one of the key parts of the bill says that one size doesn't fit all when it comes to education, that you've got to trust local people to chart the path to excellence. You've got to empower local people to make the decisions for the children in their district. The people that care more about the children in Tennessee aren't in Washington; they're in Tennessee. And therefore, local control of schools is a fundamental part of education reform.

But let me tell you one other part. And it's important for the citizens of Tennessee to pay attention to this part of the education debate. If you believe every child can learn, like we do—see, if you believe that every child can learn, then you're willing to measure to determine if every child is learning. Those who don't believe every child can learn will say, "We don't need to measure," because if you don't believe they can learn, then why should you care? In order to make sure every child learns, it's essential that the good people of this State have a Governor who's willing to insist upon accountability.

We need to know in society—we need to know whether or not the curriculum is working. We need to know whether our teachers have the tools necessary to teach. We need to know whether or not schools are on the right track. We need to know whether or not each child in Tennessee can read and write and add and subtract. If you can—if you can't find out, you'll never know. If you don't

measure, you'll never know. In order to make sure no child gets left behind—I don't mean any single child in this State—you better have a Governor who is willing to hold people accountable for results. And when you find children trapped in schools that won't teach and won't change, you better have a Governor who's willing to challenge the status quo, and that man is Van Hilleary.

And I'm proud to strongly endorse the candidacy of Lamar Alexander. There's no question in my mind, and there should be no doubt in the minds of your fellow citizens, Republican, Democrat, or independent alike, that this man has proven his worth in the public sector and will be another great United States Senator from the State of Tennessee.

He knows education. He knows fiscal responsibility. But let me tell you another reason why we need him up there. One of the most serious parts of my job is to make sure that the Federal bench has got good judges on it, good, honorable, decent people who are willing to serve their communities and their Nation on the Federal bench, people who won't use the bench to act like or serve like a legislator. See, we've got the legislative branch. We don't need our judges acting like legislators. We need our judges there to strictly interpret our United States Constitution.

And I've named good judges. I named a lady the other day from the State of Texas, who I know well. She got elected several times statewide in my State, overwhelmingly so; came out of the law school class—one of the tops in her law school class; was ranked by the American Bar Association with the highest of high ratings; was embraced by both Republicans and Democrats alike. I put her nomination up there. They played politics with her nomination. They distorted Priscilla Owen's record. I need Senators like Lamar Alexander who will join me in making sure our Federal judiciary is strong and sensible and will not rewrite the Constitution from the bench.

And I appreciate Janice Bowling, willing to run and serve in Washington, DC. It's very important that we make sure that Denny Hastert is the Speaker of the House, make sure that coming into the next session that

we've got a Speaker with whom I can work. Janice stands for a lot of good things, stands for a lot of good issues, but the thing that I'm most impressed with is, she'll vote for Denny Hastert to be the Speaker of the House in Washington, DC.

We've got a lot of work to do in Washington. We've got a lot of work to do to make America a stronger place and a safer place and a better place. Making sure America is a stronger place really means we've got to make sure people can find work if they can't find work—people are able to find a job. We've got to do everything we can to make sure that the policies in Washington stress economic growth, to do things that stimulate that part of the economy which will grow jobs.

See, I worry about it when people can't find work. If somebody is looking for a job and they can't find work, we've got a problem in America. We want our people to be able to put food on the table. Obviously, I'm concerned as well when the stock market is declining. But I want you to know, I'm optimistic about our future. Interest rates are low; that's a good sign. Inflation is low; that's a good sign. We've got the best workers in America. Our productivity is the highest in the world. Our entrepreneurial spirit is strong. The foundation for growth is good. But I'm going to work as hard as I possibly can to do everything we can do to make sure our economy grows.

It starts with a—the belief, the firm belief that when times are slow, we must let people keep more of their own money. When times are slow, the best way to encourage economic growth is not to increase the size of Government but to increase the size of money in our citizens' pockets.

Here's what we believe, and this is a fundamental difference between some of the voices in Washington and what I believe and what others on this stage believe. By letting people keep more of their own money, they will then more likely demand a good or a service. They'll demand something. And in a marketplace economy, somebody is likely to produce that good or a service. If there's a demand for a good or a service, in our society somebody's going to produce it. And

when somebody produces it, it means somebody is more likely to find work.

The tax relief plan that Van supported and Senator Frist supported and many members of the Tennessee delegation supported came at the absolute right time. It was important that we cut the taxes on the people to provide wind to the economic growth and vitality. And there are some in Washington who want to get away with that—get rid of that tax relief plan. There are some who don't believe—it's a good, honest debate—they don't believe in our philosophy. But for the sake of economic vitality, we must not let them raise your taxes. And for the sake of economic vitality, we must make the tax relief permanent.

The House has got a budget, and I want to thank Van for working on the Budget Committee, and it's a good budget. It's a budget that says, we can get back to balance if we're realistic on how we spend your money. The Senate doesn't have a budget. And you can imagine what that could mean for your money. Without a budget, without kind of a go-by, without constraints in a society or in an environment in which every program sounds like a brilliant program, except they all cost billions of dollars, it's likely that we could have some runaway Federal spending. And we can't have that, for the sake of economic vitality. We can fund our priorities—listen, we've got plenty of money to fund the priorities. We can stay focused with your money on our priorities. But for the sake of job creation, the Congress must not overspend. For the sake of economic vitality, for the sake of the strength of the future of our economy, the Congress must remember whose money they're spending. It's not the Government's money. It's your money. They need to be responsible with your money, in order to make sure the foundation for economic growth is strong.

And before they go home, there's something else they can do. They can pass a terrorism insurance bill. See, there's \$15 billion worth of construction projects which are on hold around America because people can't get insurance for the project. The enemy hit us, and it made it very difficult for people to be able to insure those projects. And so, therefore, I think it's a useful role for the

Congress to serve as a backstop against a potential terrorist attack.

This is a jobs program. This is a way to get our people back to work the right way, to encourage private sector jobs. There's over 300,000 jobs, good hardhat jobs that have been delayed because we can't get a terrorism insurance package out of the United States Congress. There's a lot of voices up there talking about the economy, and I'm glad they're talking about it. But they ought to stop talking, and they ought to start doing, by getting a terrorism insurance bill to my desk so we can get people back to work. And that terrorism insurance bill must remember who we're trying to help. We're not trying to help the trial lawyers. We're trying to help the hardhats of America. Now, I—the economy is on my mind because I want our fellow countrymen working; I want them to be able to put bread on the table.

The safety of the country is on my mind, too. See, there's still an enemy which hates America, lurking around. And so long as that's the case, my most important job is to protect you. My most important job is to rally the assets of Government at all levels to do everything we can to deny the enemy, to prevent them from hitting America.

People say, "Well, why"—and I know a lot of kids are probably asking, "Well, why America?" And you've just got to understand that the enemy hates us because of what we love. We love freedom. We love the idea of people—[*applause*]. We love the fact that, in this great country, people can worship an almighty God any way they see fit. That's what we love. We love free political—we love the debates. We love free—we love the discourse of free people. We love a free press. We love everything about our freedom, and we're not going to change. We're going to stand tall and stand strong.

We also value life in America. Everybody counts. Everybody has worth. Everybody is a precious soul. And the enemy we—the enemy doesn't regard life the way we do. You see, they hijack a great religion and kill innocent people. They don't care, but we do. And so long as we hold those values dear, which we will, the enemy will try to strike us.

And so we've got a lot of good people, you just need to know, working hard to protect

you, a lot of good folks. We're sharing information. I mean, we're running down every hint, every idea. Every piece of evidence we get, we're chasing it down so that we can say to the American people, "We're doing everything we can do."

That's why I went to Congress and asked them to put together a Department of Homeland Security, to join me in creating a new Department, so we could better coordinate the over 100 agencies that are involved with protecting you. And we got a good bill out of the House, and it's stuck in the Senate.

And the reason it's stuck in the Senate is because there is a disagreement over how best to manage the agency. On the one hand, they want us to have a thick book of rules to micromanage the decisionmaking process. I'll give you one example. The Customs agents should be wearing radiological detection devices—radiological detection devices on their belt so that, if when they're looking for weapons of mass destruction and they come close to one, it—this device will send a signal. It ought to be a part of their job. But the thick book of rules says, "Well, that's up for collective bargaining before you can make a person do that." See, we've got—that violates a rule, and therefore, we got to negotiate that out.

Folks, we don't have time to negotiate a lot of these issues. We've got time to negotiate some issues. We've got time to negotiate some issues, of course. But we don't have time to sit around and negotiate the work rules necessary to protect you. The enemy doesn't sit around worrying about a thick book of regulations. And so, for the sake of our national security interests, the Congress, the Senate ought to give this President and future Presidents the ability to put the right people at the right place with the right equipment at the right time to protect America.

But the best way to protect America for the short term and the long term is to hunt the killers down, one person at a time, and bring them to justice, and that's what we're going to do. I say one at a time, because that's the kind of war we're in. See, we're facing an enemy which hides in caves and sends youngsters to their death, suicidal deaths. They don't have tanks. They don't have big

infantries. They don't have industrial complexes. They are coldblooded killers. And the only way to measure success against this part of the war against terror is to hunt them down one at a time. A man named bin al-Shibh popped his head up the other day; he's no longer a problem to America.

It's a different kind of war. You might think about it as an international manhunt, which means we've got to make sure that those of us—that those hunting with us are strong and buoyed in their—our mutual love for freedom. That's why the doctrine that says, "Either you're with us, or you're with the enemy," still stands; it still holds. We've got a lot of people working with us to chase these people down. And I want you to know, the coalition that we put together is still strong, still viable, and still necessary.

I bet you we've—I say, I bet you—I don't have an exact count, but we've hauled in a couple of thousand or more. And like number haven't been so lucky, thanks to the United States military, in large part. We've making progress. Slowly but surely, we're making progress. And that's the kind of war we fight. Sometimes you'll see it on TV, and sometimes you're just not going to see it on your TVs, as we make progress.

I submitted a significant increase in defense spending to the Congress to—because I want to send two messages. One, anytime we put one of our youngsters into harm's way, any time we put our military into harm's way, they deserve the best training, the best equipment and the best possible pay. We owe that to those soldiers, and we owe it to their loved ones.

I also want to send a clear message to friend and foe alike that the United States is in this for the long haul, that there is not a calendar that says, it's time to quit. See, when it comes to the defense of our freedoms, it doesn't matter how long it takes to defend our freedom. We love our freedoms, and we're not going to quit. We're not going to look at this kind of—group of international killers and say, "Well, it's time to go home." That's not the way we think in America, and that's not the way we want the world to see us.

See, we want the world to see us the way we are. We're determined, and we're after

them. And we're going to stay after them until we're able to more secure the peace. And that's why the United States Congress needs to get the defense bill to my desk before they go home. They've been talking about this defense bill for quite a while. Before they go home, they ought to stop playing politics with the defense bill and let me sign it. It's important for the future of the country.

Last night, I continued a dialog on the war on terror. I talked about a significant threat to our country, and that threat is Saddam Hussein and some of the folks in Iraq.

**Audience member.** Chase 'em out!

**The President.** I truly believe that, as you could tell from my discussion last night if you listened, that he is a threat. He is a threat to the United States. He's a threat to our friends in the region. He's a threat to anybody who holds freedom dear to his heart.

People are concerned about Saddam, and I understand that. But a lot of Americans have understood that the dynamics have shifted since 11 years ago, because of what happened on September the 11th. No longer are we secure. No longer can we feel free because we've got two oceans separating us from—from that part of the world, for example. And therefore, it's very important for us as a country to think about how best to protect us for the short run and the long run. We owe this to our children. This debate is an incredibly important debate for our country to have.

I want to thank members of both political parties for taking a—for realizing the seriousness of this issue. This week, you'll see the Congress debate this issue. As I said last night, this isn't an issue of committing our military one way or the other. It doesn't say this—the resolution—threat is imminent, nor does it say it's unavoidable. But it does send a clear signal to the world, and I mean not only the United Nations but the whole world, that we take this threat very seriously in America, that we'll be speaking with one voice, that we love our freedoms, and that if the United Nations is unable to deal with the problem—and I certainly hope they can—that the United States will lead—and if Saddam Hussein chooses not to deal with it. See, he's the guy who said he would have no weapons of mass destruction. He's the

person who told the world plainly, “I won’t have chemical weapons or biological weapons,” or, “I won’t seek a nuclear weapon.” He said that. He’s the man who said, “I promise you I won’t do this.” Yet for 11 years, he’s defied resolution after resolution after resolution. It’s his choice to make.

And the U.N. can show whether or not it’s the United Nations or the League of Nations. They get that choice to make, too. It’s their choice. But my message, and the message from the Congress, people of both political parties, will be, for the sake of peace—and I emphasize, for the sake of peace—if they won’t deal with this man, the United States of America will lead a coalition to disarm him—for the sake of peace.

I take my responsibilities as the Commander in Chief very seriously. A military option is my last choice, the last choice. But should we commit our military, we’ll be ready; we’ll be prepared; we’ll have a great plan. And make no mistake about it, we will prevail.

And finally, as we work to make America stronger and safer, we’ve got to make—work to make America a better place, too. Always got to remember that a better America is on the forefront of our agenda. That not only means a working America, but that means an educated America. That means making sure we’ve got a health care system that’s modern and make sure we understand that medicine has changed and Medicare hadn’t. We need prescription drugs for our seniors to make sure Medicare is a modern program that works.

But there’s something else we can do in this country. We can fight evil by doing acts of kindness and decency. We can fight evil by loving our neighbor like we’d like to be loved ourselves. In our society, in this great land, this great society and this wonderful country, there are pockets of despair and hopelessness. There are people who hurt in America, people who hurt because of addiction or loneliness, people who wonder whether or not the American Dream—what that means. It’s empty words for some. They just don’t see any future. There is no hope. And we can change that in this country. We can change it.

Listen, Government is limited in its scope. It can hand out money. But what Government cannot do is put a sense of purpose in people’s lives or hope in people’s lives. That happens when a neighbor says to a person in need, “I love you. What can I do to help you? What am I able to do to make your life more hopeful?”

See, our society can change and, in my judgment, will change, one heart, one soul at a time, because people are now understanding that after September the 11th, 2001, there is a new definition to patriotism. Patriotism is more than just putting your hand over your heart. Patriotism is serving your community by helping somebody in need.

And that can happen all kinds of ways. See, if you mentor a child like Linda Clark does—I met Linda, who’s a—she’s a soldier in the army of compassion. She came out to the Air Force One to say hello. She started a mentoring program. She’s involved with Project Grad. She understands one person can make a difference in somebody’s life. I don’t know where you are, Linda. Where are you? You’ve got a lousy seat. But anyway, Linda mentors a fifth grade child. She’s making a huge difference in that child’s life.

You can go to a shut-in’s home and say, “I love you.” That’s part of what I’m talking about. Run a Boy Scout troop or a Girl Scout troop or a Boys or Girls Club. There’s all kinds of ways that each of us can make a difference. We’ve got different talents; we’ve got different views; and each of us can use those talents and our views to make a difference in changing America for the better.

Listen, the enemy hit us. They didn’t know what they were thinking about. They probably thought we’d file a lawsuit or two. [Laughter] They didn’t know America, did they? See, they didn’t know this. They didn’t know that this great Nation loves freedom and loves peace, and we will work hard to achieve and maintain both. They also didn’t realize that we’re also not only a tough nation, but a compassionate nation, a nation which is a nation full of people who are going to respond to this evil with helping a neighbor in need.

You know, there’s a period of personal responsibility, I think, coming into the country.

Really important for our youngsters to understand that the culture which has said, "If it feels good, do it, and you've got a problem, blame somebody else," is a culture that's moving on. It's being replaced. We're replacing it with a culture that says, "Each of us are responsible for our behavior and our decisions." If you're a mother or a dad—if you're fortunate enough to be a mom or a dad, you're responsible for loving your child with all your heart and all your soul. If you're lucky enough to live in Tennessee or Knoxville, Tennessee, you're responsible for the quality of education in a neighborhood. If you're running a corporation, you're responsible to tell the truth to your shareholders and employees.

I feel it happening. I feel it happen, which allows me to boldly predict that, because we're the greatest nation on the face of the Earth, we will not only face down evil, but we can achieve peace in a country which is more hopeful, more decent, more optimistic for everybody who's lucky enough to be called an American.

Listen, thanks for coming today. May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:30 a.m. at McGhee Tyson Airport. In his remarks, he referred to gubernatorial candidate Van Hilleary; senatorial candidate Lamar Alexander; Janice Bowling, candidate for Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District; Mayor Victor Ashe of Alcoa, and his mother, Martha Ashe; Texas Supreme Court Justice Priscilla Owen, whose nomination to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit failed on September 5 when the Senate Judiciary Committee refused to send it forward for a vote by the Senate; Ramzi bin al-Shibh, an Al Qaida operative suspected of helping to plan the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, who was captured in Karachi, Pakistan; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

**Remarks at a Luncheon for  
Gubernatorial Candidate Van  
Hilleary in Knoxville, Tennessee**  
*October 8, 2002*

Thanks for coming. Thank you all very much. Please go ahead and be seated. Well, thank you for that kind introduction, "Governor." There's no doubt in my mind that

Van Hilleary is the right man to be the Governor of Tennessee. And I want to thank you all for coming. I feel comfortable in a State where the university is UT, the colors are orange and white, and the political climate is friendly. [*Laughter*]

I made a lot of friends here, and I'm proud to be amongst you all. Thanks for your prayers, and thanks for your support. My only regret is that Laura didn't come with me today. She sends her very best to Meredith and Van and sends her best to our buddies here in Tennessee. I don't know if you know this or not, but when I married Laura, she was a public school librarian. She didn't care for politics. She didn't like politicians. [*Laughter*] And now she's the First Lady of the United States, and she's doing a fabulous job. I'm really, really proud of her, and we're doing great. We really are.

And I want to thank, for those of you who came through the line here recently and said they pray for our family. That's the kindest thing you can do for a President and his family.

I believe strongly that the character of a person matters, and I believe Van Hilleary has the character necessary to be the kind of Governor that you can trust. He's a down-to-earth fellow that speaks his mind. He is the kind of person who does in office what he said he would do. He doesn't require focus groups or polls to tell him what to believe. And he can get the job done, and that's what you want in a Governor. See, I know what it takes to be a Governor, and he's got what it takes to be your Governor.

And I had the privilege of meeting Meredith, the next first lady. She's a schoolteacher. I think it makes a lot of sense to have a schoolteacher as the first lady for the State of Tennessee. I think it makes sense that—it's also good to meet Van's mom and dad. It kind of looks like he got saddled with the same kind of mom I've got, somebody who will tell you exactly what she thinks. [*Laughter*] But I love the fact that they've got a strong family, and they care for each other a lot.

There's no doubt in my mind that Lamar Alexander will be a great United States Senator from Tennessee. And I'm not saying that just because he married a Texan. [*Laughter*]

I'm saying that because he's got a great record and a great heart. And we need him, along with another great United States Senator, and that is Bill Frist.

Tennessee has had a great history of sending important Senators to the Senate. You've sent really fine people, and you will continue that tradition with Lamar. I look forward to working with him. I look forward to having somebody in the Senate who I can count on when it comes to making sure the judges I name not only get a fair hearing but get appointed to the bench. We need people who will not—we need people on our bench who won't legislate but will strictly interpret the Constitution. I've got to tell you, the way the Senate is now set up, they're playing politics with my good nominees. They're distorting their record. And for the sake of a good, sound Federal judiciary, I need Senators like Lamar Alexander in Washington, DC.

I want to thank Janice Bowling for running for Congress and soon to be elected to the United States Congress. I appreciate her service and her willingness to run.

I want to thank my old college classmate—you used to call him Bulldog; we call him Victor—the mayor of Knoxville, Mayor Victor Ashe. I'm honored to call him friend. I appreciate his public service. And I appreciate Mike Ragsdale, who is a Knox County executive; and Beth Harwell, who is the chairwoman of the Tennessee State Republican Party. I want to thank Jim Henry, who tossed his hat in the ring and has been so gracious about helping to unite behind the next Governor of your State.

I want to appreciate all the grassroots activists who are here. Listen, I understand how politics works. You can't ever get elected unless you've got people who are willing to put up the signs and dial the phones and stuff the mailers. And on behalf of a grateful President and a grateful soon-to-be Governor, thanks for the hard work you have done, and more importantly, thanks for the hard work you're going to do. You see, we're about to the sprint phase of the campaign. And in order for Van to win, he needs you going to the coffee shops and the community centers and talking it up. See, my attitude is, when you find a good one, you've got to support him, and you've got a good one in Van

Hilleary. And he's counting on you. And I want to thank you for the work you're going to do.

A couple of points I want to make about Van's agenda, his platform. One, he's a—he understands budgets. He's on the House Budget Committee. If he can figure out the Federal Government budget, you're damn sure he can figure out the Tennessee budget. [Laughter] But he understands you can't overspend. We share this common understanding of whose money we spend. You hear these people in Washington or probably in Nashville talk about, "Well, we're spending the Government's money." It's not the Government's money, you see; it's the people's money. In order to have fiscal sanity, you've got to start with that attitude.

He understands agriculture. He knows the importance of value-added agriculture. The thing I love about his agenda, though, is his focus on education. It's by far the most important thing a Governor will do in any State. You see, educating the children of a State is really the most important priority of a State. Teaching a child to read is the new civil right. Teaching children to read is the beginnings of a hopeful tomorrow. And you better have you a Governor who's got the right philosophy.

He talked about the No Child Left Behind legislation, which we passed in Washington. It is a significant piece of education reform. And I want to share the principles with you because, as this debate goes on here in Tennessee, about who best to handle the public school system of this State, you need to listen carefully to the words that these candidates are talking about.

First, you need to have a Governor who is willing to challenge what I call the soft bigotry of low expectations. See, if you lower the bar, if you believe that certain kids can't learn, if you believe the inner-city children are too tough to educate and, therefore, we ought to have low standards, or you say a child whose parents does not speak English as a first language cannot be educated, you will have the soft bigotry of low expectations. You need to have a Governor who believes every child can learn and is willing to set the highest of high standards for every person in the State of Tennessee.

It is important to understand one size does not fit all when it comes to educational excellence. You've got to have local control of schools. It's important. You can't have your schools controlled from Washington, DC. The crux of the—one of the most important reforms in the bill is, we passed power out of Washington. We decentralized the process. We trust local people. The same thing goes for the State of Tennessee. You've got to trust the local folks. You've got to empower the local teachers and principals and parents to chart the path for excellence.

But the key to reform as well is the measurement. And that's a fundamental difference, I suspect, in this campaign. If you believe every child can learn, if that's what you believe, in your heart of hearts believe that's the case, then you want to know whether every child is learning. If you believe that every child can read, then the next logical step is, "Show me, please. Show me whether or not the children of this State are learning how to read and write and add and subtract."

The No Child Left Behind legislation had as its cornerstone, it said this: It said, if you receive Federal money, for the first time in our Nation's history, prove to us that you're succeeding. And if you are, there will be plenty of praise for the hard-working teachers. But if we find children trapped in schools which won't teach and won't change, you better have yourself a Governor who's willing to challenge the status quo. If you don't measure, you don't know. If you don't measure, you're not able to enforce high standards. If you don't measure, you can't truthfully say to the people of Tennessee, "I will make sure that no child is left behind."

And so Van Hilleary gets it, in my judgment. He understands. He understands there are no second-rate children in Tennessee. And when he finds schools that will not change, you will have a Governor who will, for the sake of the children of this State, challenge the status quo.

I look forward to working with Senator Frist and Senator Alexander and Governor Hilleary to make sure America is a safer, stronger, and better place. And I want you to know that I know we've got challenges. I live with them every day. One of the biggest challenges we face is to make sure our econ-

omy continues to grow. I'm an optimist about our economy because I know the foundations for growth are strong. Anytime that you've got interest rates that are low, inflation which is low, and productivity which is incredibly high, we've got the ingredients for growth.

We've had a few things we've had to overcome. We've had a recession we've had to overcome. We've had some people in our society who thought they could lie to the American people, to shareholders and employees. I had the honor of signing one of the most comprehensive corporate responsibility bills since Franklin Roosevelt was the President. I appreciate the support of the House Members and the Senate. And here's what it said. It said there's not going to be any more easy money in America. We expect you to be a responsible citizen. We expect you to fully tell the truth, and if not, we're going to let you serve some time.

The market is adjusting, and that's not good news for savers, which means we've got to do everything we can to make sure that people can find work. I took this page out of the economic textbook, and I think Van shares it with me: When times are slow, when the economy is bumping along, one way to help create jobs is to let people keep more of their own money. And there's a big difference of opinion in Washington, DC, about that. And the difference is, is that do you increase the size of Government, or do you let people have more money in their pocket?

In order to stimulate small business and the entrepreneurial spirit, it's important to let people keep more money so that they demand a good or a service. And when they demand a good or a service in the marketplace, somebody will produce that good or a service. And when somebody produces that good or a service, somebody is more likely to find work. The tax cuts came at the exact right time in American economic history.

It's hard to explain this. Maybe Senator Frist can explain it better than me, but the Senate agreed to the tax cuts, but they go away after 10 years. On the one hand, we giveth; on the other hand, we taketh away. It sounds pretty typical of Washington. After 10 years the tax relief plan that we passed reverts back to where—the tax rates revert

back to where they were last year. The marriage penalty that we slashed goes back to where it was. The death tax, which is a terrible tax—it's a terrible tax on farmers and ranchers and entrepreneurs and small-business people—is no longer repealed after 10 years. For the sake of economic growth, for the sake of job creation, and for the sake of giving our small businesses the chance to plan and for tax certainty, we need to make the tax cuts permanent.

And we need to control spending in Washington, DC. There is a danger—it's an election year, and there is no budget in the Senate. There is no constraint. I submitted a budget to the House—to the Congress that the House passed, which shows us getting back to balance as quickly as possible if we're careful about spending the people's money, if we fund our priorities but not get excessive. Without a budget in the Senate, we have a potential problem.

The Congress must understand, if they're interested in job creation—and by the way, there's a lot of talk about that up there, and not much action yet. But if they're interested in job creation, if they're interested in making sure people can find work, they must not overspend the people's money. There needs to be fiscal sanity in Washington, DC.

And there are other things we can do to strengthen the economy. And I'll give you one practical idea. And that is, we need terrorism insurance. There's \$15 billion worth of projects that have been put on hold or canceled in America because the manager of the project can't get insurance. The terrorists struck, and they can't get the insurance necessary to cover for terror. And therefore, these projects are on hold. There's over 300,000 jobs which are going begging because these projects aren't going forward.

And so I thought it made sense for the Congress to come together and write a law that would provide a backstop. It's a good jobs program. It's a way to immediately affect the lives of the good, hard-working people who wear the hardhats in America. They've been talking about this issue now for a year. Before they go home, they need to get a good terrorism insurance bill. If they're interested in jobs, if they want people back to work, join me in getting a good terrorism insurance

bill, one by the way, that rewards the hardhats of America, not the trial lawyers of America.

Now, there's a lot we can do to work to keep this economy growing. And I just want you to know I'm not going to rest until people can find work. We're going to continue to build on the foundation of the—of economic growth. But my most important job is to protect America. That's what's on my mind a lot, is how best to secure this homeland.

I have to tell you that because there's still an enemy out there which would like to strike us. They hate us because of what we love. We love our freedoms, and we're not changing. So long as we love freedom, they will hate us, which means they're going to hate us for a while, because we're not changing our attitude. And they're out there, and they're lurking around.

It's a different kind of war. In the old days, you know, you'd measure infantries or air forces or flotillas, and you could tell how big the enemy was or where they were or whether or not you were making progress against them. This is a group of people, their leaders hide in a cave or the dark corners of a city somewhere, and they send youngsters to their suicidal deaths. They're nothing but a bunch of coldblooded killers. We value life. In this country, we say everybody's precious; everybody counts. They don't value life. They've hijacked a great religion and murder in the name of that religion.

And so we've got to do everything we can to prevent the enemy from hitting us again. The Government's working long hours—I say the Government—the people in the Government are working long hours to run down every bit of evidence we get, every piece of intelligence. And we're better coordinated than we ever have been to really secure the homeland, to disrupt any cells that we think might exist, that we're doing everything we can to let the enemy know that we know they're there. And when we think they're there, we obviously respect our Constitution, but we're moving. And we're moving pretty darn good.

But there's a way for me to better protect you and a way for future administrations to better protect you, and that is to take all the agencies involved with homeland defense

and put them under one Cabinet officer. And it sounds simple, except when you start stepping on some bureaucratic toes. And the House passed a good bill, and the Senate is wrestling with it now, because some Senators really want to micromanage the managerial process. They want to pass a book of thick regulations that gets to make the managerial decisions for the Homeland Security Department. And that's not right. It just doesn't make any sense to tie the hands of the President and future Presidents when it comes to a matter of deep national concern.

I'll give you a couple of examples, what I'm talking about. On our border, we need to know who's coming into the country, what they're bringing into the country, and whether or not they're leaving the country when they say they're going to leave it. And yet we've got three fine agencies on the border. We've got your Border Patrol, your INS, and your Customs. They wear different uniforms. Sometimes they have conflicting strategies. We need to be able to move people inter-agency. We need to be able to button it up. We need to make it seamless. We need to be able to put the right people at the right place at the right time. But you can't do that under the—one of the versions coming out of the United States Senate. There's not the flexibility necessary to better enforce our borders.

I'll give you another example. Customs people wear radiation detection devices. They should. If you're interested in finding weapons of mass destruction, you've got to have the device on your belt necessary to do that. The union head said no, that in order to do that, it needs to go to collective bargaining. We don't have the time to argue about whether or not somebody ought to be wearing a device to better protect the homeland.

Listen, I believe these hard-working employees ought to be able to have collective bargaining. But I also know I need the capacity to manage the agency in a way so I can look the American people in the eye and say, "We're doing everything we can to protect you." The Senate must hear this. We will not accept a bill that does not give this administration and future administrations the capacity to protect the homeland.

The best way to protect the homeland, however, is to take the fight to the enemy, to chase them down, one killer at a time, and bring them to justice, which is exactly what the United States of America is going to do. And we are making progress. The doctrine that says, "If you're with us—either you're with us, or you're with the enemy," still stands. It's clear. It hasn't changed. And therefore, we still have this coalition of like-minded people or friends that are joining us in hunting these people down.

Now, this is a different kind of war, as I mentioned. Sometimes you will see progress on your TV screens or hear about it, and sometimes you're just not going to know. That's the nature of the war. Intelligence sharing is an integral part of being able to succeed against the enemy. Cutting off their money is an integral part of fighting the enemy. Arresting them or bringing them to justice is an integral part of fighting the enemy.

The other day this bin al-Shibh showed up or, as I like to say, popped his head up. He was the person that was going to be the 20th hijacker. And we got him in Pakistan, thanks to work with the Pakistan Government and our own Government. We ferreted him out, and he's no longer a problem. He's no longer a threat to the United States and any of our friends.

That's the kind of war we are waging in this part of the battle. And I bet you we've hauled in a couple of thousand of these killers. They're detained. They're no longer a problem. And like number weren't as lucky, thanks to the United States military.

And there's quite a few more to go; there's quite a few more out there. It's going to take a while. And that's why I've submitted the largest increase in defense spending—asked the Congress to increase defense spending—the largest amount since Ronald Reagan was the President, because I want to make it clear, a couple of things clear. One, when we put our kids into harm's way, they deserve the best pay, the best training, and the best possible equipment. We owe that to them, and we owe it to their parents.

And I also want to send a message to our friends and our foes: It doesn't matter how long it takes to defend our freedom; we will

defend freedom. There's no quit in America, that we understand the stakes. The enemy made clear the stakes on September the 11th, 2001, and we're not going to forget. You can hide in any cave you want; we're coming after you. It doesn't matter where you think you can hide; the long arm of justice of the United States of America will find you.

And we've got some hills to climb. We've got some pretty tough stepping to do to get there, but the country is ready for it. And the Congress needs to get that bill—the defense bill to my desk. We've been talking about it now for a while. And they're getting ready to go home. The leadership has got to understand that the country expects, and I expect, the defense bill—in a time of war—the defense bill to get to my desk. They need to stop playing politics with the defense bill of the United States.

You need to tell your kids about America, and our not only desire to answer history's call and to defend our freedom but also that anytime our Nation goes anywhere, we go not to conquer anybody but to liberate people. I think one of the great lessons of this—of the first phase of this war was in Afghanistan. And we're still there, by the way, and there's still killers there. And we've still got troops there, and we're going to be there for a while. But we went there, not only to uphold the doctrine that says, “If you harbor a terrorist, you're just as guilty as the terrorists,” but we also went because we believe life matters not only in America but everywhere. We believe every child has worth. We believe every person has worth. And we believe in freedom. We believe in freedom not only for ourselves, but we believe freedom is God-given. We believe freedom is a right that everybody should realize.

And you need to tell your kids that this country liberated people from the clutches of one of the most barbaric regimes in history. And thanks to the United States and thanks to our friends and allies, young girls—many young girls go to school for the first time. It's an important lesson for our children that in the defense of our own freedoms, that this Nation will fight if we have to, to free others as well.

I've got a problem, obviously, with Mr. Saddam Hussein, and so do you. And that is, he poses a threat. He poses a threat to America. He poses a threat to our friends, our Israeli friends, our friends in his own neighborhood. He is a threat, and we've started a debate in this country about how to deal with that threat. And it's a really important debate. I don't view this as a political discourse or a political debate. I view this as a debate about our future, the role of the United States and the world, about security and freedom. And I welcome the debate, and I look forward to watching the Congress debate this issue this week. I believe we're going to get a strong resolution, backed by both Republicans and Democrats.

But it's their choice to make, just like it's Mr. Saddam Hussein's choice to make as to whether or not he will do what he told the world he would do, which is to stop lying, stop deceiving, and disarm. He told the world that he would not have weapons of mass destruction, and yet for 11 years he has deceived the world.

I went to the United Nations. I want to share with you why, because I really do want the United Nations to be effective. I don't want the United Nations to be the League of Nations. I want the United Nations to be an effective agent for peace. I want the United Nations to be able to help deal with the new issues we face. It's their choice to make as well. See, for 11 years they've passed resolution after resolution after resolution—16 resolutions, only to be defied by Saddam Hussein. And in the meantime, he has gotten stronger.

And so the fundamental question facing the world is, do we deal with this guy or not? It's the world's choice to make. We'll see whether or not the United Nations has the desire, has the backbone necessary to uphold its own resolutions and help keep the peace. But if they're unable to act, and if Saddam Hussein can't do what he said he would do, which is disarm, this country will lead a coalition and disarm him, for the sake of peace.

Committing our military into harm's way is my last choice. I say—I talk about military options as the last option, not the first option, because I understand the consequences. But I want you to know that if we have to commit

our military—and we may not have to, but if we have to—then we'll have the best plans. The full force and fury of the United States military will be unleashed, and make no mistake about it, we will prevail.

History has put the spotlight on this great Nation. And I'm confident this country will show the world and history our character, our strength, our determination, our absolute love for freedom and the values which we hold dear.

You know, the enemy hit us. I just can't imagine what was going through their mind. I suspect they thought we were so materialistic and so self-absorbed, so selfish that all we would do after September the 11th was maybe file a lawsuit or two. They didn't understand. They really didn't understand, and they're going to pay a severe price for not understanding. See, this country, instead of stepping back and said, "Oh, gosh, we're going to be terrorized and so fearful we won't act," made the absolute, decided effort to act in the name of peace and freedom.

Out of the evil done to the—to our country is going to come some good. And one of the good is going to be peace. You need to tell your children, amidst all of the discussion and the debate they hear, there is a strong desire by this President and my administration and our country to achieve peace. I believe by remaining strong and focused and determined and unrelenting in our desire to wipe out terror, we can achieve peace for ourselves, and we can achieve peace in the Middle East, peace in South Asia. I believe it's possible. I believe the enemy has handed us an unbelievable opportunity to make the world a more peaceful place, an opportunity which I intend to seize.

And at home, the enemy hit us. And instead of us falling down in self-pity, we took a step back and made an assessment of that which is important and decided as a nation to fight evil by millions of acts of kindness and decency, that a lot of people in our country stepped back and realized that serving something greater than yourself in life was an incredibly important part of being a patriotic American. You know, as we fight to make—work to make America a stronger place and safer place, we've also got to work

to make it a better place. It's happening across our country now.

People understand that to fight evil, all you've got to do is do some good. And it doesn't have to be majestic acts: Mentoring a child is part of doing good; going to a shut-in's home and telling them you love them; recognizing that, in our society, there are people who hurt, people who are addicted, people who wonder what the American Dream was all about; and also recognizing that you can be a part of changing a person's attitude and outlook by loving them.

See, Government can hand out money, but it can't put hope in people's hearts. It can't put a sense of purpose in people's lives. That's done when our fellow citizens take it upon themselves to be responsible for the society in which we live and love a neighbor just like you'd like to be loved yourself.

No, the enemy hit us. They didn't know who they were hitting. They've awakened a spirit of America here. The American spirit is strong, evidenced most clearly on that fateful day when people were flying across the country on Flight 93. They heard the plane was being used as a weapon. They realized America—that vast oceans could no longer protect us, and we were a battleground. They told their loved ones goodbye. They used the word "love" a lot. They said a prayer. A guy said, "Let's roll." They took the plane into ground to serve something greater than themselves in life.

The American spirit is alive and strong. It's not only an entrepreneurial spirit; it's a spirit of compassion and decency and kindness. There is no question in my mind that this country can overcome the obstacles in our way, and out of the evil done to America will come great good, peace around the world, and a hopeful, decent, compassionate America in which each of us who lives in this country understands the American Dream is meant for them.

I want to thank you all for coming. May God bless you, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:23 p.m. at the Knoxville Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to candidate Van Hilleary's wife, Meredith, and his parents, Bill and Evelyn Hilleary; former Tennessee gubernatorial candidate Jim Henry; senatorial candidate Lamar Alexander, and

his wife, Honey; Janice Bowling, candidate for Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District; Ramzi bin al-Shibh, an Al Qaida operative suspected of helping to plan the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, who was captured in Karachi, Pakistan; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

### **Remarks Announcing Action on the Labor Disputes Affecting Pacific Coast Ports**

*October 8, 2002*

I appreciate my Cabinet Secretaries joining me here for this announcement.

For over a week our ports along the Pacific coast have been shut down. These ports handle more than \$300 billion a year in trade. The work stoppage is hurting our entire economy. It is hurting truckers and rail operators who carry goods to other parts of America. It's hurting farmers and ranchers and manufacturers, retailers and consumers who make, buy, and sell the products that pass through our ports.

The crisis in our western ports is hurting the economy. It is hurting the security of our country, and the Federal Government must act. Americans are working hard every day to bring our economy back from recession. This Nation simply cannot afford to have hundreds of billions of dollars a year in potential manufacturing and agricultural trade sitting idle. We can't afford it. Because of the situation at the west coast ports, our economy is already losing up to \$1 billion a day, economic losses that translate into lost jobs.

The farm economy alone is losing a thousand jobs a day. Automotive plants cannot get all the parts they need, and they're laying off workers. Stores cannot begin stocking up for the holiday season. All of this will only worsen as time goes on.

The work stoppage also threatens our national defense. These ports load the ships that carry supplies to our men and women in uniform. These ports also receive parts and materials used by our defense contractors to complete projects and maintain military equipment.

Federal mediators have been trying to get the workers and port operators to resume operations while they negotiate their dif-

ferences. The Secretary of Labor has been working hard to get people back to work. Unfortunately, the union and the management have been unable to reach an agreement. After a lot of work, particularly by our Labor Department and Secretary, after a lot of discussions, we have been unable to bring the two parties together, and therefore stronger action is required. Because the operation of western ports is vital to our economy and to our military, I have determined that the current situation imperils our national health and safety.

I have appointed a board of inquiry to investigate the issues at stake. Today the board submitted an official report stating each party's position. I am now directing Attorney General Ashcroft to seek an injunction under the Taft-Hartley Act, ending the lockout and requiring work at the ports to resume at a normal pace. This dispute between management and labor cannot be allowed to further harm the economy and force thousands of working Americans from their jobs.

This injunction will allow the parties more time to resolve their differences. It is not, however, a permanent solution to the problem, and the Federal Government will continue working with both sides to pursue a settlement. The ultimate responsibility for an agreement lies with the worker representatives and the port operators. I expect both sides to put the concerns of our national health and safety first and work in good faith to resolve their differences as quickly as possible.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:44 p.m. on the South Grounds at the White House.

### **Letter to the Attorney General Directing Action on the Labor Disputes Affecting Pacific Coast Ports**

*October 8, 2002*

*Dear Mr. Attorney General:*

On October 7, 2002, by virtue of the authority vested in me by section 206 of the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947 (61 Stat. 155; 29 U.S.C. 176) (the "Act"), I issued

Executive Order 13275. That Order created a Board of Inquiry to report on certain labor disputes affecting the maritime industry of the United States.

Today, I received the Board's written report in the matter. A copy of the report is attached. In my opinion, this unresolved labor dispute has resulted in a lock-out affecting a substantial part of the maritime industry of the United States, an industry that is engaged in trade, commerce, transportation (including the transportation of military supplies), transmission, and communication among the several States and with foreign nations. This lock-out, if permitted to continue, will imperil the national health and safety.

Therefore, in order to eliminate this peril and to secure the resumption of trade, commerce, transportation, transmission, and communication among the several States and with foreign nations, I direct you, pursuant to the provisions of section 208 of the Act, to petition in the name of the United States in any District Court of the United States having jurisdiction of the parties to enjoin the lock-out (or its continuance) and for such other relief as may in your judgment be appropriate.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

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

**Proclamation 7605—Leif Erikson Day, 2002**

*October 8, 2002*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

More than 1,000 years ago, Leif Erikson and his crew journeyed across the Atlantic seeking unknown lands. Their pioneering spirit of courage, determination, and discovery helped to open the world to new exploration and unprecedented development. Each October, we join our friends in Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, and Finland in honoring this historic voyage and in cele-

brating the strong transatlantic bonds that exist between those countries and the United States.

Our Nation is committed to promoting prosperity and stability throughout Northern Europe. Through the Northern Europe Initiative, we have partnered with other nations in the region to enhance security and economic growth in the Baltic region. This Initiative addresses concrete needs in six areas: the environment; public health; law enforcement and rule-of-law; civil society; energy; and trade. Our Nation also supports the European Union's "Northern Dimension" strategy, which aims to strengthen the integration of Northwest Russia and the accession countries to the European Union. These important efforts, along with the bilateral programs of all Nordic countries, are helping to build a brighter future for the entire region.

As we defend ourselves against terrorism, we are grateful for the support of our coalition partners around the world, including our Nordic friends and allies. The goodwill demonstrated by the people of this region has reinforced our close ties and strengthened our resolve to overcome the evil that is before us. As we celebrate Leif Erikson Day, we recommit ourselves to a world of innovation, prosperity, and opportunity.

To honor Leif Erikson, the brave son of Iceland and grandson of Norway, and to recognize our Nation's Nordic-American heritage, the Congress, by joint resolution (Public Law 88-566) approved on September 2, 1964, has authorized and requested the President to proclaim October 9 of each year as "Leif Erikson Day."

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush**, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2002, as Leif Erikson Day. I call upon all Americans to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to honor our rich Nordic-American heritage.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 10, 2002]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 11.

## Remarks at a Reception for Hispanic Heritage Month

October 9, 2002

*Bienvenidos.* It is such an honor to have you all here to the *Casa Blanca, la casa de todos que viven en esta pais*. As the Surgeon General mentioned, I'm just a temporary resident—[*laughter*—]but *es un gran honor para mi familia de vivir aqui*.

I want to thank you all for coming. Hispanic Heritage Month is an important month for our country, particularly now that we're at a time of war. You see, Hispanic Heritage Month talks to the great diversity of our country and the fact that our country is a strong country because of our diversity.

And this particular month we welcome the influence of the Hispano in our country. We welcome the great values that our Hispanic Americans bring to America, the values of faith *y familia*. Part of our entrepreneurial spirit is made stronger by the Hispanics who live in America. We're really proud of this heritage. We appreciate the hard work. We appreciate the determination.

I love the stories of our Surgeon General, the success stories of families who have sought a better day and have worked hard, and Americans have been able to reap the benefit of the greatest country in the face of the Earth. So welcome to the White House. It's an honor for me to welcome you here.

Obviously, we're celebrating—one of the things we celebrate in Hispanic Heritage Month is the great talent of many Hispanos, and we saw some great talent today. And I want to thank Carlos Ponce for being the emcee. Carlos, I'm going to be watching the eBay auctions very carefully. [*Laughter*] Times get tough. [*Laughter*]

I appreciate *las Tejanas*. I appreciate Jaci Velasquez *y tambien* Jennifer Pena. They're great talent. I'm proud to call them Texans. We've got some great talent in our State, and these are two of the best. And I really want

to thank you all for coming. And make sure you tell everybody at home I might have changed addresses, but I haven't changed homes. [*Laughter*]

And I also want to thank Gian Marco. Listen, if he's the first Peruvian here, we might as well have started with one of the best. [*Laughter*] And I'm honored you're here, Gian. Thank you for coming.

I want to thank Johnny Delgado from the Baltimore Police Department for starting this, for reciting the Pledge. Johnny represents many of our Hispanic Americans who serve on the frontlines in the war against terror, our firefighters, our police officers, our EMS teams. And I'm so honored, Johnny, that you're here, and thanks for coming. On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to thank you and all the good folks who wear the uniform for the job you do.

I want to thank Senator Orrin Hatch for coming. He's a great friend of—he's a good buddy. I'm glad he's here. I'm glad he's in the Senate. [*Laughter*] One of my jobs is to put together an administration that is talented, an administration here to serve the country, not themselves, an administration that reflects the diversity of our country. And I'm doing just that. Obviously, you met our new Surgeon General, Rich Carmona. Rich is a—he's a piece of work. [*Laughter*] He'll do a fabulous job in that incredibly important position.

Gaddi Vasquez, who is Director of the Peace Corps, is here. Gaddi, thank you for coming. Hans Hertell is an *Embajador de*—to the Dominican Republic, is with us today. Hans is from Puerto Rico, a good friend of mine.

There's another Ambassador here who's not an American, but nevertheless he is the *Embajador de Mexico*, our close friends, Mexico. I appreciate Ambassador Bremer for coming. I'm honored you're here.

*Mira, y tambien un otro amigo de mio.* He is the *Gobernador*, the Governor of Tamulipas, Tomas Yarrington. I appreciate you coming, *Gobernador*. I don't know if this helps or hurts him, but he is a rising star in Mexican politics. [*Laughter*] I've known him, obviously when I was the Governor of Texas and now as the President. He's a good fellow, and I'm proud to call him friend.

Rosario Marin is here with us. Rosario is the Treasurer of the United States. Hector Barreto is the Small Business Administrator. I appreciate you coming, Hector. Eduardo Aguirre, who is the head of the—Vice Chairman of the Export-Import Bank. Eduardo, I'm glad you are here.

Jose Fourquet, who is the United States Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank—Jose, thank you for coming. Where are you, Jose? Oh, there he is. These are people I've appointed. These are part of the diversity of our administration. I'm glad they're here so I can herald their— their accomplishment and their service to the country.

Everybody has got to have a good lawyer— [laughter]—particularly me. *Mi abogado es un Tejano*, Al Gonzalez, my good friend.

Our military is—the Hispanic population in our country has served disproportionately in our military. The Hispanic population steps up when the country says, we need service. And they do. They have throughout our history. Today we've got with us Major General Chris Cortez of the United States Marine Corps. I've got great confidence in our military. I've got confidence in our troops. I'll talk a little bit about that in a second. But General, thanks for coming.

I appreciate my friend Emilio Estefan, who is the producer of this outfit. You want to talk about a cool guy. [Laughter]

We happen to have Miss Universe with us today, from Panama. Thank you for coming, Miss Universe. And I see my friend Raul from Texas is sitting next to you. [Laughter] He's probably claiming he should have that seat because he's from Panama and a Texan. [Laughter] I suspect it's for other reasons, but nevertheless. [Laughter]

As you probably know, as the Surgeon General mentioned, I'm a baseball fan. I love baseball. Some of the best years of my life were watching the mighty Rangers, and we've got a couple of mighty Rangers here with us. I saw one guy grow up from a 19-year-old kid, who's one of the greats of all time, and that's Pudge Rodriguez. I want to thank you for coming, Pudge.

And my daughters used to love to come to the game, and they fell in love early in life with Rafael Palmeiro. [Laughter] And I

want to thank you all for bringing your families. Yes, *mira*, thanks for coming, guys. I appreciate you. Hi, Lynn, how are you doing? Rosa.

I want to thank Nomar Garciaparra from the Red Sox for coming. Nomar, thanks for being here. Nomar, when we had the first tee-ball game at the White House, was there. And one of the things we're trying to do is use our backyard to promote baseball. And we had these kids come, and Nomar was here to help kick that off. I'm so honored you came.

I appreciate Octavio Dotel from the Houston Astros. Octavio, good to see you. Nelson Figueroa—*donde esta* Nelson? Nelson, thank you for coming.

These are the current players. These guys are stars and potential Hall of Famers. But we're also really fortunate to have some Hall of Famers with us, people who've actually done what these players are doing.

It is such an honor to have four Hall of Famers, starting with Rod Carew. Man, that guy could hit. I appreciate you coming, Rod. Tony Perez, Luis Aparicio, yes, *y por fin*, Juan Marichal—I'm really glad you all are here. You brighten my day. [Laughter] Thanks for coming.

One of my jobs as well is to make sure our bench is strong. I've named a fantastic Hispanic American to the bench, a young guy named Miguel Estrada. I named him to one of the highest courts possible, to the DC Circuit Court of Appeals. It's an incredibly important appointment. He's well qualified. He is very smart. He came to our country from El Salvador, he couldn't speak English. He's now been picked, amongst all the candidates, to take on this highest of high positions in the bench. He's having trouble in the United States Senate.

There are some Senators—certainly not Senator Hatch, who is one of his strongest advocates—there are Senators who are playing politics with this good man's nomination. There are Senators who would rather not give him the benefit of the doubt, Senators looking for a reason to defeat him, as opposed to looking for a reason to herald his intelligence, his capabilities, his talent. I strongly object to the way this man is going

to be treated in the Senate. I urge the Senate to confirm the nomination of Miguel Estrada.

I talked about our military. The reason we're talking about our military these days is because we're at war, and we're at war for precisely the reason why we're here. We're at war because we love freedom. We love the fact that people are free in America, free to worship an Almighty any way you see fit, free to come to this country with a dream and realize the dream, free to express your opinion, free to—if you happen to be in the press, to write anything you want to write. That's freedom, and that's what we love. And it's hard to believe, but there's an enemy which hates freedom and hates us as a result of our embrace of freedom. And so therefore, we're at war. We're at war, and we're still at war. We're still at risk here in America. We're at risk because there's some enemies still lurking around out there.

This is a different kind of war, as the General would tell you. In the old days, you could destroy the person's tanks or airplanes or ships and be making progress. But these people don't have tanks. They don't have ships. They hide in caves and send youngsters to their suicidal death.

And see, so long as we embrace the diversity and freedom of our country, which we will always do, and so long as they're lurking out there, we're at war. But make no mistake, *sin duda venceremos*. There's no doubt about it.

We will win because of what we love. We will win because we're determined and strong. We will win because we're a nation which holds values dear to our heart. And we refuse to be intimidated by anybody, at any place, at any time. We will win because we want to uphold our duty and obligation to leave America intact and free, so future generations of people, Hispanic or otherwise, can realize dreams, can succeed, can realize their God-given talents. That's what this is all about.

And so I want to thank you for coming to honor this month, but I want to assure you that this great Nation will lead the world to be more free.

And we've got some difficult tasks at hand. Not only, we must chase down the Al Qaida, one by one, which we continue to do to this

very day, but we've also got to deal with threats that are real. And I gave a speech to the Nation the other day to discuss those threats in sober terms, to talk about the realities of the world in which we live.

It used to be in this great country we had two oceans protecting us, and if somebody had a problem across the sea, we might help them or we might not. Today, these oceans—the fact that the oceans no longer protect us mean that the battleground is here. So this great country will be deliberate. We will rally other nations. We will give other people a chance to deal with Iraq, for example.

The U.N., the United Nations now has a chance, Mr. Ambassador. As a member of the Security Council, I'm confident your nation will join us to—to send a clear message that this man must disarm before he hurts America or anybody else. And he has to make a choice. We're a patient nation. He's got a choice to make. His choice is, he must do what he said he was going to do. He said he wasn't going to have weapons of mass destruction. That's what we expect. We take a man for his word.

But if he doesn't disarm and if the United Nations won't act, for the sake of our freedom, we will lead other countries that love freedom as much as we do and disarm him. We owe it to our children. We love peace in this country, and when we see threats to peace, we will deal with them in a deliberate, calm, logical, and, if need be, forceful way.

And as we work to make America a more secure place and a safer place, we've got to make it a better place too. And that means making sure everybody gets a good education in our country—everybody.

We passed a really good education bill. I want to share the spirit of the bill, because I believe it speaks to the month we're celebrating. It says that every child can learn. That's the first thing. See, it starts with the attitude that if—if there are low expectations, if perhaps a school district or people think that because a parent doesn't speak English as a first language, therefore a certain child may not be able to learn, we're going to challenge that.

See, when you have low standards, you're liable to get bad results. That's what I have called the soft bigotry of low expectations.

We have challenged that soft bigotry. We say in this country, every child can learn—every child—not just some, not a select few, not those who may live in the nice suburban districts, but every child can learn.

And then it says that in return for receiving Federal money, we want to know. You see, in return for receiving Federal money, we expect local districts and States to show us whether or not each child is learning.

And when we find the fact that some children are not learning, we must correct problems early, before it's too late. Everybody counts in America. Each child matters in this country. To make sure we have a better America, no child—not one single child—needs be left behind.

I believe this Nation is strong in its diversity. We love our freedom. It's an incredibly great nation. And out of the evil done to our country on September the 11th, 2001, will come incredible good. That's what you must know about our Nation. Out of the evil done to America can come some great good.

If we stay tough and firm and strong, we can achieve peace. We can achieve peace for people here at home; we can achieve peace in the world. And by being—by loving your neighbor just like you'd like to be loved yourself, we can achieve a better tomorrow. We can work together to eradicate the pockets of hopelessness, loneliness, and despair. People can fight evil by doing some good, by putting your arm around a lost soul and saying, "I love you. My fellow American, I love you."

There is no question in my mind, because of our strength, diversity, because of the values we hold, that we will be a stronger and more compassionate and better nation.

I want to thank you all for coming to celebrate this important month. It is an honor for me to welcome you to the White House. I appreciate so very much your contributions to our country.

May God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:32 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to entertainers Carlos Ponce, Jaci Velasquez, Jennifer Pena, and Gian Marco; Juan Jose Bremer Martino, Mexican Ambassador to the United States; entertainer Emilio Estefan; and Miss Universe 2002 Justine Pasek. The Office of

the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

### **Message to the Congress Extending the Period of Production of the Naval Petroleum Reserve**

*October 9, 2002*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with section 201(3) of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976 (10 U.S.C. 7422(c)(2)), I am informing you of my decision to extend the period of production of the Naval Petroleum Reserves for a period of 3 years from April 5, 2003, the expiration date of the currently authorized period of production.

Enclosed is a copy of the report investigating the necessity of continued production of the reserves as required by section 201(3)(c)(2)(B) of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976. In light of the findings contained in the report, I certify that continued production from the Naval Petroleum Reserves is in the national interest.

**George W. Bush**

The White House,  
October 9, 2002.

### **Proclamation 7606—Columbus Day, 2002**

*October 9, 2002*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

In August 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed from Palos, Spain, embarking on a westward voyage and intending to establish a new trade route from Spain to the Far East. With three ships and a crew of approximately 100 men, he journeyed across the Atlantic Ocean. Instead of finding a new route to the Indies, Columbus discovered the Bahama Islands. Today, more than five centuries later, Americans continue to celebrate Columbus' bold expedition and recognize his pioneering achievements as an enduring symbol of imagination, courage, and perseverance.

Columbus brought European settlers to North America and helped establish a new era of world exploration during his four journeys to the “New World.” In the years following his voyage of discovery, others such as John Cabot, Vasco da Gama, and Ferdinand Magellan followed Columbus’ example to explore and discover new lands, peoples, and cultures.

Today, Columbus’ spirit of innovation and discovery flourishes in America as we seek to advance knowledge and ensure prosperity and hope for all people. We challenge our young men and women particularly to reach for all their dreams as the great explorers of the past did.

In commemoration of Columbus’ remarkable journey 510 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested that the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as “Columbus Day.”

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2002, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 11, 2002]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 10, and

it was published in the *Federal Register* on October 15.

### **Remarks on House of Representatives Action on the Resolution Authorizing the Use of Force in Iraq**

*October 10, 2002*

I would like to thank the Members of the House of Representatives, just as I thanked Speaker Hastert and Leader Gephardt a few minutes ago, for the very strong bipartisan vote authorizing the use of force in Iraq if it becomes necessary.

The House debate was conducted in the best traditions of the United States Congress. It was spirited; it was civil; and it was informed. This is a debate and a decision that all Americans can be proud of.

I’m also pleased with the progress being made in the Senate, and I look forward to a final vote soon.

The House of Representatives has spoken clearly to the world and to the United Nations Security Council: The gathering threat of Iraq must be confronted fully and finally. Today’s vote also sends a clear message to the Iraqi regime: It must disarm and comply with all existing U.N. resolutions, or it will be forced to comply. There are no other options for the Iraqi regime. There can be no negotiations. The days of Iraq acting as an outlaw state are coming to an end.

The United States is committed to helping make the world more peaceful and more just. We are committed to freedom for all. We’re also committed to protecting human dignity, and today’s vote is an important step toward fulfilling those great American commitments.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

**Proclamation 7607—General Pulaski Memorial Day, 2002**

October 10, 2002

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

Americans celebrate our friendship and common commitment to freedom with the people of Poland each year on October 11, when we honor Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski, a hero of the American Revolutionary War. As a brave Polish patriot, General Pulaski made the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation, giving his life in 1779 to help America gain its independence. His devotion to liberty continues to inspire us today as we join with our allies to secure peace and freedom around the globe.

Before joining the American Revolution in 1777, Casimir Pulaski struggled against oppression in his native Poland, fighting alongside his father and brothers to defend their homeland from Prussian and Imperial Russian invaders. Though his cause was ultimately overcome by those powerful forces, Pulaski was widely recognized for his courageous actions as a cavalry officer and leader of Polish forces. Benjamin Franklin lauded Pulaski as “famous throughout Europe for his bravery and conduct in defense of the liberties of his country.”

When General Pulaski joined General George Washington’s staff, he immediately made important contributions to the war effort. He led a critical counterattack at the Battle of Brandywine that avoided a potential military disaster, earning him a commission as a Brigadier General. American leaders valued Pulaski’s experience in battle, his knowledge of military strategy, and his pioneering efforts that led to a recognition that he was the “Father of the American cavalry.” While leading cavalry forces in the Siege of Savannah, Pulaski was wounded, and died on October 11, 1779.

Two hundred and twenty-five years ago, Casimir Pulaski joined forces with Americans to establish liberty and overcome despotism. That inspiration and solidarity is mirrored today as we engage in a war against terrorism. As part of a global coalition, which includes

the government and people of Poland, we are working to ensure that our two nations remain strong friends and allies in our effort to build a safer, more peaceful world for all.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Friday, October 11, 2002, as General Pulaski Memorial Day. I encourage all Americans to commemorate this occasion with appropriate programs and activities paying tribute to Casimir Pulaski and honoring all those who defend the freedom of our great Nation.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 15, 2002]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on October 16.

**Statement on Senate Action on the Resolution Authorizing the Use of Force in Iraq**

October 11, 2002

With tonight’s vote in the United States Senate, America speaks with one voice. The Congress has spoken clearly to the international community and the United Nations Security Council. Saddam Hussein and his outlaw regime pose a grave threat to the region, the world, and the United States. Inaction is not an option; disarmament is a must.

I commend Members of the Senate for the strong bipartisan vote authorizing the use of force if necessary. The Senate, like the House, conducted this important debate and vote in the finest traditions of our democracy.

Our Nation seeks a more just and more peaceful world. Our nation seeks a safer and better world. America will never waver in its commitment to these ideals.

NOTE: In the statement, the President referred to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

## Remarks on Humanitarian Aid to Afghanistan

October 11, 2002

Welcome. Please be seated. Thanks for coming. Laura and I appreciate you coming today, and it's a chance to talk about our vision for our friends in Afghanistan.

It was a year ago that American forces were just beginning the liberation of Afghanistan. And on this date last year, a year ago today, I asked the children of America to contribute one dollar to provide food and medical help to the children of Afghanistan. In a year's time after making that request, we've really accomplished a lot. We have. We have seen, of course, the tremendous skill and character of a United States military. We have seen the courage of our allies and our Afghan friends. We have seen the spirit of the Afghan people, who long for freedom. We've seen the great generosity of our fellow Americans extended to men, women, and children on the other side of the Earth.

And yet today I want you all to know and our fellow citizens to know there's still a lot left to do. There's still a lot of work to do in Afghanistan to achieve our dreams and, more importantly, the dreams of the Afghan people. Today America affirms its full commitment to a future of progress and stability for the Afghan people.

I appreciate so very much the Ambassador for being here. Mr. Ambassador, I want to thank you for your service. The Ambassador is a—was an American citizen until recently. He decided he wanted to serve his country, the land of his birth, renounced his citizenship so he could become the official Ambassador from Afghanistan to the United States. And Ambassador Shahryar is a—is a great man who serves a wonderful example of putting your country above yourself.

And so, Mr. Ambassador, we're honored you're here. I want to thank you—where is he? Oh, Ambassador, you'd think they'd have given you a better seat. [*Laughter*] I'm proud of you. I really am.

I'm also proud of Andrew Natsios, who is our Administrator of USAID. I want to thank him. I'll talk about some of Andy's fellow employees here in a minute and what they're doing on behalf of the American people to help Afghanistan children.

Sharif Faez is the Minister of Education—Higher Education. He too used to live in America. He's now serving his country. He shares our vision and understanding of the need to make sure the educational systems are strong and available, so that people can have hope in his country. Mr. Minister, thank you for your service, and I'm honored you're here with us.

I appreciate the Members of the Congress being here. Dana, thanks for coming. Members of my national security team who are working hard on Afghan policy, whether it be Condi Rice, who's the boss, or Zal—where are you, Zal? Thank you, Zal. He knows a lot about Afghanistan. After all, he was from there. Elliott Abrams, members of my team who care deeply about our policy to make sure that our policy is complete.

The—it's very important for our fellow Americans to remember that—keep in mind about the Taliban. They were the most brutal and oppressive Governments—one of the most brutal and oppressive Governments in modern times. It's hard for us to understand in America, but these are people who attempted to control every mind and every soul in the country. They obviously had a vast network of terrorist camps available to train extremists from around the world. Thanks to America and thanks to our friends, thanks to people who love freedom for everybody, the oppressive rule has been lifted. They're no longer in power. They're on the run along with a bunch of other ones over there, too. Afghanistan has entered a new era of hope. And we want to be a continued part of the new era of hope in Afghanistan.

One of our dear values, one of the values we hold close to our heart, is the respect and beliefs of all peaceloving people, no matter what their faith may be. Islam is a vibrant faith. Millions of our fellow citizens are Muslim. We respect the faith. We honor its traditions. Our enemy does not. Our enemy don't follow the great traditions of Islam. They've hijacked a great religion.

But it's important, as we lift that veil, to remember that they are nothing but a bunch of radical terrorists who distort history and the values of Islam. Islam is a faith that brings comfort to people. It inspires them to lead lives based on honesty and justice and compassion.

We've also got a great tradition not only of recognizing freedom of religion and respecting religion; we've got a great tradition of liberating people, not conquering them. It's very important for our citizens to remember that as we upheld that doctrine that said, "If you harbor a terrorist, you're just as guilty as the terrorists," that we went into Afghanistan to free people, because we believe in freedom. We believe every life counts; everybody has worth; everybody matters, whether they live in America or in Afghanistan.

And so we are helping the people to now recover from years of tyranny and oppression. We're helping Afghanistan to claim its democratic future, and we're helping that nation to establish public order and safety, even while the struggle against terror continues in some corners of that country. There's still Al Qaida killers roaming around Afghanistan. We're working closely with the Government to rout them out, not only to make sure that Afghanistan is more safe but also to make sure America is safe as well.

A year ago, it was really hard to find security and safety anywhere in Afghanistan. Just ask the citizens who were there. Now, America is helping to form a new Afghan national army. We are committed to an Afghan national army. The idea is to train 18 battalions of over 10,000 soldiers and finish the task by the end of next year.

I'm proud that Germany is helping as well to bring civil order by helping to build a police force. The International Security Assistance Force, what they call the ISAF, led by coalition countries, is helping to keep the streets safe in the city of Kabul. Security is a requirement for recovery and development—can't have recovery and development unless there is a secure society. America and other nations will continue working with the Afghan Government to build security, so the Afghan people can live their lives without violence and without fear.

A year ago, Afghans were living under history's first-ever terrorist-sponsored regime. These people had found a parasite. And in June of 2002, history will show that Afghanistan reversed its history by having a *loya jirga* and created the most broadly representative government in Afghanistan's history. There are two women serving in President Karzai's cabinet. The institutions of free debate and free press are taking hold. New commissions on human rights and the drafting of a new constitution will lay the groundwork for democracy and for the rule of law. The institutions necessary for the development of a peaceful, hopeful country are going to be put in place soon. We will stay the course to help that country develop—in their image, not in ours.

A year ago, millions of Afghans lived in fear of famine and disease. In the time since, America has delivered food and medicine to the Afghan people. We are committed to the health of the Afghan people. Over the last year, U.N. World Food Programme, with the support of the United States, has provided 575,000 metric tons of food to nearly 10 million Afghans. The United States has also provided seed and fertilizer in time for the spring planting season. The United States joined with other nations to support UNICEF's vaccination of more than 8 million children against measles. American health care officials are helping with other efforts to improve public health, including the fight against polio and malaria, HIV, and tuberculosis. These relief efforts have put hunger and disease on the retreat. We got the Taliban gone. We'd like to get disease and hunger gone as well.

More than 2 million Afghan refugees have returned back to the country since November. That is a positive sign. It's a good sign that people are sensing their country is a better place to live and more secure, a better place to raise a family.

One American bringing hope to Afghanistan is Sergeant First Class Victor Anderson. Victor is with us today. Sergeant Anderson spent 7 months traveling in Afghanistan. He visited hospitals and clinics, provided medical care from his car. He never turned down anybody who asked for help. He treated broken

bones. He treated gunshot wounds. He treated cuts and diseases. He treated a small child who was bitten by a donkey. [*Laughter*] Sergeant Anderson, your service brings great credit to the Army and to America, and the Nation is really grateful for your work.

A year ago, the children of Afghanistan were suffering greatly in a nation beset by war. It's not hard to imagine children suffering in a nation beset by war, and it's really sad. The children of America responded with great compassion. America's Fund for Afghan Children has collected more than \$10½ million. That's a dime at a time or a dollar at a time. That's a lot of kids working hard to collect money. It has allowed the Red Cross to deliver emergency medical supplies to help serve 60,000 people. This fund has helped provide winter clothes to 8,000 children, to help rehabilitate hospitals in Kabul.

Today we've got representatives of the fund, twins, Sarah and Alexander Ahmad. Together, they've raised \$12,000—\$12,000. That's a lot of money. Nearly 25 years ago, Sarah and Alexander's dad came to America from Afghanistan, from war-torn Afghanistan. Today, the family is helping to give peace a chance in their ancestral home and, as importantly, showing the world the generous heart, the great heart, of the American people. I really appreciate the example you're setting, and thank you for joining us today.

And by the way, the fund still exists. And I hope the American children understand there are still people in Afghanistan who hurt a lot. And if you've given once, it's okay to give again to make sure we continue to help the people in Afghanistan.

America will continue to provide that country with essential short-term relief. We also understand that Afghanistan needs long-term economic reconstruction help. And we will meet this commitment as well.

Starting with the Tokyo Conference last January, the United States and 60 other countries have pledged \$4.5 billion over 5 years to work on reconstruction projects. America is delivering on our pledge. We're writing our checks. We're currently implementing more than \$300 million worth of reconstruction and recovery projects. The nations who have made pledges, the other na-

tions, they need to be good on their pledges. If you say you're going to help the Afghan people, do it. If you've made a pledge, write your check. It's important.

America and our partners are helping rebuild roads and bridges and waterways and buildings. Last month, the United States and Japan and Saudi Arabia committed \$180 million to rebuild the highway connecting Kabul, Kandahar, and Herat. It's an important project.

President Karzai spoke to me about it in the Oval Office. He said, "It's important that we show the people that we're—that we can work together to restore the historic link, to make sure that commerce and trade flow more freely and that people are able to find work." I want to thank the Saudi Arabians, the Japanese for joining us in this highly visible and highly important project.

We're also helping to rebuild schools and hospitals and clinics. Some of the first rebuilding is being done by the U.S. Army Civil Affairs soldiers, who are working with relief agencies to rebuild dozens of schools. With us today is Captain Britton London, who enlisted friends, family members, church groups to supply Afghan students with thousands of pens and pencils and notebooks. Captain London is a man after my own heart. He started a—he got the equipment necessary to start the first post-Taliban baseball league. [*Laughter*] He brought me a ball—two balls signed by the Eagles—the Eagles, the Eagles, the mighty Eagles of Afghan baseball. [*Laughter*] And they practice—they're practicing now, and the games are held once a week.

Our soldiers wear the uniforms of warriors, but they are also compassionate people. And the Afghan people are really beginning to see the true strength of our country. I mean, routing out the Taliban was important, but building a school is equally important.

Across Afghanistan, U.S. aid will help build and refurbish several hundred more schools over the next 2 years. We're also in the process of training hundreds of teachers. In March, many girls walked into a classroom for the first time. And our country has provided them as well as the boys with millions of new textbooks.

It's hard to believe—I know it's hard for some in America to believe that the Afghan people were living under a government that would not let girls go to school. It's just hard to imagine in America. But it's reality. And now we've got a lot of work to do to make up for lost time. Everybody counts. Everybody has worth. Everybody matters. Spearheading our back-to-school efforts are Lisa Hartenberger and Nitin Madhav. They work for USAID. They're a part of the—they're a part of the new army in Afghanistan. These are army of compassionate souls who are on the frontlines of making sure that the Afghan people understand our commitment is real, that when we talk about freedom, we understand that freedom is more than just a word. Freedom is a chance for people to get a good education. Freedom is chance for people to get good health care. Freedom is a chance for people to realize their dreams.

And I want to thank—I want to thank these two fine public servants that work for—with Andy, for your service to the country in service of Afghanistan. Thank you, Lisa. Thank you, buddy.

Last year, when the Taliban fell—I know I remember it, and I'm sure a lot of our fellow Americans remember—the images of celebration that took place in the streets. People came out to celebrate freedom. It reminded us that the whole world—in the whole world there is a huge appetite for freedom. People love to be free. And it's important—as we stay in Afghanistan, it will be important for other brave people, whether they live in Muslim countries or in the Middle East, people who stand for tolerance and the rule of law and equal rights and freedom of expression, to see our commitment to freedom; that our commitment for freedom is complete, and it's real, and it's sincere.

It's also important for people to know we never seek to impose our culture or our form of government. We just want to live under those universal values, God-given values. We believe in the demands of human dignity that apply in every culture, in every nation. Human beings should have the right to free speech. Women deserve respect and opportunity. All people deserve equal justice, religious tolerance. This is true in America. This

is true in Afghanistan. These rights are true everywhere.

We've seen in Afghanistan that the road to freedom can be hard; it's a hard struggle. We've also seen in Afghanistan that the road to freedom is the only one worth traveling. Any nation that sacrifices to build a future of liberty will have the respect, the support, and the friendship of the United States of America.

May God bless the people of Afghanistan and of America. Thank you all for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:34 a.m. in Presidential Hall in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to Representative Dana Rohrabacher of California; Zalmay Khalilzad, Special Presidential Envoy for Afghanistan; Elliott Abrams, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Democracy, Human Rights, and International Operations; Ishaq Shahryar, Afghan Ambassador to the United States; Minister of Higher Education Mohammad Sharif Faez and President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan; and Lisa Hartenberger, education adviser for Afghanistan, and Nitin Madhav, program development adviser for Afghanistan, USAID.

### **Statement on Signing the Vicksburg National Military Park Boundary Modification Act of 2002**

*October 11, 2002*

I have today signed into law S. 1175, the “Vicksburg National Military Park Boundary Modification Act of 2002.” In 1863, union forces under the command of Major General Ulysses S. Grant and confederate forces under the command of Lieutenant General John C. Pemberton fought for control of Vicksburg, Mississippi, a strategic location on the lower Mississippi River. The Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to add the confederate commander's headquarters to the Park, which has included the union commander's headquarters for many decades. The Act will enable the Department of the Interior to preserve property for the education of Americans today, and in generations to come.

The second sentence of section 3(b) of the Act reads: "Upon the acquisition of the property referenced in this subsection, the Secretary add it to Vicksburg National Military Park and shall modify the boundaries of the park to reflect its inclusion." It is plain in reading the sentence that a word is missing between the words "Secretary" and "add."

In accordance with section 106 of title 1 of the United States Code, enrolled bill S. 1175 was presented to me bearing the signatures of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate, which attests that both Houses passed the bill. In accordance with the principles enunciated by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Marshall Field & Co. v. Clark* in 1892, I take the bill presented as being duly enrolled and shall not turn to the journals of either House, the reports of congressional committees, or other documents printed by the authority of Congress in an effort to determine whether an error in the enrollment of S. 1175 has occurred.

Recognizing that the second half of the sentence in issue provides that the Secretary "shall" modify park boundaries to reflect inclusion of the property in the Park, the most reasonable construction of the first half of the sentence is that, after the Secretary of the Interior acquires the property, addition of the property to the Park by the Secretary is mandatory. Accordingly, the executive branch shall implement the second sentence of section 3(b) of the Act in the same way it would implement the Act if the word "shall" appeared in that sentence between the words "Secretary" and "add." This construction is faithful to the legislative intent as evidenced by the content of the statute itself.

### **George W. Bush**

The White House,  
October 11, 2002.

NOTE: S. 1175, approved October 11, was assigned Public Law No. 107-238. An original was not available for verification of the content of this statement.

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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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### **October 5**

In the morning, the President traveled from the Bush family home on Walker's Point in Kennebunkport, ME, to Manchester, NH. In the afternoon, he returned to Kennebunkport.

### **October 6**

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

### **October 7**

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Cincinnati, OH. In the evening, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his appointment of William Brock, Dennis Nolan, and Patrick Hardin as members of the Board of Inquiry to report on the labor disputes affecting Pacific coast ports.

### **October 8**

In the morning, the President had intelligence briefings. Later, he traveled to Alcoa, TN, and then to Knoxville, TN.

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

In the evening, the President attended the Republican National Committee's Eagles fall national meeting at the Willard Inter-Continental Hotel. Later, he returned to the White House.

### **October 9**

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings and then met with the National Security Council.

In the afternoon, the President dropped by a lunch hosted by Mrs. Bush for Queen Sirikit of Thailand. Later, he met with Republican members of the Senate Judiciary Committee to discuss developments related to the nomination of Dennis W. Shedd to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the 4th Circuit.

During the day, the President had a telephone conversation with President Jacques Chirac of France.

The President announced his intention to nominate Adm. James M. Loy to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Security.

The President announced his intention to nominate J. Cofer Black to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism at the Department of State, with the rank of Ambassador at Large.

The President announced his intention to nominate the following individuals to be members of the National Council on the Humanities: Jewel Spears Brooker, Dario Fernandez-Morera, Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, David Hertz, Stephen McNight, Sidney McPhee, Lawrence Okamura, Marguerite Sullivan, and Stephan Thernstrom.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board: Richard Halleck Brodhead, Rita DiMartino, Ronald Spogli, and Robert Leon Woodson, Sr.

The President declared a major disaster in Alabama and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Tropical Storm Isidore beginning on September 23 and continuing through October 1.

#### **October 10**

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings. Later, he traveled to Clinton, MD, where he attended the funeral service for Harold Hancock, former White House doorman. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Vice President Dick Cheney.

#### **October 11**

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with former President Jimmy Carter to congratulate him on winning the Nobel Peace Prize. Later, he had intelligence and FBI briefings.

During the day, the President met with a group of State legislators. Later, he met with members of Americans for Tax Reform.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush participated in a National Book Festival

gala and dinner at the Library of Congress. Later, they returned to the White House.

The President announced his intention to nominate Feliciano Foyo to be a member of the Advisory Board for Cuba Broadcasting.

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

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The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

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#### **Submitted October 10**

John R. Adams,  
of Ohio, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, vice George Washington White, retired.

J. Cofer Black,  
of Virginia, to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with the rank and status of Ambassador at Large, vice Francis Xavier Taylor.

J. Daniel Breen,  
of Tennessee, to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, vice Julia Smith Gibbons, elevated.

Jewel Spears Brooker,  
of Florida, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Peggy Whitman Preshaw, term expired.

Cormac J. Carney,  
of California, to be U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California, vice Carlos R. Moreno, resigned.

Dario Fernandez-Morera,  
of Illinois, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Susan E. Trees, term expired.

Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, of Georgia, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Lorraine Weiss Frank, term expired.

David Hertz, of Indiana, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2006, vice Henry Glassie.

Stephen McNight, of Florida, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2006, vice Isabel Carter Stewart.

Sidney McPhee, of Tennessee, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Margaret P. Duckett, term expired.

Lawrence Okamura, of Missouri, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Doris B. Holleb, term expired.

Marguerite Sullivan, of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Susan Ford Wiltshire, term expired.

Stephan Thernstrom, of Massachusetts, to be a member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2008, vice Arthur I. Blaustein, term expired.

Thomas A. Varlan, of Tennessee, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee, vice Robert Leon Jordan, retired.

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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

### *Administration of George W. Bush, 2002*

items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

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#### **Released October 5**

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

#### **Released October 7**

Advance text of the President's address to the Nation on Iraq

Excerpts From the President's Address to the Nation on Iraq

Fact sheet: The President Takes Action To Protect America's Economy and American Jobs

#### **Released October 8**

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on Israeli military action in Gaza

#### **Released October 9**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Alabama

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 640

#### **Released October 10**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary on House of Representatives action on the defense appropriations conference report

Announcement of nominations for U.S. District Judges for the Central District of California, the Northern District of Ohio, the Eastern District of Tennessee, and the Western District of Tennessee

#### **Released October 11**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed S. 238 and S. 1325

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.J. Res. 122

Fact sheet: American Assistance to the People of Afghanistan

tion in the Burnt River basin, Malheur River basin, Owyhee River basin, and Powder River basin, Oregon

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**Acts Approved  
by the President**

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***Approved October 9***

H.R. 640 / Public Law 107-236  
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Act

***Approved October 11***

S. 238 / Public Law 107-237  
To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct feasibility studies on water optimiza-

S. 1175 / Public Law 107-238  
Vicksburg National Military Park Boundary Modification Act of 2002

S. 1325 / Public Law 107-239  
To ratify an agreement between The Aleut Corporation and the United States of America to exchange land rights received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for certain land interests on Adak Island, and for other purposes

H.J. Res. 122 / Public Law 107-240  
Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes