

information. In particular, consistent with my constitutional authorities and section 301(c) of this Act, the executive branch shall construe the Act in a manner that preserves the authorities of the Secretary of Defense, the Director of Central Intelligence, and other agency heads with regard to the operation, control, and management of national security systems.

George W. Bush

The White House,
December 17, 2002.

NOTE: H.R. 2458, approved December 17, was assigned Public Law No. 107-347. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language version of this statement.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on World
Intellectual Property Rights**

December 17, 2002

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)

As required by the second proviso of the text of the resolution of advise and consent to ratification of the World Intellectual Property Organization Copyright Treaty and the World Intellectual Property Organization Performances and Phonograms Treaty, passed by the Senate on October 21, 1998, I transmit herewith a report prepared by my Administration on the status of the ratification of those treaties and related materials.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Joseph R. Biden, Jr., chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on the
National Emergency With Respect to
the Risk of Nuclear Proliferation
Created by the Accumulation of
Weapons-Usable Fissile Material in
the Territory of the Russian
Federation**

December 17, 2002

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

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I am transmitting a 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to the risk of nuclear proliferation created by the accumulation of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation that was declared in Executive Order 13159 of June 21, 2000.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

**Remarks Prior to Discussions With
President Jose Maria Aznar of Spain**

December 18, 2002

President Bush. Welcome. I'll make a statement; the President will make a statement. That will be all we'll be doing today.

It is my great honor to welcome my good personal friend and a friend of the United States Jose Maria Aznar to the *Casa Blanca*. He is one of the world's strongest leaders when it comes to our mutual concerns about keeping the peace and fighting terror. He understands the first—he understands firsthand the consequences of terror activity. And today, Mr. President, we join you in the mourning of loss of life for a policeman in your country who was killed.

I also want to take a moment to express our deepest sympathy for the people of Galicia. We understand the concern and the