

Weekly Compilation of  
**Presidential  
Documents**



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**Editor's Note:** The President was en route to the White House from Auchterarder, Scotland, on July 8, the closing date of this issue. Releases and announcements issued by the Office of the Press Secretary but not received in time for inclusion in this issue will be printed next week.

## WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

## PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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Week Ending Friday, July 8, 2005

**The President's Radio Address**

*July 2, 2005*

Good morning. Laura and I wish all Americans a happy Fourth of July weekend. I look forward to celebrating Independence Day with the people of Morgantown, West Virginia. On the Fourth of July, we remember the vision and conviction of America's Founders. We remember the ideals of liberty that led men from 13 colonies to gather in Philadelphia and pen a declaration of self-evident truths. And we remember the extraordinary personal courage that made their efforts a success. Doctor Benjamin Rush said that signing the Declaration of Independence was "like signing your own death warrant." He signed it anyway—right above his fellow Pennsylvania delegate, Benjamin Franklin.

On Independence Day, we are also mindful that the promises of the Declaration have been secured by the service and sacrifice of every generation. America's first defenders were mostly farmers, artisans, and shopkeepers who waged a desperate fight for independence. Our Union was preserved through the costly battles of the Civil War, including one at Vicksburg that ended on Independence Day, 1863. And we live in freedom because Americans prevailed in the hard-fought struggles of the 20th century from the Marne and Normandy to Iwo Jima and Inchon Bay. America is home to 25 million military veterans, and we will always be grateful for their unselfish courage.

Today, a new generation of Americans is defending our freedom against determined enemies. At posts in Afghanistan, Iraq, and around the world, our men and women in uniform are taking the fight to the terrorists overseas, so that we do not have to face the terrorists here at home. And by freeing millions from oppression, our Armed Forces are redeeming a universal principle of the Declaration that all are created equal, and all are

meant to be free. Those who serve today are taking their rightful place among the greatest generations that have worn our Nation's uniform.

The burden of war falls especially hard on military families, and I thank them for the support they give our troops in their vital work. Some of America's finest men and women have given their lives in the war on terror, and we remember them on Independence Day. We pray for the families who have lost a loved one in freedom's cause. And we know that the best way to honor the lives that have been given in this struggle is to complete the mission, so we will stay in the fight until the fight is won.

In this time of testing, all our troops and their families can know that the American people are behind them. On this Fourth of July weekend, I ask every American to find a way to thank men and women defending our freedom by flying the flag, sending letters to our troops in the field, and helping the military family down the street. The Department of Defense has set up a web site, [americasupportsyou.mil](http://americasupportsyou.mil). You can go there to learn about private efforts in your own community. At this time when we celebrate our freedom, we will stand with the men and women who defend us all.

In the summer of 1776, John Adams called the American Revolution "the most complete, unexpected, and remarkable of any in the history of nations." And 229 years later, history has proved him right. The Fourth of July is a day to be proud of our heritage as freedom's home and defender. It is a day to be confident in the future, because the spirit of our Founders still shapes the conscience of our country. Above all, it is a day to give thanks to God for His many blessings on America and for the privilege to call ourselves citizens of this special land. I hope all Americans enjoy a memorable and safe Independence Day celebration.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:50 a.m. on July 1 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on July 2. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 1 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

## Interview With Foreign Print Journalists

June 30, 2005

**The President.** Just a couple of comments. One, I'm looking forward to going to the G-8. It's always a good opportunity to talk about common values, common interests, ways we can work together to improve the world. I'm looking forward to seeing the leaders. I've got a good personal relationship with the leaders. It's a good chance to visit.

Agenda items are—important agenda items: Africa, I just gave a speech on the continent of Africa; global climate change, it's important to move the debate beyond the Kyoto era and talk about what we can do together to improve the environment. I'm looking forward to that. One of the things there hasn't been much focus on is, there will be time to discuss progress in the Middle East—the Middle East peace process. Jim Wolfensohn is coming to discuss a way forward, how we can all help the Palestinians improve their security, enhance the entrepreneurial spirit so people can see their lives improve. We're looking forward to that.

Anyway, it's going to be a good trip. I'm looking forward to going to Denmark. The Prime Minister is a friend. He's a good man. He's got a good, strong backbone. When he says he's going to do something, he means it. I'm looking forward to seeing Her Majesty the Queen. It's going to be a good experience. I've never been to Denmark, so I'm looking forward to going.

Charlie, we'll start with you and then we'll do a couple of rounds, and I'll let you all go get some lunch.

### Aid to Africa

**Q.** All right. My first question really is an aid question, with respect to Africa. Mr. Blair has really been pressing this issue of dramati-

cally increased aid to Africa. You have substantially increased U.S. assistance to Africa, but on the other hand, it falls way short of what Mr. Blair has been asking for. You've been really, I think, fairly cool to both the \$25 billion that he's asked and the commitment for, what is it, seven-tenths of a percent of GDP for foreign assistance.

**The President.** A couple of comments on that. One is that our aid increase has been dramatic. We've tripled our aid since I've been President, and I just announced today that I'll ask Congress to double it by 2010, which is a significant increase.

Secondly, though, you've got to look at Africa as more than just aid. Aid is one aspect of participating on the continent in a compassionate way. Trade is a vital part of lifting people out of poverty.

The other thing is, you know, there's all kinds of ways to calculate generosity. I happen to think that the formula that some people try to use is not an effective way to judge America's generosity or a fair way. For example, we've got a Tax Code structure to encourage private citizens to contribute. And so I will remind our G-8 friends that aid to developing countries is more than just grants from Government. It is grants from Government. It is generous contributions by private individuals, and we contribute billions on an annual basis.

I'm also going to tell people that a compassionate policy is one that focuses less on formulas and more on improving people's lives. And so today I talked about the malaria initiative, for example. There's a great place where the G-8 countries can come together and help nations on the continent of Africa eradicate malaria.

So I'm going to the G-8 with an agenda where we've been the leader. The HIV/AIDS initiative was a powerful statement of our compassion and our willingness to take the lead on a lot of issues.

Klaus.

### Iraq/War on Terror

**Q.** Another subject which will be in some way at the G-8 meeting also, Iraq. Denmark is contributing a substantial proportion of the amount of troops to the conflict. Your most

recent speech continuously made the link between the conflict and 9/11. How do you react towards those who say that connection has been disproved and that growing skepticism in this country and even more in Europe cannot simply be dismissed by your resolve to stay the course, as you say?

**The President.** My point was, about September the 11th, is that America was attacked, and now we're at war in a global war on terror. That's the connection with September the 11th. Some in Europe, I recognize, view September the 11th as a terrible moment. We view it as not only a terrible moment but a clear indication that we're at war with an ideology, people that are willing to use terror to spread their ideology. So my speech, if you look carefully at how it was written—I'm confident you did, Klaus—shows that I was making the connection between the attack and the global war on terror that we now face—and the ideology of those who attacked us is very similar to those that have now gone into Iraq to try to stop the progress—and make clear, our strategy is to find the terrorists, bring them to justice before they harm us here, as well as defeat the ideology of hate with an ideology of hope, and that's democracy. Our strategy in Iraq is to promote a stable democracy, in other words, encourage political progress and, at the same time, train up the Iraqis so they can do the fighting.

And I look forward to sharing my thoughts about the progress we are making with your Prime Minister. They've been—Denmark has been a steadfast ally, and I know he has obviously stood strong in the face of political pressures, made a decision based upon what he thought was right for the world, spreading peace.

I strongly believe that we're laying the foundation for peace for generations to come. I reject the notion that certain countries cannot be democratic. I view that elitist—I view that as condemning people to hopelessness. Our policy up to now, prior to September the 11th, was, "Why don't we just kind of tolerate tyranny and hope for the best." It doesn't work that way, and we learned a strong lesson.

The speech, I think you'll see, was that the attack indicated we're at war, and Iraq

is part of that war. Otherwise, why would people be pouring into the country trying to defeat us? Why? Because they fear democracy. They fear the competing ideology that is a hopeful ideology.

Joe.

### **U.S. Aid to Africa**

**Q.** Mr. President, a question about your malaria program.

**The President.** Sure.

**Q.** By the time we get back to the office, there will probably be a statement from some group praising your proposal but saying once again, "Why didn't the President go through the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria?" Why do a separate program?

**The President.** Well, first of all, we are supporting the Global Fund. But like our AIDS Initiative, we also feel it is an effective way to achieve results. See, you just asked a process question. You're assuming somebody is going to—let's focus on the process. What I want the world to do is focus on how best to get the job done, how best to achieve the objective.

And so our strategy has been two-fold: one, support the Global Fund; but on the other hand, target specific countries. And if you noticed, I said in there, this will—we're taking the lead. We want people to follow. We want people in other countries to follow—we want people to follow. And the United States Government is going to take the lead. The Gates Foundation is taking the lead, and I call upon other governments, other foundations, to do the same. So our strategy is one of results, how best to achieve the objective.

Give me your name again.

**Q.** Olivier. You can call me Mr. Knox. That's fine. [Laughter]

**The President.** Pretty good. Pretty good retort. [Laughter] Very good. Olivier.

### **Iran**

**Q.** Thank you, sir. Sir, were you surprised when you heard the allegations that the President-elect of Iran might have been one of the people who took Americans hostage in Tehran? And do you have any information that would confirm or refute those charges?

**The President.** I have no information, but obviously, this is—his involvement raises many questions, and knowing how active people are at finding answers to questions, I'm confident they'll be found. And I spoke to Prime Minister Blair this morning, spoke to Chancellor Schroeder the other day. I look forward to speaking to Jacques Chirac when we get to Scotland.

My message is, is that it's very important at this moment for the EU-3 to send a strong message to the new person there that the world is united in saying that you should not be given the capabilities of enriching uranium, which could then be converted into a nuclear weapon. In other words, we've got a new man who has assumed power, and he must hear a focused message. I was pleased with Gerhard Schroeder's statement here, and Prime Minister Blair can speak for himself. But let me just say, I believe the EU-3's message is going to be a very strong message, and that's where our message is—that's where my attention is focused right now.

In order to achieve a diplomatic objective, it's very important to have clear goals. And we have a clear goal, and that is to say to the Iranians—well, there's a clear understanding that Iran should not have a nuclear weapon. It would be a very destabilizing, dangerous situation. And the world is speaking in one voice, and so the message now to the new leader is a very strong message.

Charlie.

### **Trade With Africa**

**Q.** With regard to trade, African leaders have been pretty loud in pointing out that subsidies and tariffs are a tremendous handicap to the development of trade. Europe, in particular, has been hostile to really lifting tariffs and subsidies. Any chance of any movement on that, within the context of the G-8?

**The President.** Well, I appreciate you bringing that up. The African Growth and Opportunity Act, signed by my predecessor and extended by the Congress in my administration, is working. I want to remind people that ultimately it's commerce, trade, economic growth that will overwhelm the need for aid itself. And exports from sub-Sahara

Africa to the United States are up 88 percent because we've opened up our markets.

The best approach to dealing with Europe—and our own subsidies for that matter—on agricultural matters, is to go to the Doha round of the WTO and jointly declare that we're going to get rid of all agricultural subsidies. That has been our proposal.

The other thing is, it's very important for African nations themselves to eliminate the barriers of trade intracontinent, between themselves. There are, if you look—at least there was the last time I looked—there were some impediments to trade amongst the African nations. And so the—we've all got responsibilities to make trade freer.

I said in my speech today that it's—the World Bank estimated that a successful Doha round—in other words, a new trading regime that enabled all countries to trade freely, would lift 140 million people out of poverty, in their estimate. And that's why this Doha round is very important. And so we'll spend time articulating how best to continue moving forward on the Doha round. That's probably the most—the place where you're going to find that would be most effective in being able to deal with the subsidies, whether it be the EU or our own subsidies for that matter.

Klaus.

### **Guantanamo Bay Detainees**

**Q.** Guantanamo is still a very hot topic for many Europeans. After 3 years, there are still prisoners there who haven't had their case heard. And the U.N. now are talking about investigating secret U.S. prisons and detainee facilities. Is that a thing—in the investigation, the U.S. would cooperate with? And don't you have fears that this is going to harm the U.S. image a lot if this situation goes on for years?

**The President.** Well, I think—I think if the truth is not told, it's a problem. But let's talk about the truth, in terms of Guantanamo. First of all, there's inspections 24 hours a day, 7 days a week available for the International Red Cross. There's been a lot of press contingents down to take a look at the situation firsthand and a lot of congressional folks going down. In other words, a lot of people—there's a transparent situation there.

I think we probably had about 800 or so people detained there, and remember, Klaus, I made a decision as to what to do with people swept off of a battlefield who didn't wear uniforms. I mean, this is a different kind of war. I made the decision they would be treated humanely, just like the Geneva Accords insist, and they have been.

Of the 800 detained, some 200 or so have been sent back to their countries. In other words, we screened and analyzed and took a look at whether they would be a threat again. I'm in a dilemma—at one point during this process, because people were let back out on the—sent back to a country, and they ended up killing an American. What do I tell the loved one? In other words, these people were fighting. They were fighters. They were on the battlefield.

Secondly, I agree with you. We need to make sure there is a way forward. And that's why I set up military commissions. But the military—and by the way, in a military commission, people would have lawyers; they would have—there would be procedures, court procedures. Unfortunately—or fortunately, I shouldn't—let me take that back—what has happened has been that our court system is analyzing, making a judicial decision as to whether or not the military—these people should be tried in a military commission or in a civilian court, and we're awaiting a verdict on that. And once that happens, then there will be a way forward.

Joe.

### **Debt Relief/Development Grants**

**Q.** Mr. President, a question about debt cancellation.

**The President.** Yes.

**Q.** The G-8 finance ministers came up with a figure of 18 countries. Shortly after that, a number of African Presidents meeting in Nigeria said, "It's a good start. We'd like more." Is that 18 figure carved in stone, or is there—

**The President.** Not at all, Joe. There's a—it's a criterion-based agreement, and that other countries will be able to qualify for debt forgiveness as well. So there's a way forward for the other countries that they expressed concerns about.

The other thing is, is that I would hope people would take notice of the initiative that I proposed a couple of years ago, and that is the World Bank, in its desire to help developing nations, give grants as opposed to loans. And we're making progress toward that goal. Jim Wolfensohn did a fine job of making progress toward that goal, and Paul Wolfowitz will continue toward that goal.

But the idea is that we're relieving the pressure on the balance sheet. But governments have got to make good choices. They've got to be willing to invest and fight corruption, kind of like the criterion in our Millennium Challenge Account, which is a very important initiative. It's one I called on Congress to fund. Congress has been reluctant to fully fund our request because we haven't got the money out the door fast enough. And so my message today was, like it has been the last couple of times I've talked about Millennium Challenge Account, we'll do a better job of processing and moving along.

Olivier.

**Q.** Thank you, sir.

**The President.** One more round after this, so everybody be preparing your questions.

### **Sudan**

**Q.** On Darfur, sir, the Deputy Secretary of State told the House Foreign Relations Committee this week or last that the United States and Europe shouldn't send troops to Darfur because they would come up against bloodthirsty, coldblooded killers. Does this mean that the bloodthirsty, coldblooded killers can set the agenda in Darfur? And what do you say to some critics who say that your administration is easing off Sudan because of good counterterrorism intelligence cooperation?

**The President.** That's a preposterous claim. It's not even close to the truth. First, my administration, with Jack Danforth and Colin Powell's good work, helped solve the north-south civil war. And now we're working close—working with parties to get that peace agreement implemented.

Secondly, the strategy, an effective strategy, is to work with the AU—African Union—and use AU forces to help keep the

warring parties apart while we continue to press the Sudanese Government as well as rebel groups for a comprehensive settlement. And the United States has helped—worked with NATO and the EU to provide logistical support for the movement of 7,700 troops into Darfur.

Today I announced it will help build 16 additional base camps; it will provide maintenance services, as well as C-130 to help remove Rwandan troops. We spend a lot of time on this important issue. Ours is a nation that called this a genocide. And we take this situation in Darfur very seriously—and, by the way, lead in terms of aid and working with other nations. Canada, by the way, has come up with a big tranche of aid the other day, for which we're grateful.

Charlie.

### **Zimbabwe**

**Q.** What are you telling or asking Thabo Mbeki now, as Robert Mugabe intensifies his crackdown against his opposition in Zimbabwe?

**The President.** As you know, Thabo Mbeki was here. You might remember, I did go to South Africa as well. And my message has been very consistent: "You're a great democracy. You're showing the world what is possible after the terrible period of apartheid. In other words, you showed how to reconcile differences, and you're a very strong nation on the continent of Africa. And next door to you is a person that is destroying a country because of bad policy, and it's not right. And the nations in the neighborhood must be strong."

I was asked yesterday, are we willing to tie some of our aid to the position that nations take on Zimbabwe? I said no because I don't want people to suffer as a result of—more people to suffer as a result of Zimbabwe. In other words, our aid is focused at people.

And on the other hand, working with nations and providing help and aid and trade and, you know, partnering does give us a chance to lend our voice to others who are saying, "This has got to change in Zimbabwe." He is a terrible example.

**Q.** Are you disappointed in Mbeki?

**The President.** I'm disappointed in Mugabe. He is—Zimbabwe was a bread basket, provided a lot of food on a continent that often needs food, and it's a country being wrecked. And I am—the world needs to speak very clearly about the decisions he has made and the consequence of the decisions he has made.

Klaus.

### **President's Upcoming Visit to Denmark**

**Q.** You have already expressed your admiration for the Danish Prime Minister, but I wondered if there were other good reasons behind your decision to take the detour to our tiny country like Denmark and even ruining part of your birthday by doing that? [Laughter]

**The President.** No, no, it's enhancing it—it's enhancing it. Listen, Denmark has been a great friend of the United States for years. And I hope my visit sends a statement to the Danish people: Thank you for the friendship. I don't expect everybody to agree with the decisions my administration has made—

**Q.** You know there will be demonstrations in Denmark?

**The President.** That's fine. Good. That's the great thing about going to a free society, see. One of the things about—a wonderful thing about freedom is, people are able to express their opinions, and I expect people to express their opinions.

On the other hand, I would hope my visit says to the Danish people that America respects you and we share values. And those shared values are important. They're universal values. They're not American values or Danish values. They're universal values, freedom of speech and minority rights, human dignity.

So I'm looking forward to it. Selfishly, I'm looking forward to going to Denmark. I've never been there, and I can't wait to see it. Now, admittedly, I'm not going to take the typical tourist tour. I don't expect you'll find me walking the streets of—you know, in the evening, arm in arm with my wife. On the other hand, I bet I get to see enough of the country to give me a good sense of the beauty of the country. I'm really looking forward to it.

**Q.** Do you plan to bring all your family members and your wife?

**The President.** I'm bringing wife, for certain, and a family member. All my family members? It's a lot. [Laughter] If you're talking about my daughters, one of my daughters will be accompanying me. Thank you for asking.

Joe.

### **Group of Eight/Africa**

**Q.** Mr. President, David Dodge, the Governor of Canada's Central Bank, questions the whole G-8 process, saying it really shouldn't be focusing on Africa and climate change but rather global prosperity and economic imbalances. And he says that a new mechanism, a new institution is needed that includes China, India, and South Africa. What do you think about that?

**The President.** You know, the G-8 conferences used to be focused strictly on global—you know, economic—our respective economies, and it's an economic discussion. And it's an interesting growth out of just talking about economics to just understanding that together we can make a difference by helping developing nations grow their economies as well. It's really what you're talking about.

The ultimate success on the continent of Africa is going to be whether or not strong economies develop, being able to give people a chance to succeed. And many of the initiatives we're focused on will lay the conditions for economic growth. And you can't grow if you're at war. That's why I talked about the peacekeeping initiatives. You can't grow if you've got a huge part of the future of your nation being wiped out because of HIV/AIDS. It's very difficult to grow if you don't educate your women, and that's why I announced a very strong initiative for the education of girls on the continent of Africa. These are projects—it's hard to grow when you've got a million people dying of malaria because of the inability to treat a mosquito bite.

I mean, there's something very practical about dealing with—dealing with, on the continent of Africa, the nations, helping nations, partnering nations. And I think it speaks to the admonition that “To whom

much is given, much is required.” And so I find this an important part of an agenda.

It shouldn't be the only agenda. We're definitely talking about the environment, definitely talking about Africa. But we'll also be talking about the Palestinian conflict. There's a chance for G-8 nations, developed nations to help the Palestinians. We'll be talking about our economies. There's always a nice discussion about currency, for example—an interesting part of the dialog. And I find it interesting to talk with other nations about what they are doing to stimulate their economies.

I suspect this G-8—in other words, there will be very—current events will be discussed one way or the other. Iraq, of course, will be discussed. But obviously, one of the interesting parts of this G-8 that folks will be looking at will be the recent issues within the EU. And my message there will be the same as it was here when Jose Barroso and others came, Juncker came, and I said, “Look, we want Europe to succeed. We want there to be a Europe that is whole, free, and at peace. And we want Europe to be successful in its enterprise, and we want it to be growing.” I mean, after all, we've got enormous trade with Europe, and trade is an important part of raising standards of living. If that's the case, you want your trading partner to be healthy. And so we'll be discussing—I'm confident there will be some discussions about what has taken place.

I'm looking forward to it. In other words, a broad agenda makes sense to me.

### **G-8 Membership/Kyoto Protocol**

**Q.** But just a quick follow up—

**The President.** Yes.

**Q.** What about including India and China and South Africa?

**The President.** Well, no, India and China and South Africa will be there. Absolutely. There will be some African nations there. There will be India, China, Brazil, and Mexico—I can't remember all the nations—but yes, there will be a forum or a discussion including those countries.

I'm particularly interested in discussing energy with China. One of the—we had a problem with Kyoto because Kyoto would have—we didn't think the way forward to

really achieve an objective we wanted because, first of all, Kyoto would really have hurt our economy a lot. Kyoto didn't include countries like India and China. And now is the chance to work with developed nations and developing nations to develop a way to share technologies, for example, that will enable us to achieve the objective we want.

And the United States recognizes there's warming, and that some of that is caused by manmade emissions. But we also recognize that we're dependent upon foreign sources of oil. We want to diversify away from fossil fuels, and we want to help developing nations do the same. And so we have a great opportunity, because of the presence of these nations at this moment to discuss how to go forward. And so, he's right. They should be included, and they are.

Final question, Olivier.

#### **First Lady's Upcoming Visit to Africa**

**Q.** Thank you, sir. Sir, you're coming back stag from Europe—

**The President.** Coming back?

**Q.** Stag. Your wife is going on to Africa.

**The President.** That's an accurate statement.

**Q.** We understand from African sources that she's going to South Africa, Tanzania, and—

**The President.** Interesting way to put it. You could have said, "You're coming back alone from Europe," or "You're coming back *sans*"—

**Q.** Oooh! [Laughter]

**The President.** But you say, "You're coming back stag."

**Q.** If I'd known, I would have gone with the *sans*. [Laughter] You beat me to it, sir. [Laughter]

**Communications Director Dan Bartlett.** Where's Gregory [David Gregory, NBC News] when you need him? [Laughter]

**The President.** That's right. [Laughter] Classic moment, wasn't it?

**Q.** Absolutely.

**The President.** Were you there for that?

**Q.** I was not, but I—

**The President.** We're laughing about the fact that one of their comrades, a very important person in the White House pool went

over to Paris, France, and fired off a series of questions to Jacques Chirac in French.

**Q.** My mother e-mailed the corrected French. [Laughter]

**The President.** That's good. [Laughter] I corrected his French too—[laughter]—and didn't even know what he was saying. [Laughter] This is all off the record, because this will hurt Gregory's feelings. Please. Holland [Steve Holland, Reuters], you're copiously taking notes. [Laughter]

**Q.** It's going right to him. [Laughter]

**The President.** Good. [Laughter]

**Communications Director Bartlett.** He just had twins.

**The President.** He had twins?

**Communications Director Bartlett.** Yes, last week.

**The President.** Fantastic. Gender?

**Communications Director Bartlett.** A boy and a girl.

**The President.** Weight? Health?

**Q.** Good. Good.

**The President.** Mother?

**Communications Director Bartlett.** Strong. They're in the fives. I think both of them are 5 pounds.

**The President.** That's good, 5. How big were yours?

**Communications Director Bartlett.** Same, mid-size.

**The President.** We're back—where were you?

**Q.** Well, we heard that your wife is going—

**The President.** I'm flying alone, yes. [Laughter]

**Q.** You're flying alone, *sans* First Lady. She's going to South Africa, Tanzania, Rwanda. My question to you is, what message is she bringing from the United States, and what can she get across that a diplomat or a rock star could not?

**The President.** Her message is: One, the United States is committed to Africa, and we've got a good record; secondly, that our commitment to Africa is aimed at helping people. She'll be talking about educating young girls, and she'll be talking about our HIV/AIDS initiative. Her presence shows commitment. This is the second time she's been to Africa since I've been sworn in as President. Plus, she's a darn good diplomat.

She speaks clearly and she is a—she’s a compassionate soul when she speaks, which is—she’s a genuinely compassionate person. And people will see her compassion. And there will be no problem with her getting any news coverage, so, in other words, she’ll be seen, which makes her an effective representative.

And part of people knowing that the United States cares is for the messenger to have a platform. And so she’ll have a—she’ll have the ability to talk from her heart about the specific initiatives that we’re very much involved in.

All right, listen, thank you all. Looking forward to it. Klaus, see you over there? Are you going to be there?

**Q.** I leave that to my colleagues.

**The President.** You’re going to lateral me. You’re going to transfer me off. *[Laughter]* Well, I’m sure they’re going to be as professional as you were.

**Q.** I hope so.

**The President.** Nice to see you again. Thank you. Appreciate you.

NOTE: The interview began at 10:48 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House, and the transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 3. In his remarks, the President referred to James D. Wolfensohn, Quartet Special Envoy for Gaza Disengagement; Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen and Queen Margrethe II of Denmark; President-elect Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran; Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom; Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of Germany; President Jacques Chirac of France; Paul D. Wolfowitz, President, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa; President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe; European Commission President Jose Manuel Durao Barroso; and European Council President Jean-Claude Juncker. A reporter referred to Deputy Secretary of State Robert B. Zoellick. Journalists participating in the interview were Charles Cobb of AllAfrica.com; Klaus Justsen of Jyllands-Posten; Joseph DeCapua of Voice of America; and Olivier Knox of Agence France Press. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

## Remarks at an Independence Day Celebration in Morgantown, West Virginia

July 4, 2005

**The President.** Thank you all. Happy Fourth of July. Thanks for coming. I am honored to celebrate Independence Day in Morgantown, West Virginia. I appreciate you all being here. The history of this land dates back to the earliest days of our Republic. Turns out George Washington used to drop by this part of the State. And I appreciate a warm welcome for another George W.

Coming to West Virginia is becoming a Fourth of July tradition for me. And every time I come here, I appreciate the beauty of West Virginia, and I appreciate being with decent, hardworking, patriotic Americans who call the Mountain State home.

Today we gather to celebrate the 229th anniversary of America’s independence. Across our great land, families will gather to fly the flag, to watch the fireworks, and count our blessings as Americans. We are grateful for the bounty and opportunity of our land. We are grateful for our liberty, and we are grateful for the men and women in uniform who keep our country safe. *[Applause]* Thank you all.

I bring greetings from First Lady Laura Bush. She said, “You go over to West Virginia and tell them how much we love them.”

**Audience member.** We love her!

**The President.** I love her too. *[Laughter]*

I appreciate Congresswoman Shelley Moore Capito. I appreciate her service. I appreciate her love for the great State of West Virginia. Thank you, Shelley Moore. I want to thank the mayor of Morgantown, West Virginia, Ron Justice, for serving the people. Mr. Mayor, thanks for coming out today. I want to thank all the local and State officials who are here. I want to thank David Hardesty, the president of West Virginia University. I appreciate you. I appreciate being on this fine campus, and I appreciate the good work that the folks do here to educate the people of West Virginia.

The history we celebrate today is a testament to the power of freedom to lift up a whole nation. On Independence Day, we remember the ideals of liberty that led men from 13 colonies to gather in Philadelphia and pen a declaration of self-truths. And we remember the band of patriots who risked their lives to bring freedom to a new continent.

On July 4, 1776, more than 5 years of the Revolutionary War still lay ahead. From the battle of New York to the winter at Valley Forge to the victory at Yorktown, our forefathers faced terrible losses and hardships. Yet, they kept their resolve. They kept their faith in a future of liberty, and with their hard-won victory, we guaranteed a home for the Declaration's proposition that all are created equal.

Through the centuries, the Declaration of Independence has remained a revolutionary document. As President Kennedy said on the Fourth of July, 1962, "The Declaration unleashed not merely a revolution against the British but a revolution in human affairs."

The revolutionary truths of the Declaration are still at the heart of America: We believe in the dignity and rights of every person. We believe in freedom and equal justice, the rule of law, and a Government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Through the centuries, this creed of freedom and equality has lifted the fortunes of all Americans. And we know that this great ideal of human freedom is entrusted to us in a special way and that the ideal of liberty is worth defending.

Defending the ideals of our founding has required the service and sacrifice of every generation, and the men and women of our Armed Forces have always answered our Nation's call. With their courage, they have crossed oceans, defeated murderous ideologies, and liberated the oppressed. And today on this Fourth of July, our grateful Nation thanks our 25 million veterans for their service to our country.

At this hour, our men and women in uniform are defending America against the threats of the 21st century. The war we are fighting came to our shores on September the 11th, 2001. After that day, I made a pledge to the American people: We will not

wait to be attacked again. We will bring our enemies to justice or bring justice to our enemies.

Our enemies in this new war are men who celebrate murder, incite suicide, and thirst for absolute power. They seek to spread their ideology of tyranny and oppression across the world. They seek to turn the Middle East into a haven for terror. They seek to drive America out of the region. These terrorists will not be stopped by negotiations or concessions or appeals to reason. In this war, there is only one option, and that is victory.

We are pursuing a comprehensive strategy to win the war on terror. We're taking the fight to the terrorists abroad so we do not have to face them here at home. We're denying our enemies sanctuary and making it clear that America will not tolerate regimes that harbor or support terrorists. And we're spreading freedom, because the terrorists know there is no room for them in a free and democratic Middle East. By advancing the cause of liberty in a troubled part of the world, we will remove a source of instability and violence, and we will lay the foundation of peace for our children and our grandchildren.

Iraq is the latest battlefield in the war on terror. Our work there is difficult and dangerous because terrorists from across the region are converging on Iraq to fight the rise of democracy. The images of cruelty and suffering we see on television are real, and they are difficult for our compassionate Nation to watch. Yet, the terrorist violence has not brought them any closer to achieving their strategic objectives. The terrorists tried to intimidate the Iraqi Governing Council, and they failed. They tried to delay the transfer of sovereignty to Iraq, and they failed. They tried to stop the free Iraqi elections, and they failed. They continue to kill in the hope that they will break the resolve of the American people, but they will fail.

The lesson of this experience is clear. The terrorists can kill the innocent, but they cannot stop the advance of freedom. This January, the world watched as the Iraqi people defied intimidation, dipped their fingers in ink, and cast their votes in the country's first free and democratic election in decades. And last week, on June the 28th, the free nation

of Iraq marked the first anniversary of the day when sovereignty was restored to its rightful owners, the Iraqi people.

By helping Iraqis build a free and democratic nation, we will give strength to an ally in the war on terror, and we'll make America more secure. To continue building a free and democratic Iraq, Americans and Iraqis are fighting side-by-side to stop the terrorists and insurgents. And our military is helping to train Iraqi forces so they can defend their own liberty. Our strategy can be summed up this way: As Iraqis stand up, we will stand down, and then our troops can come home to a proud and grateful nation.

West Virginians are serving with skill and honor in the war on terror. Some deployed from Camp Dawson right down the road. Soldiers from the 201st Field Artillery Unit of the West Virginia National Guard carried out vital missions in Iraq. Those soldiers are contributing to the proud history of their unit. The 201st has been defending our freedom since the Revolutionary War.

One of the battery commanders from the 201st is Captain Jeff Setser. Captain Setser is a police officer in Charleston. He served a year in Iraq, and he was in Baghdad during the Iraqi elections. He and his fellow West Virginia guardsmen escorted convoys and protected supplies and patrolled cities. Here is what he said: "We treated people with respect, and they respected us. You could see that they were starting to walk on their own instead of leaning on us. The progress is just amazing."

Guardsmen and reservists are helping Iraq build in other ways. First Lieutenant James McCormick, who is with us today, he's from Scott Depot, West Virginia. He served a 13-month tour in Iraq as part of the 518th Combat Gun Truck Company. His unit provided security for military convoys transporting troops and supplies. For his bravery, Lieutenant McCormick earned the Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts.

He wrote me a letter last week. Here's what he said: "If needed, all of us would return and continue the mission. It's a just and much needed fight. Please know that many of us still live by the code of honor that so many soldiers before us had, from Bunker Hill to Baghdad."

First Lieutenant McCormick is right. The men and women of America's Armed Forces are bringing great honor to the uniform they wear and to the Nation they serve. And in this time of testing, our troops, whether they be stationed here or abroad, can know that the American people stand behind them all the way.

I thank all the military families who are with us today. Times of war are times of great sacrifice, and the burden falls especially hard on the families. You're playing a vital role at a crucial time in our Nation's history. All Americans are inspired by the strength and the sacrifice of our military families.

Some of America's finest men and women have given their lives in the war on terror, and we remember them on Independence Day. We pray for the families who have lost a loved one in freedom's cause. And we know that the best way to honor their sacrifice is to complete the mission, so we will stay until the fight is won.

On this Fourth of July and in the days ahead, I ask every American to find a way to thank the men and women defending our freedom. There's so many ways to do so. You can fly the flag or send a letter to the troops in the field or help a military family down the street. The Department of Defense has set up a web site, [americasupportsyou.mil](http://americasupportsyou.mil). You can go there to learn about efforts in your own community. And by the way, it's not too late to find something to do today. At this time, when we celebrate our freedom, our troops have got to understand that the American people support them all the way.

And on Independence Day, we remember that we also have essential responsibilities here at home, the unfinished work of American freedom. In a world moving toward liberty, we are determined to show the meaning and the promise of liberty. The greatest strength of America is the heart and soul of the American people. Every time a volunteer reaches out to a neighbor in need, our Nation grows stronger and more hopeful.

Today when I landed at the airport, I met Chuck White. He's a volunteer with the local United Way. For those of you who are serving as a member of the army of compassion in America, thank you for loving your neighbor just like you'd like to be loved yourselves.

By taking time out of your lives to help somebody else, you're helping to ensure that every American can share the blessings of liberty.

As we celebrate the Fourth of July, we re-dedicate ourselves to the ideals that inspired our Founders. During that hot summer in Philadelphia more than 200 years ago, from our desperate fight for independence to the darkest days of a civil war to the hard-fought battles of the 20th century, there were many chances to lose our heart, our nerve, or our way. But Americans have always held firm, because we have always believed in certain truths: We know that the freedom we defend is meant for all men and women and for all times. And we know that when the work is hard, the proper response is not retreat. It is courage.

We got a great future for our country. From the mountains of West Virginia to the Great Plains to our Pacific shores, the truths of the Declaration still guide America and remain the best hope of mankind. I believe that this century will be "liberty century." In 1770—and I know that by carrying the spirit of 1776 into this new age, we will leave a stronger and better country for all who call this great land home.

It is a great honor to be the President of such a great nation. And it's my honor to be here to wish you all a happy Fourth of July. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless our country.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:57 a.m. at West Virginia University.

## Interview With the United Kingdom's ITV

June 29, 2005

### Prime Minister Blair/Iraq/G-8

**Sir Trevor McDonald.** Mr. President, the G-8 summit will be chaired by Tony Blair. He wants to get new international agreements on aid, on trade, and on climate change. Now, he gave you unstinting support over the war in Iraq; can he expect the same support from you over the G-8?

**The President.** You know, Tony Blair made decisions on what he thought was best for the people of Great Britain, and I made

decisions on what I thought was best for Americans. And I really don't view our relationship as one of *quid pro quo*. I view our relationship as one of strong allies and friends working together for the common good.

Having said that, I bring a strong record of support for countries in Africa. I think people are going to be surprised to learn about all the efforts we've made here in America to clean up our environment and to invest in new technologies. And so I'm confident we'll have a good G-8.

**Mr. McDonald.** On the question of Tony Blair, his support for you on Iraq probably damaged him politically at home. Supporting his proposals in Edinburgh might be one way of paying him back and making sure that he can probably repair some of that damage.

**The President.** Well, again, I really don't view our relationship as one of—you know, we both make decisions and try to earn credit with each other on a personal basis. Tony Blair made decisions on what he thought was best for keeping the peace and winning the war on terror, as did I.

So I go to the G-8 not really trying to make him look bad or good, but I go to the G-8 with an agenda that I think is best for our country. And I believe this: I believe that we have a duty and an obligation to help folks who suffer on the continent of Africa and have done so—we've tripled the aid to Africa. We've got a significant role in helping to defeat HIV/AIDS, a \$15 billion program over 5 years. And there is more we're going to do, and I look forward to working with Tony and the other leaders to help the African countries succeed.

I will say something about African countries—they're not going to succeed, however, if they don't make good choices—good governance choices and investment in their people.

**Mr. McDonald.** If I may, Mr. President, we will come back to the question of African aid.

**The President.** Okay, sorry.

### Climate Change/Kyoto Protocol

**Mr. McDonald.** But can I start with the subject of climate change, which is one of the subjects on the G-8 agenda?

**The President.** Sure.

**Mr. McDonald.** Now, the majority of the world's leading scientists now agree that climate change is a reality. Do you agree with their conclusion?

**The President.** I believe it is a significant, long-term issue that we've got to deal with. And that's why my Government is dealing with it. We spent I think over \$20 billion since I've been the President to not only research the issue of greenhouse gases but to develop technologies that will enable us to diversify away from fossil fuels. And I look forward to discussing this agenda with not only the G-8 leaders but also with the leaders of developing countries, countries like India and China.

**Mr. McDonald.** Do you accept that climate change is manmade, sir?

**The President.** To a certain extent it is, obviously. I mean, if fossil fuels create greenhouse gases, we're burning fossil fuel, as is a lot of other countries. You know, look, there was a debate over Kyoto, and I made the decision, as did a lot of other people in this country, by the way, that the Kyoto treaty didn't suit our needs. In other words, the Kyoto treaty would have wrecked our economy, if I can be blunt.

And so my hope is—and I think the hope of Tony Blair is—to move beyond the Kyoto debate and to collaborate on new technologies that will enable the United States and other countries to diversify away from fossil fuels so that the air will be cleaner and that we have the economic and national security that comes from less dependence on foreign sources of oil. For that end, for example, we're investing in—or to that end, we're investing in a lot of hydrogen—research on hydrogen-powered automobiles. I believe we'll be able to burn coal without emitting any greenhouse gases, zero emissions plant.

And so, therefore, we've got to spend money and share technology as to how to move forward.

**Mr. McDonald.** But Mr. President, if I may, the predictions about global warming—and I hear what you say—are very dire. The UK's chief scientist says that it probably poses a bigger threat than global terrorism. Isn't it, therefore, irresponsible for you to say, as you've done, that you walked away from Kyoto and you won't order cuts in car-

bon dioxide emissions because it would damage America's economy?

**The President.** I walked away from Kyoto because it would damage America's economy, you bet. It would have destroyed our economy. It was a lousy deal for the American economy. I felt there was a better way. And that's why—

**Mr. McDonald.** But is that putting American industrial, economic interests above the global interests of the environment?

**The President.** No, I think you can do both. See, I think you can grow your economy and at the same time do a better job of harnessing greenhouse gases. That's exactly what I intend to talk to our partners about. I don't think you can expect any American leader to wreck the economy, nor as an ally and a friend of America and a trading partner of America should you want us to wreck our economy.

On the other hand, what you would want us to do is to use our investment capacity as well as our research capacity to come up with new ways to power our economy, new ways to energize our economy. And that's precisely what we're doing, and I look forward to sharing those ideas.

Secondly, the Kyoto treaty wouldn't work unless all nations were involved. And as you know, many of the developing nations weren't involved in Kyoto. So some of the discussions we're going to have at the G-8, thanks to Tony Blair's leadership, is to work with India and China as to how to share technology with them, so that we can all work together to clean up the environment and at the same time have sustained economic growth.

#### **Debt Relief/Aid to Africa**

**Mr. McDonald.** You recently helped, Mr. President, to scrap the debt burden on some of Africa's poorest countries, and you've won some praise for that. But shouldn't a country as rich as yours be giving much more in direct aid to these poverty-stricken countries of Africa?

**The President.** Well, we've tripled the budget on direct aid to the countries in Africa since I've been the President—tripled it. We have got a great trade agreement with the African nations called AGOA, the African

Growth and Opportunity Act, and that is working. I just announced a \$674 million food relief package. We're spending \$15 billion on HIV/AIDS. No, we're leading the world when it comes to helping Africa.

But we've done something else that I think is smart and I think our taxpayers appreciate. And that is that we're saying, "Now for increased aid, you, the leaders of Africa, must have transparency in your Government. You must fight corruption. You must invest in the health and education of your people." In other words, we're not going to invest in governments that are corrupt.

**Mr. McDonald.** So this is aid with strings attached?

**The President.** No, this is aid—this is partnership. This is saying to nations, "We want to work with you as partners, partners in alleviating poverty, partners in helping fight HIV/AIDS. But you've got a role to play. You, the leaders of African nations, you've got a role to play to make good governance decisions." That's what the taxpayers of my country expect, and I hope that's what the taxpayers of Great Britain expect, is expect us to, when we make investments in countries, that they work. And they don't work if a nation doesn't invest in its people.

**Mr. McDonald.** I hear what you say about tripling the aid to Africa, but it's still only—it's less than naught.2 percent of gross domestic national product. And that is less than what the United Nations talks about of having naught.7 percent. Some European countries are moving towards that. Why can't America?

**The President.** You know, there's all kinds of ways to calculate how generous we are. Let me just tell you this. If you take all the food aid, America is by far the most generous country. If you take the direct aid, we're very generous. But when you add on our private contributions—see, our tax system encourages private citizens to donate to organizations that, for example, help the folks in Africa. And when you take the combined effort of U.S. taxpayers' money plus U.S. citizens' donations, we're very generous. And we'll do more. And I look forward to talking about doing more at the G-8. But I've got to tell you, I'm very proud of the generosity of the United States.

**Mr. McDonald.** But what about that kind of aid which is linked to the buying of American goods and services? You say you give aid on the condition that people buy American goods and services. That's not very generous, is it?

**The President.** I'm not exactly sure what you're talking about there. What I'm talking about is our Millennium Challenge Account that says, "We want to help you, but you've got to have good governance. You've got to fight corruption." Why does it make sense, for me as the person who's supposed to be the wise guardian of the taxpayers' money, to send money to a country and know the Government is going to steal it? That doesn't make any sense.

What does make sense is for our generous Nation to help countries that make good choices about how they govern, about transparency, but also good choices about investing in the health and education of their people. We're more than willing to help, and we're leading the world when it comes to help. And I wouldn't call it conditions-based, what I call it is—

**Mr. McDonald.** What about a country like—

**The President.** —partnering, working together.

### **Uzbekistan**

**Mr. McDonald.** But what about a country like Uzbekistan, Mr. President, with a shocking, appalling record of human rights, getting tens of billions of dollars of American aid because you have American bases there?

**The President.** Again, I'm not exactly sure of the numbers you're throwing out there, but no question we have an American base there. They've been very helpful in helping fight the war on terror.

On the other hand, we are sending very clear messages that we expect minority rights to be honored, that people ought to be allowed to express themselves in the public square without fear of reprisal from the Government.

**Agricultural Subsidies**

**Mr. McDonald.** Mr. President, on the question of trade, how can it be morally justified for the world's richest country to subsidize its farmers so that they can sell their goods cheaper than farmers in the Third World and, as a result, put those farmers in the Third World out of business?

**The President.** That's precisely the question we've been talking to the EU about. There are tremendous agricultural subsidies in the EU. We—

**Mr. McDonald.** Yes, but—I put those questions to the EU if I were talking to somebody in the EU, but—

**The President.** No, let me—let me finish. Let me finish. I was about to say, we've got agricultural subsidies, not nearly to the extent that our friends in the EU have, and therefore, we went to Doha round, WTO—Doha round of the WTO and said, "Let's get rid of all our subsidies together. Let's join hands as wealthy industrialized nations and say to the world, we're going to get rid of all our agricultural subsidies together." And so the position of the U.S. Government is, we're willing to do so, and we will do so with the— with our fine friends in the European Union.

**Mr. McDonald.** So, you would if they would, because at the moment, for example—

**The President.** Absolutely.

**Mr. McDonald.** —cotton farmers in this country get subsidized to the extent of 230 American dollars per cotton acre. You would get rid of those things if the EU does?

**The President.** Absolutely. And I think we have an obligation to work together to do that. And that's why it's very important that the Doha round of the WTO go forward.

**Mr. McDonald.** Because if we do achieve this business of free trade, and if markets in the West are opened up to countries in Africa, say, they could be so successful, then, that they could eliminate the need for aid.

**The President.** Absolutely. That's the whole reason why we've got the African Growth and Opportunity Act. As a matter of fact, the benefits that have come from opening up markets—our markets to them and their markets to us—far outweigh the benefits of aid.

**Iraq/War on Terror**

**Mr. McDonald.** Mr. President, if I can move on to the question of Iraq, when we last spoke before the Iraq war, I asked you about Saddam Hussein and you said this, and I quote: "He harbors and develops weapons of mass destruction, make no mistake about it."

Well, today, no WMD, the war has cost 1,700 American lives, many more Iraqi civilians killed, hundreds of billions of dollars in cost to your country. Can you understand why some people in your country are now beginning to wonder whether it was really worth it?

**The President.** Absolutely. I mean, when you turn on your TV set every day and see this incredible violence and the havoc that is wreaked as a result of these killers, I'm sure why people are getting discouraged. And that's why I spoke to the Nation last night and reminded people that this is a— Iraq is a part of this global war on terror. And the reason why foreign fighters are flocking into Iraq is because they want to drive us out of the region.

See, these folks represent an ideology that is based upon hate and kind of a narrow vision of mankind—women don't have rights. And I believe this is an ideological movement. And I know that they want to use suicide bombers and assassinations and attacks on the World Trade Center and the attacks in Madrid to try to shake our will and to achieve an objective, which is to topple governments. And the best way to defeat an ideology is with a better ideology. And I believe democracy is a better ideology, to provide hope for people and—but yes, it's tough. But we've done tough things before in America, and we've got a great ally in Great Britain. But it's not only Great Britain. As Gerhard Schroeder said in the Oval Office, a democratic Iraq is important not only to Germany but to Europe, and he's right.

**Mr. McDonald.** You talk about terrorism in Iraq, but when we spoke before the war, there was no terrorism in Iraq. And you're now making Iraq the frontline of the war on terrorism. But the terrorists have only recently arrived there, arrived since the war on Iraq.

**The President.** No, I beg your pardon. Zarqawi, Mr. Zarqawi, who is leading the terrorist effort in Iraq now, was in Iraq prior to our discussion.

**Mr. McDonald.** No Al Qaida in Iraq before the war, Mr. President.

**The President.** No, Zarqawi, Mr. Zarqawi was, absolutely. He was.

**Mr. McDonald.** So you've justified in making Iraq the frontline now in the war on terror?

**The President.** No, I haven't justified that. I'm just giving you a fact, that foreign fighters are traveling into Iraq to make it a frontline in the war on terror. And I would rather defeat them there than face them in our own country.

**Mr. McDonald.** Have you still—do you still think that you may have mismanaged, or do you think you may have mismanaged public expectations about a quick victory and a decisive ending to this war? You've talked in optimistic terms. But now, as you say, the carnage on the screens night after night seems—tell a different story.

**The President.** Well, certainly that's a very powerful weapon for the terrorists, is to kill innocent men, women, and children, and try to shake our will and conscience. And on the other hand, there is progress being made in Iraq.

Remember, it wasn't all that long ago that 8 million people went to the polls to vote. And you might remember the discussions prior to the vote. I had a lot of people saying, "Well, they don't know what they're doing. The people don't want to be free. Certain people can't—they're not going to—what makes you think they want democracy?" And all of a sudden, when given the chance, 8 million people voted, and now the political process is moving in parallel with the security process. And our strategy is to help the Iraqis stand up a viable government, to encourage them to get their constitution written, and to have the elections, to ratify the constitution, as well as a government under the constitution, and, at the same time, train Iraqis so they can fight. That's our strategy, and we're making good progress.

**Mr. McDonald.** Is the administration at sixes and sevens about the insurgency in Iraq? The Vice President said that we're in

the last throes, or seeing the last throes of the insurgency. Donald Rumsfeld comes up and says we could be there for 5, 8, 10, 12 years. Which is it? Which do you believe?

**The President.** I believe—I believe that we will succeed in Iraq, because, one, the Iraqis want to live in a free society.

**Mr. McDonald.** But how long will it take, Mr. President?

**The President.** And two, that the Iraqis want to take the fight to the enemy. And people want me to put a timetable on things. That's a huge mistake. Putting a timetable on this—on our stay there in Iraq simply emboldens the enemy and discourages our friends. And so, therefore, my answer is just, quickly as possible, and we are making progress.

**Mr. McDonald.** Do you ever, in one of those dark souls of the night, do you ever think—do you ever think maybe this was not such a good idea?

**The President.** No, I'm actually confident it's the right thing to do.

**Mr. McDonald.** You have never had any doubts at all about it?

**The President.** I am absolutely confident that we made the right decision. And not only that, I'm absolutely confident that the actions we took in Iraq are influencing reformers and freedom lovers in the greater Middle East. And I believe that you're going to see the rise of democracy in many countries in the broader Middle East, which will lay the foundation for peace.

### **Climate Change**

**Mr. McDonald.** Mr. President, on the subject of climate change, again, if I can just come back to that—

**The President.** Okay.

**Mr. McDonald.** They are expecting—many countries are expecting international legal binding agreements on cutting greenhouse gas emissions. Can they expect your support in doing that?

**The President.** If this looks like Kyoto, the answer is "no." On the other hand, if people want to come together and share technologies and develop technologies and jointly spend—and spend money on research and development, just like the United States

is, to help us diversify away from fossil fuels—more than willing to discuss it.

**Mr. McDonald.** But they're wasting their time if they think that they'll get from you an international binding agreement about mandatory curbs on greenhouse gases?

**The President.** I have—I have no idea. Look, you're asking me to design a treaty here with you on the set of the—right here on the set of this—on this beautiful set. I mean, that's kind of—but I'm telling you, if you're trying to get me to say, "We support Kyoto," the answer is, "No. We don't." And it's a bad deal for America.

On the other hand, I look forward to working with nations. Look, we spent over \$20 billion on understanding greenhouse gases, understanding climate change, and more importantly, on technologies that will enable us to deal with this. I believe, for example, as a result of some of the research we're doing, we'll have hydrogen-powered automobiles. I know we need more nuclear power in order—nuclear power, after all, is not dependent on fossil fuels and emits no greenhouse gases. I believe we're going to be able to have coal-fired plants that have zero emissions. We need to work on carbon sequestration technologies. I mean, there's a lot we can do together and achieve the objective which a lot of people want, which is the reduction of greenhouse gases and, at the same time, have viable economic growth.

**Mr. McDonald.** And because, sir, America remains the biggest polluter.

**The President.** America is the largest investor in the technologies necessary to be able to say to people, you can grow your economy so people's standard of living can improve, and at the same time be good stewards of the environment.

**Mr. McDonald.** But pollution in this country has increased amazingly since 1992.

**The President.** That is a totally inaccurate statement.

**Mr. McDonald.** It's a U.N. figure.

**The President.** Well, I just beg to differ with every figure you've got. The environment has—the quality of the environment has improved, in spite of the fact that we've grown our economy.

**Mr. McDonald.** Mr. President, thank you.

**The President.** Always a pleasure.

NOTE: The interview was taped at 1:19 p.m. in the Library at the White House for later broadcast. In his remarks, the President referred to Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom; former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of Germany; senior Al Qaida associate Abu Musab Al Zarqawi. A reporter referred to Chief Scientific Adviser Sir David King of the United Kingdom. This transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 5. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

### Memorandum on Waiving Prohibition on United States Military Assistance With Respect to the Dominican Republic

July 4, 2005

Presidential Determination No. 2005–26

*Memorandum for the Secretary of State*

*Subject:* Waiving Prohibition on United States Military Assistance with Respect to the Dominican Republic

Consistent with the authority vested in me by section 2007 of the American Servicemembers' Protection Act of 2002 (the "Act"), title II of Public Law 107–206 (22 U.S.C. 7421 *et seq.*), I hereby:

- Determine that the Dominican Republic has entered into an agreement with the United States pursuant to Article 98 of the Rome Statute preventing the International Criminal Court from proceeding against U.S. personnel present in such country; and
- Waive the prohibition of section 2007(a) of the Act with respect to this country for as long as such agreement remains in force.

You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., July 11, 2005]

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 6, and it will be published in the *Federal Register* on July 12.

**Memorandum on Implementation of Sections 603 and 604 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228)**

July 4, 2005

Presidential Determination No. 2005-27

*Memorandum for the Secretary of State*

*Subject:* Implementation of Sections 603 and 604 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228)

Consistent with the authority contained in section 604 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-228) (the "Act"), and with reference to the determinations set out in the report to Congress transmitted on the date hereof, pursuant to section 603 of that Act, regarding noncompliance by the PLO and the Palestinian Authority with certain commitments, I hereby impose the sanction set out in section 604(a)(2), "Downgrade in Status of the PLO Office in the United States." This sanction is imposed for a period of 180 days from the date hereof or until such time as the next report required by section 603 of the Act is transmitted to the Congress, whichever is later. You are authorized and directed to transmit to the appropriate congressional committees the report described in section 603 of the Act.

Furthermore, I hereby determine that it is in the national security interest of the United States to waive that sanction, pursuant to section 604(c) of the Act. This waiver shall be effective for a period of 180 days from the date hereof or until such time as the next report required by section 603 of the Act is transmitted to the Congress, whichever is later.

You are hereby authorized and directed to transmit this determination to the Congress and to publish it in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., July 11, 2005]

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 6, and it will be published in the *Federal Register* on July 12.

**The President's News Conference With Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen of Denmark in Kongens Lyngby, Denmark**

July 6, 2005

**Prime Minister Rasmussen.** Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I am delighted to be here today with my good friend, the President of the United States. Even more so because you chose to visit us, your friends in Denmark, on this very special day, your 59th birthday. So happy birthday, Mr. President.

**President Bush.** Thank you.

**Prime Minister Rasmussen.** We have already celebrated the event in a small way with a traditional Danish birthday breakfast, together with our families.

Denmark and the United States have long been close friends and allies. We share the same fundamental goals and values. The close personal ties between the Danes and the Americans are highlighted every year when the biggest Fourth of July celebration outside the United States takes place here in Denmark. Thousands of Danish Americans gather in the Rebild Hills to manifest not just family ties but also shared beliefs. It's our common desire to spread liberty and promote democracy. We do not accept the thesis that certain peoples and nations are not yet ready for democracy and therefore, better suited for dictatorship. We share the belief that freedom is universal, and we share the belief that in the struggle between democracy and dictatorship, you cannot stay neutral.

This is why Denmark contributes with more than 500 troops in Iraq, why we make an active contribution to the joint allied effort in Afghanistan, why we wish to promote democracy and reform in the Middle East, and why we urge all parties to find a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

On these and other global challenges, the United States needs the European Union as a strong and active partner. The present internal difficulties must not distract the European Union from its global responsibilities.

Nobody needs a strong and generous Europe more than Africa. As other regions progress, Africa remains haunted by poverty, war, and epidemics. I feel a strong obligation

to focus more on Africa, and I'm going to pay an official visit to the region in October. The President and I share the view that the upcoming G-8 summit should focus on how to make poverty history in Africa. I see five main challenges.

Firstly, Africa needs to overcome epidemic diseases. AIDS in Africa is a fully blown disaster. The Copenhagen Consensus meeting last year concluded that combating AIDS should be the world's absolute top priority. It is a fight we must win. During the last 4 years, Denmark has increased funding for the combat of AIDS with more than 60 percent. I urge the G-8 to make a similar extra effort.

Secondly, Africa needs trade. Free trade and better access to the world market provide the means to improve economic growth and fight poverty. When trade advances, poverty retreats. The European Union and the United States have already granted very generous access to their markets for the poorest African countries. We should go further and dismantle trade-distorting agricultural subsidies. I urge the G-8 to do their part in creating a new, balanced, and fair trade regime to benefit Africa.

Thirdly, Africa needs peace. No peace, no progress. Africans, themselves, must prevent conflicts and manage crisis, but we must help them to do this. That is why Denmark has developed a new African program for peace to support the promising endeavors of the African Union. I urge the G-8 to support this program and the peacekeeping efforts of the African Union.

Fourthly, Africa needs more aid—help to self-help. It therefore pleases me greatly that you, President Bush, has just announced your intention to double American assistance to Africa. Denmark is one of the most generous donors, and we're going to focus even more on Africa in the future. In fact, if all G-8 countries matched our effort, Africa would get \$90 billion a year, instead of only 25. I therefore urge all G-8 countries to follow our good example.

And finally, Africa needs better governance. All our aid will come to nothing if countries are ruled by corrupt dictators. When aid and trade are linked to good policies, more people are lifted out of poverty. We should

generously reward countries that fight corruption, ensure political liberty and economic freedom, invest in health and education of their people, and promote women's rights. And we should not be afraid to stop aid to dictators like Zimbabwe's Mugabe. I urge the G-8 to make no compromise in the demand for good governance.

We must all join efforts to make poverty history. We must fight poverty because human decency requires it, because hope for each individual is essential for human dignity. We must take action so that despair and darkness can be replaced with hope and light for hundreds of millions of people. The ball is in our court. Let us not waste our chances. The G-8 should not miss this golden opportunity.

Mr. President.

**President Bush.** Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister. Thanks for the birthday breakfast. I would strongly recommend the Danish birthday cake. [Laughter] I am really honored to be here in Copenhagen. I appreciate your friendship, and I appreciate the friendship the Danish people have for my country, and vice versa.

Denmark is a close ally and a partner of the United States. Mr. Prime Minister, America values its longstanding relationship with Denmark, and that's why I've come. I've come to reaffirm my Nation's respect for Denmark and our ties that bind us forever and the fact that we share common values. I've also come because I want to let the people know how much I admire your leadership and your character and your vision.

I appreciate your nation's support in advancing freedom in Eastern Europe and the broader Middle East and around the world. We are grateful for your understanding and the people's understanding that freedom is a universal right and that as we promote freedom and democracy, we'll lay the foundation for peace for generations to come. Under your leadership, Mr. Prime Minister, your commitment has been steadfast and strong in the fight against terror.

You know, for some in Europe, September the 11th was a tragic date, a terrible moment. For me and many in the American public, September the 11th was a change of attitude,

a recognition that we're involved with a global war against ideological extremists who will kill the innocent in order to achieve their objectives.

I want to thank you very much for your steadfast support for freedom and peace in Afghanistan and Iraq. I particularly want to thank the loved ones, the family members of the troops stationed abroad for the sake of peace and freedom, for their sacrifice. I know many miss their loved ones, and I know how hard it is for families during times of deployment. And I appreciate them very much. I also want to thank you very much for being such a key contributor to our common security within NATO.

You know, one of the interesting initiatives that we worked together on, and I don't think a lot of people pay attention to, is what's called the Proliferation Security Initiative. It's a group of free nations that have bound together to help interdict the transport of weapons of mass destruction. One of the most harmful aspects of the war on terror could be if these killers were able to gain weapons of mass destruction, which in my mind—no doubt in my mind, they'd use on a moment's notice. And the Proliferation Security Initiative is an attempt by free countries to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction. And you've played a leading role.

We've had a great discussion today. We talked about the upcoming G-8 meeting. We talked about Africa and climate change. As well we talked about Guantanamo. The Prime Minister is concerned about what the situation on Guantanamo says about America and our view of liberty. Let me tell you what I told him. I said, "First, the prisoners are well-treated in Guantanamo. There's total transparency. The International Red Cross can inspect anytime, any day. And you're welcome to go." The press, of course, is welcome to go down to Guantanamo.

Secondly, we have sent many home. These people were picked up on the battlefield. They didn't wear uniforms. They weren't associated with a government, but they were on the battlefield. And so we put them in Guantanamo. We wanted to find out as much as we could about what they knew about this

war on terror, in order to protect our citizens. Many, it turned out, were sent home.

Thirdly, I assured the Prime Minister there's got to be a way forward for people held in Guantanamo, and there will be. The reason why you haven't seen any adjudication of individuals is because our court system is determining where best to try people, whether it be in a military tribunal where a person would have all—lawyers and rights or whether it be in the civilian courts. And once the judicial branch of our Government makes its decision, then we'll proceed forward, giving people fair and open trials.

I just want you to remember we are in a war against these terrorists. My most solemn obligation is to protect the American people from further attack. These people are being treated humanely. There's very few prison systems around the world that have seen such scrutiny as this one. And for those of you here on the continent of Europe who have doubt, I'd suggest buying an airplane ticket and going down and look—take a look for yourself.

We also talked about Africa. I told the Prime Minister I was proud of my country's tripling of aid to Africa since I've been the President. And as he mentioned, I proposed to double aid to Africa once again.

Our primary focus in Africa is going to be to focus efforts on solving people's problems. They've got a problem in HIV/AIDS, and we're leading the world when it comes to contributions—along with Denmark, by the way—in making sure antiretroviral drugs get to people who need help and helping set up an infrastructure so that prevention programs begin to work and follow up with programs that will help the orphans of HIV/AIDS families. Denmark has put a robust effort in place, as had the United States, and I'm proud of our efforts.

Over a million people die of malaria on the continent of Africa on an annual basis, most of whom are under 5 years old. This is a problem we can solve. I laid out an initiative the other day for \$1.2 billion to help eradicate the scourges of malaria on the continent of Africa. This is an area where we can work together. And I agree strongly with what the Prime Minister said: We expect there to be good governance on the continent

of Africa. I don't know how we can look our taxpayers in the eye and say, "This is a good deal, to give money to countries that are corrupt." What we're interested in, in our countries, is helping people, and therefore, we have said that we'll give aid, absolutely. We'll cancel debt—you bet—but we want to make sure that the governments invest in their people, invest in the health of their people, the education of their people, and fight corruption.

And then we talked about climate change as well. I'm looking forward to going to the G-8. Listen, I recognize that the surface of the Earth is warmer and that an increase in greenhouse gases caused by humans is contributing to the problem. Kyoto didn't work for the United States, and it, frankly, didn't work for the world. The reason it didn't work for the world is many developing nations weren't included in Kyoto.

I've also told our friends in Europe that Kyoto would have wrecked our economy. I don't see how you can be President of the United States and sign and agree to an agreement that would have put a lot of people out of work. See, I think there's a better way forward. I would call it the post-Kyoto era, where we can work together to share technologies, to control greenhouse gases as best as possible.

Listen, the United States, for national security reasons and economic security reasons, needs to diversify away from fossil fuels. And so we've put out a strategy to do just that, and I can't wait to share with our G-8 friends, just like I shared with the Prime Minister, our strategy. We spent about over \$20 billion last year on research and development on new technologies that we are willing to share with the world.

There's no doubt in my mind that we'll be driving a different kind of automobile within a reasonable period of time, one powered by hydrogen. And the Prime Minister is most interested in this subject, and I look forward to sharing technologies, not only with our G-8 friends but also with countries like India and China, who will be at the G-8.

I want to thank you again, Mr. Prime Minister, for being such a steadfast person. You know, a lot of times people in politics chase

opinion polls. I don't know if you poll this much in Denmark. We poll way too much in America, it seems like to me. [Laughter] It's a growth industry. [Laughter] What I appreciate is a leader who has a vision and the strength of character to do what he thinks is right, and that's what your Prime Minister has done. I'm proud to call him friend. And thanks for hosting me today.

**Prime Minister Rasmussen.** Thank you, Mr. President.

And we are ready to answer some questions from Danish side, from American side.

### **War on Terror**

**Q.** Thank you. Mr. President, you are visiting a country which you call a close ally and a partner. You're visiting a man whom you call your friend, and you just said you admire him and you are grateful for his support. Yet, I know you don't like the polls, but when you look at the opinion polls, when you look at what the public, the Danish people say, they don't quite agree with this strong support. They don't quite agree with your policies. One opinion poll said, less than 20 percent—over the weekend, said less than 20 percent support your foreign policy. Now, this is your chance—I'm sure you think what you're doing is right. This is your chance to tell these people, say something to convince them that you are right. What are you going to say to them?

**President Bush.** Well, I appreciate that. You just made my point about relying on polls. But that's fine, I mean, that's the current wisdom these days.

Look, we are laying the foundation for peace. Democracies don't war with each other. There is a debate going on around the world about the nature of this war on terror. I readily concede, some think it's just a law enforcement matter. I believe we're in for an ideological struggle. I believe the people that cause such great harm, not only in America but in other spots around the world, have an ideology that is vastly different from our ideology, one that's based upon human rights, freedom of religion, the ability for people to express themselves in the public square without fear of reprisal. And they use tactics that are trying to drive us from the world. They will kill on a moment's notice.

They kill innocent women and children because they want to shake our will. That's what they're trying to do, and they have objectives. Their objective is to topple government. Their objective is to control. They use power, and we just can't let them do that.

And so I understand people aren't going to agree with decisions I make, but my job is to make decisions that I think are right and to lead. You know, I tell the American press corps all the time, following public polls is like chasing your tail, a dog chasing a tail. I truly believe we're laying the foundation for peace. I know the only way to defeat this ideology is with a better ideology, based upon freedom and human rights and dignity—human dignity. And it's—it hasn't been an easy period of time for a lot of people. I know that, but I feel strongly in my heart of hearts that the decisions we have made will make it easier for our grandchildren to look back at this point—to grow up in a peaceful—and look back and say, “Thank goodness these people had the courage of their convictions.”

Tom [Tom Raum, Associated Press].

#### **Upcoming Supreme Court Nomination**

**Q.** Thank you, Mr. President. If I can ask you about a very important nomination you have to make back at home—

**President Bush.** Yes.

**Q.** You said you'd have a—

**President Bush.** This is the Supreme Court nomination.

**Q.** This is the Supreme Court nomination. You said you would fill it by October, by the new term of the Court. But would you consider delaying up until that point as much as possible to minimize the opposition's massive campaign against your choice? And when you do sit down and actually talk to prospective nominees, what kind of questions will you ask them?

**President Bush.** Thanks, Tom. The—first of all, I want the person confirmed and sitting by the time the Court meets again in October. And—in other words, that's the backstop, and we'll work backwards to determine what is best for the Senate calendar to get the hearing and to get the vote, up or down, on the floor of the Senate.

Secondly, I've begun the review process of prospective candidates. On Air Force One,

flying over, I've been reading about the different backgrounds and different opinions and different attitudes of the prospective nominees. As you know, I'm not a lawyer, thankfully. [Laughter] And so I will let my legal experts deal with the ramifications of legal opinions. I'll talk to people about just—I'll try to assess their character, their interests. I'm looking forward to the review process, the interview process as well.

When I first get back, I will consult with Members of the Senate—I have done so far; our staff continues to do so—and then I'll begin the interview process.

#### **Africa**

**Q.** Mr. President, when will you extend the fight for freedom and democracy to the African Continent? And could that involve use of military power, and if so, a new coalition of the willing, maybe including Danish forces?

Last part of the question is for the Prime Minister.

**President Bush.** Go ahead. Do you want to ask him the question first, before I finish? Okay—you said African Continent? Our attitude is that the best way for the African Continent to be peaceful and to resolve disputes is to have African troops do the work. The Prime Minister is right in calling for more training for peacekeepers. As a matter of fact, America has strongly thought that was the best way to go forward, and I think we promoted this concept at the last G-8.

I'm sure you're aware that the Sudan has been of great interest for my Government. As a matter of fact, thanks to the good efforts of former Secretary of State Colin Powell and Ambassador Jack Danforth, we actually negotiated a treaty between north and south that we're now in the process of implementing. And then, of course, Darfur broke out. And we've been greatly concerned about the human suffering—as a matter of fact, I believe the only nation thus far to call the conditions there genocide.

And we've been deeply involved in providing, first, aid, but also a strategy that will help calm the situation down so that there can be a settlement, a peaceful settlement of the situation. And that requires the transportation of African Union forces. I believe

we're going to go from about—the world, that is—is going to go from 2,200 African Union forces to 7,100 African Union forces. The United States, in working with NATO and the EU, will be providing airlift capacity to help get those troops on the ground. The other day I announced that we're going to work with the folks on the ground there to help construct new camps so that the refugees will have better conditions.

The whole idea is to, one, get aid to people as quickly as possible, so as to prevent any mass starvation and, secondly, get a political settlement moving forward. But no, the best way to deal with dispute and the civil war that make it awfully hard for the human condition to improve on the continent is for African nations to be trained and equipped and prepared to do the job.

You've got a question for him? Give him a question.

**Prime Minister Rasmussen.** Yes, the last part of it. We have engaged ourselves in peacekeeping missions in Africa. We have provided funds for the African Union to enable the Africans to prevent and manage crisis themselves. And we will pursue that strategy in the future.

**President Bush.** Reuters man, Toby [Tabassum Zakaria, Reuters]. Woman—excuse me. I can see that. [Laughter] So how long have you been on the Presidential beat?

**Q.** Since February.

**President Bush.** Yes. Well, make yourself less scarce.

#### **Upcoming Supreme Court Nomination**

**Q.** I also wanted to ask you a question about your Supreme Court nomination.

**President Bush.** Here I am, trying to talk to the people of Denmark, and you're asking me about local news. That's fine.

**Q.** What do you think of the criticism of Attorney General Gonzales as a potential nominee? And will there be a litmus test on abortion and gay marriage when you consider your choice?

**President Bush.** Thanks. First of all, as I said during both of my campaigns, there will be no litmus test. I'll pick people who, one, can do the job, people who are honest, people who are bright, and people who will strictly interpret the Constitution and not use

the bench to legislate from. That's what I campaigned on, and that's what I'm going to do.

She's referring to the fact that my Attorney General, longtime friend, a guy who was my—close when I was the Governor of Texas, came up to Washington with me as part of the movement of Texans south to north during the Government. He's been my lawyer in the White House. He's now the Attorney General. He's under—he's being criticized. I don't like it when a friend gets criticized. I'm loyal to my friends. And all of a sudden this fellow, who is a good public servant and a really fine person, is under fire. And so, do I like it? No, I don't like it at all.

I look forward to making the pick. And I look forward to doing what I said I was going to do when it comes to making that pick. This is a very important selection, and I understand its importance. I will take my time. I will be thorough in my investigation. My staff has already done a lot of work. They continue to work today, not only in reaching out to the Senate but also spending time making sure that all the candidates will be put forward in a proper way.

The other thing about this debate is, I hope the United States Senate conducts themselves in a way that brings dignity to the process and that the Senators don't listen to the special interest groups, particularly those on the extremes that are trying to exploit this opportunity for not only their—what they may think is right but also for their own fundraising capabilities. The Senate needs to conduct themselves in a dignified way and have a good, honest debate about the credentials of the person I have put forward, no matter who he or she is, and then give the person an up-or-down vote. That's how the process ought to work.

And so this is an opportunity for good public servants to exhibit a civil discourse on a very important matter and not let these groups, these money-raising groups, these special interest groups, these groups outside the process dictate the rhetoric, the tone. And I'm confident the Senators, most Senators want to conduct themselves this way.

It will be a really interesting moment, and I'm sure you're interested in watching the

process, for those of you in the Danish press. It's going to be quite an interesting exercise in democracy. I just hope that the people responsible for hearing—holding the hearings and voting up or down are able to have a civil discourse. It would be good for the country; it would be good for people's understanding of how democracy works.

Listen, Her Majesty is fixing to host a lunch, for which I am grateful. Thank you all for coming. Thank you, Prime Minister.

**Prime Minister Rasmussen.** Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President's news conference began at 10:02 a.m. in the Marienborg. In his remarks, he referred to Queen Margrethe II of Denmark. Prime Minister Rasmussen referred to President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe.

### Remarks Following Discussions With Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom and an Exchange With Reporters in Auchterarder, Scotland

July 7, 2005

**Prime Minister Blair.** Good morning, everyone. First of all, can I say a warm welcome to the President of the United States here at the G-8 summit. And I hope and believe we'll have a good and productive couple of days. You know the issues that are there—Africa and climate change—and I hope and believe we can make progress on both of them.

We've had a good discussion this morning, and the commitments that we've entered into over the past period of time on Africa, as you know, has—through the focus of the G-8, I think has meant that we are in a position where I hope, very much, we can meet the reasonable expectations of many millions of people outside.

And on climate change, obviously, we've been discussing the issue and whether it's going to be possible to move into a different position on this issue in the future, where the world can come together. I certainly hope so.

Obviously, again, we discussed the broad range of issues too, the issue of Iraq, and

Iran, the broader Middle East, and so on—the normal range of issues you'd expect.

So I think that's all I really need to say by way of opening. The President will say a few words. And then we just—I've got the President of China coming shortly that I have to go and greet. And we'll take a question from the British and a question from the Americans, if that's okay.

Mr. President.

**President Bush.** Thank you, Tony. It's a beautiful day for a bike ride. [*Laughter*] So was yesterday, I thought. But thank you for your leadership. This is going to be a successful summit.

The reason why is, is that the Prime Minister set very important goals for the industrialized world to meet, one of which is to help impoverished people on the continent of Africa. I'm proud of my Nation's contribution toward meeting that goal. I think the world, when they take a good look at what we've achieved here, will say that all of us are living up to the admonition that to whom much is given, much is required.

I bring some specific projects to the table. One is to do something about malaria on the continent of Africa. Another is to educate young girls on the continent of Africa. Another is to help battered women on the continent of Africa as well as our broader initiatives of trade and HIV/AIDS initiative.

Speaking about trade, I think it's very important for the world to hear very clearly the position of the United States, and that is that we want to work with the EU to rid our respective countries of agricultural subsidies. The best place to do that is at the Doha round. I would hope that by 2010, that the Doha round will achieve that objective.

Secondly, the Prime Minister has put global climate change on the table. This is an important issue. It's an issue that we—where there's been disagreement in the past. But I think if people, again, look at what the Prime Minister, through his leadership, has achieved, there is a consensus that we need to move forward together.

The way to move forward together is to—is to recognize, one, there's a problem, which I have—since I've been the President, and two, that there is a constructive way to deal with the problem. The most constructive way

to deal with the problem from our perspective is, one, to not only include the United States in discussions but also include developing countries in discussions, countries like India and China.

So you made a wise move, Mr. Prime Minister, to have invited India and China to this conference, where we will discuss our economic growth potential, coupled with the need to be wise stewards of the environment.

Secondly, this is a great opportunity to discuss the need to share technologies. We're spending over \$20 billion a year on the issue of global warming and on the issue of how to diversify ourselves away from a hydrocarbon-based economy, so that we can not only have economic security and better national security but also so we can deal with this important issue. And I look forward to the discussions we're going to have on this important topic.

As the Prime Minister said, we also talked about the freedom agenda. One of the interesting discussions we're going to have this afternoon is progress being made between the Palestinians and Israelis. And I believe Jim Wolfensohn is coming, who is representing not only the United States but also members of the EU, to discuss a way forward. And I look forward to having that discussion and look forward to concrete ways that we all can contribute to this very important process.

All and all, Mr. Prime Minister, you've done a fine job. Thanks for having us. You picked a beautiful location, and of course, you've painted a beautiful day for us.

Thank you.

**Prime Minister Blair.** Thank you very much. Okay, Tom [Tom Raum, Associated Press]—one UK, then one—

### **Climate Change**

**Q.** Mr. President, could I ask you about climate change? First of all, have you in any way changed your own view about this? And do you regard emissions targets as now off the table in terms of resolving this problem?

**President Bush.** I think if you look at a speech I gave in the Rose Garden there at the White House, I believe it was in the year 2001, I recognized that greenhouse gases were an issue and that we must deal with

it. I also strongly believe that technologies and the proper use of technologies will enable the world to grow our economies, and at the same time, be wiser about how we protect the environment.

I said that based upon scientific evidence, the goal of the United States is to reduce, neutralize—neutralize and then reduce emissions of greenhouse gases over time. And so my position has been pretty steady. What I didn't agree to was a way forward that, one, would have endangered our economy, and a way forward that excluded developing nations. I think there's a better way.

And the reason I'm appreciative of the Prime Minister for putting this on the—putting this issue on the agenda is that we're now developing the better way forward. And the United States is more than happy to participate—

**Q.** —including targets—

**President Bush.** We believe there's a better way than—actually, I've set targets. The targets I've set are based upon efficiency standards that we would reduce greenhouse gases by 18 percent, relative to our economic growth. And we're meeting those targets.

But the former construct just didn't work for us. And I fully recognize that by making that point, it was not a popular position in parts of the world. Now is the time to get beyond the Kyoto period and develop a strategy forward that is inclusive not only of the United States but of the developing nations and, of course, nations like Great Britain.

And so the Prime Minister did the world a service by putting this on the agenda, and it's a chance to talk constructively and positively about what is possible. For example, for the United States to—for our own economic security and national security, we have got to become less dependent on hydrocarbons. And the best way to do that is to develop new ways to power our automobiles through a—and so I've laid out a hydrogen initiative in which we're going to spend over a billion dollars to develop research necessary to help foster new ways to power automobiles—by the way, which will have an enormous effect on the future state of the environment.

So here's a way, for example, for us to work together. And it's—Great Britain can be a

great part of the hydrogen initiative, and I think the Prime Minister wants to be. Japan, of course, will play a leading role in the hydrogen initiative, and Prime Minister Koizumi is at the table. Germany should play a great role. In other words, there's an opportunity for those of us who have got the capacity to spend research dollars to share information. As I told you, we're spending over \$20 billion a year to be better stewards of the environment and, at the same time, make sure that in the out years, we can grow our economy in a reasonable way.

Sorry, go ahead.

**Prime Minister Blair.** I was just going to come in here and say, I think you've got to understand what we're trying to do here. And I think people do, but it's just worth me saying this: There's no point in going back over the Kyoto debate. My country has got its position on Kyoto, as have others; America has got its position on Kyoto. That is an argument that there has been, and we can't resolve that, and we're not going to negotiate some new treaty on climate change at the G-8 summit. That's not what it's about.

What it is about is seeing whether it will be possible in the future to bring people back into consensus together, not just America and Europe and Japan but also America, Europe, Japan, and the emerging economies like China, like India, who in the future, are going to be the major consumers of energy.

Now, can we do that? I don't know. But it's important that we at least begin a process of dialog that allows us to make progress on it. And as you've just heard, it's not that America is saying, "Well, we don't care about this issue." The investment in research and development into clean technologies is probably greater in America than any other country in the world. The question is, can we, as we go forward, create the conditions in which, when Kyoto ends, which it does in 2012, it's possible for the world to move into consensus? And if it isn't possible, then we've got a real problem for the future.

So it's important we set out the ambitions for this summit in a measured way. We're not going to resolve every single issue at the G-8 summit in relation to this, but I think what we can do is narrow the issues down, get agreement that there is a problem, that

we need to tackle it, that we need to move forward together in doing so, and then give ourselves the pathways—I said to you guys yesterday—give ourselves the pathway into a process that will allow us, post-Kyoto, to get back into agreement.

And that's—and no disrespect to anyone's position on the existing Kyoto treaty. Everyone has got their positions on that, and that's not going to change. There's no point in thinking that's going to change, but the future is crucial.

**President Bush.** I'm trying to recover from my faux pas yesterday. I made a terrible mistake yesterday. Toby [Tabassum Zakaria, Reuters]—[laughter]. Listen, I don't want to revisit—I don't—

**Prime Minister Blair.** That's an intro for the American media. [Laughter]

**President Bush.** I don't want to revisit the mistake. Let's just say, slightly offensive—wrong gender when I called on her.

#### **Proposed Unocal Corporation Purchase**

**Q.** Mr. President, how can the United States, on one hand, urge China to play by the rules of the global economy and move toward a flexible currency and, on the other hand, efforts by Chinese companies like CNOOC to expand seem to be running into some roadblocks?

**President Bush.** Well, what she's referring to is the fact that a Chinese oil company that's owned by the Government is attempting to purchase U.S. assets. And there's been some concern expressed by Members of the Congress in the form of a resolution that said that we are concerned about economic security—and national security for that matter—when it comes to a state-owned company purchasing private assets.

There is a process that our Government uses to analyze such purchases—or intent to purchase. And it's best that I allow that process to move forward without comment.

Thank you.

**Prime Minister Blair.** Okay, thanks very much, guys. See you later.

#### **President's Bike Accident**

**Q.** How are you?

**President Bush.** Feeling good, yes. Great. Ready to go for another ride.

**Q.** —did your legs up badly?

**President Bush.** No. Talked to the policeman last night. He's doing fine. I'm less worried about myself and more worried about him. It just goes to show that I should act my age. [*Laughter*]

**Q.** Were you wearing a helmet?

**President Bush.** Absolutely.

**Q.** Did you crash into his bike?

**President Bush.** No, no, he was standing. I hit slick pavement. I was—we were flying coming in. And by the way, when you ride hard on a mountain bike, sometimes you fall. Otherwise—otherwise, you're not riding hard. And it was at the end of a good hour ride. The pavement was slick, and the bike came out from underneath me—just like that—just like that person on the Tour de France the other day. He's a lot better bike rider than I am, but—[*laughter*—that other American.

**Q.** It's something to do when you retire—

**President Bush.** I don't think so. I think I'm—I think I found my limitations. But, I can't—for those of you who like to mountain bike, I would strongly suggest getting out in this beautiful countryside. It is a spectacular part of the world. Just be careful on the finish. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:39 a.m. at the Gleneagles Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to James D. Wolfensohn, Quartet Special Envoy for Gaza Disengagement; and Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan. Prime Minister Blair referred to President Hu Jintao of China. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

## Remarks on the Terrorist Attacks in London From Auchterarder, Scotland

July 7, 2005

I spent some time recently with the Prime Minister, Tony Blair, and had an opportunity to express our heartfelt condolences to the people of London, people who lost lives. I appreciate Prime Minister Blair's steadfast determination and his strength. He's on his way now to London here from the G-8 to

speaking directly to the people of London. He'll carry a message of solidarity with him.

This morning I have been in contact with our Homeland Security folks. I instructed them to be in touch with local and State officials about the facts of what took place here and in London and to be extra vigilant as our folks start heading to work.

The contrast between what we've seen on the TV screens here, what's taken place in London and what's taking place here, is incredibly vivid to me. On the one hand, we have people here who are working to alleviate poverty, to help rid the world of the pandemic of AIDS, working on ways to have a clean environment, and on the other hand, you've got people killing innocent people. And the contrast couldn't be clearer between the intentions and the hearts of those of us who care deeply about human rights and human liberty, and those who kill—those who have got such evil in their heart that they will take the lives of innocent folks.

The war on terror goes on. I was most impressed by the resolve of all the leaders in the room. Their resolve is as strong as my resolve, and that is we will not yield to these people, will not yield to the terrorists. We will find them. We will bring them to justice, and at the same time, we will spread an ideology of hope and compassion that will overwhelm their ideology of hate.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:30 p.m. at the Gleneagles Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

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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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**July 2**

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

**July 3**

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

**July 4**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Morgantown, WV, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Chuck White III. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

In the afternoon, on the White House balcony, the President and Mrs. Bush participated in a celebration for his upcoming birthday.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush viewed the Independence Day fireworks display on the National Mall from the White House.

**July 5**

In the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Kastrup, Denmark. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had an intelligence briefing and reviewed material concerning potential nominees for the U.S. Supreme Court. Later, he had a briefing on his visit to Europe.

Later in the day, upon arrival in Kastrup, while aboard Air Force One, the President met with Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen of Denmark. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Fredensborg, Denmark, where, at Fredensborg Palace, they participated in a greeting with Queen Margrethe II and Prince Consort Henrik of Denmark.

**July 6**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Marienborg, Denmark, where they had breakfast with Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen of Denmark and his wife, Anne-Mette Rasmussen. Later, he had a meeting with Prime Minister Rasmussen.

Later in the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Fredensborg, Denmark, where, at Fredensborg Palace, they participated in a reception followed by a

lunch with Queen Margrethe II and Prince Consort Henrik of Denmark.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Copenhagen, Denmark, where they participated in a greeting with U.S. Embassy personnel. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Prestwick, Scotland, where, upon arrival, they participated in an arrival ceremony with First Minister Jack McConnell of Scotland. Later, they traveled to Auchterarder, Scotland.

Later in the afternoon, at the Gleneagles Hotel, the President and Mrs. Bush had a meeting with musicians and activists Bob Geldof and Bono to discuss international aid to Africa.

In the evening, at the Gleneagles Hotel, the President participated in a photo opportunity with Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom. Later, he and Mrs. Bush and G-8 leaders had a dinner reception hosted by the Queen and Duke Philip of Edinburgh.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz of Pakistan to the White House on July 29.

The President announced his designation of Gordon H. Mansfield and Michael W. Marine as members of the Presidential delegation to attend the 10th Anniversary of the Normalization of U.S.-Vietnam Relations in Hanoi, Vietnam, on July 12.

The President declared a major disaster in Idaho and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area impacted by heavy rains and flooding on May 6-20.

**July 7**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, at the Gleneagles Hotel, he had a working breakfast with Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom. Later, he participated in G-8 summit meetings.

Later in the morning, the President had a briefing on the terrorist attacks in London, England. He then had a video conference with his national and homeland security advisers.

In the afternoon, at the Gleneagles Hotel, the President participated in a photo opportunity with G–8 leaders and leaders of emerging economies. Later, they had lunch.

Later in the afternoon, at the Gleneagles Hotel, the President participated in an official photo with G–8 leaders followed by G–8 summit meetings.

In the evening, at the Gleneagles Hotel, the President had a working dinner with G–8 leaders to discuss counterterrorism efforts, weapons of mass destruction, the situations in North Korea and Iran, and regional issues.

### **July 8**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, at the Gleneagles Hotel, he met with Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom.

Later in the morning, at the Gleneagles Hotel, the President participated in G–8 summit meetings.

In the afternoon, at the Gleneagles Hotel, the President participated in a photo opportunity with G–8 leaders and African leaders. Later, they had a working lunch.

Later in the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC, arriving in the evening.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Elias Antonio Saca Gonzalez of El Salvador to the White House on July 15.

The President announced his designation of the following individuals as members of the Presidential delegation to attend the 10th Anniversary of the Srebrenica Massacre in Bosnia and Herzegovina to be held on July 11: Pierre-Richard Prosper (head of delegation); Douglas L. McElhane; and Richard C. Holbrooke.

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

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NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

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

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#### **Released July 5**

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan and National Security Adviser Stephen J. Hadley

Statement by the Press Secretary: Cape Verde becoming the second African country to sign a Compact with the Millennium Challenge Corporation

#### **Released July 6**

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan and Deputy National Security Adviser Faryar Shirzad

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz of Pakistan

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Idaho

#### **Released July 7**

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy National Security Adviser Faryar Shirzad on the G–8 Meetings

#### **Released July 8**

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan and Deputy National Security Adviser Faryar Shirzad

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of President Saca of El Salvador

Statement by the Press Secretary: Condemnation of the Murder of Egypt's Chief of Mission to Iraq

Fact sheet: Accomplishments at the G–8 Summit

Fact sheet: Action on Climate Change, Energy and Sustainable Development

Fact sheet: United States and G–8 Renew Strong Commitment to Africa

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**Acts Approved  
by the President**

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NOTE: No acts approved by the President were received by the Office of the Federal Register during the period covered by this issue.