

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:48 a.m. in the General Assembly Chamber at the United Nations Headquarters. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary-General Kofi Annan of the United Nations. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

### **Remarks Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel in New York City**

*September 14, 2005*

**President Bush.** Mr. Prime Minister, thank you. I'm looking forward to our meeting. I've said several times publicly that I am inspired by your courageous decision to give peace a chance. And I know it was hard, but I admire your courage. And I look forward to talking to you about how we can get on the roadmap.

One thing is essential, and the world must hear, that now is the time for Palestinians to come together and establish a Government that will be peaceful with Israel. And the Gaza is a good chance to start, and I know that the Israeli Government wants to see that happen as well.

The world needs to help the Palestinians. The Arab neighbors need to help the Palestinians develop an economy. Now is the time for people to step up. It's an opportunity that was created by a bold decision, and I want to work together to see the vision of peace come to be.

So, Mr. Prime Minister, thank you for being here.

**Prime Minister Sharon.** Thank you. Mr. President, I'm glad to meet with you again. I'm glad that we are working together in order to achieve peace in the region.

**President Bush.** Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:22 a.m. at the United Nations Headquarters. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Remarks at the United Nations Security Council Summit in New York City**

*September 14, 2005*

Thank you, Madam President. I appreciate all the members of the Security Council for participating in this Summit. Our presence here reaffirms the seriousness of the challenges we face and our determined—determination to confront them.

We meet just over 2 months after the terror attacks in London, 1 year after the terrorist massacre of schoolchildren in Beslan, and 4 years after the terrorist attack in this city. Acts of terrorism like these emerge from a radical ideology that tolerates no dissent and justifies the murder of innocent people as the best way to achieve its goals.

Today we support a resolution sponsored by the United Kingdom that condemns the incitement of terrorist acts and calls on all states to take appropriate steps to end such incitement. I want to thank the Prime Minister and his government for their hard work on this issue. The United States of America strongly supports the implementation of this resolution.

We have a solemn obligation. We have a solemn obligation to stop terrorism in its early stages. We have a solemn obligation to defend our citizens against terrorism, to attack terrorist networks and deprive them of any safe haven, to promote an ideology of freedom and tolerance that will refute the dark vision of the terrorists.

We must do all we can to disrupt each stage of planning and support for terrorist acts. Each of us must act, consistent with past Security Council resolutions, to freeze terrorists' assets, to deny terrorists freedom of movement by using effective border controls and secure travel documents, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons, including weapons of mass destruction. Each of us must act to share information to prevent a terrorist attacks before they happen. The United States will continue to work with and through the Security Council to help all nations meet these commitments.

The United States also reaffirms its commitment to support the prevention of unjust armed conflict, particularly in Africa, which

is why we have joined Algeria, Benin, and Tanzania in cosponsoring today's second important resolution. We support the need to improve the ability of the African Union and subregional organizations to deploy both civilian and military assets to prevent such conflicts. Over the next 5 years, the United States will provide training for more than 40,000 African peacekeepers as part of a broader initiative by the G-8 countries. We will help train African forces to preserve justice and order in Africa.

Terrorism and armed conflict are not only threats to our security; they're the enemies of development and freedom for millions. To help ensure the 21st century is one of freedom, security, and prosperity—I want to thank the members of the Security Council for supporting today's resolutions.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:50 a.m. in the Security Council Chamber at the United Nations Headquarters. In his remarks, he referred to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo of the Philippines, in her capacity as President to the U.N. Security Council; and Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom.

### **Remarks at a Luncheon Hosted by Secretary-General Kofi Annan of the United Nations in New York City**

*September 14, 2005*

Mr. Secretary-General, distinguished members of the United Nations community, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, our country is honored to welcome you to New York. I'm pleased to be with you at the 60th session of the United Nations General Assembly, this year under the leadership of President Eliasson of Sweden.

We meet at a time of tragedy for this country, when citizens along our gulf coast are recovering from Hurricane Katrina. I just want you to know that Americans take comfort in knowing that we're not alone. I can't thank you enough for the outpouring of international support for our brothers and sisters who hurt. This international good will and outpouring of support reminds us there is no challenge we cannot overcome when the nations of the world unite in common.

That was the vision of the founders of the United Nations six decades ago. Our challenge is to extend this vision into the 21st century, and we need a strong United Nations to do so. The United States appreciates the commitment of Secretary-General Annan and the General Assembly and members of member states to reform the U.N. We have made a solid start. More work remains.

Our ongoing efforts together will be crucial to enable the United Nations to fulfill the promises made 60 years ago.

Mr. Secretary-General, on this important anniversary I offer a toast to you and to the United Nations: May the U.N. embody the high ideals of its founding in the years to come.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:39 p.m. in the North Delegates Lounge at the United Nations Headquarters. In his remarks, he referred to Jan Eliasson, President of the 60th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

### **Remarks at the National Dinner Celebrating 350 Years of Jewish Life in America**

*September 14, 2005*

Thank you all very much. Thanks for the warm welcome. Thanks for the invitation to be here. My only regret is Laura is not with me. I left her behind to do some diplomacy in New York City. [*Laughter*]

Bob, I want to thank you for your kind introduction. I'm honored to accept this medal commemorating three-and-a-half centuries of Jewish life in America. I consider it a high honor to have been invited to celebrate with you.

Back in 1790, the Jewish congregation of Newport, Rhode Island, wrote to congratulate George Washington on his election as the country's first President. Some say he was the first George W. [*Laughter*] In his reply, President Washington thanked the congregation and pledged to defend vigorously the principle of religious liberty for all. He declared—here's what he said. He said, the United States “gives bigotry no sanction; to persecution, no assistance.” And he expressed his hope that the “stock of Abraham” would thrive in America.