

May 21 / Administration of George W. Bush, 2001

service is one way, an honorable way, to mark your life with meaning.

Today I visit not only my alma mater but the city of my birth. My life began just a few blocks from here, but I was raised in west Texas. From there, Yale always seemed a world away, maybe a part of my future. Now it's a part of my past, and Yale, for me, is a source of great pride.

I hope that there will come a time for you to return to Yale to say that and to

feel as I do. And I hope you won't wait as long.

Congratulations, and God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:05 p.m. on the Old Campus. In his remarks, he referred to Richard C. Levin, president, and Richard H. Brodhead, dean of Yale College, Yale University; former President Ernesto Zedillo of Mexico; and Ralph Nader, 2000 Green Party Presidential candidate.

Statement on the 80th Anniversary of the Birth of Andrei Sakharov *May 21, 2001*

Today we honor the memory of Andrei Sakharov on the 80th anniversary of his birth. Throughout his life, Andrei Sakharov served as a beacon of hope and inspiration for those who value peace and freedom, both in his native Russia and around the world. A gifted nuclear physicist, he became a powerful advocate for nuclear non-proliferation. Awarded his country's highest honors, he became best known for standing up to Soviet totalitarianism and becoming a powerful advocate for basic human rights and fundamental freedoms.

He did so at great personal cost. He endured prolonged harassment and forced internal exile in Gorky, where he was cut off from friends and family. But throughout his trials, Andrei Sakharov never wavered in his "fearless personal commitment in upholding the fundamental principles for

peace"—a fact recognized by his Nobel Peace Prize citation in 1975. After he was allowed to return to public life, Sakharov became a prominent voice of democratic opposition and was elected to the Congress of People's Deputies, the Soviet Union's first democratically chosen body.

On today's anniversary, it is important for the international community to reflect on the great contributions Andrei Sakharov made to help advance the freedoms that all peoples of the world should rightfully enjoy. Unfortunately, too many people in too many parts of the world today do not enjoy these basic freedoms, and those who speak out on behalf of freedom are too often jailed, tortured, or murdered. Let us resolve to honor Andrei Sakharov's memory by continuing the struggle against these injustices.

Remarks to the Hispanic Scholarship Fund *May 22, 2001*

Thank you. Please be seated. That's a pretty tough act to follow. [Laughter] Sara and I were honored this Sunday at Notre Dame. We both received honorary degrees.

She probably deserved hers more than I deserved mine, but it was such an honor to be on the stage with her. What a wonderful lady, such a great inspiration, and