

spent on the projects that we intend them to be spent on. And that's what we did discuss.

Palestinian Authority Arrest of Hamas Terrorists

Q. Do you have any confidence that the Hamas members arrested today, sir, will stay in jail?

The President. We'll have to see. But what I said was—I said I was pleased that Chairman Arafat spoke in Arabic against terrorism. That's good. That's a positive de-

velopment. Now it's up to Chairman Arafat to perform, to keep them in jail—arrest them, and keep them in jail. In order for there to be peace, there must be—we must rout out terror. And the answer to your question, time will tell.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:25 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on the Terrorist Attack in the Russian Federation's Republic of Dagestan
May 9, 2002

The United States is saddened and angered by the deaths earlier today in an explosion during Victory Day celebrations in the town of Kaspiysk in the Russian Federation's Republic of Dagestan. Of particular concern is that this evil act of terrorism occurred on a holiday when Russia celebrates its World War II victory over fascism and at a time when our nations

are allied once again in a war against global terror. Terrorism and the killing of innocents can never be condoned or justified.

On behalf of the American people, I extend my condolences to the families of the innocent children, veterans, and others killed, and I wish a full and fast recovery for those wounded in the incident.

Remarks at a Reception for Senator Ted Stevens
May 9, 2002

Thank you all very much. I'm honored to be here with the Alaskan of the Century—just wondering which century. [Laughter] It's a high tribute to be called the Alaskan of the Century, and he's well on his way for laying the foundations to becoming the Alaskan of this century.

I really am honored to be here with Ted. I appreciate a lot about him. I appreciate he's a straightforward fellow. [Laughter] There's no question—[laughter]—you know where he stands, in the great Alaskan and,

for that matter, the great Texan tradition. There's no—as we say down home, there's no bull about him. And that's good—and that's good. That's good for the Senate; that's good for the people of Alaska; and more importantly, it's good for the United States of America. It is essential that this man be reelected Senator from the State of Alaska. And if all goes well, he'll be the President pro tem of the United States Senate as well.