

No, part of patriotism is not just to put a hand over our heart, but part of being a patriot is to serve the ideals of this country by serving something greater than yourself. I want the students here to understand that this great Nation of ours longs for peace, but we also want to practice compassion. And you can be a part of the compassionate future by helping somebody in need.

It is an honor to be here at this fine school, in this fine city, in this great State, to celebrate with millions of students all across the country the Pledge of Allegiance,

the Pledge across America. It is my honor to be here to remind people of the great ideals of the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:05 p.m. in the school's auditorium. In his remarks, he referred to Pedro Garcia, director of schools, Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools; Mayor Bill Purcell of Nashville; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on Telecommunications Payments to Cuba *September 17, 2002*

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 1705(e)(6) of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, as amended by section 102(g) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, 22 U.S.C. 6004(e)(6), I transmit herewith a semiannual report prepared by my Administration detailing payments made to Cuba by United States persons as a result of the provision of telecommuni-

cations services pursuant to Department of the Treasury specific licenses.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
September 17, 2002.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 18.

Remarks Following a Meeting With Congressional Leaders and an Exchange With Reporters *September 18, 2002*

The President. Listen, I want to thank the Vice President and the leadership of the Congress for coming down for breakfast today. We had a really good discussion about our common concerns. The leadership is committed to moving important legislation forward, legislation that will help expand our job base. We talked about the energy bill. We talked about terrorism in-

surance. We talked about the defense appropriations. We talked about the appropriations process.

We also talked about Iraq. We talked about the fact that Saddam Hussein has stiffed the United Nations for 11 long years and that, once again, he said—made some kind of statement, trying to take the pressure off of himself. This statement about