

Heidi [Heidi Pryzbyla, Bloomberg News]. Oh, sorry.

North Korea

Q. A senior administration official told us this morning that the goal with North Korea is to isolate them. What is your strategy for doing that without winding up in the same position that we were in, in 1994, with a failed agreement?

President Bush. Well, I'm glad you asked a senior administrative official. Our goal is to work with our friends in the region to convince Kim Chong-il to disarm. I made a positive step yesterday in Crawford when the President of China made a public declaration that—he said, “Like the United States, we share the desire to make sure the Korean Peninsula is nuclear weapons free.”

Right after this meeting with President Fox, I'll be meeting with the leaders of Japan and South Korea, where we'll continue this dialog. So the strategy is to make sure that our close friends and our allies and people with whom we've got relations work in concert to convince Mr. Kim Chong-il that a nuclear-weapons-free peninsula is in his interests; it's in South Korea's interests, and it is in the world's interests.

[At this point, a reporter asked a question in Spanish. President Bush and President Fox responded in Spanish, and no translation was provided.]

U.N. Resolution on Iraq

Q. For President Fox—it's the same question, basically. For President Fox, are you prepared to support the U.S. position at the U.N. and vote for a resolution authorizing force?

And for President Bush, are there any consequences for nations that don't support our position at the U.N.?

President Bush. The only consequence, of course, is with Saddam Hussein. And if the U.N. does not pass a resolution which holds him to account and that has consequences, then as I have said in speech after speech after speech, if the U.N. won't act, if Saddam Hussein won't disarm, we will lead a coalition to disarm him.

Q. President Fox?

[President Fox responded to the question in Spanish, and no translation was provided.]

NOTE: The President spoke at 11 a.m. at the Las Ventanas al Paraiso Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda of Mexico; General Secretary Kim Chong-il of North Korea; President Jiang Zemin of China; President Kim Dae-jung of South Korea; Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan; and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Joint United States-Japan-Republic of Korea Trilateral Statement
October 26, 2002

Today President George W. Bush, President Kim Dae-Jung, and Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi met to reaffirm their commitment to a peaceful Korean peninsula free of nuclear weapons.

The three leaders agreed that North Korea's program to enrich uranium for nuclear

weapons is a violation of the Agreed Framework, the Non-Proliferation Treaty, North Korea's IAEA safeguards agreement, and the South-North Joint Declaration on Denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. The three leaders called upon North Korea to dismantle this program in a prompt and

verifiable manner and to come into full compliance with all its international commitments in conformity with North Korea's recent commitment in the Japan-North Korea Pyongyang Declaration. In this context, the three leaders agreed to continue close coordination.

The three leaders stressed their commitment to resolve this matter peacefully in close consultation trilaterally and with other concerned nations around the globe.

The three leaders agreed that South-North dialogue and the opening of Japan-DPRK normalization talks can serve as important channels to call upon the North to respond quickly and convincingly to the international communities' demands for a denuclearized Korean peninsula. President Kim briefed that during the recent South-North Ministerial Meeting held in Pyongyang, the South strongly urged North Korea to take immediate action for a prompt and peaceful resolution of the nuclear issue. Prime Minister Koizumi reiterated that Japan-DPRK normalization should promote not only bilateral relations with North Korea, but also contribute to peace and stability of the region. In this regard, Prime Minister Koizumi stressed that Japan-North Korea normalization talks

would not be concluded without full compliance with the Pyongyang Declaration between Japan and North Korea, in particular with regard to the security issues, including the nuclear issue, and abduction issues. President Bush reiterated his February statement in South Korea that the United States has no intention of invading North Korea as well as the fact that he had been prepared to pursue a bold approach to transforming U.S.-DPRK relations.

The three leaders noted the potential for North Korea to benefit from greater participation as a member of the international community. However, the three leaders agreed that North Korea's relations with the international community now rest on North Korea's prompt and visible actions to dismantle its program to produce highly enriched uranium for nuclear weapons.

With a view to contributing to regional as well as international peace and stability, the three leaders reaffirmed that continued close consultations and trilateral coordination remain vital to the success of their efforts towards North Korea.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Remarks in Phoenix, Arizona October 27, 2002

Thank you all. Governor, thanks for that kind introduction. You know, it wasn't all that long ago that a lot of people were saying, "Old Matt Salmon doesn't even have a chance." A lot of the pundits here in the State of Arizona had written this good man off, but it looks like to me they might have wasted a little ink.

A lot of people were saying, "Well, he's just not going to get there." My fellow Americans and the good folks from Arizona, with your help, with your hard work, with

your turning out the vote, with your joining this good man and his good wife, Matt Salmon is going to be the next Governor of Arizona. And I am proud to be here as one of his strongest supporters.

I'm not as strong a supporter as the next first lady from Arizona. I'm proud that Nancy is here. She's going to make a great first lady. Old Matt and I married above ourselves. *[Laughter]* Laura sends her best. She sends her best regards to the Salmons. She knows what it's like to be running for