

YMCA. In his remarks, he referred to Chairman Lynn C. Swann, Vice Chairman Dorothy G. “Dot” Richardson, and Council Members Paul R. Carrozza, John P. Burke, and Dr. Teddy L. Mitchell, President’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports; Kenneth L. Gladish, national executive director and chief

executive officer, YMCA of the USA; Gov. Rick Perry of Texas; Kenneth H. Cooper, the President’s personal physician; and Andrew Simpson, youth volunteer, Lakewest Family YMCA. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Statement on the Inauguration of the Transitional Government in the Democratic Republic of the Congo *July 18, 2003*

I congratulate President Joseph Kabila and the Congolese people on the installation of the new transitional Government in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I also extend congratulations to Vice Presidents Jean-Pierre Bemba, Abdoulaye Yerodia, Azarias Ruberwa, and Z’Ahidi Ngoma. The arrival of former rebel leaders in Kinshasa and their participation with former opposition parties in the new Government is a major achievement that sets the country on a course toward peace and

democratic elections. I am confident that the Congolese people will be well served by the experience and vision these five leaders bring to these important posts.

The United States will work closely with President Kabila and the transitional Government to promote peace, prosperity, and democracy for all Congolese. I call upon neighboring countries to join us in supporting Congo’s new Government during this crucial time.

Remarks at a Bush-Cheney Reception in Dallas *July 18, 2003*

Thank you all very much. Laura and I are thrilled to be here. It is great to be home. It’s really fun for us to see a lot of our old buddies—some of our young buddies too. *[Laughter]* This is our first trip back to Texas since I got back from Africa. You may remember we were over there, and we went to a park in Botswana. That’s where we learned a lot about our party’s mascot. *[Laughter]*

I want to thank you all for your help. Thanks a lot. It means a lot to Laura and me. We love Texas, and we love our friends, and we want to thank our friends for helping us. You’re laying the foundation

for what is going to be a great victory in November of 2004.

I’m getting ready, loosening up. *[Laughter]* But I’m going to have to count on you to energize the grassroots and to make the phone calls and to put up the signs and to address the envelopes and remind everybody that our message is so positive and hopeful for every citizen of this State and this country.

The political season will come in its own time. But right now, I’m focused on the people’s business in our Nation’s Capital. I have a job to do, and we have a lot on our agenda. And I will continue to work