

Statement on Resolution of Issues Affecting the Missouri River Basin
June 25, 2004

My administration is committed to working to preserve for America's farming families their way of life in the Missouri River basin, to provide more predictability to the many users of the river, and to protect threatened and endangered species that depend on the river for habitat.

The Army Corps of Engineers and Department of the Interior have succeeded in achieving a balance among interests on the river and resolving a key element of a 15-year-old conflict. Today the agencies are announcing the restoration of the habitat of an endangered species, which is an

important milestone in ensuring that the river can remain an affordable avenue of commerce while meeting the habitat needs of the river's many species.

In addition, I am pleased that earlier this week the Federal court approved my administration's operating plan for the river, resolving years of litigation in multiple courts. The citizens who call the Missouri River home can now better plan for their future as they enjoy the many benefits and abundant wildlife that this extraordinary natural resource provides.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting Fiscal Year 2005 Budget Amendments
June 25, 2004

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed FY 2005 budget amendments for the Departments of Commerce, Health and Human Services, Justice, State, and Transportation; as well as the General Services Administration, the Election Assistance Commission, and the Federal Communications Commission. In total, these amend-

ments would not increase the discretionary budget authority proposed in my FY 2005 Budget.

The details of these proposals are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

The President's Radio Address
June 26, 2004

Good morning. This week I'm traveling to the U.S.-EU summit in Ireland, homeland to so many Irish Americans and one of the fastest growing and modern economies in the European Union. I will also be attending the NATO summit in Turkey, a proud nation that successfully blends a

European identity with secular democracy and Islamic traditions.

I will discuss with our European Allies our common struggle to defeat the forces of global terror, our common interest in the spread of prosperity, and our common

efforts to help the people of Iraq secure for themselves a future of freedom.

Next Wednesday, full sovereignty in Iraq will be in the hands of the free Iraqi people. As that day approaches, the enemies of freedom in Iraq are growing ever more desperate. Last Tuesday, a young man from South Korea, Kim Sun-il, was viciously murdered by terrorists. That coldblooded act demonstrated once again the evil nature of the enemy. Their barbaric violence is designed to destabilize Iraq's new government, intimidate the Iraqi people, and shake the will of our coalition. Yet, our will is firm. South Korean President Roh has reaffirmed his determination to send more troops to help rebuild Iraq. Iraq's leaders, in a daily display of courage, refuse to be deterred from their dream of democracy, stability, and prosperity for the Iraqi people.

The international community has a responsibility to promote the rise of a free Iraq, and it is meeting that responsibility. Today the nations of the European Union pledged their support for the new government of Iraq. Next week, at the NATO summit, we will discuss Iraqi Prime Minister Allawi's request for NATO help in training Iraq's security forces. NATO has the capability to help the Iraqi people defeat the terrorist threat facing their country. As Iraq moves toward the transfer of sovereignty next week, NATO, the European Union, and the United States are united in our determination to help the people of that nation.

The world's free nations also have a responsibility to advance the blessings of liberty that have lifted our own nations. Earlier this month, the nations of the G-8 pledged their energies and resources to working in partnership with the peoples of the broader Middle East to advance human dignity, freedom, democracy, the rule of law, and economic opportunity. The United States, the European Union, and NATO

are looking beyond the borders of Europe to support the momentum of freedom in the broader Middle East.

At these summits, we will seek to strengthen the security of our homelands from the threat of terror. We have taken steps to freeze and block terrorists' finances, make transportation safer, and improve information sharing. We will discuss ways to further improve transportation safety and border security. Travel between our nations is the lifeblood of our friendship, our economies, and our alliances, and that travel must be safe.

One important way to make the world safer is to make the world better. The United States and Europe share a fundamental interest in the health of the global economy. Our trade and investment relationship is the largest in the world. It creates millions of jobs on both sides of the Atlantic. Open trade has the power to lift nations out of poverty, so we will reaffirm our commitment to free and fair trade and the removal of obstacles to global economic growth.

We believe that freedom has the power to defeat poverty and hopelessness and ignorance. We believe the advance of freedom makes the world safer for all nations. And we believe that when free nations work together, freedom will always prevail.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:45 a.m. on June 25 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on June 26. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 25 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. In his address, the President referred to President Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea; and Prime Minister Ayad Allawi of the Iraqi interim government. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

The President's News Conference With European Union Leaders in Shannon, Ireland

June 26, 2004

Prime Minister Ahern. Ladies and gentlemen, I'd like to begin this press conference of the EU-U.S. summit here in Dromoland by welcoming President Bush to Ireland for this important summit and thank him for coming to us and for the participation with President Romano Prodi and under the Irish Presidency.

Our meeting has not only been extremely productive, I think it's, for us, also been historic, because it's the first summit between the enlarged EU of 25 and the United States. And it's also the first since we succeeded in concluding the negotiations in the European constitution last weekend.

From the outset, the transatlantic relationship has been a core focus of our Presidency, and it is my steadfast belief that a close transatlantic partnership is essential for prosperity and for growth on both sides of the Atlantic as well as for the broader international community. And I'm pleased that this summit has reaffirmed the strength, the depth, and the significance of our relationship in the spirit of partnership.

The economic relationship between the European Union, United States has been a central focus of our discussions today. It's a relationship that generates 12 million jobs on both sides of the Atlantic. We agreed at joint declaration on strengthening our economic partnership, which includes a commitment to work for successful outcome of the World Trade Organization negotiations. And we also launched a comprehensive review to maximize investment and reduce barriers to trade across the Atlantic. And the review will be concluded in time for the next summit this time next year.

We also focused on common challenges facing the European Union and the United

States, including the pressing need to promote peace in the Middle East, on how we can best work together to support the people of Iraq as they start the process of building a sovereign, secure, and democratic country. We discussed and have issued joint declarations on Iraq as well as on counterterrorism, on nonproliferation, the fight against HIV and AIDS, Sudan, and partnership with the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

So the European Union and United States share, ladies and gentlemen, a common set of values based on the unshakeable commitment to democracy, to human rights, and the rule of law. And it's these shared values which make us enduring partners, a partnership that has been fundamental to the stability and prosperity of both Europe and America over the last 50 years.

And this summit has added significantly to our close relationship, and I thank the President, and I thank President Prodi for the good work that we've done today.

Mr. President.

President Bush. Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister. Thanks for your hospitality. Thanks for doing such a great job at the EU President Prodi as well, thanks for your welcome.

Taoiseach, we—Laura and I thank you for your hospitality. And we appreciate the people of this great country for welcoming us as well.

I want to thank the people who work at this beautiful resort for their warmth and their great service. It's a wonderful place. Not only is it beautiful, but the people who work here are really fine people.

I congratulate the nations of Europe on the enlargement of your Union at 25 members. With this historic achievement you