

Statement on the Anniversary of the Birth of the Republic of Cuba May 20, 2004

On behalf of the people of the United States, I send greetings to all people of Cuban heritage who celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the Republic of Cuba.

We stand firmly with the 11 million Cubans who still suffer under the repressive Castro dictatorship, and who dream of a prosperous and free future.

The United States is working for the day when a free Cuba will rejoin the community of democracies in the Americas. We will vigorously implement the recommenda-

tions of the Commission for Assistance to a Free Cuba so that Cuba will reflect the vision of the great Cuban patriot Jose Marti: "*Con todos y para el bien de todos.*" ("With all the people and for the good of all the people.")

May God bless the Cuban people.

NOTE: The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language version of this statement.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency Protecting the Development Fund for Iraq and Certain Other Property May 20, 2004

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, as expanded in scope by Executive Order 13315 of August 28, 2003, protecting the Development Fund for Iraq and certain other property in which Iraq has an interest, is to continue in effect beyond May 22, 2004, to the *Federal Register* for publication.

The obstacles to the orderly reconstruction of Iraq, the restoration and maintenance of peace and security in the country, and the development of political, administrative, and economic institutions in Iraq

constituted by the threat of attachment or other judicial process against the Development Fund for Iraq, Iraqi petroleum and petroleum products, and interests therein, and proceeds, obligations, or any financial instruments of any nature whatsoever arising from or related to the sale or marketing thereof, pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency protecting the Development Fund for Iraq, and certain other property in which Iraq has an interest, and to maintain in force the sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
May 20, 2004.

NOTE: The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.