

us your goods and services here in America.”

And now you’ve got an administration who is saying, “Since we do that for you, you open up your markets.” I told Evans and Zoellick, “When we need to get tough with foreign nations that shut us out, get tough, because all we’re interested in is a level playing field.” That’s what we want. We want our people treated fairly.

You’ll hear people say, “Well, the best way to deal with this is to find out ways not to trade fairly, is to isolate us.” That would be terrible for small businesses. And so this administration is confident in America because we’re confident in Americans. We know we can—we’re really good. We’re really good at building things and growing things and selling things. And I intend to make sure that they have a good chance to do so, for the sake of American workers.

This economy of ours is steady and strong—it’s steady and strong. It’s steady and strong, which means people are going back to work—1.5 million jobs since last

August. That is steady growth. And it’s steady and strong because the American entrepreneur is strong and capable and willing to take risk. The entrepreneur is employing more people. The entrepreneur is investing. And the role of Government is to promote good policy that encourages the American entrepreneur.

And the other thing about the entrepreneurial spirit that is so wonderful about our country is it doesn’t matter whether you’re the fourth generation to own your business or you’re a first-generation American. Either way, you’ve got the opportunity to say, “This is my business. I own it. I’m going to nurture it and grow it and, therefore, help others to find work.” That’s the cornerstone of the Bush economic policy. And it’s working.

I’m glad you all are here. God bless your efforts, and may God continue to bless our country.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:08 a.m. in the East Room at the White House.

Statement on Signing Legislation To Provide for the Transfer of the Nebraska Avenue Naval Complex

July 2, 2004

Today I have signed into law H.R. 4322, “An Act to provide for the transfer of the Nebraska Avenue Naval Complex in the District of Columbia to facilitate the establishment of the headquarters for the Department of Homeland Security, to provide for the acquisition by the Department of the Navy of suitable replacement facilities, and for other purposes.” This legislation will allow the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to consolidate headquarters staff at the Complex for the foreseeable future.

The executive branch shall construe section 1(g)(3) of the Act, which purports to make consultation with specified Members

of Congress a precondition to execution of the law, as calling for, but not mandating, such consultation. Construing the provision as a mandate to consult would be inconsistent with constitutional provisions concerning the separate powers of the Congress to legislate and the President to execute the laws.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
July 2, 2004.

NOTE: H.R. 4322, approved July 2, was assigned Public Law No. 108–268.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Submitting Proposed Legislative Changes To Implement the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement

July 2, 2004

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

On May 18, 2004, the United States Trade Representative signed the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement on behalf of the United States. Consistent with section 2105(a)(1)(B) of the Trade Act of 2002, I am submitting a description of the changes to existing laws, prepared by my Administration, that would be required to bring the United States into compliance with that agreement.

I look forward to working with the Congress in developing legislation to implement this free trade agreement with an important economic partner and close ally.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

Statement on the Death of Marlon Brando

July 2, 2004

With the passing of Marlon Brando, America has lost a great actor of the stage and screen. His award-winning performances in films such as “On the Waterfront” and “The Godfather” demonstrated his outstanding talent and entertained millions

across the country. Marlon Brando was one of the 20th century’s finest actors and will be missed by his many fans and admirers. Laura and I send our prayers and condolences to his family and friends.

The President’s Radio Address

July 3, 2004

Good morning. As Americans gather this weekend to celebrate the Fourth of July, we can take pride in our country’s great history and look to the future with confidence. America remains a shining example to the world of all that free people can achieve. And our goal as a nation is to make sure that all Americans can share in the promise of our country.

Our economy is showing steady progress. We’ve completed our 10th consecutive month of job creation. We added 112,000 jobs in June and have added more than

1.5 million new jobs since last August. The unemployment rate has steadily declined to 5.6 percent, from 6.3 percent a year ago. With more jobs and lower unemployment, we are seeing rising consumer confidence, higher incomes, continued gains in the rate of homeownership, and a restored sense of opportunity.

Our strengthening economy is a tribute to millions of American entrepreneurs and workers. By their hard work and optimism, our Nation has overcome recession, terrorist attack, corporate scandals, and the