

Because of their sacrifice and the help of brave Allies, that truth prevailed at the close of the 20th century.

As the 21st century unfolds before us, Americans and Europeans are continuing to work together and are bringing freedom and hope to places where it has long been denied, in Afghanistan, in Iraq, in Lebanon, and across the broader Middle East. Freedom is a permanent hope of mankind, and when that hope is made real for all people, it will be because of the sacrifices of a new generation of men and women as selfless and dedicated to liberty as those we honor today.

May God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:09 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to Queen Beatrix and Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende of the Netherlands; Mayor H.J.G. (Harrie) van Beers of Margraten, the Netherlands; Gen. James L. Jones, USMC, NATO's Supreme Allied Commander, Europe; Gen. Frederick M. Franks, Jr., USA (Ret.), Chairman, American Battle Monuments Commission; and Frank Schwind, Superintendent, Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial. The National Observance of the 60th Anniversary of the End of World War II proclamation of May 3 is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Statement on the Death of Lloyd Cutler *May 8, 2005*

Laura and I are saddened by the passing of Lloyd Cutler. Lloyd Cutler served our Nation with dedication and distinction throughout his extraordinary career, including as Counsel and adviser to President Carter and President Clinton, and most re-

cently on the Commission on weapons of mass destruction. He was a devoted public servant who had a profound influence on the legal profession. Laura and I extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With President Vladimir Putin of Russia in Moscow, Russia *May 8, 2005*

President Putin. Mr. President, allow me to cordially welcome you to Moscow. I'd like to thank you for having decided to visit Moscow to participate in the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, giving confirmation by that fact to the immense role played by the United States, Soviet Union, and Russian Federation in the victory over nazism.

Tomorrow we'll be pleased to receive our guests of ours, but the visit by the President of the United States is of special im-

portance. On top of that, even today, we've enjoyed a very large volume of cooperation between our countries. And I hope that this cooperation will be helpful to us in addressing our domestic problems in both countries.

And I'm aware of the fact that you currently are confronted with immense tasks with respect to social sphere. [*Laughter*] So if we are very positive in addressing those energy-related and security-related