

we've got a very important relationship. We value your advice, and we value the strategic relationship we've built. So thanks—thanks again for hosting this.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:16 p.m. at the Busan Marriott. President Putin spoke in Russian, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Statement on House of Representatives Passage of Legislation To Reduce Federal Spending

November 18, 2005

I applaud the Republican Members of the House who passed a significant savings package that will restrain spending and keep us on track to cut the deficit in half by 2009. We will continue to fund our priorities in a fiscally responsible way and en-

sure that taxpayer money is spent wisely or not spent at all. I urge the House and Senate to reach agreement promptly on a spending-reduction package that I can sign into law this year.

Remarks to United States Troops at Osan, South Korea

November 19, 2005

Thank you all. Thank you all very much. Please be seated—unless you don't have a seat. [*Laughter*] Laura and I are so honored to be here. We thought we'd stop by and feel the thunder and the fury of the Mustangs. Thanks for greeting us. It's a privilege to stand with the brave men and women of the 51st Fighter Wing and the 7th Air Force. Our citizens are safer because you're ready to fight tonight. You're serving the cause of liberty on distant frontiers, and I bring a message from home: Your Commander in Chief is proud of you, and so is the American people.

For half a century, American service men and women have stood faithful and vigilant watch here in Korea. You've kept the peace, and you secured the freedom won at great cost in the Korean war. You've ensured that no American life was lost in vain. In five decades, since Task Force Smith first landed at Pusan, the world has watched America's steadfast and unwavering commitment to freedom.

Three years of war made America and Korea enduring allies in the struggle for liberty. And five decades of sacrifice by the men and women of our Armed Forces secured peace and democracy on this peninsula. And the world is better off for it. Your courage has brought stability to the region, freedom to millions, and honor to the uniform. Our Nation is grateful for your service—your service for freedom and peace.

The Republic of Korea is now a beacon of liberty that shines across the most heavily armed border in the world. It is a light reaching to a land shrouded in darkness. Together the United States and the Republic of Korea have shown that the future belongs to freedom, and one day, all Koreans will enjoy the blessings of freedom.

I'm proud to be traveling with the First Lady, Laura Bush, and the Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice. I thank General LaPorte and his wife, Judy. I want to thank