

The revised request for the Department of Defense will support the deployment, in coordination with the Governors, of up to 6,000 National Guard members to the southern border. There, they will assist the Border Patrol by operating surveillance systems, building infrastructure, analyzing intelligence, and providing training until new Border Patrol agents and technologies come online. The request increases funding for training and other assistance for State and local authorities to support the Border Patrol on targeted enforcement missions. The request for the Department of Justice

will provide additional resources for the prosecution and adjudication of illegal immigration cases.

I designate these proposals in the amounts requested herein as an emergency requirement. I urge the Congress to act expeditiously to address the security needs along the Nation's borders.

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

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

## Message on the Observance of Cuban Independence Day, 2006 *May 18, 2006*

I send greetings to those celebrating the 104th anniversary of Cuban Independence.

The hope of freedom is found in every heart, and it is the future of every land. The United States is committed to advancing the values that sustain liberty and helping establish a just and peaceful government in Cuba. On this anniversary of Cuba's independence, we look forward to the day when Cuba embraces democracy and human rights for all her people.

This anniversary also is an opportunity to recognize the generations of Cuban

Americans who have contributed to the vitality, success, and prosperity of our great Nation. Through their devotion to faith, family, and freedom, they have helped make our country stronger and better.

Laura and I send our best wishes. May God bless the people of Cuba.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 19. An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

## Remarks on American Competitiveness in Highland Heights, Kentucky *May 19, 2006*

*The President.* Thanks. Please be seated. Geoff, thanks for the introduction. He said I was the last sitting President—the last sitting President to be here before me was a Texan. [*Laughter*] I don't know what took the other ones so long to get here—[*laughter*—but I'm proud to be here; particularly proud to be in NKU, Northern Kentucky

University. Thank you very much for letting me come by.

It's a good place to come to, to make sure that America understands we don't need to fear the future because we can shape it. That's what I want to talk to you about today, is the need for the United States of America to remain the leader of