

is going to be the honorary [general]\* chairman. My friend Mike Duncan from Kentucky is going to be the chairman. And Jo Ann Davidson is going to be the cochairman.

I want to thank you all very much for agreeing to serve our party. I do want to say that Ken Mehlman did a whale of a job as the chairman of the Republican Party. It's been a joy working with you. I appreciate the fact that you went to neighborhoods where Republicans have never been to talk to people about our message of ownership and hope. And I wish you all the very best.

One of the things I like to tell my friends about the Republican Party is that we're a party that really believes in entrepreneurship and small businesses and good-quality education and accountability. And Mel Martinez represents what I believe our party stands for, and that is, his parents put him on a plane to come to the United States from Cuba because they love freedom. That was Mel's first taste for the beauty of liberty and freedom. And he worked hard, started with little, and ended up being here, the United States Senator from Florida and the honorary chairman

of our party. He's going to be an excellent spokesman for the Republican Party. He'll be a person who'll be able to carry our message as we go into an important year in 2008.

And Duncan has been involved with grassroots politics for a long period of time. He comes from a Democrat State that is now a Republican State because he understands that you win votes by organizing and turning out the vote. And of course, Jo Ann has been around our party for years. And she brings a lot of stability and a lot of common sense.

And so I do want to thank you three. I'm looking forward to working with you. I'm looking forward to reminding the people that we've got plans to keep the country secure and keep our prosperity strong. And once again, I want to thank you for your service.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:17 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

## Message to the Senate Transmitting the Malaysia-United States Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters

*November 14, 2006*

*To the Senate of the United States:*

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Treaty between the United States of America and Malaysia on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, signed on July 28, 2006, at Kuala Lumpur. I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, the report of the De-

partment of State with respect to the Treaty.

The Treaty is one of a series of modern mutual legal assistance treaties being negotiated by the United States in order to counter criminal activities more effectively. The Treaty should enhance our ability to investigate and prosecute a wide variety of crimes. The Treaty is self-executing.

---

\* White House correction.

The Treaty provides for a broad range of cooperation in criminal matters. Under the Treaty, the Parties agree to assist each other by, among other things: providing evidence (such as testimony, documents, items, or things) obtained voluntarily or, where necessary, by compulsion; arranging for persons, including persons in custody, to travel to the other country to provide evidence; serving documents; executing searches and seizures; locating and identifying persons, items, or places; examining

objects and sites; freezing and forfeiting assets or property; and identifying or tracing proceeds of crime.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty, and give its advice and consent to ratification.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,  
November 14, 2006.

### Statement on the Upcoming State Visit of Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh *November 15, 2006*

Laura and I welcome Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, for a state visit in May 2007 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown Settlement. The United States and the United Kingdom enjoy an extraordinary

friendship that is sustained by deep historical and cultural ties and a commitment to defend freedom around the world. We look forward to Her Majesty's state visit as an occasion to celebrate these enduring bonds.

### Letter to Congressional Leaders Certifying Exports to the People's Republic of China *November 15, 2006*

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

In accordance with the provisions of section 1512 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105-261), I hereby certify that the export to the People's Republic of China of the following items is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry and that the material and equipment, including any indirect technical benefit that could be derived from such exports, will not measurably improve the missile or space launch capabilities of the People's Republic of China:

- Twelve Honeywell model HG1138 inertial measurement units to be incorporated into oil pipeline inspection equipment by the United Kingdom firm PII Group.

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. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 16.