

and how, perhaps, the United States can help foster the market economy that is growing here.

I must tell you, I am, first of all, unbelievably grateful for the welcome that Laura and I have been received with here in Ho Chi Minh City; I've never seen as many people line the streets with such a friendly attitude. Secondly, when I read about the recent economic history of Vietnam, I am amazed at the size of the growth and the fact that are people are beginning to realize

dreams. I recognize that some of you here at the table were born in Vietnam, came to the United States in the midseventies, and have decided to return. And I'm really interested in hearing what that has been like and the contrast in lifestyles and why you made the decisions you made.

And I do want to hear from you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:15 a.m. at the Ho Chi Minh City Securities Trading Center.

Remarks Following a Tour of the Pasteur Institute in Ho Chi Minh City *November 20, 2006*

Laura and I are honored to be here at the center of an effort to help Vietnam battle HIV/AIDS. And, doctor, thank you for this wonderful tour. We've got a comprehensive strategy involved through our PEPFAR program with the country. We've got a very strong mother-to-child transmission program to prevent the children from developing HIV/AIDS.

The doctor has been explaining to us their strategy on how to detect HIV/AIDS not only in the cities but in the Provinces.

And part of our comprehensive strategy to help this country is to distribute antiretroviral drugs.

Laura and I have come by to thank the doctor and her staff for their compassionate work and to assure the Vietnamese people that we will still help them fight HIV/AIDS.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:29 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to Nguyen Thi Kim Tien, director, Pasteur Institute.

Remarks in a Discussion With Civic Leaders in Bogor, Indonesia *November 20, 2006*

Mr. President, thank you very much. Thank you all for joining. I'm really looking forward to this discussion. I admire Indonesia's pluralism and its diversity. I admire your President's commitment to reform and strengthening democracy. It's very important for the people of America to understand that this vast country has got not only tremendous potential, but it's got a prominent role to play in the world—showing how it's possible for people of good

will to live together in peace and harmony. And that's the lesson I want to hear from you all as well. I'm looking forward to our discussion.

I cannot thank you enough for taking time out of your busy day to come up here and share thoughts with us. I'm very interested in learning how our Government can continue to work with your Government, as it so chooses, to help, particularly in areas like education and health.

And so with that, Mr. President, thank you very much for setting this up. I appreciate the opportunity to meet some of your fine citizens. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:35 p.m. at Bogor Palace. In his remarks, he referred to President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono of Indonesia.

Remarks Following a Meeting With President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono of Indonesia and an Exchange With Reporters in Bogor
November 20, 2006

President Yudhoyono. Your Excellency, President Bush, members of the press, allow me to speak in Bahasa Indonesia.

[At this point, President Yudhoyono continued his remarks in Bahasa Indonesia, and they were translated by an interpreter as follows.]

President Yudhoyono. Ladies and gentlemen, today we have received a visit of President Bush, who has come here to increase our cooperation and friendship between Indonesia and the United States. And we just discussed a number of agenda in order to improve—increase our relations.

In the bilateral meeting, I expressed my thanks for the cooperation and assistance given by the United States to Indonesia in the field of economics, investment, trade, education, health, technology, military, and so on. I also expressed thanks for the U.S. assistance, and also other countries, during the Aceh tsunami and also, more recently, during the earthquake in Yogyakarta and central Java, which shows solidarity and cooperation between the two countries.

After that, we discussed in detail a number of cooperation in our agenda. We discussed health cooperation, especially on how to fight avian flu and other infectious diseases, which are found in the tropical areas, especially in Indonesia.

On education, we already have a good cooperation, and we will continue this cooperation and hope this cooperation will be continued between Indonesia and the U.S. as part of our educational agenda.

We also discussed energy, and we spent time discussing bioenergy fuels. And I'm glad that President Bush has said that he would share technology in other matters relating to development of alternative energy.

Lastly, we discussed how to deal with natural disasters, especially on how to build an early warning system in Indonesia. I expressed my appreciation to the assistance given by the United States Government, and we also cooperate also with other countries on building this early warning system.

We also discussed a number of international issues, global issues, such as the situation in the Middle East, the situation in North Korea, Iraq, and also Palestine. And of course, we agree on the need to find a solution to these issues.

After the discussions, we had a meeting with civic leaders, and we discussed all the things that we discussed earlier in the bilateral meeting, especially on how to improve the quality of life and how to make Indonesia-U.S. partnership—contribute to improving this quality of life.

The discussions were open, frank, constructive, sometimes critical, and what is important is that we tried to discuss cooperation on how to make Indonesia-U.S. relations touch on the lives of our people.

President Bush. Mr. President, thank you very much. Thanks for the invitation to come back to your beautiful country. Laura and I are thrilled to be here, and we're looking forward to our dinner tonight with you and your wife and your delegation. You