

The United States and Japan recognize the value of our bilateral High-Level Consultations on Climate Change and will enhance, strengthen, and streamline that dialog. The United States will send a delegation of senior-level officials to Japan before

the G8 Summit in June to discuss further implementation of this statement.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Statement on North Korea Freedom Week *April 27, 2007*

I send greetings to all those observing North Korea Freedom Week. Those living in North Korea regrettably know firsthand the meaning of deprivation of freedom. I have met in the Oval Office with some of the courageous few who have managed to escape from the country. I have heard firsthand accounts of their suffering in North Korea and of their dangerous journeys to freedom. And I have seen how they now live in freedom's light. We will continue to strengthen our commitment to

bring freedom to all repressed peoples. I believe the 21st century will be freedom's century for all Koreans. One day every citizen of that peninsula will live in dignity, freedom, and prosperity at home and in peace with their neighbors abroad. Until that day comes, we will not rest in our efforts to support the North Korean people as they strive to achieve the rights and freedoms to which they are entitled as human beings.

The President's Radio Address *April 28, 2007*

Good morning. This weekend I am traveling to Florida to address the graduating class of Miami Dade College. This college serves one of our Nation's most vibrant and diverse communities. Miami is home to people whose families have been in our country for generations and to people who have only just arrived. This diversity is one of the great strengths of that city, and it is one of the great strengths of our country.

The opportunities America offers make our land a beacon of hope for people from every corner of the world. America's ability to assimilate new immigrants has set us apart from other nations. In this country, our origins matter less than our dreams. What makes us Americans is our shared belief in democracy and liberty. Our Nation

now faces a critical challenge: to build an immigration system that upholds these ideals and meets America's needs in the 21st century.

In Washington, we are in the midst of an important discussion about immigration. Our current immigration system is in need of reform. We need a system where our laws are respected. We need a system that meets the legitimate needs of our economy. And we need a system that treats people with dignity and helps newcomers assimilate into our society.

We must address all elements of this problem together or none of them will be solved at all. And we must do it in a way that learns from the mistakes that caused

previous reforms to fail. So I support comprehensive immigration reform that will allow us to secure our borders and enforce our laws, keep us competitive in the global economy, and resolve the status of those already here, without amnesty and without animosity.

I know convictions run deep on the matter of immigration. Yet I am confident we can have a serious, civil, and conclusive debate. My administration is working closely with Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle. We are addressing our differences in good faith, and we are working to build consensus. And I am pleased that some of those who had doubts about comprehensive reform last year are now open to supporting it.

There is a desire on the part of Republicans and Democrats alike to get this problem solved. And by working together, we

can enact comprehensive immigration reform this year.

Our Nation deserves an immigration system that secures our borders and honors our proud history as a nation of immigrants. By working together, we will enforce our laws and ensure that America forever remains a land of opportunity and a great hope on the horizon.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 5:40 p.m. on April 26 in the Map Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on April 28. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 27, but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Commencement Address at Miami Dade College—Kendall Campus in Miami, Florida *April 28, 2007*

Thank you all. Thank you all very much. Thank you very much, Mr. President. You're on your way. [Laughter] Christopher, thank you for your fine introduction. I know your—see your mom over there. I know she's awfully proud of you. [Laughter] Dr. Padron; Dr. Gray; members of the board of trustees; members of the administration; faculty and staff; former Governor Bush—always *mi hermano*—[laughter]—Senator Martinez; Congressman Lincoln Diaz-Balart; *y tambien* Mario Diaz-Balart; proud alumni, especially Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen; distinguished guests; family, friends, and members of the class of 2007: Thank you for your warm welcome, and thank you for the honor of addressing you.

This is a joyous day for the graduating class at Miami Dade College. Yet on cam-

puses across America, our thoughts turn to the students and faculty and staff at Virginia Tech. We remember lives cut short, teachers taken from their students, and young men and women who will never attend their commencement ceremonies. Members of the Miami-Dade community share this sense of loss. One of the young victims was a former Miami Dade student who transferred to Virginia Tech, Daniel Cueva. Daniel's family knows, or should know, that we pray for them today, and we offer our comfort to the families who grieve the loss of a loved one during this commencement season.

It's always a pleasure to be back here to Miami, and I thank Dr. Padron for asking me. It hasn't escaped my attention that