

next 2 days to seeing at firsthand something of how the cutting edge of science and technology can take us to the next phases of discovery and exploration in human endeavor.

Mr. President, thank you for inviting Prince Philip and me to visit your country, to share in the commemoration of the Jamestown anniversary, and to have this opportunity to underline the extent of our

friendship, past, present, and future. It is indeed a pleasure for us to be here in Washington again and to be welcomed back to the White House.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:07 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House where the Queen was accorded a formal welcome with full military honors.

Remarks at a State Dinner Honoring Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom May 7, 2007

President Bush. Your Majesty and Your Royal Highness, distinguished guests: Laura and I offer you a warm welcome to the White House. We are really glad you're here.

Tonight is the fourth state dinner held in Your Majesty's honor here at the White House. On previous such occasions, you've been welcomed by President Eisenhower, President Ford, and another President named Bush. [*Laughter*] Over your long reign, America and Britain have deepened our friendship and strengthened our alliance.

Our alliance is rooted in the beliefs that we share. We recognize that every individual has dignity and matchless value. We believe that the most effective governments are those that hold themselves accountable to their people. And we know that the advance of freedom is the best hope for lasting peace in our world.

Based on our common values, our two nations are working together for the common good. Together, we are supporting young democracies in Iraq and Afghanistan. Together, we're confronting global chal-

lenges such as poverty and disease and terrorism. And together, we're working to build a world in which more people can enjoy prosperity and security and peace.

Friendships remain strong when they are continually renewed, and the American people appreciate Your Majesty's commitment to our friendship. We thank you for helping us celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement. We're confident that Anglo-American friendship will endure for centuries to come.

So, on behalf of the American people, I offer a toast to Your Majesty, to Your Royal Highness, and to our staunch allies, the valiant people of the United Kingdom.

Queen Elizabeth II. Thank you very much, indeed.

President Bush. Your turn, Your Majesty.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:10 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Queen Elizabeth II.

Remarks Following a Meeting With President Rene Garcia Preval of Haiti May 8, 2007

President Bush. I appreciate very much the President of Haiti joining us here in the Oval Office. Mr. President, welcome. I thank you for your courage. I thank you for having one of the toughest jobs in the world, and that is to bring prosperity and security to your country.

While there is still a lot of work to be done, there's progress being made on a variety of fronts. The security situation is improving somewhat, and the United States supports the U.N. mission in Haiti. The economy is improving, inflation is down, exports are up. Yet there's still a lot of work to be done. And, Mr. President, I praise your efforts on establishing rule of law and routing out corruption. And the United States wants to help you.

The United States is proud to support the men and women of Haiti in a variety of ways. One among the most notable programs and one of which I'm particularly proud is our PEPFAR program, the program to help deal with HIV/AIDS. The President mentioned other ways that we can help in fighting drugs, drug traffickers. I was particularly pleased that he brought up the idea of helping the education system in Haiti. And I have instructed Secretary Rice, along with our Ambassador, to work with the Government, see if we can help.

And finally, the President was very concerned about the status of Haitians who are here in America. I assured him that I am working hard to get a comprehensive immigration bill passed out of the Congress this year. As a man who cares deeply about the people of Haiti, it's—I am pleased that he has expressed his concerns. And I think, Mr. President, with hard work and good will, we can get a bill that will satisfy your concerns.

We welcome you. Thanks for coming.

President Preval. I thank President Bush for his invitation. And this was a chance

for me to describe to him our situation and the expectations of the Haitian people.

The purpose of this mission was to explain the situation in Haiti, and President Bush noted with interest the points that were raised. I'm not going to come back to them right now, but I would like to thank the United States for the fraternal aid it has given Haiti. And I would particularly like to thank President Bush for the HOPE bill and for the efforts made for its reinforcing the judicial system, the police force, and also to help strengthen the Haitian State.

I also took this chance to express my condolences to President Bush and to the American people for the tragedy that we've been through in Kansas. Each time someone suffers, we all suffer. And I would like to ask President Bush to transmit in my name and in the name of the Haitian people our condolences to the American people.

Peace has been restored, and the conditions for investment are here. Haiti is awaiting American investors. We've opened a campaign to fight against corruption and contraband so that all can be on a level playing field and for conditions for competition to be right. Therefore, investors will not have to fear in terms of security or corruption, and they can come to Haiti, because what we need in Haiti are jobs.

And I would also like to thank the President for his in—assistance in the fight against the plague, which is the drug trade. Drugs in Haiti represent a force, and Haiti alone cannot fight against the drug trade. It always weakens the state and corrupts the state. And it doesn't—the drug trade does not function well with a strong state or a healthy state. It tries to corrupt the police force; it tries to corrupt the judiciary and the executive. And drug trafficking thrives in a weak state. Drug traffickers