

the “Flame of Hope,” which symbolizes the dreams of millions.

One of the athletes who is going to carry the torch today is Karen Dickerson. Karen is a tireless advocate for her fellow athletes. She’s what we’d call a fierce competitor. In the 2003 World Games in Ireland, Karen was told that she had a stress fracture in her leg. Yet through sheer will-power, she won the bronze medal. She has since run two Marine Corps Marathons. In the Boston Marathon this April, she finished in the top 10 percent of all women.

I want to thank you for being here. Karen should serve as an inspiration for a lot of folks in our country. You’re a true champ, just like every other Special Olympian that has joined us today and the millions who will be in Shanghai later on. Your success is best measured not by the medals you win but the kind of courage you show.

You follow your dreams, you never gave up, and you’ve shown us what the Olympic spirit is all about.

And so we send you to the World Games with our love and our prayers. We ask that you carry the greetings of the American people with you when you go to Shanghai and our wish for a world—and that you remind the people that our wish for our world is a more welcoming, more hopeful, and more peaceful place.

God bless you all, and good luck.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to President Hu Jintao of China. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary included the remarks of the First Lady, who introduced the President.

Memorandum on the 2007 Combined Federal Campaign *July 26, 2007*

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: 2007 Combined Federal Campaign

Admiral Thad W. Allen, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, has agreed to serve as the Honorary National Chairman of the 2007 Combined Federal Campaign. I ask you to enthusiastically support the CFC by personally chairing the campaign in your agency and by exhorting top agency officials around the country to do the same.

The Combined Federal Campaign is an important way for Federal employees to support thousands of worthy charities. Public servants not only contribute to the campaign but also assume leadership roles to ensure its success.

Your personal support and enthusiasm will help positively influence thousands of employees and will guarantee another successful campaign.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Remarks Following a Meeting With Economic Advisers on the National Economy *July 27, 2007*

I want to thank my economic advisers for joining me here in the Cabinet. Today

we’ve had wide-ranging discussions about

a lot of aspects of our economy. I appreciate the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Treasury, and others for giving me their opinions about the events of today.

And what they're saying—one of the important pieces of data that I've been briefed on is the fact that our economy grew at 3.4 percent in the second quarter of this year. Inherent in that growth is a free-enterprise system that provides incentives for people to take risk and to grow their businesses. And it's an economy that is large and flexible and resilient.

One of the interesting aspects of this economic growth is that we have benefited from increased exports. In other words, U.S. farmers and small-business owners and manufacturers have found markets overseas for our products, products grown right here or built right here in the United States. And by selling those products overseas, it's contributed to the strong second quarter growth.

And when we are able to sell products overseas or goods and services overseas, it means that Americans are more likely to find a job here in America. The job growth

has been strong, and that's what you'd expect when your economy is strong and resilient and flexible. People are working; the unemployment rate is down; wages are increasing.

And so I want the American people to take a good look at this economy of ours. The world is strong—the world economy is strong. I happen to believe one of the main reasons why is because we remain strong. And my pledge to the American people is, we will keep your taxes low to make sure the economy continues to remain strong, and we'll be wise about how we spend your money here in Washington, DC. I've submitted a budget that will be in balance by 2012, and I look forward to working with Congress to achieve that goal.

Anyway, thank you all for coming. I appreciate you briefing me.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:46 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Remarks on Presenting the National Medals of Science and Technology *July 27, 2007*

Thank you all. Please be seated. Thank you. Good afternoon. Welcome to the White House. It's an honor to welcome some of our country's most gifted and accomplished citizens. I appreciate your work on behalf of our Nation. I congratulate you on this achievement, and I look forward to presenting you the National Medals of Science and Technology.

I welcome your families, and I welcome your friends. I also welcome the Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice. Madam Secretary, thank you for joining us today. Secretary of Commerce, Carlos Gutierrez, Mr.

Secretary, Dr. Jack Marburger, who is the Director of Office of Science and Technology Policy, Dr. Marburger; Dr. Arden Bement, Director of the National Science Foundation—Arden, thank you for coming. I welcome the representatives from the National Science Foundation who have joined us, members of the Board from the National Science and Technology Medals Foundation. Our awardees have got to be thanking you as well. *[Laughter]* I thank Dr. Zerhouni, Director of the National Institute of Health. Thanks for coming, doc;