

enterprises like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to help American families find the mortgage product that works best for them.

Finally, the Federal Government is working to make the mortgage industry more transparent and more reliable and more fair so we can reduce the likelihood that homeowners will face similar problems in the future. Federal banking regulators are strengthening lending standards and making mortgages easier to understand. My administration is working on new rules to help our consumers compare and shop for loans that meet their budgets and needs. We are committed to pursuing fraud and wrongdoing in the mortgage industry.

Homeownership has always been part of the American Dream. During my adminis-

tration, we've achieved record homeownership rates. We'll continue to work hard to keep our housing market strong, to ensure that American families can afford the homes they buy, and to help bring the dignity and security that comes with homeownership to more of our citizens.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 11 a.m. on August 31 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on September 1. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 31, but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

## Statement on the Situation at the Crandall Canyon Mine in Huntington, Utah

*September 1, 2007*

Since August 6, Americans have followed the fate of six miners trapped in a Utah mine. We have prayed for their safety, asked God to comfort their families, and witnessed the unwavering commitment of their community. Our hearts broke when three brave rescue workers gave their own lives in the search for the missing miners.

The people of the central Utah mining community have inspired us all with their incredible strength and courage in the face of tremendous loss. Last night a difficult decision was made to end the search. Laura and I are deeply saddened by this tragedy and continue to pray for the families of these men.

## Remarks Following a Meeting With Iraqi Leaders at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq

*September 3, 2007*

*[The President's remarks were joined in progress.]*

—as reinforcements. And together with the brave Iraqis, we've gone into Al Qaida strongholds and have driven them out.

Today, Anbar is a really different place. The level of violence is down, local govern-

ments are meeting again, police are more in control of the city streets, and normal life is returning. The people of this Province are seeing that standing up to the extremists is the path to a better life, that success is possible. And soon I'm going to meet with some of the leaders here in Anbar Province who have made a decision