

every firetruck in Montreal, Canada. I remember children kneeling in silent prayer outside our Embassy in Seoul. I remember baseball players in Japan observing moments of silence. I remember a sign handwritten in English at a candlelight vigil in Beijing that read, "Freedom and justice will not be stopped."

The bonds of unity we felt then remain today, and they will always remain. Long after this crisis has passed, the United States of America will stay engaged in this region. We will continue working with our partners to build an Asia-Pacific where people can work and worship and trade in free-

dom, where children grow up with hope and pursue their dreams, and where thriving, prosperous nations continue to inspire the world.

Thanks for letting me come by. *Que Dios le bendiga.* God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:48 a.m. at the Ministry of Defense Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to Ricardo Rizo Patron de la Piedra, vice president, Cementos Lima, who introduced the President; and President Alvaro Uribe Velez of Colombia.

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With President Dmitry A. Medvedev of Russia in Lima

November 22, 2008

President Bush. It's an interesting moment because I've had a lot of meetings with Dmitry and Vladimir Putin. This will be my last meeting as the sitting President with the leader of Russia. We've had our agreements; we've had our disagreements. I've tried to work hard to make it a cordial relationship though, so that when we need to work together we can and when we disagree we're able to do so in a way that is respectful to our two nations.

I thank you for coming by today and appreciate your time.

President Medvedev. Thank you very much, George. And in general, though we do have points of agreements and those

points of real differences, positions, we are prepared for the continuous work. And I view that, in general, our work was successful.

President Bush. Thank—[laughter].

[At this point, President Bush's remarks were translated by an interpreter.]

President Bush. Thank you. *Spasibo.*

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:34 p.m. at the JW Marriott Hotel Lima. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Vladimir V. Putin of Russia. President Medvedev spoke in Russian, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Statement on the Situation in Zimbabwe

November 22, 2008

Nearly 8 months have passed since the Zimbabwean people voted for a new President, yet they still are governed by an ille-

gitimate regime that continues to suppress democratic voices and basic human rights.