

what they think and choose who shall govern them.

The sanctions our Government enforces against the Castro regime are not just a policy tool; they're a moral statement. My administration will oppose any attempt to weaken sanctions against Cuba's Government until the regime—and I will fight such attempts until this regime frees its political prisoners, holds democratic, free elections, and allows for free speech.

The policy of our Government is not merely to isolate Castro but to actively support those working to bring about democratic change in Cuba. And that is why we will support legislation like the "Cuban Solidarity Act" and the "Cuban Internal Opposition Assistance Act." History tells us that forcing change upon repressive regimes requires patience. But history also proves, from Poland to South Africa, that patience and courage and resolve can eventually cause oppressive governments to fear and then to fall.

One of the surest ways to foster freedom is to give people unlimited access to unbiased information. The strongest walls of oppression can't stand when the floodgates of modern telecommunications are opened. We must explore ways to expand access to the Internet for the average Cuban citizen. And we must strengthen the voices of Radio and TV Marti, with strong leadership. And we will strengthen those voices with strong leadership and new direction.

Today I say this to Mr. Castro: If you are confident your ideas are right, then stop jamming the broadcasts of those whose ideas are different. And until you do, we will look for ways to use new technology, from new locations to counter your silencing of the voices of liberty.

Last month the U.N. Human Rights Commission called on Castro's regime to respect the basic human rights of all its people. The United States leadership was responsible for passage of that resolution. Some say we paid a heavy price for it. But let me be clear: I'm very proud of what we did. And repressed people around the world must know this about the United States: We might not sit on some Commission, but we will always be the world's leader in support of human rights.

Today, all our citizens are proud to stand with all Cubans and all Cuban-Americans who love freedom. We will continue to stand with you until that day, hopefully not in the too-distant future, when all Cubans breathe the heady air of liberty.

We are proud to stand with those Cubans who, today, enrich our Nation with their energies and industry. We're proud to stand with the farmers and workers of Cuba who dream of liberty's blessings. We are proud to stand, too, with those who are suffering and dying in jails because they had the courage to speak the truth.

Y aquí en este Casa Blanca, estamos felices de cultivar "una rosa blanca en Julio como en Enero." Y por fin, viva Cuba libre.

Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:30 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Mel R. Martinez; Representatives Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Lincoln Diaz-Balart; entertainers Gloria and Emilio Estefan; poet Angel Cuadra; musician Lizebet Martinez; singer Jon Secada; and President Fidel Castro of Cuba. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

May 19, 2001

Good morning. This week I outlined a new energy strategy for our Nation—more than 100 specific recommendations to promote energy conservation, enlarge and diversify our energy supply, and modernize the networks that link energy producers to energy consumers.

We need to act to protect family budgets. Since 1998, the energy bill of the average family has skyrocketed by 25 percent. That's a hardship for every family. We need to act to prevent more and more widespread blackouts. Blackouts disrupt businesses and put public health and safety at risk. We need to act to reduce our reliance on foreign crude oil. And if we fail to act, our environment will suffer, as Government officials struggle to prevent blackouts in the only way possible, by calling on more polluting emergency

backup generators and by running less efficient old powerplants too long and too hard. So we will act to protect our economy and to safeguard our environment.

Too often Americans are asked to take sides between energy production and environmental protection. The truth is, energy production and environmental protection are not competing priorities. Both can be achieved with new technology and a new vision.

Most of the new electric powerplants we build over the next 20 years will be fueled by clean and safe natural gas. Many of the others will be powered by wind, solar, hydropower, nuclear, and other energy sources that emit no pollution at all. New cars emit 95 percent less pollution than cars built 30 years ago. And my energy plan fosters the development of a new generation of cars that is even cleaner still.

Wise regulation and American innovation will make this country the world's leader in energy efficiency and conservation in the 21st century. We will use less and less additional energy to fuel more and more economic growth. Yet, even as we grow more efficient, we will always require some additional energy to power our expanding economy.

Advanced new technologies allow entrepreneurs to find oil and to extract it in ways that leave nature undisturbed. Where oil is found underneath sensitive landscapes, rigs can now stand miles away from the oilfield and tap the reservoir at an angle. In Arctic sites, like ANWR, we can build roads on ice that literally melt away when summer comes and the drilling stops to protect wildlife.

I was just in Pennsylvania and paid a visit to the Susquehanna River. After years of being endangered, American shad have been restored to this great waterway, and the fish are thriving alongside the dam that is generating emission-free hydroelectric power to meet the needs of Pennsylvania's people.

It's time to leave behind rancorous old arguments and build a positive new consensus. With new technology, sound regulation, and plain good sense, we can expand our energy production while protecting the environment. And that is exactly what my energy approach is designed to do.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 5:20 p.m. on May 18 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on May 19. In his address, the President referred to ANWR, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 18 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of the address.

Commencement Address at the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Indiana

May 20, 2001

Thank you, Father Malloy. Thank you all for that warm welcome. Chairman McCartan, Father Scully, Dr. Hatch, Notre Dame trustees, members of the class of 2001. It is a high privilege to receive this degree. I'm particularly pleased that it bears the great name of Notre Dame. My brother Jeb may be the Catholic in the family—[laughter]—but between us, I'm the only Domer. [Laughter]

I have spoken on this campus before. It was in 1980, the year my dad ran for Vice President with Ronald Reagan. I think I really won over the crowd that day. [Laughter] In fact, I'm sure of it, because all six of them walked me to my car. [Laughter]

That was back when Father Hesburgh was the president of this university, during a tenure that in many ways defined the reputation and values of Notre Dame. It's a real honor to be with Father Hesburgh and with Father Joyce. Between them, these two good priests have given nearly a century of service to Notre Dame. I'm told that Father Hesburgh now holds 146 honorary degrees. That's pretty darn impressive, Father, but I'm gaining on you. [Laughter] As of today, I'm only 140 behind. [Laughter]

Let me congratulate all the members of the class of 2001. You made it, and we're all proud of you on this big day. I also congratulate the parents, who, after these years, are happy, proud—and broke. [Laughter]