

We're going to have a very interesting session in Genoa with the leaders of developing nations. And the United States and Great Britain will take the lead in helping convince all our friends and allies to provide support necessary to help nations develop, starting with free trade.

### **Energy Policy**

**Q.** Mr. President, on energy, your Cabinet is out today, pushing your energy plan. Is it a tougher sell now, given that gas prices have come down; we're not seeing the rolling blackouts in California that we were just a couple of months ago?

**The President.** Well, I think anytime there's not an immediate problem that's apparent to people, it's tough to convince people to think long term. But it's clear that there are warning signs. It's clear—it should be clear to the American people that we're dependent upon foreign sources of crude oil, when every quarter, we worry about whether or not OPEC is going to run the price of crude up. It should be worrisome to people that the State that's had the best conservation efforts is the State that's had brownouts. And even though there may not be a brownout today, it's an indication that we need an energy policy.

And so we're going to take a very strong effort to convince the American people that we've got a plan that couples not only sound conservation but the need to develop new sources of energy. And one of the primary topics that will be on the agenda when the President of Mexico, Vicente Fox, comes after our August recess, in the beginning of September, will be to continue to talk about the hemispheric strategy to bring natural gas into the United States, and to Mexico, for that matter.

I'm going to meet with Jean Chretien in Genoa, and we'll be talking about energy, I can assure you. Canada has got a lot of natural gas in the Northwest Territories; we need to figure out how to get that gas into the United States.

And I think the American people will listen to a rational, logical approach about how best to create energy security and diversification, as well as how to promote conservation.

**NOTE:** The President spoke at 1:12 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Christopher Meyer, United Kingdom Ambassador to the U.S., who presented the bust; Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom; President Vladimir Putin of Russia; Prime Minister Bertie Ahern of Ireland; and Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Canada. A reporter referred to Title III (protection of property rights of U.S. nationals) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 (Public Law No. 104-114).

### **Statement: The Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act, Title III**

*July 16, 2001*

Today I transmitted to Congress my decision to exercise the authority granted to me under the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act to suspend for 6 months, from August 1 through January 31, the right to bring actions under Title III of that Act. In exercising this authority, I do so taking into account that it is necessary for the national interest of the United States and will expedite the transition to democracy in Cuba.

Real differences remain between the United States and our allies concerning the best methods for pursuing change in Cuba. However, for its part, the European Union has again renewed its Common Position on Cuba and has reaffirmed its goal of promoting a peaceful transition to democracy in Cuba. Our actions will encourage support for the embargo and further strengthen, not weaken, the growing multilateral, multifaceted movement to promote democracy and human rights in Cuba.

My administration is firmly committed to a proactive Cuba policy that will assist the Cuban people in their struggle for freedom. On Friday I reaffirmed my commitment to maintain existing sanctions against the Cuban regime and to strengthening pro-democracy movements in Cuba. I call upon the European Union and the international community to work together with us toward the fundamental goals that should unite us: free speech, free elections, and respect for basic human rights in Cuba.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders on Review of Title III of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996**

July 16, 2001

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

Pursuant to subsection 306(c)(2) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–114) (the “Act”), I hereby determine and report to the Congress that the suspension for 6 months beyond August 1, 2001, of the right to bring an action under title III of the Act is necessary to the national interests of the United States and will expedite a transition to democracy in Cuba.

Sincerely,

**George W. Bush**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Joseph R. Biden, Jr., chairman, and Jesse Helms, ranking member, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; Robert C. Byrd, chairman, and Ted Stevens, ranking member, Senate Committee on Appropriations; Henry J. Hyde, chairman, and Tom Lantos, ranking member, House Committee on International Relations; and C.W. Bill Young, chairman, and David R. Obey, ranking member, House Committee on Appropriations.

**Remarks at the World Bank**

July 17, 2001

Thank you all very much. Mr. Ambassador, thank you very much for your distinguished years. Thank you for your service. Thank you for your kind comments. I’m honored to be here today with the Secretary of the Treasury, Paul O’Neill—thank you for being here, Mr. Secretary—as well as our Trade Ambassador, Bob Zoellick. I appreciate the leadership that these two men have shown. Their steady advice, their standards, their adherence to principle make my job a lot easier.

I also want to thank Jim Wolfensohn for not only the invitation to be here but for your traveling long distances to get here to hear this speech. He said he landed at 6 o’clock this morning. Obviously, he’d never heard me give a speech before. [Laughter] But I do appreciate his leadership. I appreciate the fact that he’s raised the profile of global pov-

erty and has underscored the importance for erasing it. I’m proud of his leadership, and I’m proud of the folks that work here at the World Bank. And I want to thank you for coming to give me a chance to speak to you.

Last month in Poland, I talked about Europe and America working in partnership to build a house of freedom, a house whose doors should be open to all of Europe’s emerging democracies and a house whose windows should be open to help Europe and America see clearly their challenges and responsibilities in the rest of the world.

My last trip to Europe focused mainly on opening the doors of freedom throughout Europe by enlarging NATO and the European Union. Tomorrow I will travel to Europe to meet with leaders of the world’s most industrialized nations, as well as Russia, to discuss the developing world and its needs and the developed world and our duties.

The needs are many and undeniable, and they are a challenge to our conscience and to complacency. A world where some live in comfort and plenty while half of the human race lives on less than \$2 a day is neither just nor stable. As we recognize this great need, we can also recognize even greater promise.

World poverty is ancient, yet the hope of real progress against poverty is new. Vast regions and nations from Chile to Thailand are escaping the bonds of poverty and oppression by embracing markets and trade and new technologies. What some call globalization is, in fact, the triumph of human liberty stretching across national borders. And it holds the promise of delivering billions of the world’s citizens from disease and hunger and want. This is a great and noble prospect, that freedom can work not just in the new world or the old world but in all the world.

We have, today, the opportunity to include all the world’s poor in an expanding circle of development, throughout all the Americas, all of Asia, and all of Africa. This is a great moral challenge, what Pope John Paul II called, placing the freedom of the market in the service of human freedom in its totality. Our willingness to recognize that with freedom comes great responsibility, especially for the least among us, may take the measure of the 21st century.