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And that's precisely what we are doing on the ground, and we will work with other nations to do as well.

President Ronald Reagan

Q. Mr. President, there are a lot of remembrances about Ronald Reagan this week. What lessons have you learned from the Presidency of Ronald Reagan? And have you modeled your political style after him at all?

President Bush. Ronald Reagan will go down in history as a great American President because he had a core set of principles from which he would not deviate. He understood that a leader is a person who sets clear goals and makes decisions based upon principles that are etched in his soul, and our Nation will miss him. I had the honor of speaking to Mrs. Reagan from Paris, France, and expressed Laura and my condolences to her and her family, and the Nation will be doing so as well on Friday.

Thank you. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:31 p.m. at Dunbar House. Prime Minister Koizumi spoke in Japanese, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Paul Martin of Canada at Sea Island

June 8, 2004

President Bush. I'm so honored to have a chance to visit with you again, Mr. Prime Minister. I look forward to our discussions. We've got great relations, and relations with Canada are, as far as I'm concerned, very important relations.

And we will continue our discussions on mad cow and softwood lumber. You've always been a strong advocate of Canadian interests, of course, and I appreciate that. Hopefully we can resolve the mad cow quickly—that you've asked me to do and that we will continue to work on a softwood lumber agreement that's beneficial to both countries.

Canada is a great friend, and you've been very cooperative at figuring out ways to cooperate in the war on terror. The Prime Minister has got a clear vision about the dangers that face the free world, and for that I'm grateful too. So I look forward to our discussions, sir.

Prime Minister Martin. Well, thank you very much. First of all, Mr. President, I thank you for having us all here. This is an absolutely spectacular, beautiful spot. And I think that we're all very, very glad to be here.

In terms of the war on terror, this is a—we feel every bit as strongly about it as you. And the fact is that we are all at peril here, and we have all got to win this war. And Canada certainly intends to do our part, and we stand with you foursquare against global terrorism.

If you'll also allow me simply to say, now that I'm here, I really—certainly on my own behalf and on behalf of all of the Canadian people, how—how much we regret the passing of President Reagan and what a tremendous contribution he made to the free world. I don't think there's any doubt that he is one of the great influential people of the second half of the last century. His effect in bringing the cold war to an end is one for which historians will laud him forever. And so I think that you—at the same time, while you feel very badly—I'm sure you feel very, very proud, and I think the American people can feel proud.

President Bush. Thanks, Paul. Appreciate it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:58 p.m. at Dunbar House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of Germany at Sea Island

June 8, 2004

President Bush. Thanks. It's great to see you. I want the folks to know how much I appreciate your willingness to work on promoting freedom around the world, and it's an important statement, and I appreciate your Government's good work.

I appreciate very much the Chancellor's help in Afghanistan. That country is improving, and that's important. I appreciate our mutual work on the U.N. Security Council