

NOTE: The interview was taped at 4:08 p.m. in the Library at the White House for later broadcast, and the transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 25. In his remarks, the President referred to former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; Marvin Zindler, member, board of directors, Agris-Zindler Children's Fund; Prime Minister Bertie Ahern of Ireland; Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom; President Jacques Chirac of France; and Prime Minister Ayad al-Alawi of the Iraqi interim government. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

### **Statement on Resolution of Issues Affecting the Missouri River Basin**

*June 25, 2004*

My administration is committed to working to preserve for America's farming families their way of life in the Missouri River basin, to provide more predictability to the many users of the river, and to protect threatened and endangered species that depend on the river for habitat.

The Army Corps of Engineers and Department of the Interior have succeeded in achieving a balance among interests on the river and resolving a key element of a 15-year-old conflict. Today the agencies are announcing the restoration of the habitat of an endangered species, which is an important milestone in ensuring that the river can remain an affordable avenue of commerce while meeting the habitat needs of the river's many species.

In addition, I am pleased that earlier this week the Federal court approved my administration's operating plan for the river, resolving years of litigation in multiple courts. The citizens who call the Missouri River home can now better plan for their future as they enjoy the many benefits and abundant wildlife that this extraordinary natural resource provides.

### **Memorandum on Imposition and Waiver of Sanctions Under Section 604 of the FY 2003 Foreign Relations Authorization Act**

*June 25, 2004*

Presidential Determination No. 2004-39

#### *Memorandum for the Secretary of State*

*Subject:* Memorandum on Imposition and Waiver of Sanctions Under Section 604 of the FY 2003 Foreign Relations Authorization Act (Public Law 107-228)

Consistent with the authority contained in section 604 of the FY 2003 Foreign Relations Authorization Act (Public Law 107-228) (the "Act"), and with reference to the determinations set out in the report to Congress transmitted herewith, consistent with section 603 of that Act, regarding non-compliance by the PLO and the Palestinian Authority with certain commitments, I hereby impose the sanction set out in section 604(a)(2) "Downgrade in Status of the PLO Office in the United States." This sanction is imposed for a period of 180 days from the date hereof or until such time as the next report required by section 603 of the Act is transmitted to the Congress, whichever is later.

You are authorized and directed to transmit to the appropriate Congressional committees the initial report described in section 603 of the Act.

Furthermore, I hereby determine that it is in the national security interest of the United States to waive that sanction, pursuant to section 604 of the Act. This waiver shall be effective for a period of 180 days from the date hereof or until such time as the next report required by section 603 of the Act is transmitted to the Congress, whichever is later. You are hereby authorized and directed to transmit this determination to the Congress and to publish it in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**