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The terrorists cannot defeat us on the battlefield. The only way they can win is if we lose our nerve. That will not happen on my watch. Withdrawing our troops from Iraq prematurely would betray the Iraqi people and would cause others to question America's commitment to spreading freedom and winning the war on terror. So we will honor the fallen by completing the mission for which they gave their lives, and by doing so, we will ensure that freedom and peace prevail.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 8:50 a.m. on August 12 at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on August 13. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 12 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Remarks at the Little League Baseball Southwest Regional Championship Game in Waco, Texas

August 13, 2005

Thank you all for the warm welcome. Welcome to Texas. Steve, thank you very much for inviting me. Mayor DuPuy, thank you very much for being such a gracious host for this important regional tournament. It's great to see you. I'm proud to be here, by the way, with the mayor of Crawford, Texas, Mayor David Posten. Mr. Mayor, it's good to see you. Laura and I are really thrilled to be here.

Before I say something about the families here, I do want to thank the Pride of the Blue, the Robinson High School Band, for being here.

I particularly want to say to the coaches of both teams, thanks for setting such a good example. Thanks for taking time out of your lives to help these young men understand the importance of teamwork and sportsmanship and hard work.

To the families who are here, thank you very much for supporting your Little Leaguer. Thanks for taking time out of your life to set such a good example for them and show them the love and compassion that is necessary.

And to the players, congratulations to you. You've worked hard to get here. Laura and I and Condi are looking forward to seeing a great game. We wish you all the very best.

Play hard. Play fair. Play to win. God bless you all, and may God continue to bless our great country. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:45 p.m. at Marvin Norcross Stadium. In his remarks, he referred to Steven D. Keener, president and chief executive officer, Little League International; Mayor Virginia DuPuy of Waco, TX; and Mayor David Posten of Crawford, TX.

Statement on the 70th Anniversary of Social Security

August 14, 2005

For 70 years, Social Security has been a vital program and helped millions of America's seniors in retirement. The Social Security system is sound for today's seniors, but there is a hole in the safety net for younger workers. On this 70th anniversary, we renew our commitment to save and strengthen Social Security for our children and grandchildren and keep the promise of Social Security for future generations.

Statement on Iraqi Progress Toward a Draft Constitution

August 15, 2005

Iraqi leaders have announced that they have made substantial progress toward a draft constitution. They have indicated that their deliberations will continue beyond today to refine the text and build an enduring consensus. I applaud the heroic efforts of Iraqi negotiators and appreciate their work to resolve remaining issues through continued negotiation and dialog. Their efforts are a tribute to democracy and an example that difficult problems can be solved peacefully through debate, negotiation, and compromise. We wish the Iraqi leaders and the Iraqi people well as the negotiators complete the constitutional drafting process.