

Remarks Following a Meeting With President Hu Jintao of China in Sydney

September 6, 2007

President Bush. The President and I just concluded a very constructive meeting. It was constructive because, one, we had a lot to talk about—a lot of interests that we want to work together on—and also because he’s an easy man to talk to. I’m very comfortable in my discussions with President Hu.

We talked about Iran and North Korea and Sudan. We talked about climate change and our desire to work together on climate change. We talked about our economic relations and our trade. And the President was quite articulate about product safety, and I appreciated his comments. We also talked about currency and exchange rates. And finally, I had a chance to share once again with the President my belief in religious freedom and religious liberty.

It was a constructive and cordial conversation. And once again, he extended an invitation to me and Laura and our family to come to the Olympics. And of course, I was anxious to accept.

So thank you, Mr. President.

President Hu. President Bush and I had a meeting in a candid and friendly atmosphere. We reviewed the new progress made in China-U.S. relations in the past few months. We discussed a number of issues in our bilateral relations. We both expressed a desire to work for further development and growth of the business and commercial sides between our two countries through dialog and consultations.

We also talked about climate change. We believe that the issue of climate change bears on the welfare of the whole humanity and sustainable development of the whole world. And this issue should be appropriately tackled through stronger international cooperation.

I also briefed the—President Bush on the latest developments in the situation across the Taiwan Straits. President Bush also explicitly stated the U.S. position, consistent U.S. position of opposing any changes to the status quo. We also discussed issues like the

nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula, the Iranian nuclear issue, and Sudan—Darfur.

All in all, our talks have been sincere and cordial. I am committed to working together with President Bush to further advance our constructive and cooperative relations.

President Bush. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:27 p.m. at the InterContinental Sydney. President Hu spoke in Chinese, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Statement on the Death of Representative Paul Gillmor

September 6, 2007

Congressman Paul Gillmor’s life was an extraordinary example to service and leadership. From working as an Air Force judge advocate during the Vietnam war to championing legislation in the halls of Congress, Paul devoted his career to strengthening his State and his nation. He was a good man and dedicated public servant who represented the people of Ohio with distinction for four decades. In Ohio, he served as president of the State senate for three general assemblies. In Washington, Paul was well respected for his leadership of a wide range of issues before the House Financial Services and Energy and Commerce Committees. We will always remain grateful for his service.

Laura and I are deeply saddened by his death. We pray for his wife, Karen, and their family.

Statement on the Death of Jennifer Blackburn Dunn

September 6, 2007

Laura and I are deeply saddened by the death of Jennifer Dunn. She was a good friend and compassionate leader. During her congressional career, Jennifer effectively promoted policies that enabled more people throughout our country to realize the American Dream. She was committed to reforming welfare, reducing taxes, and strengthening our health care system. She was a tireless advocate for free trade and worked to

eliminate the death tax, believing that leadership on these issues would foster growth and prosperity for small businesses and communities. As a member of the House Republican leadership, Jennifer used her position to help strengthen women's rights and protect children.

After leaving Congress, Jennifer continued to be a strong advocate of commonsense conservative values.

Jennifer was most proud of her family. Our thoughts and prayers are with Keith, Bryant, Reagan, and Angus.

Statement on the Death of Luciano Pavarotti

September 6, 2007

Luciano Pavarotti was one of the most accomplished and acclaimed opera singers of all time. From singing with his father in a small church choir near Modena, Italy, to performing in sold-out stadiums in America and all across the world, Pavarotti entertained audiences with his perfect pitch and charismatic interpretations. Both as a soloist and as part of the Three Tenors, he sold millions of records and won many prestigious awards.

Pavarotti was also a great humanitarian, using his magnificent talent to rally tremendous levels of support for victims of tragedies around the globe. His international vocal competition in Philadelphia and his school in Modena have encouraged and inspired generations of young artists to pursue their dreams.

Laura and I join Luciano Pavarotti's fans across the world in mourning his loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Pavarotti family.

Message on the Observance of Rosh Hashanah, 5768

September 6, 2007

I send greetings to those around the world celebrating Rosh Hashanah.

The sound of the Shofar heralds the beginning of a new year and a time of remembrance and renewal for the Jewish people.

During these holy days, men and women are called to reflect on their faith and to honor the blessings of creation.

The enduring traditions of Rosh Hashanah remind us of the deep values of faith and family that strengthen our Nation and help guide us each day. As Jewish people around the world come together to celebrate Rosh Hashanah, it is a chance to look to the new year with hope and faith.

Laura and I send our best wishes for a blessed Rosh Hashanah and shanah tovah.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Remarks at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Summit in Sydney

September 7, 2007

Good morning—or should I say g'day. [Laughter] Mr. Prime Minister, thank you for your introduction. Thank you for being such a fine host for the OPEC summit. I appreciate—APEC summit. [Laughter] He invited me to the OPEC summit next year—[laughter]—the APEC summit. I appreciate your friendship. I appreciate your leadership. They refer to the Prime Minister around here as a battler. I know why. He's courageous; he's wise; he's determined. America could ask for no better friend and more steadfast ally than Prime Minister John Howard.

I appreciate being back here in Australia, and I thank the people of Sydney for their gracious hospitality. The Prime Minister kept bragging about how beautiful Sydney is, and he's right. It's really a beautiful city, Mr. Prime Minister.

Yesterday I had the privilege of visiting the Australian National Maritime Museum, which houses the bell from a great American naval vessel called the USS *Canberra*. This is the only American ship ever commissioned in tribute to an ally's warship lost in battle. It was named by President Franklin Roosevelt to honor the men who gave their lives aboard the Australian ship *Canberra*, which was lost during the Second World War. The