

understand that if there are Al Qaida loose in Iran, we expect them to be detained. If there are Al Qaida in Iran and they plot against the United States, that obviously we're going to be displeased with that.

My hope, of course, is that the Iranians respond. And they've heard our message loud and clear, and I suspect they will.

Q. I have one more question, sir.

The President. Sure.

Arab Allies in the War on Terrorism

Q. Who are your Arab allies in the war on terrorism? Sometimes we hear conflicting reports, for instance, on Saudi Arabia—

The President. Yes.

Q. —sometimes they cooperate, we are told; sometimes they don't cooperate. What is the state of play?

The President. That's a good question. Crown Prince Abdullah is a strong ally in the war on terror. There's no doubt in my mind that he is moving within the Kingdom to bring the killers to justice and to prevent other killing. King Abdullah is a strong ally in the war on terror. President Mubarak is a strong ally in the war on terror. I know this not only from my conversations with these men, but also because of the cooperation between our intelligence services.

The Gulf Coast countries have been strong supporters in the war on terror, and I'm grateful for that support.

Q. Mr. President, we really appreciate it. Thanks again. There are so many questions, so little time. [*Laughter*]

The President. Well, I'm sorry.

NOTE: The interview was taped at 2:54 p.m. in the Library at the White House for later broadcast and was embargoed for release by the Office of the Press Secretary until 4 p.m. In his remarks, the President referred to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt; Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia; Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel; Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) and Finance Minister Salam Fayyad of the Palestinian Authority; L. Paul Bremer III, Presidential Envoy to Iraq; and King Abdullah II of Jordan. A reporter referred to former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Statement on Signing Legislation Concerning Participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization

May 29, 2003

Today I have signed into law S. 243, an Act concerning participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization. The United States fully supports the overall goal of Taiwan's participation in the work of the World Health Organization, including observership. The United States has expressed publicly its firm support for Taiwan's observer status and will continue to do so. The executive branch shall, as is consistent with the President's constitutional authority to conduct the Nation's foreign affairs, construe the Act to be consistent with the "one China" policy of the United States, which remains unchanged. The executive branch also shall construe the reporting requirement in section 1(c) of the Act in a manner consistent with the President's constitutional authority to withhold information the disclosure of which could impair foreign relations, the national security, the deliberative processes of the Executive, or the performance of the Executive's constitutional duties. The Secretary of State will continue, of course, as a matter of comity to keep the Congress appropriately informed of the matters addressed by the reporting requirement.

George W. Bush

The White House,
May 29, 2003.

NOTE: S. 243, approved May 29, was assigned Public Law No. 108–28.

Executive Order 13307—European Central Bank

May 29, 2003

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including sections 1 and 15 of the International Organizations Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288 and 288f–5), I hereby extend to the European Central Bank the privileges, exemptions, and immunities provided to public international organizations designated by the President under

the International Organizations Immunities Act.

This extension of such privileges, exemptions, and immunities is not intended to abridge in any respect privileges, exemptions, or immunities that the European Central Bank otherwise may have acquired or may acquire by international agreements or by law.

George W. Bush

The White House,
May 29, 2003.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register,
9:30 a.m., June 2, 2003]

NOTE: This Executive order will be published in the *Federal Register* on June 3.

Interview With Print Journalists

May 29, 2003

The President. I've got a couple of opening comments, and we'll go around the table a couple of times and answer your questions.

First, I'm really looking forward to my trip. We're involved with a lot of interesting initiatives that will help the world grow toward peace and freedom, and this trip will be an opportunity to not only to talk about American values but to talk with friends, allies, important parties about how working together we can achieve grand goals, the goals of peace, the goals of freedom, the goals of hope and prosperity.

I start off in Poland. It's my second trip to Poland since I've been the President. I'm going to Krakow; I'm going to Auschwitz. I'm going to give a speech, which I'm still working on right now, but it's a speech that reminds us that together we can achieve the big objective. It's a speech, really, to Europe that says that our common values are strong and that we welcome the emergence of countries like—free countries like Poland, and as well as we must be reminded of the lessons of the past.

I'm going to Auschwitz to see firsthand one of the greatest lessons of the past, that there's evil in this world and that the only way to deal with the evil is together. And we did so in the past, and now there's—you know, terrorism and killing of innocent peo-

ple is evil, and we've got to work together to achieve the same objectives that were achieved in the past, and that is peace and freedom.

And then I go on to St. Petersburg to not only honor the great city of St. Petersburg, their 300th anniversary, but also to have an important dialog with Vladimir Putin. It'll be a dialog that will really show the world that in spite of our disagreements over what happened in Iraq, that our relationship is strong and that we can move together in positive ways.

Then I go to the G-8. I know the press corps is going to be—you know, they'll be observing the G-8 as a great—you know, "will this turn into a meeting, a confrontational meeting?" The answer is absolutely not. It's an opportunity to talk with some who agreed with us on Iraq and some who didn't, about how we move forward. And I've laid the groundwork for the trip by talking about some great goals that wealthy nations can achieve.

One, of course, is to fight AIDS in Africa. Another which is to enhance trade, so that people have a chance to rise out of poverty, and others address famine as well as to continue to keep our focus on dealing with those terrorists who would like to hold the world—blackmail the world as well as to kill innocents, take innocent life.

I then go from there to the Middle East. It's going to be a significant visit. One, it says that I am committed to the peace process; that I look forward to working with the new Palestinian leadership as well as Ariel Sharon to make it clear to the world that we have—as leaders, we have the intention of working together to achieve peace, that there's a commitment, a personal commitment, not just by me but a personal commitment by Prime Minister Abbas as well as Prime Minister Sharon, to work together to achieve peace; and that there are responsibilities that all of us have as leaders, not only responsibility to the new Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority, not only the responsibility of the Israeli Prime Minister, but a responsibility for the leadership in the Arab world to fight terror, prevent killers from stopping the process from going forward.