

*May 20 / Administration of George W. Bush, 2003*

world as blessed and as beautiful as the one our parents left us.

Thank you for your interest in this important subject. May God bless your work, and may God continue to bless the United States of America. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:55 a.m. in the Jacqueline Kennedy Garden at the White House. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

## Statement on House of Representatives Action on Healthy Forests Restoration Legislation

*May 20, 2003*

Today's action by the House on the "Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003" is an important step toward implementing the kind of active forest management that is good for both the environment and our economy. It will save lives and the national treasure of our great forests, with their wildlife, trees, waters, habitat, and other natural resources.

I urge the Senate to act quickly on this much-needed legislation. As this year's fire season progresses, we must equip Federal land managers with the tools they need to protect lives and communities, restore forest health, and safeguard habitat and watersheds.

## Radio Remarks to the People of Cuba on Cuban Independence Day

*May 20, 2003*

Today, Cubans around the world celebrate May 20th, Cuban Independence Day. On behalf of the people of the United States, I send greetings to the Cuban community. My hope is for the Cuban people to soon enjoy the same freedoms and rights that we do. Dictatorships have no place in the Americas. May God bless the Cuban people who are struggling for freedom. Thank you.

NOTE: The President's remarks were recorded in Spanish at 9:50 a.m. on May 16 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for later broadcast on Radio Marti. The Spanish language transcript and an English translation were released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 20. This text follows the English translation.

## Commencement Address at the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut

*May 21, 2003*

Thank you very much. Thanks for the warm welcome. Admiral Collins and Admi-

ral Olsen, Secretary Ridge, Lieutenant Governor Rell, Mr. President—I'm glad you're