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Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on Reallocation of Funds Previously Transferred From the Emergency Response Fund
September 30, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In order to continue responses necessary as a result of the September 11th terrorist attacks, I am notifying the Congress of my intent to reallocate funds previously transferred from the Emergency Response Fund (ERF).

At this time, $290 million of ERF funds will be transferred to the Department of State to accelerate a variety of initiatives already underway in Afghanistan.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on Providing Funds for the Department of Homeland Security's Counterterrorism Fund
September 30, 2003

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with provisions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106–554), and the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (Public Law 108–7), I hereby request and make available $38,100,000 for the Department of Homeland Security's Counterterrorism Fund. Of these funds, I hereby designate $28,748,918 as an emergency requirement pursuant to Public Law 106–554.

These funds would allow the Department of Homeland Security to continue to improve the security at our Nation's ports by deploying radiation monitoring devices nationwide and strengthening the system that is used to identify potential threats posed by international cargo shipments and international passengers.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH

Statement on Signing the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004
September 30, 2003

Today, I have signed into law H.R. 2658, the "Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2004."

Sections 8007 and 8103 of the Act prohibit the use of funds to initiate a special access program or to initiate a new start program, unless the congressional defense committees receive advance notice. The Supreme Court of the United States has stated that the President's authority to classify and control access to information bearing on the national security flows from the Constitution and does not depend upon a legislative grant of authority. Although the