

Remarks in Seattle, Washington, on the Death of Paul Johnson June 18, 2004

I want to express my deepest condolences to the family of Paul Johnson. We send our prayers and sympathies to them during this very troubling time.

The murder of Paul shows the evil nature of the enemy we face. These are barbaric people. There's no justification whatsoever for his murder, and yet they killed him in cold blood. And it should remind us that we must pursue these people and bring them to justice before they hurt other Americans. See, they're trying to intimidate America. They're trying to shake our will. They're trying to get us to retreat from

the world. America will not retreat. America will not be intimidated by these kinds of extremist thugs.

May God bless Paul Johnson. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:54 p.m. at Boeing Field/King County International Airport prior to his departure for Reno, NV. In his remarks, he referred to Paul Johnson, a U.S. citizen employed in Saudi Arabia who was killed by members of the Al Qaida terrorist organization earlier in the day. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks in Reno, Nevada June 18, 2004

The President. Thank you all very much. Thank you all. Go ahead and be seated. Please be seated, unless, of course, you don't have a seat. [*Laughter*] It's great to be here in Nevada. Thanks for coming. Thank you all for coming. You didn't think I'd get it right, did you? [*Laughter*] I appreciate your warm welcome.

I appreciate the kind words of Senator John McCain. Both candidates in this race are honored to be the friend of John McCain. Only one of us gets his vote, and I am proud that it is me. John McCain has lived a life of true service to this country. He is a man of honor. He is a man of integrity. He's a man of personal courage and political courage, and I thank him for his friendship and his support.

It's good to be here in Reno. It's a town known for its good people and its good times. I always like being in a place where the cowboy hats outnumber the ties.

Vice President Cheney and I were proud to carry Nevada last time, and we're going

to carry it this time. And I'm here to thank you for your help. I'm here to thank you for what you have done, what you will do to turn out that vote. Thanks for coming.

I am sorry that First Lady Laura Bush isn't here. You drew the short straw. [*Laughter*] She is a fabulous woman. She is a great First Lady. If there's any reason to put me back in there for 4 more years, it's to make sure Laura is the First Lady for 4 more years.

I'm also proud to be running with Dick Cheney. He's the finest Vice President our country has ever had. Mother heard me say that one time, and said, "Now wait a minute, buster." [*Laughter*]

I appreciate your Governor, Kenny Guinn. He's a fine, honest, honorable, great Governor of this State. And like me, he married well—[*laughter*]—when he married Dema.

Today John McCain and I had the honor of traveling from Fort Lewis, Washington, with a great United States Senator from