

and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. These actions pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support ter-

rorism, and maintain in force the comprehensive sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
September 21, 2004.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message. The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks at a Reception for Heads of State in New York City *September 21, 2004*

Thank you all. Please be seated, for what is going to be a short speech. We're honored you're here in New York City. Laura and I are thrilled to have hosted this reception. We hope you've enjoyed it as much as we have. And it's a great opportunity for Laura and me to say hello to many of our friends who are Prime Ministers and Presidents and Foreign Ministers and perm representatives to the various countries represented here.

I do want to pay tribute to our great Secretary of State, Colin Powell, who's done such a wonderful job for our country. As well I want to say thanks to Jack and Sally Danforth. Jack is the new Ambassador to the United Nations for our country. Thank you all for your service.

I think my friend the Governor of New York is still here, George Pataki, and First Lady Libby Pataki. One thing about New York City is they know how to host big events. The U.N. General Assembly is a big event. There's a lot of us with nice automobiles driving around the city, and they make it quite convenient. One reason why is they've got a great mayor in Michael Bloomberg who is not—was here and left, but he's—but as well, I do want you to recognize the commissioner of police for

this great city, Ray Kelly, and Veronica, is with us today.

I saw Kofi Annan earlier. I don't know if Kofi is still here or not, but I do respect him. He's a decent, kind man, and I'm proud of the job he does at the United Nations. And Laura and I are very fond of his wife, Nane, as well.

And most of all, I appreciate you serving your respective countries and working together to make the world a better place. It's—these have been tough times in the world. But I think if we stick true to the values that unite most of us, which are human rights, human dignity, the deep desire for people to live in freedom, the world will be a better place. And that's really how I view this time here at the United Nations, a chance to find common purpose and common ground, all aiming at achieving the peace we all desire.

I am floored by the progress that's being made in parts of the world that used to be dark, places where people had no hope, and today, they see light.

Today in my speech at the U.N., I pointed out the fact that 10 million citizens in Afghanistan have registered to vote in the upcoming Presidential election, 41 percent of whom are women. This is a society that

3 years ago was a place where young girls weren't allowed to go to school, and their mothers were whipped in the public squares because they didn't toe the dark line of a group of people whose vision was limited by hatred. And today, 3 years later, 10 million citizens have said, "I love freedom. I want to be free." And they're going to the polls.

And the world is going to be more peaceful for it. We believe that liberty and freedom go hand in hand. We believe every human heart desires to be free, and I believe every free nation has a responsibility to free every human heart, as best we can.

So that's how I view the 59th Session of the U.N. General Assembly. It's an honor to be here. It's great to see *mis*

amigos, my friends. I want to thank you all for your hard work, and may God bless you and your countries. Thank you for coming. Good night, everybody. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:06 p.m. at the Waldorf-Astoria. In his remarks, he referred to Sally Danforth, wife of former Senator John C. Danforth, U.S. Representative to the United Nations; Gov. George E. Pataki of New York and his wife, Elizabeth "Libby"; Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg of New York City; Veronica Kelly, wife of New York City Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly; and Secretary-General Kofi Annan of the United Nations and his wife, Nane.

Remarks in a Discussion on Education in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania September 22, 2004

The President. Thank you all for coming. I appreciate so many people coming out to say hello. Thanks.

So when I asked Laura to marry me, she said, "Fine. Just so long as I don't have to give any speeches." [*Laughter*] Fortunately she didn't hold me to the promise. She's a woman of great compassion and decency. She understands education well. I'm proud to call her wife. I know you're proud to call her First Lady.

I want to talk about my plans to make America and the world safer and to make this country a more hopeful place. Today we're going to emphasize education. We've got some experts up here on education. And in a little bit we're going to hear from them to help make the points that Laura and I are making around the country, that we can close an achievement gap, that every child can learn, we expect every school to teach. And we're making progress when it comes to our public schools.

I also want to thank you for what you're going to do. See, what you're going to do is put up the signs and register the voters, bring people out to vote. Today you're going to leave here, hopefully, realizing that I have a reason to run again, that I've got a vision, that Laura and I are honored to serve our country. But I'm traveling the country giving people a reason why: Four more years will make the world a safer place, America a safer place, and the country a more hopeful place.

I am not only out there campaigning with Laura, but I'm really pleased with the good work Vice President Cheney has done and is doing as well.

I also want to thank you for training our Director of Homeland Security so well. [*Laughter*] Tom Ridge is doing a great job. He's a close friend. I'm really proud of the work he's doing on behalf of our country to better protect America from these evildoers that would like to continue to strike us. Tom is doing a wonderful job.