of us who are serving, “Go get it fixed.” And I’m fully prepared to help in the process. I put forth ideas to move the process along. Anybody who has got a good idea, bring it forward. And then we’ll be able to say, when we solve it, “We did our duty for a generation of Americans coming up.”

Thanks for giving us a chance to visit with you. God bless.

Remarks at a Tree Planting Ceremony in Honor of Arbor Day
April 29, 2005

_The President._ Glad you all are here. Ready, Mr. Secretary?

_Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns._ I’m ready.

_The President._ First of all, I’m honored—we’re honored to be here with the Secretary of Agriculture as well as Marshal Case, who is head of The American Chestnut Foundation. We are planting an American chestnut tree here at the White House. This is the 133rd year of Arbor Day. Our message is to our fellow citizens: Plant trees. It’s good for the economy, and it’s good for the environment.

As well, Marshal informs me that The American Chestnut Foundation has worked very closely with the Agriculture Department to coming up with a disease-resistant strain of the American chestnut. And he says we’re making good progress and that one day the American chestnut, which had been wiped out by blight, will be coming back. And this is our little part to help it come back.

So, Mr. Secretary, are you prepared?

_Secretary Johanns._ I am ready. Let’s——

_The President._ A man known for shoveling a lot of things. [Laughter]

_Secretary Johanns._ Exactly.

_The President._ Ready to go?

_Secretary Johanns._ Yes, I am ready.

_The President._ All right, let’s do it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1 p.m. on the North Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Marshal T. Case, president and chief executive officer, The American Chestnut Foundation. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.
Memorandum on Redesignation of the United States Naval Reserve to the United States Navy Reserve
April 29, 2005

Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense

Subject: Redesignation of the United States Naval Reserve to the United States Navy Reserve


GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

Memorandum on Vesting of Blocked Funds of the Government of Cuba
April 29, 2005

Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury

Subject: Vesting of Blocked Funds of the Government of Cuba


I therefore direct you to vest these funds and distribute them to Ana Margarita Martinez.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Providing Notification of Reimbursement to the District of Columbia for Emergency Planning and Security Costs
April 29, 2005

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Consistent with title I of the District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2005, Public Law 108–335, I am notifying the Congress of the proposed use of $2,471,588 provided in title I under the heading “Federal Payment for Emergency Planning and Security Costs in the District of Columbia.” This will reimburse the District for the costs of public safety expenses related to security events and responses to terrorist threats. 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