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Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on Reallocation of Emergency Response Fund

June 10, 2005

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am notifying the Congress of my intent to reallocate funds previously transferred from the Emergency Response Fund (ERF).

At this time, $1.074 million of ERF funds will be reallocated within the Department of the Treasury to strengthen the physical protection of the main Treasury building.

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

NOTE: This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 13.

Remarks at "An American Celebration at Ford's Theatre"

June 12, 2005

The President. Jeff, thanks for the warm introduction. I like a good, long introduction. [*Laughter*] Say, listen, if you're ever looking for work, Laura is looking for some new material. [*Laughter*]

We've had a wonderful time this evening. Thank you all very much. I particularly want to thank the entertainers tonight: Debbie Allen and Geena Davis, Hilary Duff, Josh Gracin, Denyce Graves, Jesse McCartney. Thanks for dedicating a song to Laura, Jesse.

The First Lady. Thank you very much, Jesse.

The President. Pendragons—how about the Pendragons—and Julie Roberts. Thank you all so very much for being here.

I also want to thank our gala chair, Catherine Reynolds, as well as the general co-chairs who are here, Karyn Frist, Landra Reid, Abby Blunt, and Debbie Dingell. Laura and I thank the Ford's Theatre Society and to the producing director, Paul Tetreault.

Since we moved to Washington, Laura and I have been guests of Ford's Theatre a number of times, and we appreciate the vital work it is doing. As a working stage, Ford's Theatre provides an important venue for the arts right here in the heart of our Nation's Capital.

I'm really grateful to the members of the Armed Services who participated in tonight's celebration. Our military is defending America and advancing the cause of freedom and peace around the world. We are privileged to be citizens of a country served by our brave troops, and we thank them for their service.

We appreciate the military families who are with us tonight. It's not easy being left behind when a loved one goes to war. By loving and supporting a man or woman in uniform, our military families also serve our Nation, and America is grateful to all of them for their support and sacrifice.

Once again, we thank all the entertainers and the supporters of the Ford's Theatre who have made this evening one to remember. May God bless you all, and may God continue to bless the United States.

NOTE: The President's remarks were videotaped at approximately 8:45 p.m. at Ford's Theatre for broadcast on July 4 on the ABC Television Network. In his remarks, he referred to entertainers Jeff Foxworthy, the Pendragons, and Julie Roberts. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 13.

Remarks on the African Growth and Opportunity Act

June 13, 2005

Thank you all for coming. Welcome to the White House. I want to thank the five Presidents who are with us today: President Mogae of Botswana, President Kufuor of Ghana, President Guebuza of Mozambique, President Pohamba of Namibia, and President Tandja of Niger.

We just had a great discussion. I consider these men friends. I consider them to be strong patriots of their respective countries, and I consider them to be democrats.

I want to thank Secretary of State Condi Rice for joining us today, and she was in the discussions we had earlier. I'm honored that the members of the diplomatic corps have joined us. I thank the Ambassadors for being here.