

And they want to be free. And they're peaceful; they really are peaceful. And they have a chance to—and I've told this to Abu Mazen; I said, "You've got a fantastic population. Let's—now is your chance to lead them."

As you know, I welcomed some of his young team.

Q. I know about that meeting.

The President. Yes, we had the chief of staff, and his spokesperson is a lovely lady who is a very well-educated person, went back to the—to Palestine to try to serve what she hopes will be a country. I was impressed by these young, dynamic, capable, peace-loving people.

And so I think we've got a very good chance to succeed. I want it to happen before I'm President, but it's not about me. That's my point. It's about the Palestinians, and it's about the Israelis, all of whom want to—many of whom want to get rid of the past and have a more glorious future by living side by side in peace and democracy. And it's—I think it's going to happen.

Q. I hope so. Thank you very much, sir.

The President. Thanks.

Q. Thank you for your time. Thank you. Wonderful.

The President. Very good interview.

Q. Well, one day I'm going to run as the mayor of Gaza, so probably I need your help. [Laughter]

The President. Absolutely. After I'm President, I'll go help you. [Laughter]

NOTE: The interview was taped at 3:39 p.m. in the Library at the White House for later broadcast. In his remarks, the President referred to President Bashar al-Asad of Syria; Minister of Foreign Affairs Philippe Douste-Blazy of France; former Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri of Lebanon, who was assassinated on February 14 in Beirut; Detlev Mehlis, head, United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission into the assassination of former Prime Minister Hariri; former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Zalmay Khalilzad; Ayman Al-Zawahiri, founder of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad and senior Al Qaida associate; senior Al Qaida associate Abu Musab Al Zarqawi; President Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) of the Palestinian Authority, and his chief of staff, Rafiq Hussein; Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel; Lt. Gen. William E. "Kip" Ward, USA, Senior

U.S. Security Coordinator, Department of State; and James D. Wolfensohn, Quartet Special Envoy for Gaza Disengagement. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Presidential Determination on FY 2006 Refugee Admissions Numbers and Authorizations of In-Country Refugee Status

October 24, 2005

Presidential Determination No. 2006-03

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Presidential Determination on FY 2006 Refugee Admissions Numbers and Authorizations of In-Country Refugee Status Pursuant to Sections 207 and 101(a)(42), respectively, of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and Determination Pursuant to Section 2(b)(2) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act, as Amended

In accordance with Section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the "Act") (8 U.S.C. 1157), as amended, and after appropriate consultations with the Congress, I hereby make the following determinations and authorize the following actions:

The admission of up to 70,000 refugees to the United States during FY 2006 is justified by humanitarian concerns or is otherwise in the national interest; provided, however, that this number shall be understood as including persons admitted to the United States during FY 2006 with Federal refugee resettlement assistance under the Amerasian immigrant admissions program, as provided below.

The 70,000 admissions numbers shall be allocated among refugees of special humanitarian concern to the United States in accordance with the following regional allocations; provided, however, that the number allocated to the East Asia region shall include persons admitted to the United States during FY 2006 with Federal refugee resettlement assistance under section 584 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act of 1988, as contained in section 101(e) of Public Law 100-202 (Amerasian immigrants and their family members); provided further that the number

allocated to the former Soviet Union shall include persons admitted who were nationals of the former Soviet Union, or in the case of persons having no nationality, who were habitual residents of the former Soviet Union, prior to September 2, 1991:

Africa	20,000
East Asia	15,000
Europe and Central Asia	15,000
Latin America/Caribbean	5,000
Near East/South Asia	5,000
Unallocated Reserve	10,000

The 10,000 unallocated refugee numbers shall be allocated to regional ceilings as needed. Upon providing notification to the Judiciary Committees of the Congress, you are hereby authorized to use unallocated numbers in regions where the need for additional numbers arises.

Additionally, upon notification to the Judiciary Committees of the Congress, you are further authorized to transfer unused admission numbers allocated to a particular region to one or more other regions, if there is a need for greater numbers for the region or regions to which the numbers are being transferred. Consistent with section 2(b)(2) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, I hereby determine that assistance to or on behalf of persons applying for admission to the United States as part of the overseas refugee admissions program will contribute to the foreign policy interests of the United States and designate such persons for this purpose.

Consistent with section 101(a)(42) of the Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(42)) and after appropriate consultation with the Congress, I also specify that, for FY 2006, the following persons may, if otherwise qualified, be considered refugees for the purpose of admission to the United States within their countries of nationality or habitual residence:

- a. Persons in Vietnam
- b. Persons in Cuba
- c. Persons in the former Soviet Union
- d. In exceptional circumstances, persons identified by a United States Embassy in any location

You are authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress imme-

diately and to publish it in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., October 31, 2005]

NOTE: This memorandum will be published in the *Federal Register* on November 1.

Remarks at the Joint Armed Forces Officers' Wives Luncheon

October 25, 2005

Thank you all. Thanks for having me. Please be seated. Thank you for the kind introduction, Jonnie, and thanks for the warm welcome. I appreciate being invited to come. It's such an honor to be here to stand up with so many strong and caring women—and a few men—[laughter]—who are devoted to their husbands and their wives and to our country.

I remember when Laura came over here to speak before; she had a heck of a good time. I bet you're probably wishing she was back. [Laughter] This is the 28th anniversary of this luncheon. Laura and I happen to have our 28th anniversary of our own coming up Saturday. You helped me remember. [Laughter] It's the best decision I ever made, was marrying Laura in Midland, Texas. Some question whether or not it was the best decision she ever made. [Laughter]

Speaking about decisions, I've got another decision to make, and maybe after the lunch, you can help me, and that is, what do I get her on the 28th anniversary? [Laughter] Never mind. [Laughter] Never mind. [Laughter] Sorry I asked. [Laughter]

Today America also honors the memory of one of the most inspiring women of the 20th century, Rosa Parks. Fifty years ago, in Montgomery, Alabama, this humble seamstress stood up to injustice by refusing a bus driver's order that she give up her seat for a white man. Her show of defiance was an act of personal courage that moved millions, including a young preacher named Martin Luther King. Rosa Parks' example helped touch off the civil rights movement and transformed America for the better. She will