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10/1/2008

Arrival Ceremony for the President of Kenya October 6, 2003 Draft #4

Mr. President, Madam First Lady, members of the Kenyan delegation: On behalf of the American people, Laura and I are pleased to welcome you to the United States.

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Preservation Copy - George W. Bush Handwriting

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This is the first state visit by the leader of an African country during my Administration, and the first visit of President Kibaki since his historic election last year.

Key back key

Under President Kibaki's leadership, Kenya is pursuing important reforms, and making the difficult, and necessary, and rewarding transition to permanent, multi-party democracy Mr. President, your courage serves the Kenyan people well, and you honor the American people with your visit.

Kenya is a nation of rich traditions, and ancient history. The Great Rift Valley, which runs through eastern Kenya from Lake Rudolf to Lake Victoria, is known as the "cradle of civilization," The story of Kenya is inseparable from the story of mankind. And out of this proud past, Kenya is building a modern, prosperous, and peaceful future.

4

In building that future, Kenya will have a partner in the United States (Our two countries face common challenges, and we meet them with shared values.

5

Both our nations are threatened by terrorists, and both have suffered In one savage act five years ago in Nairobi, members of the al-Qaida network murdered more than two hundred Kenyans and Americans.

6

Our countries grieved together then ... and after September 11th ... and after the attack last November in Mombasa. Yet we have done more than grieve. // We are working together to defeat the terrorists – to cut off their funding, deny them sanctuary, and bring them to justice.

There can be no compromise with this evil, and the government of Kenya is a vital ally in the ongoing war against terror.

We are also working together to create a better world – to end longsimmering conflicts, and to alleviate the suffering caused by poverty, and hunger, and disease.

Our goal is to end the hopelessness that feeds terror, and help to spread the blessings of liberty that are the birthright of every man, woman, and child on Earth.

The partnership between our nations is (sustained by the friendship between our peoples. Some 7,000 Americans live in Kenya, and as many as 25,000 Visit every year. One of the Peace Corps's largest programs is in Kenya, helping to encourage private enterprise, fight AIDS, and improve the nation's schools.

Every year thousands of Kenyans come to study at American universities – more than from any other African country, and including two of President Kibaki's children.

And the United States is enriched by the many Americans who trace their ancestry to Kenya – many of whom live right here in Washington.



Kenya and the United States have been friends since the days of Jomo Kenyatta and John F. Kennedy. Mr. President, I am proud to join you in carrying our friendship forward in this new century. Welcome to the White House, and welcome to the United States of America.

Arrival Ceremony for the President of Kenya October 6, 2003 Draft #4



Mr. President, Madam First Lady, members of the Kenyan delegation: On behalf of the American people, Laura and I are pleased to welcome you to the United States.

This is the first state visit by the leader of an African country during my Administration, and the first visit of President Kibaki since his historic election last year. Under President Kibaki's leadership, Kenya is pursuing important reforms, and making the difficult, and necessary, and rewarding transition to permanent, multi-party democracy. Mr. President, your courage serves the Kenyan people well, and you honor the American people with your visit.

Kenya is a nation of rich traditions, and ancient history. The Great Rift Valley, which runs through eastern Kenya from Lake Rudolf to Lake Victoria, is known as the "cradle of civilization." The story of Kenya is inseparable from the story of mankind. And out of this proud past, Kenya is building a modern, prosperous, and peaceful future.

In building that future, Kenya will have a partner in the United States. Our two countries face common challenges, and we meet them with shared values.

Both our nations are threatened by terrorists, and both have suffered. In one savage act five years ago in Nairobi, members of the al-Qaida network murdered more than two hundred Kenyans and Americans. Our countries grieved together then ... and after September 11th ... and after the attack last November in Mombasa. Yet we have done more than grieve. We are working together to defeat the terrorists – to cut off their funding, deny them sanctuary, and bring them to justice. There can be no compromise with this evil, and the government of Kenya is a vital ally in the ongoing war against terror.

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Drafted by:	Michael Anton, NSC Speechwriting				
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