





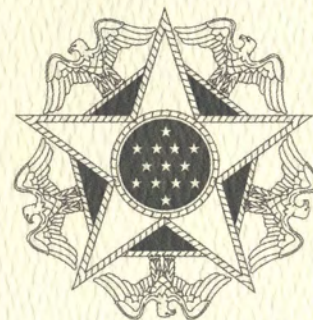
THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. BUSH

welcome you to

THE WHITE HOUSE

*on the occasion of
the presentation of the*

PRESIDENTIAL
MEDAL OF FREEDOM



Tuesday, January 13, 2009

TONY BLAIR

Tony Blair has been a powerful force for freedom and for building understanding among nations. As Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, he was instrumental in helping millions of people secure their freedom in Afghanistan, Iraq, Kosovo, and Sierra Leone; forging a new era of peace in Northern Ireland; providing humanitarian assistance around the globe, especially in Africa; and strengthening the special relationship between our two nations. Throughout his career, and in his role as Quartet Representative to the Middle East, he has worked to provide people with opportunities to better their lives. The United States honors Tony Blair for his lifelong dedication to building a more just and peaceful world.



THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the highest civil award of our Government. It is awarded by the President of the United States to those persons whom the President deems to have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors. The Medal may be awarded to citizens of other nations and may be awarded posthumously.



