

REMARKS

BY

HIS EXCELLENCY DR. GEORGE MANNEH WEAH  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

AT A PROGRAM MARKING

THE 247TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE EXECUTIVE PAVILION  
ASHMUN STREET  
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

JUNE 29, 2023

The Speaker, President Pro-Tempore, and Members of the 54th Legislature, here present;

The Dean and Members of the Cabinet;

Other Officials of Government;

His Excellency Mr. Michael A. McCarthy

United States Ambassador Accredited to Liberia;

Other Officials and Staff of the United States Embassy in Liberia;

The Doyen and Members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corp;

Political Leaders here present;

Religious, Traditional, Business, Women and Youth Leaders here present;

The NGO Community;

Members of the Fourth Estate;

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am pleased to join you and millions of Americans across the world, to commemorate the Two Hundred and Forty-seventh (247th) Anniversary of the Independence of the United States. Let me first convey warmest greetings and felicitations to you, Mr. Ambassador, and through you, to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States, and the Government and illustrious

People of the United States, on behalf of the Government and People of Liberia, and in my own name.

MR. AMBASSADOR, DISTINGUISHED LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

Liberia is a natural and mutual ally of the United States. Some of the founding fathers of the Republic of Liberia came out of the United States. They came here in pursuit of Liberty, Justice and Equality. Although Liberia was never a colony of the United States, Liberians were not left alone in their struggle to defend their independence and sovereignty.

The United States declared a special interest in Liberia maintaining its sovereignty, and has worked diligently since our humble beginnings as Africa's first Republic to ensure that we have remained an independent country throughout our existence.

We are grateful for this stand, and equally proud of our relationship.

Our two countries have shared values and common positions on political ideology, liberal democracy, open capitalist economic systems, human rights, and the exercise and protection of the rights of our citizens. We hold these shared values as sacred, and will continue to defend them without compromise.

Together, we will continue to be aggressive for what is right for Liberia, in order to save Liberia from those who want to be aggressive for what is wrong for Liberia.

We are also very proud of the leadership role the United States has played, and continues to play, on the world stage. We pledge to remain your traditional friend and ally, and to fight along with you in our common cause in defense of democracy across the world.

It is in this light that Liberia supports United Nations and international concerted efforts for the restoration of lasting peace in Ukraine. We will remain united in our common stance on human rights, good governance and the rule of law.

DISTINGUISHED LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to Ambassador Michael A. McCarthy, who leaves here shortly after ending a successful tour of duty in Liberia since January 2021.

I wish to say to you in this public manner, Ambassador McCarthy, that Liberia and Liberians appreciate the work you have done here during your tour of duty. It is our hope that you will be successful in all your future endeavors.

Let me also congratulate Mr. Joel Maybury, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of the United States in Monrovia, who will shortly be ending his tour of duty in Monrovia. I say, God blessed you.

I thank you.

TOAST

And now, Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to raise your glasses and drink with me to the good health, long life and happiness of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.; to the prosperity and well-being of the American people; and to the bonds of friendship and cooperation which so happily exist between the Republic of Liberia and the United States of America.