REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN TO RESPOND TO THE THREAT OF TERRORISM

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A REPORT, CONSISTENT WITH THE WAR POWERS RESOLUTION AND SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 23, TO HELP ENSURE THAT THE CONGRESS IS KEPT FULLY INFORMED ON ACTIONS TAKEN TO RESPOND TO THE THREAT OF TERRORISM

SEPTEMBER 25, 2001.—Referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

89-011

WASHINGTON : 2001
THE WHITE HOUSE,

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: On the morning of September 11, 2001, ter-
rorists hijacked four U.S. commercial airliners. These terrorists
coldly murdered thousands of innocent people on those airliners
and on the ground, and deliberately destroyed the towers of the
World Trade Center and surrounding buildings and a portion of the
Pentagon.

In response to these attacks on our territory, our citizens, and
our way of life, I ordered the deployment of various combat-
equipped and combat support forces to a number of foreign nations
in the Central and Pacific Command areas of operations. In the fu-
ture, as we act to prevent and deter terrorism, I may find it nec-
cessary to order additional forces into these and other areas of the
world, including into foreign nations where U.S. Armed Forces are
already located.

I have taken these actions pursuant to my constitutional author-
ity to conduct U.S. foreign relations and as Commander in Chief
and Chief Executive. It is not now possible to predict the scope and
duration of these deployments, and the actions necessary to
counter the terrorist threat to the United States. It is likely that
the American campaign against terrorism will be a lengthy one.

I am providing this report as part of my efforts to keep the Con-
gress informed, consistent with the War Powers Resolution and
Senate Joint Resolution 23, which I signed on September 18, 2001.
As you know, officials of my Administration and I have been regu-
larly communicating with the leadership and other Members of
Congress about the actions we are taking to respond to the threat
of terrorism and we will continue to do so. I appreciate the con-
tinuing support of the Congress, including its passage of Senate
Joint Resolution 23, in this action to protect the security of the
United States of America and its citizens, civilian and military,
here and abroad.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH.

Æ