

regime are removed from power will be the day of your liberation.

The world has waited 12 years for Iraq to disarm. America will not accept a serious and mounting threat to our country, our friends, and our allies. The United States will ask the U.N. Security Council to convene on February 5th to consider the facts of Iraq's ongoing defiance of the world. Secretary of State Powell will present information and intelligence about Iraq's illegal weapons programs; its attempts to hide those weapons from inspectors; and its links to terrorist groups. We will consult, but let there be no misunderstanding: If Saddam Hussein does not fully disarm, for the safety of our people, and for the peace of the world, we will lead a coalition to disarm him.

Tonight I also have a message for the men and women who will keep the peace, members of the American Armed Forces: Many of you are assembling in and near the Middle East, and some crucial hours may lie ahead. In those hours, the success of our cause will depend on you. Your training has prepared you. Your honor will guide you. You believe in America, and America believes in you.

Sending Americans into battle is the most profound decision a president can make. The technologies of war have changed. The risks and suffering of war have not. For the brave Americans who bear the risk, no victory is free from sorrow. This Nation fights reluctantly, because we know the cost, and we dread the days of mourning that always come.

We seek peace. We strive for peace. And sometimes peace must be defended. A future lived at the mercy of terrible threats is no peace at all. If war is forced upon us, we will fight in a just cause and by just means—sparing, in every way we can, the innocent. And if war is forced upon us, we will fight with the full force and might of the United States military—and we will prevail. And as we and our coalition partners are doing in Afghanistan, we will bring to the Iraqi people food, and medicines, and supplies . . . and freedom.

Many challenges, abroad and at home, have arrived in a single season. In 2 years, America has gone from a sense of invulnerability to an awareness of peril . . . from bitter division in small matters to calm unity in great causes. And we go forward with confidence, because this call of history has come to the right country.

Americans are a resolute people, who have risen to every test of our time. Adversity has revealed the character of our country, to the world, and to ourselves.

America is a strong Nation, and honorable in the use of our strength. We exercise power without conquest, and sacrifice for the liberty of strangers.

Americans are a free people, who know that freedom is the right of every person and the future of every nation. The liberty we prize is not America's

gift to the world, it is God's gift to humanity.

We Americans have faith in ourselves—but not in ourselves alone. We do not claim to know all the ways of Providence, yet we can trust in them, placing our confidence in the loving God behind all of life, and all of history.

May He guide us now, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

Thank you.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, January 28, 2003.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:20 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 12. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the president on the state of the Union.

At 3:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 13. A joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 224. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

S. 225. A bill to provide for emergency unemployment compensation.

S. 228. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to limit the misuse of social security numbers, to establish criminal penalties for such misuse, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-740. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the completion of the restatement of title 46, United States Code (Shipping), as positive law; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-741. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of the Commission's Rules Concerning Maritime Communications (PR Docket No. 92-257)" received on January 23, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-742. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor, International Bureau, Federal

Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "In the Matter of Policies and Rules for the Direct Broadcast Satellite Service (IB Docket No. 98-21)(FCC No. 02-110)" received on January 23, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-743. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a final rule amending the NASA Grant and Cooperative Agreement Handbook to require that NASA grants and cooperative agreements follow the requirements of Executive Order 13202"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-744. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a Vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs, received on January 21, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-745. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emergency Rule to Revise a Final Rule Implementing a Charter Vessel/Headboat Permit Moratorium Amending the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan (Amendment 20) and Coastal Migratory Pelagics Fishery Management Plan (Amendment 14) (0648-AQ59)" received on January 21, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-746. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Pay Telephone Reclassification and Compensation Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (CC Doc. No. 96-128)(FCC02-292)" received on January 23, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-747. A communication from the Acting Principle Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Listing of Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Substances (FRL 7443-4)" received on January 23, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-748. A communication from the Acting Principle Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Wisconsin; Northern engraving environmental Cooperative Agreements (FRL 7411-5)" received on January 23, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-749. A communication from the Acting Principle Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Florida: Approval of Revisions to Florida State Implementation Plan (FRL 7443-3)" received on January 23, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-750. A communication from the Acting Principle Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clarification to Interim Standards and Practices for All Appropriate Inquiry Under CERCLA and Notice of Future Rule-making Action (FRL 7442-2)" received on January 23, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.