

some nations, they will require great courage. Yet, the cost of inaction is far greater. The only alternative to victory is a nightmare world where every city is a potential killing field.

As I've told the American people, freedom and fear are at war. We face enemies that hate not our policies but our existence, the tolerance of openness and creative culture that defines us. But the outcome of this conflict is certain: There is a current in history, and it runs toward freedom. Our enemies resent it and dismiss it. But the dreams of mankind are defined by liberty: the natural right to create and build and worship and live in dignity. When men and women are released from oppression and isolation, they find fulfillment and hope, and they leave poverty by the millions.

These aspirations are lifting up the peoples of Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas, and they can lift up all of the Islamic world.

We stand for the permanent hopes of humanity, and those hopes will not be denied. We're confident, too, that history has

an author who fills time and eternity with His purpose. We know that evil is real, but good will prevail against it. This is the teaching of many faiths, and in that assurance we gain strength for a long journey.

It is our task, the task of this generation, to provide the response to aggression and terror. We have no other choice, because there is no other peace.

We did not ask for this mission, yet there is honor in history's call. We have a chance to write the story of our times, a story of courage defeating cruelty and light overcoming darkness. This calling is worthy of any life and worthy of every nation. So let us go forward, confident, determined, and unafraid.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:38 a.m. in the General Assembly Hall at the United Nations Headquarters. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary-General Kofi Annan and General Assembly President Han Seung-soo of the United Nations; and Mohamed Sayed Tantawi, Sheikh of Al-Azhar University.

The President's Radio Address *November 10, 2001*

Good morning. It's been a week of international progress in the war against terror. On Wednesday, our friends and allies around the world joined the U.S. Treasury to freeze the assets of two terrorist-supporting financial networks, one known as Al Barakaat and the other as Al Taqwa. We are taking aggressive measures to starve terrorists of their funding.

Throughout the week I have been meeting at the White House with world leaders who support our cause. At the beginning of the week I spoke via satellite to leaders of new democracies in Central and Eastern Europe. Earlier today I addressed leaders

from around the world at the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

To every leader, I have delivered a consistent message: All civilized nations are threatened by terrorism, and all civilized nations have a responsibility to join in fighting it. The United States is grateful for the words of sympathy we have received from nations around the world since September the 11th.

Now the time for words has passed. And now the time for action has arrived. Some actions are already required by international law. Under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373, adopted soon after the September the 11th attack, every nation

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must crack down on terrorist financing. Every nation that possesses useful intelligence about terrorism must share it. Every nation must close down terrorist camps inside its borders. Every nation must deny weapons to terrorists.

These obligations are binding on every country, and many nations are meeting those obligations. Yet, we expect even more of the countries that wish to be counted as members of the global coalition against terror.

We expect nations to oppose all terrorists, not just some of them. No political cause can justify the deliberate murder of civilians. There is no such thing as a good terrorist. Any government that tries to pick and choose its terrorist friends will be regarded by us as a supporter of terrorism.

We expect nations to speak the truth about terror. They shouldn't encourage malicious lies and outrageous conspiracy theories concerning the attacks of September the 11th. No government should promote the propaganda of terrorists.

We expect nations not to misuse the war against terror as an excuse to persecute ethnic and religious minorities in any country.

When avenues for peaceful dissent are closed, the temptation to speak through violence grows.

We expect nations to encourage development by expanding trade, investing in education, and combating AIDS and other infectious diseases around the world. In our struggle against hateful groups that exploit poverty and despair, we must offer an alternative of opportunity and hope.

These are some of the steps I've described today at the United Nations. For all nations, they will require effort. For some nations, they will require courage. Yet, the cost of inaction is far higher. The only alternative to victory is a future of terror, so we will fight for victory.

We are determined to defend ourselves and defend our children from lawless violence.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 12:55 p.m. on November 9 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on November 10. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of the address.

Remarks at a Luncheon Hosted by United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan in New York City *November 10, 2001*

Mr. Secretary-General, distinguished members of the United Nations community, excellencies, and ladies and gentlemen. It's a great honor to attend my first U.N. General Debate as President of the United States. It's a special pleasure for all of us this year to be in New York, a city whose strength, determination, and civility have been a powerful testament to the human spirit. My country is very honored that for over half a century, New York has served as host to the United Nations.

The United States and the United Nations have more in common than just a city; we also share a set of common values. Today those values are under attack, and the United Nations and the United States stand together to defend them. In this great cause, it is a special honor for me to have found a great partner in Kofi Annan.

Mr. Secretary-General, I appreciate the many times we have spoken, particularly over the last 2 months. These have been difficult and challenging days for my Nation, and I've benefited from your wisdom