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And I look forward to looking at all their proposals. Just like we're dealing with everybody concerned, we will listen to points of view. But the final, bottom line has got to be a very strong resolution, so that we don't fall into the same trap we have done for the last 11 years, which is nothing happens.

Saddam Hussein has thumbed his nose at the world. He's a threat to the neighborhood. He's a threat to Israel. He's a threat to the United States of America. And we're just going to have to deal with him. And the best way to deal with him is for the world to rise up and say, "You disarm, and we'll disarm you." And if not—if at the very end of the day nothing happens, the United States, along with others, will act.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:26 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

Statement on the Death of Walter Annenberg
October 1, 2002

Walter Annenberg's life serves as a shining example of generosity, patriotism, and dedication to serving others. As Ambassador to Great Britain, he was an outstanding representative of America to the world. As a business leader and an innovator, he understood the media's impact on American culture and encouraged television to be a positive influence on society.

Mr. Annenberg firmly believed that strong education was the key to a quality citizenry, and his commitment to education reform has benefited innumerable lives through research, support for scholarships, and greater accessibility to educational programming through public television. America is a better place because of his contributions and influence. He will be greatly missed, and his legacy will undoubtedly live on.

Remarks at the White House Conference on Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children
October 2, 2002

Thanks for coming. One of the reasons I like this job so much is, you get to be introduced by your wife. [*Laughter*] And I appreciate Laura's love and compassion for all children, and I appreciate the job she's doing. I'm a lucky man to be able to call her my wife—call her my wife. And thanks for coming.

The kidnaping of a child is every parent's worst nightmare. Yet, too many moms and dads have experienced this nightmare across America. Too many have suffered. I've just met with parents—Laura and I met with parents—who have had the most precious person in their lives suddenly and brutally taken away from them. Some of these parents were eventually reunited with their children. Some are still hoping and waiting. Some know they will never see their loved ones again in this earthly life.

When a child's life or liberty or innocence is taken, it is a terrible, terrible loss.