

the prevention of future attack. We're doing a better job of sharing information among agencies. By legislation I signed this week, we've created a Department of Homeland Security to involve the largest reorganization of the Federal Government in more than a half a century, with the goal of protecting America.

And overseas we're chasing the killers down, one person at a time—one at a time. Slowly but surely, we're dismantling the Al Qaida network. There is no cave dark enough or deep enough to hide from the justice of the United States of America. And it doesn't matter how long it takes; this Nation will stay on course to find them, to bring them to justice, to make sure America's homeland is secure.

These essential steps do not complete our work, and that's important for America to know. In the war against terror, our goal is to take every measure that is necessary, to gather all information that is available and gain every advantage that is possible. An aggressive investigation into September the 11th, with a responsible concern for sensitive information that will allow us to win the war on terror, will contribute to the security of this country.

This commission's findings may show a need for further reform in intelligence gathering and other areas. I'm confident that under Dr. Kissinger's leadership, the commission's work will be thorough. The recommendations will be helpful and useful.

I also hope that the commission will act quickly and issue its report prior to the 18-month deadline embodied in the legislation. After all, if there's changes that need to be made, we need to know them as soon as possible, for the security of our country. The sooner we have the commission's conclusions, the sooner this administration will act on them.

And as a people, Americans are always looking forward. As a nation, we're working every day to build a future that is peaceful and secure. To reach this goal we must learn all about the past that we can. So with this commission we have formed today, America will learn more about the evil that was done to us, and the understanding we will gain will serve us for years to come. This commission is not only important for this administration; this commission will be important for future administrations, until the world is secure from the evildoers that hate what we stand for.

I ask the Members of Congress that are here today to please come up and join me as I sign this important legislation.

May God bless the families of those who suffered on September the 11th. May God bless you today. May God bless you for long days to come, and may God continue to bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:58 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. H.R. 4628, approved November 27, was assigned Public Law No. 107-306.

Statement on Signing the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003

November 27, 2002

Today I have signed into law H.R. 4628, the "Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003," which authorizes appropriations to fund United States intelligence activities, including activities essential to suc-

cess in the war against global terrorism. This Act also establishes the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States to examine and report on

the facts and causes relating to the September 11th terrorist attacks. The Commission will build upon the work of the congressional joint inquiries to carefully examine the circumstances surrounding the attacks and the lessons to be learned from them. I expect that the Commission's final report will contain important recommendations for steps that can be taken to improve our preparedness for and response to terrorist attacks in the future.

The executive branch shall implement sections 325, 334, and 826 of the Act, and section 8H(g)(1)(A) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 as enacted by section 825 of the Act, relating to submission of recommendations to the Congress, in a manner consistent with the President's constitutional authority to supervise the unitary executive branch.

Many provisions of the Act, including section 342 and title VIII, establish new requirements for the executive branch to disclose sensitive information. As I have

noted in signing last year's Intelligence Authorization Act and other similar legislation, the executive branch shall construe such provisions in a manner consistent with the President's constitutional authority to withhold information the disclosure of which could impair foreign relations, the national security, the deliberative processes of the Executive, or the performance of the Executive's constitutional duties.

The executive branch shall construe subsections 501(d) and (e), relating to the number and activities of military personnel deployed abroad, in a manner consistent with the President's constitutional authority as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
November 27, 2002.

NOTE: H.R. 4628, approved November 27, was assigned Public Law No. 107-306.

Videotaped Remarks for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade *November 28, 2002*

Good morning. As we gather to celebrate Thanksgiving, let us remember to share our blessings and make this holiday season a time for giving to those in need. By helping a neighbor, we serve our Nation, and we serve a cause greater than self-interest. Everyone can do something. And through the USA Freedom Corps, you can find ways to help at a school, a food pantry, or any other organization near you.

Macy's and NBC join me in wishing you a happy Thanksgiving, and we ask you to

make this holiday the start of a season of service.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President's remarks were videotaped at 3:10 p.m. on November 12 in the Map Room at the White House for broadcast during the telecast of the November 28 parade. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 26. The Thanksgiving Day proclamation of November 21 is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.