

these illegally created accounts, or they are denied credit because of unpaid debts accrued by identity thieves.

While vigorous law enforcement is vital to preventing the misuse of personal information, consumer education is the first line of defense against this kind of fraud and deception. An educated consumer is a confident consumer; and it is confident consumers who drive the economy of our Nation.

A number of public and private entities are joining forces this year to highlight consumer education efforts throughout the Nation. These efforts will help consumers learn more about securing personal information and privacy issues. The entities involved include the following: the Federal Trade Commission, the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators, the National Consumers League, the American Association of Retired Persons, the Better Business Bureau, the Consumer Federation of America, the U.S. Postal Service, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the National Association of Attorneys General, and the Federal Consumer Information Center. These groups will help consumers understand how information and privacy issues affect their lives and the decisions they make in the marketplace.

During National Consumer Protection Week, I encourage all Americans to learn more about ways to safeguard their personal information, recognize fraudulent telemarketers, and identify fraudulent e-mail. Through these measures, individuals can better protect their financial security and ultimately contribute to the long-term strength of our economy.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim February 3 through 9, 2002, as National Consumer Protection Week. I call upon Government officials, industry leaders, and consumer advocates to provide consumers information about the use and misuse of personal information. This will help safeguard the economic future of all Americans.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of

the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., February 6, 2002]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on February 7.

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting a Report on the
National Emergency With Respect to
Iraq**

February 4, 2002

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I am providing a 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 12722 of August 2, 1990.

George W. Bush

The White House,
February 4, 2002.

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting an Extension of the
China-United States Fisheries
Agreement**

February 4, 2002

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), I transmit herewith an Agreement between the United States of America and the Government of the People's Republic of China extending the Agreement of June 24, 1985, Concerning Fisheries Off the Coasts of the United States, with annex, as extended (the "1985 Agreement"). The present Agreement, which was effected by an exchange of notes in Beijing on April 6 and July 17, 2001, extends the 1985 Agreement to July 1, 2004.

In light of the importance of our fisheries relationship with the People's Republic of China, I urge that the Congress give favorable consideration to this Agreement.

George W. Bush

The White House,
February 4, 2002.

**Exchange With Reporters During
Tour of University of Pittsburgh
Medical Center in Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania**

February 5, 2002

Voluntarism

Q. Mr. President, Dick Arney today came out against your volunteer program, saying it's not the Government's business to teach Americans charity. What's your response to that?

The President. I think the country needs to provide opportunities for people to serve. Expanding AmeriCorps, expanding Senior Corps—it's a good way for Americans to fight evil, and there's all kinds of opportunities. Senior Corps is one opportunity; AmeriCorps is one; church, synagogue, or mosque programs are another.

As I said in my speech, if you don't know where to serve your 2 years of public service or 4,000 hours over the rest of your lifetime, here's a really good opportunity.

Q. Is his opposition—does that threaten the program, threaten—

The President. No, I don't think so. I think Congress understands that we need to provide opportunities for teachers to teach in the inner-city schools and seniors to provide homeland defense volunteer activities. The key thing, the key point I was making in my speech is that many in the country are asking how they can help, how they can help fight terror. And one way to do so is through acts of kindness and compassion and decency. And the good news is, a lot of Americans are responding.

Enron/Pension Reform

Q. Mr. President, Senator Hollings yesterday asked for a special counsel to investigate

your administration's relations with Enron. How do you feel about that, sir?

The President. I feel like Congress needs to pass my pension reform legislation I sent up there. I sent up a good piece of legislation that will help protect workers, and they ought to get after it and respond to that. Listen, this is a business problem, and my Justice Department is going to investigate. And if there's wrongdoing, we'll hold them accountable for mistreatment of employees and shareholders.

Q. You don't see a need for a special counsel?

The President. I see a need for laws, and I see a need for a full investigation, and that's what we're providing. The Justice Department is gathering information, and we're going to determine whether there was any wrongdoing. And if there is, there will be consequences.

In the meantime, I've sent up pension reform legislation that Congress needs to get after. It's a good piece of legislation, it will help workers, and we ought to do it now.

Thank you, all.

NOTE: The exchange began at 1:05 p.m. at the clinical microbiology lab in Scaife Hall. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

**Remarks at the University of
Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh**

February 5, 2002

Thank you very much. Thanks for that warm welcome. It's great to be back in Pittsburgh. Never did I think I'd come back and say, "America is under attack." Never did I dream I'd come back to this beautiful city and say, "We've got to be on alert." But here I am, and that's what I'm saying.

I walk in the Oval Office every morning—and by the way, walking in the Oval Office is a fabulous experience. [Laughter] It's unimaginable. I can't tell you what an honor it is. It is—it's great. It is a beautiful office. I get there early in the morning. Spot, the