

In the decades before that terrible day, the terrorists conducted a series of bolder and bolder attacks in the Middle East and beyond. They became convinced that free nations were decadent and weak and would never offer a sustained and serious response. They now know otherwise.

Together with a coalition of nations, we have struck back against terror worldwide, capturing and killing terrorists and breaking cells and freezing assets. In Afghanistan, we removed the Taliban regime that harbored Al Qaida. In Iraq, we defeated a regime that sponsored terror, possessed and used weapons of mass destruction, and defied the United Nations Security Council for 12 years. We have helped to liberate people from oppression and fear.

Today, with our help, the people of Iraq are working to create a free, functioning, and prosperous society. The terrorists know that if these efforts are successful, their ideology of hate will suffer a grave defeat. So they are attacking our forces, international aid workers, and innocent civilians. Their goal is to drive us out of Iraq before our work is done. They are mistaken, and they will fail. We will do what is necessary to win this victory in the war on terror.

We are following a clear strategy with three objectives: Destroy the terrorists; enlist international support for a free Iraq; and quickly transfer authority to the Iraqi people. Through a series of ongoing operations, our military is taking direct action against Saddam loyalists and foreign terrorists. One major effort underway right now, called Operation Longstreet, is seeking and finding our enemies wherever they hide and plot. Already, this operation has yielded hundreds of detainees and seized hundreds of weapons, and we will remain on the offensive against the terrorists.

We are expanding international cooperation in rebuilding Iraq. Today in Geneva, Secretary of State Powell is meeting with Secretary-General of the United Nations and representatives of the five permanent members of the Security Council. They are discussing ideas for a new resolution to encourage wider participation in this vital task.

And we're moving forward on a specific plan to return sovereignty and authority to the Iraqi people. We have created a Governing Council made up of Iraqi citizens. The Council has selected a committee that is developing a process through which Iraqis will draft a new constitution for their country. Day-to-day operations of many government tasks have been turned over to ministers appointed by the Governing Council. And when a constitution has been drafted and ratified by the Iraqi people, Iraq will enjoy free and fair elections, and the coalition will yield its remaining authority to a free and sovereign Iraqi Government.

We have a strategy in Iraq and a mission. We will fight and defeat the terrorists there so we don't have to face them in America. And we will help transform Iraq into an example of progress and democracy and freedom that can inspire change and hope throughout the Middle East.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 1:20 p.m. on September 11 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on September 13. In his address, the President referred to Secretary-General Kofi Annan of the United Nations. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 12 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Statement on the Death of Frank O'Bannon

September 13, 2003

Frank O'Bannon was a dedicated public servant and a good and decent man. He led a distinguished career, including service in the Air Force, in the Indiana State senate, and as Lieutenant Governor. Since being sworn in as Governor of Indiana in 1997, he has served the people of his State with integrity and devotion. Laura joins me in sending our thoughts and prayers to his wife, Judy, and their family.

Memorandum on Delegation of Functions Related to Loan Guarantees to Israel

September 12, 2003

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Delegation of Functions Related to Loan Guarantees to Israel

By the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including section 301 of title 3 of the United States Code, I hereby delegate to the Secretary of State the functions conferred upon the President under the heading “Loan Guarantees to Israel” in chapter 5 of title I of the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2003 (Public Law 108–11).

You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 18, 2003]

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 15, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on September 19.

Memorandum on the United States Contribution to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization

September 14, 2003

Presidential Determination No. 2003–37

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: U.S. Contribution to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development

Organization: Determination Regarding Funds Under the Heading

“Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining and Related Programs” in Title II of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs Appropriations, 2003, Division E of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (Public Law 108–7) (the “Act”)

Consistent with the authority vested in me by section 562 of Division E of the Act, I

hereby determine that it is vital to the national security interests of the United States to waive the restriction in that section and provide up to \$3.72 million in funds made available under the heading “Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining and Related Programs” in title II of Division E of the Act, for assistance to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) for administrative expenses only.

You are hereby authorized and directed to report this determination and the accompanying Memorandum of Justification, prepared by my Administration, to the Congress and to arrange for publication of this determination in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 18, 2003]

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 15, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on September 19.

Remarks at the Detroit Edison Monroe Plant in Monroe, Michigan

September 15, 2003

Thank you all. Please be seated, unless you don’t have a seat. [*Laughter*] Thanks for the warm welcome. I appreciate the chance to come to this vital facility to meet the workers who make it go, meet the planners who keep it modern, and meet some of the people who benefit from the electricity that’s generated out of here.

I come knowing our Nation faces some great challenges. The biggest challenge we face is the security of our people. We’ve got to make sure that America is secure from the enemies which hate us. And we’ve got to make America secure by having an economy that grows so people can find work.

On the first front, to make sure America is secure, we’re making good progress. The 2 years from September the 11th—we got hit. We got hit by people who cannot stand what America believes in. We love freedom, and we’re not going to change. And they probably won’t either. Therapy won’t work with this bunch. [*Laughter*]