

able to defend sectors of their country. And now the big—Senator Warner came and briefed us at the White House the other day. He said—and this is what the General is telling me as well—we’ve made good progress in training the Iraqi Army. The problem is the Iraqi police force. And there is a national police force, which is more efficient than local police forces. It still needs to make sure there are coalition troops embedded in the police force to make sure that these police understand that there’s—you don’t seek reprisal as a police force. You’ve got to earn the confidence of all people, no matter what their religion is. And we’re still working with local police forces.

So in due respect, I think the question is, how do we expedite more Iraqis to earn the confidence of the Iraqi people. We’re dealing with a shattered confidence. There’s a sense that, well, they may leave us, or our guys aren’t prepared to provide security. And the quicker we can get the Iraqis stood up and trained, the faster the Iraqi people will have confidence, not only in their own security situation but in their government.

And so thanks for the suggestion. Listen, I’ve enjoyed it; I hope you have. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:53 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill. In his remarks, he referred to Peter Ackerman, chairman of the board, Freedom House; President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia; Usama bin Laden, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization; senior Al Qaida associate Abu Musab Al Zarqawi; President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria; former President Charles Taylor of Liberia, who was arrested on March 29 in Nigeria on United Nations war crimes charges; President Bashar al-Asad of Syria; President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran; President Vladimir Putin of Russia; President Hu Jintao of China; Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan; former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; President Vicente Fox of Mexico; and Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada. Participants referred to Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom; and Gamal Mubarak, son of President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

## **Proclamation 7992—Cancer Control Month, 2006**

*March 29, 2006*

*By the President of the United States  
of America*

### **A Proclamation**

During National Cancer Control Month, we continue the fight against cancer and work to reduce the risk of this deadly disease among our citizens.

Cancer survival rates are increasing, with approximately 10 million survivors in the United States. New understanding of diseases, better diagnostic tools, and innovative treatments help provide hope and healing to those who have been diagnosed with cancer. Across our country, cancer patients are living longer and fuller lives.

Despite these advances, cancer is still the second leading cause of death in our country, and some cancers, such as breast, prostate, lung, leukemia, and melanoma, continue to be too prevalent. By increasing public awareness and encouraging people to take appropriate steps to protect themselves, we can help prevent certain types of cancer. Individuals can reduce the risk of developing the disease by avoiding tobacco and excessive alcohol and by making healthy lifestyle choices. These include eating well, exercising regularly, and avoiding significant weight gain. I also encourage all Americans to get regular preventive screenings and speak with a health care provider about additional ways to reduce the risk of developing cancer.

My Administration is dedicated to furthering our progress in the fight against cancer. We lead the world in cutting-edge medical research, and I have requested \$5.9 billion in my fiscal year 2007 Budget for cancer-related activities within the Department of Health and Human Services. America will continue to aggressively fight cancer, encourage innovative research, and spread hope to those affected.

As we observe Cancer Control Month, I commend the strength and courage of cancer survivors, whose perseverance is an inspiration to all Americans. Our Nation is grateful for the generosity and skill of our medical professionals. These healers, along with the

loving family members and friends of cancer patients, reflect the compassionate spirit of our people and help build a healthier future for our citizens. Cancer can be prevented, treated, and defeated, and we will continue to strive to reach the day when the battle to beat cancer has been won.

In 1938, the Congress of the United States passed a joint resolution (52 Stat. 148; 36 U.S.C. 103) as amended, requesting the President to issue an annual proclamation declaring April as "Cancer Control Month."

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim April 2006 as Cancer Control Month. I encourage citizens, government agencies, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other interested groups to join in activities that will increase awareness of how to prevent and control cancer.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirtieth.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., March 31, 2006]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on April 3.

### **Proclamation 7993—National Child Abuse Prevention Month, 2006**

*March 29, 2006*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

Our society has a responsibility to protect our children and help them thrive. During National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we underscore our strong commitment to preventing child abuse and neglect and to ensuring that all children have the opportunity to grow up in safe and nurturing environments.

Parents hold the primary responsibility for a child's health and well-being and provide a foundation of love and support for their children. Parents are not alone as they work to keep their children safe. Helping children

requires a commitment from other family members, as well as individuals and organizations in every community. Educators, concerned citizens, faith-based and community organizations, and public officials all have vital roles in protecting our children and supporting families. When children are surrounded by positive relationships and experiences, they are more likely to grow into confident and caring adults.

My Administration remains dedicated to protecting our youth from child abuse and neglect. The Federal Interagency Workgroup on Child Abuse and Neglect, led by the Department of Health and Human Services, provides a forum for Federal agencies to share information and make policy and program recommendations regarding the prevention, intervention, and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Through the National Child Abuse Prevention Initiative, my Administration is partnering with organizations across our country to promote the well-being of children and families and to assist efforts to eradicate abuse.

The Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families hosts the National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information website at [www.nccanch.acf.hhs.gov](http://www.nccanch.acf.hhs.gov), which offers more information on how to prevent, recognize, and report signs of child abuse. By working together to provide America's young people the love, guidance, and protection they need, we can help protect our youth from abuse and give them the opportunity to achieve their dreams.

**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 April 2006 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. I encourage all citizens to protect our children and help build strong communities where individuals, families, and children are valued and supported.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirtieth.

**George W. Bush**