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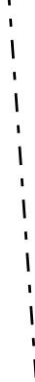
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Subject: TALKING POINTS: Progress in the War on Terror
[10-02 Talking Points.pdf](#)

Talking Points: Progress in the War on Terror

October 2, 2003

Message of the Week

- **Congress is moving forward on the President's wartime supplemental request that will help the United States to meet its objectives in Iraq.** The vast majority of the President's request goes to American troops fighting the War on Terror so that they have the equipment, pay, and other resources they need to perform their mission.
- The remainder of the President's request – less than ¼ -- goes to creating conditions on the ground in Iraq that will enable our troops to succeed in their mission by:
 - ✓ Providing Iraqis with the tools to provide for their own security;
 - ✓ Establishing basic living standards so terrorists and extremists cannot capitalize on poverty and despair; and
 - ✓ Creating an environment for private investment so Iraq can achieve economic independence without depending on outside governments for assistance.
- **A stable and secure Iraq is in the best interests of the American people.** The success of our efforts in Iraq will have important consequences for bringing peace and reform to a troubled region.
 - A free and successful Iraq will send a clear message to the people of the Middle East that freedom and democracy, not violence and terrorism, are the best paths for the future.
 - An unstable and faltering Iraq will be a magnet for the terrorists and fringe groups that have exported violence in the region and even to our own shores.

Recent Progress in Iraq

- **Providing Iraqis with the tools to provide for their own security.** Just this week, the United States military and Iraqi police conducted joint raids, arresting more than 50 terrorists and criminals. On October 4, the first battalion of the New Iraqi Army completes its training and will begin serving the Iraqi people. U.S. Army Reservists from the 382nd Military Police Battalion have helped to create a new canine unit for the Baghdad police, enabling local Iraqis to help with bomb detection and other vital missions.
 - *The President's request includes funding to enable this progress to continue. It will help create and train the New Iraqi Army, allowing for a reduction in the U.S. military footprint in the country and enabling Iraqi forces to work with Coalition forces to eliminate remaining remnants of the Saddam Hussein regime.*
 - *The request also includes money to equip and train an Iraqi police service, civil defense force, and border patrols – all of which will increase the security of and reduce the need for U.S. troops performing these missions.*
- **Establishing basic living standards so terrorists and extremists cannot capitalize on poverty and despair.** Reconstruction is moving forward – with more than 8,000 individual reconstruction projects completed in just three months. On October 1, Iraqi power plants generated a peak of 4217 megawatts (MW) -- the highest level produced since before the war -- and CPA expects the system to reach 5000 MW by January 1, 2004. And schools throughout Iraq opened this week to begin the new school year – many of them refurbished by U.S. soldiers and equipped with school supplies provided by our troops.
 - *The President's request provides funding to enable this progress to continue by providing basic sanitation, children's health care, and basic housing to the people of Iraq. By providing these basic services, Iraq's new democracy will be more stable and support for the new Iraqi government, as well as Coalition efforts, will continue to grow.*
- **Creating an environment for private investment so Iraq can achieve economic independence without depending on outside governments for assistance.** Under the supervision of the Iraqi Governing Council, Iraqi ministries recently developed and submitted a new budget for 2004 – marking the first time since 1979 that the Iraqi budget process has been open to public scrutiny and input. Beginning on October 15, the old Iraqi currency (bearing the face of Saddam Hussein) will be exchanged for new Iraqi currency – an important sign of the birth of a new Iraqi economy.
 - *The President's request provides funding to enable this progress to continue – by helping to rebuild the Iraqi public phone system, create a modern postal system to ship letters and products within the country, and train Iraqis in modern business practices.*

Talking Points: Progress in the War on Terror

October 2, 2003

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