

Sent: Thu, 25 Sep 2003 17:46:19 -0400

From: "Besanceney, Brian R." </O=EOP/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE
GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BRIAN R. BESANCENEY>

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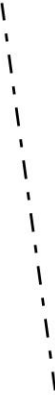
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Subject: TALKING POINTS: Progress in the War on Terror
[09-25 Talking Points.pdf](#)

Talking Points: Progress in the War on Terror

September 25, 2003

Message of the Week

- **President Bush has outlined a clear strategy for meeting our three major objectives in Iraq:** 1) improving security by aggressively hunting down terrorists; 2) expanding the contributions of the international community beyond the 40 countries that have responded and are helping the Iraqi people build security and sovereignty in their nation; and 3) accelerating efforts to transfer power and authority to the Iraqi people.
- **Significant progress is being made this week on advancing all three steps of the President's Iraq strategy:**
 - **Improving security in Iraq:** Congress has begun hearings on the President's wartime supplemental budget request for Iraq, and Secretary Rumsfeld, Ambassador Bremer and other Administration officials are testifying on Capitol Hill and working with Members of Congress.
 - The vast majority of the President's request goes to giving American troops fighting the War on Terror the equipment, pay, and other resources they need to perform their mission.
 - A smaller amount – less than one-fourth – goes to helping to create conditions on the ground in Iraq that will enable our troops to succeed in their mission – by providing the basic services and humanitarian relief that will make a big difference in stabilizing the country.
 - **Expanding the contributions of the international community:** President Bush called on the international community to help the Iraqi people secure their own freedom by orderly and democratic means and according to their needs. The United Nations and its member nations can contribute greatly to the cause of Iraqi freedom, and the U.S. is working with friends and allies on a new Security Council resolution that will

expand the UN's role in Iraq.

- **Transferring power and authority to the Iraqi people:** The President called on the United Nations to play an important role in the process of helping the Iraqi people to establish a sovereign, democratically-elected government. He asked the United Nations to provide support to help the Iraqi people develop a constitution, train civil servants and conduct free and fair elections – a role the UN has played in the aftermath of other conflicts. At the same time, the President's wartime supplemental budget request will enable the process of transferring power and responsibility to the Iraqi people to proceed more quickly.

Recent Progress in Iraq

- *Iraqis Working to Restore Law and Order to Their Country:* Approximately 49,000 Iraqi police officers are back to work, and they are being trained by the Coalition Provisional Authority in professional policing, including respect for human rights. Over 4,000 Iraqis are working side-by-side with coalition soldiers as part of the Civil Defense Corps and the CPA is working to field 27 battalions of the New Iraqi Army by September 1, 2004.
 - The chief law enforcement officer in Iraq, Brigadier General Ahmed Ibrahim, was once imprisoned for speaking out against Saddam Hussein. Today, General Ibrahim is working with the Coalition to root out former regime members and criminals on the streets of Baghdad. Among the criminals he has arrested are high-ranking Fedayeen Saddam members, Saddam's top bodyguard and the former Minister of Interior. General Ibrahim has said of the Coalition forces, "We will never forget the soldiers who came across the world to liberate people they had never met."
- *Educating the Next Generation:* Coalition forces are working with 36,000 local Iraqi workers to refurbish 1,600 schools across Iraq. And some soldiers are calling in help from back home to help Iraqi children have a good school year. Major Gregg Softy of the 1-1 Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Armored Division sent an e-mail to friends and family to request school supplies and other items for Iraqi children, and a group of citizens in St. Paul, Minnesota has responded. They have sent dozens of packages already, and have established a website (www.iraqischools.com) to encourage other Americans to contribute.

In Case You Missed It

- In a new Gallup survey conducted in Baghdad:
 - By a two-to-one margin (62% - 30%), Baghdad residents say that ousting Saddam Hussein was worth any personal hardships that they have since experienced.
 - By a 67% to 8% margin, Baghdad residents say Iraq will be better off in 5 years than it would have been without Coalition action.

Talking Points: Progress in the War on Terror

September 25, 2003

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