

Sent: Thu, 20 Nov 2003 16:09:59 -0500

From: "Besanceney, Brian R." </O=EOP/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE
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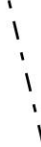
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Subject: TALKING POINTS: Progress in the War on Terror
[11-20 Talking Points.pdf](#)

Talking Points: Progress in the War on Terror

November 20, 2003

This Week's Actions

- During his state visit to the United Kingdom, President Bush outlined three pillars for increasing the security and peace of the free world:
 - Strengthening international institutions and alliances to deal with the emerging threats of the 21st century – terrorist groups and rogue states.
 - Ensuring that free nations have the will and the strength to restrain aggression and despotism by force when necessary.
 - Expanding democracy throughout the world as an alternative to despair and terror.
- The President clearly stated America's firm resolve to stand with freedom loving peoples in the fight against global terrorism. In remarks at Whitehall Palace, President Bush said:
 - "The terrorists have a purpose, a strategy to their cruelty. They view the rise of democracy in Iraq as a powerful threat to their ambitions. In this, they are correct. They believe their acts of terror against our coalition, against international aid workers and against innocent Iraqis, will make us recoil and retreat. In this, they are mistaken."
 - "We did not charge hundreds of miles into the heart of Iraq and pay a bitter cost of casualties, and liberate 25 million people, only to retreat before a band of thugs and assassins. We will help the Iraqi people establish a peaceful and democratic country in the heart of the Middle East. And by doing so, we will defend our people from danger."
- As the United States, the United Kingdom and our allies work to promote peace and democracy in the Muslim world, the terrorists continue their senseless violence -- indiscriminately killing civilians in terrorist bombings in Turkey.
 - Commenting on the bombings in Turkey, President Bush said today, "The nature of the terrorist enemy is evident once again. We see their contempt -- their utter contempt -- for innocent life. They hate freedom. They hate free nations. Today, once again, we saw their ambitions of murder. The cruelty is part of their strategy. The terrorists hope to intimidate; they hope to demoralize. They particularly want to intimidate and demoralize free nations. They're not going to succeed. Great Britain, America and

other free nations are united today in our grief, and united in our determination to fight and defeat this evil, wherever it is found.”

In Case You Missed It

- **“The Way Forward,” Op-Ed by Jalal Talabani, current President of Iraqi Governing Council, *Wall Street Journal*, 12/20/03** – “It has been my privilege to preside over the Iraqi Governing Council (IGC) during a month of momentous events. We now have an agreement for the transfer of authority between the Coalition, the liberators, and the IGC, the representatives of the liberated Iraqis. President Bush has outlined an inspiring vision for a free and democratic Middle East. Our American friends are resolutely striking back at the vicious remnants of Saddam’s regime and damaging the network of Baathists and foreign Islamists attempting to destroy the Iraqi experiment in democracy. Yet these gains could easily be forfeited if we Iraqis do not bear the brunt of the fighting. The enemies of Iraqi freedom are not ‘resistance,’ a word that evokes the heroism of Poles in the Second World War, nobly battling their occupiers. Nor can those who murder our American liberators, Red Cross workers, U.N. officials and Italian policemen be termed ‘guerillas.’ Rather, they are terrorists. They are thugs and torturers who repressed their fellow Iraqis during the last 35 years, the perpetrators of genocide, men who butchered hundreds of thousands of Kurds, Marsh Arabs and Shiite Arabs. The creation of an anti-democratic fascist counter-revolution of Baathists and foreign Islamic volunteers, some of whom are al-Qaeda and Ansar al-Islam, is a classic unholy Middle Eastern alliance. These people have more support among the Arab media and in the studios of al-Jazeera than they do in Iraq.”
- **“Survey: Afghans Overwhelmingly Optimistic,” *Associated Press*, 11/19/2003** – Some 83 percent of the Afghans surveyed said they feel safer than they did three years ago, when the hard-line Taliban regime was in power. More than three-quarters of those questioned said Afghanistan will be safer still in another year..... The survey released Wednesday also found that most Afghans were well informed about the political affairs of their country, with about seven in 10 saying they were following the run-up to the loya jirga, or grand council, that will meet in December to ratify a new constitution..... Some 1,479 Afghans participated in the survey, 48 percent of them women.”

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