

Sent: Tue, 21 Oct 2003 12:51:31 -0400
From: "Besanceney, Brian R." </O=EOP/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE
GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BRIAN R. BESANCENEY>

b(3) 10 USC 130b

b(3) 10 USC 130b

b(3) 10 USC 130b

|
|
|
|
|
|
|
|
|

b(3) 10 USC 130b

b(3)10 USC 130b

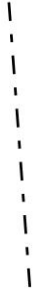
b(3)10 USC 130b

b(3) 10 USC 130b

b(3) 10 USC 130b

/

b(3) 10 USC 130b



b(3) 10 USC 130b

b(3) 10 USC 130b



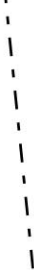
b(3) 10 USC 130b

/

b(3) 10 USC 130b



b(3) 10 USC 130b



b(3) 10 USC 130b

b(3)10 USC 130b

Subject: TALKING POINTS: Progress in the War on Terror
[10-21 Talking Points.pdf](#)

Talking Points: Progress in the War on Terror

October 21, 2003

This Week's Actions

- The United States continues to build additional international support for completing our mission in Iraq and winning the War on Terror. President Bush has been meeting with international leaders at the Asian Pacific Economic Conference (APEC).
 - As a result of President Bush's leadership, the mission of APEC is being broadened to include a significant focus on joint efforts to fight terrorism and improve security in the region. Security and prosperity are inextricably linked, and the leaders of APEC have endorsed the President's call to increase cooperation on security and anti-terrorism efforts.
- Later this week, Secretary of State Colin Powell will attend the Madrid Conference to encourage other nations to contribute funds, humanitarian assistance, and other forms of aid to the new Iraq. Two countries, Japan and South Korea, have already pledged significant amounts toward the building of a free and self-governing Iraq.
 - As Deputy Secretary of State Armitage said yesterday, "Each nation who attends the Madrid Conference will have to make their own decision of whether they want to support the Iraqi people or not. It's not support for the United States; it's support for the people of Iraq and their struggle to reconstruct themselves after 35 years of bad leadership."
- These actions build on last week's unanimous UN Security Council vote that supports our efforts to help Iraqis build a peaceful and free Iraq, further defines the unique role the UN should play in that effort, and supports President Bush's stated goals for international engagement in Iraq.

- Already, more than 30 countries are currently working with the United States to stabilize Iraq and enable the Iraqi people to achieve self-government. More than 70,000 Iraqis are already contributing directly to the security and stability of their country.
- Here at home, the House and Senate are working to resolve differences and approve a final emergency wartime supplemental request that supports our troops and their mission in Iraq. The House and Senate versions closely follow the President's request and will provide needed resources that will make our troops more secure and enable the Iraqi people to achieve self-governance sooner.
- The Administration continues to support the language in the House version that provides rebuilding assistance to Iraq in the form of a grant, rather than a loan. As President Bush said, "Loans are the wrong approach – they would slow the reconstruction of Iraq, delay the democratic process, and send the wrong message to both the region and the world. The loan provision must be removed in conference."

Recent Progress in Iraq

Iraqis Protecting Vital Infrastructure: With the establishment of the new Facilities Protection Service, 20,000 Iraqis are now actively involved to protect their own vital infrastructure, such as power transmission lines, oil production facilities, and other potential targets of sabotage. Every Iraqi member of the Facilities Protection Service helps to free up Coalition forces for other missions.

Uncovering the Brutality of the Saddam Hussein Regime: To date, more than 100 mass graves have been found in Iraq. An estimated 300,000 victims of the Saddam Hussein regime are buried at these sites. The Coalition Provisional Authority, Coalition forces, local Iraqi leaders, and international organizations are working together to ensure that these sites are protected and preserved. CPA and local Iraqis are also working to establish an Iraqi Committee on Missing Persons to compile a national database of victims and provide a resource to help forensic experts identify remains.

In Case You Missed It – Comments on Reconstruction Aid vs. Loans

Los Angeles Times, editorial (10/21/03): "When the victorious Allies imposed massive debt and reparations on Germany in the Treaty of Versailles after World War I, they helped ruin the democratic Weimar Republic and bring the Nazis to power. No matter how costly it may be, the United States and Europe must not make the same mistake in Iraq. President Bush is rightly urging Congress not to make half of \$20 billion in civilian aid to Iraq a loan rather than an outright grant."

Oklahoma City Oklahoman, editorial (10/21/03): "Unfortunately, the Senate gave in to a wrongheaded proposal to turn \$10 billion of the Iraqi aid package into loans. The thinking is that at some point Iraq can pay back some of what America is investing in its future. It's a bad idea, and both of Oklahoma's senators voted against it. First, there's no Iraqi government to which to loan the money. Second, Iraq already labors under \$200 billion in debt incurred by Saddam Hussein..... Third, sending

Iraq a loan to be repaid -- with oil revenues, the assumption goes -- simply shreds U.S. arguments the war in Iraq wasn't to gain control of Iraq's oil. How else could Iraqis and other Muslim nations view an American loan, secured by Iraq's oil reserves?..... Our larger concern is for Congress to recognize that Iraq and its reconstruction are an integral part of the larger war against terror. Ensuring a free and democratic Iraq is essential to keeping it from becoming an incubator for future terrorists. Yes, \$87 billion is a lot of money. But measured against the incalculable losses America suffered on 9/11, how can the U.S. say the price is too high?"

New York Times, editorial (10/20/03): "Last week Congressional Democrats challenged Mr. Bush's request for \$20 billion for reconstruction in Iraq. One of their leading demands, converting some of the money into loans, picked up enough Republican support to prevail in the Senate. Unfortunately, it's a terrible idea. Turning aid into a loan dumps more debt on a country that is already sinking in it. It's also the worst kind of election-oriented pandering that only serves to hide the true costs from voters."

Greensboro (NC) News & Record, editorial (10/20/03): "Separating the rebuilding of Iraq from the safety and security of U.S. troops is impossible. An Iraq with such basic necessities as food, water and electricity is a stabler, safer, more manageable environment than one that seethes with poverty, frustration and hopelessness. The funding for troops and rebuilding are tightly interwoven. As for the demand from some lawmakers that Iraq must repay the reconstruction aid as a loan, that again may sound good to U.S. taxpayers, who are waging their own struggles against job losses and poverty. But Iraq's economy already is mired in heavy debt. Adding another weight to that burden seriously would threaten prospects for a successful postwar recovery."

Cincinnati (OH) Enquirer, editorial (10/19/03): "The good news is that the U.N. Security Council reversed itself after months of frowning upon U.S. involvement in Iraq. The not-so-good news is that even though the House and Senate approved the president's \$87 billion request to support troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, Iraq will have to repay half the money set aside for its reconstruction. That's wrong."

Cleveland (OH) Plain Dealer, editorial (10/18/03): "To whom would this loan be made? Iraq, now and for months to come, has no government that can rightly assume such a debt. Creating it without a legitimate signatory in Baghdad would provide ammunition for those who claim, we believe wrongly, that America's main interest in the region is securing unrestricted control of Iraq's vast oil reserves. No, America has set a course to bring Iraq into the 21st century. ... This is not the time to go on the cheap."

Columbus (OH) Dispatch, editorial (10/18/03): "President Bush's \$87 billion request for efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan irritates many Americans, who say the nation's domestic programs need funding. But money for Iraq -- probably more than Bush has requested -- is needed, and making half of the \$20.3 billion Bush seeks for reconstruction a loan instead of a grant would be counterproductive. Iraq, struggling to regain its footing after much of its infrastructure was destroyed, its government overthrown and its army dismantled, would not be able to repay the loan for years. The Republicans and Democrats pushing for a loan are pandering to frustrated taxpayers. Do the proponents expect that \$10 billion will be repaid? Bombarding Iraq and then making Iraqis pay for being bombarded is unfair. Financial burdens imposed on defeated nations, such as those in the aftermath of World War I, don't lead to lasting peace."

Columbia (SC) State, editorial (10/9/03): "...But the two types of spending, the security and the

reconstruction, are aimed at the same long-term goal: rebuilding a healthy Iraq. It's a twin effort to reach that primary objective, with one side as important as the other. If Iraq is rebuilt successfully, that will make U.S. troops there safer. ... Iraq is not a sheikdom with Rolls-Royces for everybody; it will not have \$20 billion to spare soon. In future years, after it has begun to get onto its feet and to sell more oil on world markets, there can be a discussion with the new Iraqi government about financing continued U.S. rebuilding work. But that government needs time to establish itself credibly. It lacks the authority to enter into such an agreement with the United States now, and having such a loan imposed by Washington would be seen by overseas critics as confirmation of the worst suspicions about the liberation of Iraq: that we fought to free the oil, not the people. ..."

Portland (OR) Oregonian, editorial (10/2/03): "...A massive loan would undercut the effort by L. Paul Bremer, the U.S. administrator in Iraq, to persuade other countries to donate large sums to the reconstruction. This month, dozens of nations are planning to meet in Madrid for a donor conference on Iraq. If the United States is lending its money, why should they donate theirs? ... But a large loan structured on Iraq's oil reserves right from the start of reconstruction will only deepen suspicion that the United States is occupying Iraq to get its hand on its oil. If the Bush administration delivers what it has promised—a democratic Iraq, a less explosive Middle East, a safer world with less terrorism—it can be money well spent."

Portland (ME) Press Herald, editorial (10/2/03): "...Iraq already has substantial foreign debt, and loading it up with more could leave it unstable. Canceling that pre-war debt in favor of money owed to the United States is not an option, either, because it would hinder efforts to enlist international aid in the reconstruction. No matter one's position on the war, one cannot argue with the value of creating a stable Iraq at the heart of the Middle East. Doing so will reduce the threat of terrorism and enhance the security of nations around the globe. The president should get his \$87 billion."

San Antonio (TX) Express-News, editorial (10/2/03): "...Iraq is reeling from the war and the long years of Saddam Hussein's evil reign. Forcing the nation to repay reconstruction funds would severely hamper efforts to get Iraq's economy back on its feet. ... Without a doubt, the cost of reconstruction is huge, and securing the funding will require leadership in the face of criticism from home for many members of Congress. But the United States accepted this responsibility by ousting the Iraqi regime. If Iraq is to have a legitimate change at emerging as a functioning democracy that doesn't spawn terrorism, the country shouldn't be saddled with this debt. American credibility is again on the line. ... If the United States expects to attract more international support in rebuilding Iraq, America must bite the bullet and prove its good intentions."

Talking Points: Progress in the War on Terror

October 21, 2003

This Week's Actions

- The United States continues to build additional international support for completing our mission in Iraq and winning the War on Terror. President Bush has been meeting with international leaders at the Asian Pacific Economic Conference (APEC).
 - As a result of President Bush's leadership, the mission of APEC is being broadened to include a significant focus on joint efforts to fight terrorism and improve security in the region. Security and prosperity are inextricably linked, and the leaders of APEC have endorsed the President's call to increase cooperation on security and anti-terrorism efforts.
- Later this week, Secretary of State Colin Powell will attend the Madrid Conference to encourage other nations to contribute funds, humanitarian assistance, and other forms of aid to the new Iraq. Two countries, Japan and South Korea, have already pledged significant amounts toward the building of a free and self-governing Iraq.
 - As Deputy Secretary of State Armitage said yesterday, "Each nation who attends the Madrid Conference will have to make their own decision of whether they want to support the Iraqi people or not. It's not support for the United States; it's support for the people of Iraq and their struggle to reconstruct themselves after 35 years of bad leadership."
- These actions build on last week's unanimous UN Security Council vote that supports our efforts to help Iraqis build a peaceful and free Iraq, further defines the unique role the UN should play in that effort, and supports President Bush's stated goals for international engagement in Iraq.
 - Already, more than 30 countries are currently working with the United States to stabilize Iraq and enable the Iraqi people to achieve self-government. More than 70,000 Iraqis are already contributing directly to the security and stability of their country.
- Here at home, the House and Senate are working to resolve differences and approve a final emergency wartime supplemental request that supports our troops and their mission in Iraq. The House and Senate versions closely follow the President's request and will provide needed resources that will make our troops more secure and enable the Iraqi people to achieve self-governance sooner.
 - The Administration continues to support the language in the House version that provides rebuilding assistance to Iraq in the form of a grant, rather than a loan. As President Bush said, "Loans are the wrong approach – they would slow the reconstruction of Iraq, delay the democratic process, and send the wrong message to both the region and the world. The loan provision must be removed in conference."

Recent Progress in Iraq

Iraqis Protecting Vital Infrastructure: With the establishment of the new Facilities Protection Service, 20,000 Iraqis are now actively involved to protect their own vital infrastructure, such as power transmission lines, oil production facilities, and other potential targets of sabotage. Every Iraqi member of the Facilities Protection Service helps to free up Coalition forces for other missions.

Uncovering the Brutality of the Saddam Hussein Regime: To date, more than 100 mass graves have been found in Iraq. An estimated 300,000 victims of the Saddam Hussein regime are buried at these sites. The Coalition Provisional Authority, Coalition forces, local Iraqi leaders, and international organizations are working together to ensure that these sites are protected and preserved. CPA and local Iraqis are also working to establish an Iraqi Committee on Missing Persons to compile a national database of victims and provide a resource to help forensic experts identify remains.

In Case You Missed It – Comments on Reconstruction Aid vs. Loans

Los Angeles Times, editorial (10/21/03): “When the victorious Allies imposed massive debt and reparations on Germany in the Treaty of Versailles after World War I, they helped ruin the democratic Weimar Republic and bring the Nazis to power. No matter how costly it may be, the United States and Europe must not make the same mistake in Iraq. President Bush is rightly urging Congress not to make half of \$20 billion in civilian aid to Iraq a loan rather than an outright grant.”

Oklahoma City Oklahoman, editorial (10/21/03): “Unfortunately, the Senate gave in to a wrongheaded proposal to turn \$10 billion of the Iraqi aid package into loans. The thinking is that at some point Iraq can pay back some of what America is investing in its future. It's a bad idea, and both of Oklahoma's senators voted against it. First, there's no Iraqi government to which to loan the money. Second, Iraq already labors under \$200 billion in debt incurred by Saddam Hussein..... Third, sending Iraq a loan to be repaid -- with oil revenues, the assumption goes -- simply shreds U.S. arguments the war in Iraq wasn't to gain control of Iraq's oil. How else could Iraqis and other Muslim nations view an American loan, secured by Iraq's oil reserves?..... Our larger concern is for Congress to recognize that Iraq and its reconstruction are an integral part of the larger war against terror. Ensuring a free and democratic Iraq is essential to keeping it from becoming an incubator for future terrorists. Yes, \$87 billion is a lot of money. But measured against the incalculable losses America suffered on 9/11, how can the U.S. say the price is too high?”

New York Times, editorial (10/20/03): “Last week Congressional Democrats challenged Mr. Bush's request for \$20 billion for reconstruction in Iraq. One of their leading demands, converting some of the money into loans, picked up enough Republican support to prevail in the Senate. Unfortunately, it's a terrible idea. Turning aid into a loan dumps more debt on a country that is already sinking in it. It's also the worst kind of election-oriented pandering that only serves to hide the true costs from voters.”

Greensboro (NC) News & Record, editorial (10/20/03): “Separating the rebuilding of Iraq from the safety and security of U.S. troops is impossible. An Iraq with such basic necessities as food, water and electricity is a stabler, safer, more manageable environment than one that seethes with poverty, frustration and hopelessness. The funding for troops and rebuilding are tightly interwoven. As for the demand from some lawmakers that Iraq must repay the reconstruction aid as a loan, that again may sound good to U.S. taxpayers, who are waging their own struggles against job losses and poverty. But Iraq's economy already is mired in heavy debt. Adding another weight to that burden seriously would threaten prospects for a successful postwar recovery.”

Cincinnati (OH) Enquirer, editorial (10/19/03): “The good news is that the U.N. Security Council reversed itself after months of frowning upon U.S. involvement in Iraq. The not-so-good news is that even though the House and Senate approved the president's \$87 billion request to support troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, Iraq will have to repay half the money set aside for its reconstruction. That's wrong.”

Cleveland (OH) Plain Dealer, editorial (10/18/03): "To whom would this loan be made? Iraq, now and for months to come, has no government that can rightly assume such a debt. Creating it without a legitimate signatory in Baghdad would provide ammunition for those who claim, we believe wrongly, that America's main interest in the region is securing unrestricted control of Iraq's vast oil reserves. No, America has set a course to bring Iraq into the 21st century. ... This is not the time to go on the cheap."

Columbus (OH) Dispatch, editorial (10/18/03): "President Bush's \$87 billion request for efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan irritates many Americans, who say the nation's domestic programs need funding. But money for Iraq -- probably more than Bush has requested -- is needed, and making half of the \$20.3 billion Bush seeks for reconstruction a loan instead of a grant would be counterproductive. Iraq, struggling to regain its footing after much of its infrastructure was destroyed, its government overthrown and its army dismantled, would not be able to repay the loan for years. The Republicans and Democrats pushing for a loan are pandering to frustrated taxpayers. Do the proponents expect that \$10 billion will be repaid? Bombarding Iraq and then making Iraqis pay for being bombarded is unfair. Financial burdens imposed on defeated nations, such as those in the aftermath of World War I, don't lead to lasting peace."

Columbia (SC) State, editorial (10/9/03): "...But the two types of spending, the security and the reconstruction, are aimed at the same long-term goal: rebuilding a healthy Iraq. It's a twin effort to reach that primary objective, with one side as important as the other. If Iraq is rebuilt successfully, that will make U.S. troops there safer. ... Iraq is not a sheikdom with Rolls-Royces for everybody; it will not have \$20 billion to spare soon. In future years, after it has begun to get onto its feet and to sell more oil on world markets, there can be a discussion with the new Iraqi government about financing continued U.S. rebuilding work. But that government needs time to establish itself credibly. It lacks the authority to enter into such an agreement with the United States now, and having such a loan imposed by Washington would be seen by overseas critics as confirmation of the worst suspicions about the liberation of Iraq: that we fought to free the oil, not the people. ..."

Portland (OR) Oregonian, editorial (10/2/03): "...A massive loan would undercut the effort by L. Paul Bremer, the U.S. administrator in Iraq, to persuade other countries to donate large sums to the reconstruction. This month, dozens of nations are planning to meet in Madrid for a donor conference on Iraq. If the United States is lending its money, why should they donate theirs? ... But a large loan structured on Iraq's oil reserves right from the start of reconstruction will only deepen suspicion that the United States is occupying Iraq to get its hand on its oil. If the Bush administration delivers what it has promised—a democratic Iraq, a less explosive Middle East, a safer world with less terrorism—it can be money well spent."

Portland (ME) Press Herald, editorial (10/2/03): "...Iraq already has substantial foreign debt, and loading it up with more could leave it unstable. Canceling that pre-war debt in favor of money owed to the United States is not an option, either, because it would hinder efforts to enlist international aid in the reconstruction. No matter one's position on the war, one cannot argue with the value of creating a stable Iraq at the heart of the Middle East. Doing so will reduce the threat of terrorism and enhance the security of nations around the globe. The president should get his \$87 billion."

San Antonio (TX) Express-News, editorial (10/2/03): "...Iraq is reeling from the war and the long years of Saddam Hussein's evil reign. Forcing the nation to repay reconstruction funds would severely hamper efforts to get Iraq's economy back on its feet. ... Without a doubt, the cost of reconstruction is huge, and securing the funding will require leadership in the face of criticism from home for many members of Congress. But the United States accepted this responsibility by ousting the Iraqi regime. If Iraq is to have a legitimate change at emerging as a functioning democracy that doesn't spawn terrorism, the country shouldn't be saddled with this debt. American credibility is again on the line. ... If the United States expects to attract more international support in rebuilding Iraq, America must bite the bullet and prove its good intentions."