



Office of Public Liaison

The White House

STATE OF THE UNION EDITION

JANUARY 29, 2003

President Bush Delivers State of the Union Address

Before a joint session of Congress, President Bush delivered the State of the Union Address on Tuesday night outlining the goals for Congress and the Nation in the year ahead.

Key Initiatives

- Creating a Clean and Secure Energy Future
- Building a More Compassionate America
- Combating the International HIV/AIDS Pandemic
- Protecting Americans from the Threat of Bio-Terrorism
- Strengthening Our Intelligence Systems to Better Protect America

[Click here to read the President's full remarks.](#)

[Click here for more information on the key initiatives announced in the State of the Union Address.](#)



POLICY IN FOCUS: ***STRENGTHENING THE ECONOMY***

Earlier this month, President Bush announced a growth and jobs plan to strengthen the American economy at the Economic Club of Chicago. The three primary goals of the President's plan are to encourage consumer spending that will continue to boost the economic recovery; promote investment by individuals and businesses that will lead to economic growth and job creation; and deliver critical help to unemployed citizens.

The President has called on Congress to swiftly pass this proposal which benefits consumers, families, American businesses, seniors and unemployed workers.

[Click here to read the President's remarks.](#)



The President's New Proposal Would:

- **Speed up the 2001 tax cuts** to increase the pace of the recovery and job creation.
- **Encourage job-creating investment** in America's businesses by ending the double taxation of dividends and giving small businesses incentives to grow.
- **Provide help for unemployed Americans**, including extending unemployment benefits and creating new re-employment accounts to help displaced workers get back on the job.

[For more on President Bush's Economic Plan, click here.](#)

*"It is not a lie when you are ordered to lie."
- a senior Iraqi biological weapons official*

IRAQ UPDATE

"Why We Know Iraq is Lying"

A Column by Dr. Condoleezza Rice

Originally appeared in the New York Times on January 23, 2003

Eleven weeks after the United Nations Security Council unanimously passed a resolution demanding yet again that Iraq disclose and disarm all its nuclear, chemical and biological weapons programs, it is appropriate to ask, "Has Saddam Hussein finally decided to voluntarily disarm?" Unfortunately, the answer is a clear and resounding no.

[Click here to continue reading.](#)

What Does Disarmament Look Like?

Released by the newly-formed White House Office of Global Communications, this document compares stories of successful cooperative disarmament versus that of Saddam Hussein's Iraq.

[Click here to read the full text.](#)

Apparatus of Lies: Saddam's Disinformation and Propaganda 1990-2003

Apparatus of Lies discusses the lies that Iraq has used to promote its propaganda and disinformation in crafting tragedy; exploiting suffering; exploiting Islam; and corrupting the public record.

[Click here for the full text of Apparatus of Lies.](#)

To read more on President Bush and Iraq, visit:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/iraq/index.html>



AFGHANISTAN: THEN & NOW

An Update on Relief and Reconstruction

By October 2001, 24 years of poverty and civil war had eroded the physical infrastructure and demoralized the people of Afghanistan. The civil war that brought the Taliban to power, and the subsequent strict rule by the regime, worsened life for most Afghans. More than 4 million Afghans abandoned their homes for refugee camps in neighboring countries. The Taliban gave safe harbor to Osama Bin Ladan and the al Qaeda network, turning Afghanistan into a haven for terrorists. While the Taliban and al Qaeda officials lived well and enjoyed impunity, average Afghans faced repression and poverty.

That was then. Today, lives are better and hope is real. America and our coalition partners have made a major difference in just 18 months.

Major areas of focus include:

- Fear of Starvation
- Refugees
- Education
- Religious Freedom
- Political Freedom
- Health Care

[For more information on the ongoing efforts in Afghanistan, click here.](#)

Tom Ridge Sworn In as the Nation's First Secretary of Homeland Security



On January 22, 2003, the Senate voted unanimously to confirm Tom Ridge as the first-ever Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. President Bush commended Secretary Ridge in a speech following the swearing-in ceremony in the East Room of the White House, calling Ridge "a person of integrity and a person of good judgment" who has "earned the gratitude of the American people."

[Click here for more on Homeland Security](#)

No Child Left Behind One-Year Anniversary

On January 8th, President and Mrs. Bush celebrated the one-year anniversary of the historic No Child Left Behind legislation that became law one year ago in a ceremony in the East Room of the White House. Addressing school principals and superintendents, education leader and Members of Congress, the President highlighted the progress that has begun and the action needed to ensure that our Nation's goal – that every public school in America is a place of high expectations and a place of achievement – is met.

[To read the President's remarks, click here.](#)

In combination with the President's budget, the No Child Left Behind Act enables America's public schools to receive record levels of funding from the federal government, and creates unprecedented levels of accountability to ensure that those funds are producing real results to help every child in America receive a quality education.

[To read more about results in education reform, click here.](#)



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