

The President's Radio Address
October 20, 2001

Good morning. I'm speaking to you today from Shanghai, China, at an international meeting of Pacific Rim nations where we are continuing to enlist the resources of the civilized world in our war against terrorism.

I am meeting with leaders from China and Mexico, Russia and Canada, Australia and Japan, and many other friends, allies, and trading partners. We're discussing ways to cooperate to improve intelligence, freeze funding, and better track down terrorist groups. We're also discussing ways to better protect all our citizens from a new threat, the threat of bioterrorism.

America has now confirmed several different cases of anthrax exposure in Florida, New York, New Jersey, and Washington, DC. I commend the many health and law enforcement officials who have worked quickly to identify people who may have been exposed and provide preventative antibiotic treatment. Their quick work has no doubt saved lives.

We do not yet know who sent anthrax to the United States Capitol or several different media organizations. We do not, at this point, have any evidence linking the anthrax to the terror network that carried out the attacks of September 11. We do know that anyone who deliberately delivers anthrax is engaged in a crime and an act of terror, a hateful attempt to harm innocent people and frighten our citizens.

Our health care laboratories and law enforcement officials continue to work overtime to test samples, to track leads, and prosecute hoaxes that have now been reported not only across America but across the world. These attacks once again reveal the evil at the heart of terrorism, the evil we must fight.

The nations meeting here in Shanghai understand what is at stake. If we do not stand against terrorism now, every civilized

nation will at some point be its target. We will defeat the terrorists by destroying their network, wherever it is found. We will also defeat the terrorists by building an enduring prosperity that promises more opportunity and better lives for all the world's people. We will oppose envy, resentment, and anger with growth, trade, and democracy.

The countries of the Pacific Rim made the decision to open themselves up to the world, and the result is one of the great development success stories of our time. The peoples of this region are more prosperous, healthier, and better educated than they were only two decades ago. Many more live under democratically elected governments.

This progress has been achieved by people of all cultures and all religions, by Christian and Buddhist South Korea, and majority-Muslim Malaysia and Indonesia. And this progress proves what openness can accomplish.

The terrorists attacked the World Trade Center. They fear trade because they understood that trade brings freedom and hope. We're in Shanghai to advance world trade because we know that trade can conquer poverty and despair. In this struggle of freedom against fear, the outcome is not in doubt; freedom will win. And it will bring new hope to the lives of millions of people in Asia and throughout the world.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 3:37 p.m. on October 19 at the Portman Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Shanghai, China, for broadcast at 10:06 a.m., EST, on October 20. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 19 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast.

The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan and an Exchange With Reporters in Shanghai, China
October 20, 2001

President Bush. It's an honor to be with our—with my friend. And we have no stronger friend in the fight against terror than the Prime Minister of Japan. I have been impressed by his resolve and his determination.

I'm also very impressed by his resolve and determination to make economic reforms within Japan. He's got a very good strategy, an economic strategy, and I support it. And I support the fact that he is a strong leader.

I regret that I didn't have an opportunity to take advantage of the kind invitation to go to Tokyo. But Mr. Prime Minister, I assure you that when things settle down, if I'm still invited, I would like to come back.

Prime Minister Koizumi. Of course.

President Bush. Thank you, sir.

Prime Minister Koizumi. I appreciate your strong leadership to fight terrorism. Your determination and the patience, I appreciate.

President Bush. Thank you, sir. Thank you.

I'll be glad to take—yes, Ron [Ron Fournier, Associated Press].

Q. A question, sir?

President Bush. Sure.

Operation Enduring Freedom

Q. Your reaction, please, to the crash of the helicopter that cost the lives of two servicemen. And can you tell us what mission it was that they were supporting?

President Bush. My heart goes out to the family and friends of those who lost

their life. It is hard to express my gratitude in proper words for people that are willing to sacrifice for freedom. The Nation feels the same gratitude. And I want to assure the loved ones that the soldiers died in a cause that is just and right and that we will prevail.

In the addresses I've given to our Nation, I have said that sometimes the American people and our allies will see actions we take, and sometimes people won't see the actions we take. But they can rest assured that we will use the resources of our country, all the resources of our country, to ferret out and find and bring to justice those who would harm our country and harm other countries, as well. And that's exactly what we're doing.

Q. Sir, are you satisfied with the progress in the first day of the ground war by the Special Forces?

President Bush. I am satisfied we're making very good progress. We are dismantling Taliban defenses, Taliban military. We are destroying terrorist hideaways. We are slowly but surely encircling the terrorists so that we can bring them to justice.

Steve [Steve Holland, Reuters].

Q. Do you feel like you've prepared the American people adequately for the possibility of casualties, sir?

President Bush. Steve, I think the American people understand that ours will be a long struggle against terror. And they understand there will be sacrifice. After all, there was no greater example of that sacrifice than on Flight 93, when American citizens, after having said the Lord's Prayer,