

from mistakes. Our coalition must act deliberately, but inaction is not an option. Men with no respect for life must never be allowed to control the ultimate instruments of death.

Gathered here today, we are 6 months along, a short time in a long struggle. And our war on terror will be judged by its finish, not by its start. More dangers and sacrifices lie ahead. Yet, America is prepared. Our resolve has only grown, because we remember. We remember the horror and heroism of that morning, the death of children on a field trip, the resistance of passengers on a doomed airplane, the courage of rescuers who died with strangers they were trying to save. And we remember the video images of terrorists who laughed at our loss.

Every civilized nation has a part in this struggle because every civilized nation has a stake in its outcome. There can be no peace in a world where differences and grievances become an excuse to target the innocent for murder. In fighting terror, we fight for the conditions that will make lasting peace possible. We fight for lawful change against chaotic violence, for human choice against coercion and cruelty, and for the dignity and goodness of every life.

Every nation should know that for America, the war on terror is not just a policy; it's a pledge. I will not relent in this strug-

gle for the freedom and security of my country and the civilized world.

And we'll succeed. There will be a day when the organized threat against America, our friends, and allies is broken. And when the terrorists are disrupted and scattered and discredited, many old conflicts will appear in a new light, without the constant fear and cycle of bitterness that terrorists spread with their violence. We will see then that the old and serious disputes can be settled within the bounds of reason and good will and mutual security. I see a peaceful world beyond the war on terror, and with courage and unity, we are building that world together.

Any nation that makes an unequivocal commitment against terror can join this cause. Every nation of good will is welcome. And together, we will face the peril of our moment and seize the promise of our times.

May God bless our coalition.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:10 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo of the Philippines; President Eduard Shevardnadze of the Republic of Georgia; and President Ali Abdallah Salih of Yemen. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Remarks on the Unveiling of the September 11th United States Postage Stamp *March 11, 2002*

The President. Welcome. We're about to unveil a stamp. It's an extraordinary piece of work. I want to thank the photographer here, and I want to thank Gary Ackerman for sponsoring it. This stamp will sell for 45 cents; 11 cents, obviously, more than the current price of a stamp. Eight cents will go to a victims fund to help those

family members who are struggling in the aftermath of 9/11. It is a—it's a good gesture by the Postal Service. The Postmaster General is here, and I want to thank you for that very much.

Postmaster General John E. Potter. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. The three officers are here, and they're on the stamp. And I appreciate you all allowing your—allowing the Postal Service to use you as a way to help our Nation remember the terrible incident that took place 6 months ago and help people get their lives back in order.

And so it's with pleasure that we reveal the stamp.

[*At this point, the stamp was unveiled.*]

The President. Fabulous, good job, really good job.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:50 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Thomas E. Franklin, staff photographer, Bergen County, NJ, Record; and New York City firefighters William Eisengrein, George Johnson, and Daniel McWilliams, photographed raising the U.S. flag at the site of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Message on the Observance of Saint Patrick's Day March 7, 2002

I am pleased to send warm greetings to all those celebrating St. Patrick's Day.

On this day, millions of people in Ireland and throughout the world will gather to commemorate the life of Patrick, patron saint of Ireland. From his days as a slave in Ireland to his work as a missionary years later, St. Patrick demonstrated a courage, commitment, and faith that won the hearts and minds of the Irish people. St. Patrick's Day also serves as a time for people of Irish descent from all traditions and religions to honor their native land and shared heritage.

This celebration is particularly important in the United States, as we recognize the contributions of the millions of Irish-Americans who immigrated to our shores from the earliest years of our Republic. They dedicated themselves to the challenges of building America and achieved success and

prosperity. The industry, talent, and imagination of the Irish have enriched our economy and culture. Their strong record of public service has fortified our democracy. And their devotion to family, faith, and community has strengthened our country's character.

On St. Patrick's Day, Americans from every background join in celebrating the rich culture of the Irish and our continued friendship with the people of Ireland. Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a memorable celebration.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 12. An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.