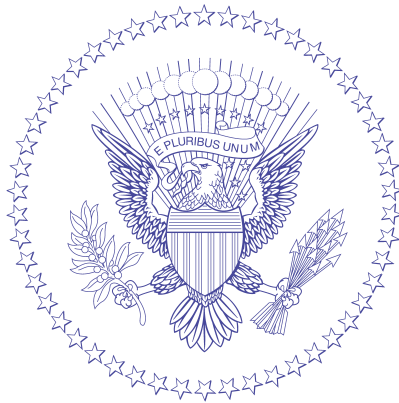


PUBLIC PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES



PUBLIC PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENTS  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES

# George W. Bush



## 2002

(IN TWO BOOKS)

BOOK II—JULY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2002



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## *Foreword*

This volume collects my speeches and papers from the second half of 2002, a period in which the United States witnessed the passage of significant domestic reforms as we continued vigorously to pursue the war on terror abroad.

On the home front, my Administration worked with the Congress to rouse an economy rocked by corporate scandals and the attacks of September 11. To bolster the worker and investor confidence essential for the functioning of any free market, in July 2002 I signed into law the most sweeping corporate reforms in more than 50 years. The Congress also passed Trade Promotion Authority after an 8-year lapse, giving me a stronger hand to open new markets abroad for American farmers, ranchers, workers, and entrepreneurs. The Congress also responded to our call by passing legislation making terrorism insurance available and affordable, as well as new laws that promoted conservation of our wetlands, expanded community health centers, and helped cities and States update their voting systems.

From the outset, my Administration has made it clear that in order to best serve Americans in need, faith-based and community organizations must be free to compete for Federal grants on a level playing field. In December 2002, I signed an Executive Order directing all Federal agencies to follow the principle of equal treatment in awarding social-service grants. In Congress, meanwhile, we continued to work for passage of legislation advancing my faith-based and community initiative. We also continued to work for a comprehensive energy plan and a Medicare reform bill that would include a prescription drug benefit. And to speed our economic recovery, we urged the Congress to make permanent the tax relief passed in 2001.

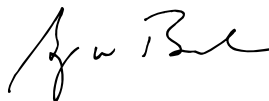
Throughout this period, protecting the American people from attack remained our highest priority. During the second half of 2002, we saw important victories. Ramzi Binalshibh, a key al-Qaida chief who shared a house with Mohamed Atta in Germany and helped plan the September 11 attacks, was captured along with several other al-Qaida operatives in Pakistan, exactly a year to the day after the attack on our homeland. We worked with our allies to take the offense against terrorists, breaking up their cells and disrupting their infrastructure. And in our 2003 defense budget, we provided the largest increase in defense spending since Ronald Reagan's Presidency so that our Armed Forces would have the resources they need to defend our security and freedom.

As we pursued terrorists abroad, we took vital steps to secure the homeland. The creation of a new Department of Homeland Security represented the most extensive reorganization of the Federal Government since the start of the Cold War. This department united dozens of Federal agencies in a single mission of protecting the American people and sharing critical information. We also acted to improve the

security of our ports, coasts, and borders, and we began increasing our stockpiles of vaccine to inoculate our population in the event of biological attack.

Protecting Americans from terrorist attack also required us to address other threats before they fully materialized, including that posed by Saddam Hussein's Iraq. In September, I urged the United Nations to consider Saddam's longstanding refusal to disarm and abide by all U.N. resolutions. After a spirited and civil debate, the Congress approved a strong bipartisan resolution, authorizing me to take military action to disarm the Iraqi regime in the event its dictator refused to meet his obligations to the world. In November, the U.N. Security Council passed a unanimous resolution demanding that Saddam disarm in compliance with its previous resolutions; allow thorough inspections; and abandon the tactics of denial and delay he had used to avoid accountability for more than a decade.

America did not seek conflict with Iraq. By year's end, the many warnings the Congress and the U.N. had given had made clear that the choice between peace and war rested with Saddam Hussein.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. W. Bush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "George" and last name "Bush" clearly distinguishable.

## *Preface*

This book contains the papers and speeches of the 43d President of the United States that were issued by the Office of the Press Secretary during the period July 1–December 31, 2002. The material has been compiled and published by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration.

The material is presented in chronological order, and the dates shown in the headings are the dates of the documents or events. In instances when the release date differs from the date of the document itself, that fact is shown in the textnote. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy: Remarks are checked against a tape recording, and signed documents are checked against the original. Textnotes and cross references have been provided by the editors for purposes of identification or clarity. Speeches were delivered in Washington, DC, unless indicated. The times noted are local times. All materials that are printed full-text in the book have been indexed in the subject and name indexes, and listed in the document categories list.

The Public Papers of the Presidents series was begun in 1957 in response to a recommendation of the National Historical Publications Commission. An extensive compilation of messages and papers of the Presidents covering the period 1789 to 1897 was assembled by James D. Richardson and published under congressional authority between 1896 and 1899. Since then, various private compilations have been issued, but there was no uniform publication comparable to the Congressional Record or the United States Supreme Court Reports. Many Presidential papers could be found only in the form of mimeographed White House releases or as reported in the press. The Commission therefore recommended the establishment of an official series in which Presidential writings, addresses, and remarks of a public nature could be made available.

The Commission's recommendation was incorporated in regulations of the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register, issued under section 6 of the Federal Register Act (44 U.S.C. 1506), which may be found in title 1, part 10, of the Code of Federal Regulations.

A companion publication to the Public Papers series, the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents, was begun in 1965 to provide a broader range of Presidential materials on a more timely basis to meet the needs of the contemporary reader. Beginning with the administration of Jimmy Carter, the Public Papers series expanded its coverage to include additional material as printed in the Weekly Compilation. That coverage provides a listing of the President's daily schedule and meetings, when announced, and other items of general interest issued by the Office of the Press Secretary. Also included are lists of the President's nominations submitted to the Senate, materials released by the Office of the Press Secretary that are not

printed full-text in the book, and proclamations, Executive orders, and other Presidential documents released by the Office of the Press Secretary and published in the *Federal Register*. This information appears in the appendixes at the end of the book.

Volumes covering the administrations of Presidents Herbert Hoover, Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald R. Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Bush, and William J. Clinton are also included in the Public Papers series.

The Public Papers of the Presidents publication program is under the direction of Frances D. McDonald, Managing Editor, Office of the Federal Register. The series is produced by the Presidential and Legislative Publications Unit, Gwendolyn J. Henderson, Chief. The Chief Editor of this book was Karen Howard Ashlin, assisted by Loretta F. Cochran, Kathleen M. Fargey, Stephen J. Frattini, Alison M. Gavin, Christopher Gushman, Margaret A. Hemmig, Maxine Hill, Alfred Jones, Stacey A. Mulligan, and Michael J. Sullivan.

The frontispiece and photographs used in the portfolio were supplied by the White House Photo Office. The typography and design of the book were developed by the Government Printing Office under the direction of Bruce R. James, Public Printer.

Raymond A. Mosley  
*Director of the Federal Register*

Allen Weinstein  
*Archivist of the United States*



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Secretary of Labor .....	Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Health and Human Services ..	Tommy G. Thompson
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Secretary of Transportation .....	Norman Y. Mineta
Secretary of Energy .....	Spencer Abraham
Secretary of Education .....	Roderick R. Paige
Secretary of Veterans Affairs .....	Anthony J. Principi
Chief of Staff .....	Andrew H. Card, Jr.
Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency .....	Christine Todd Whitman
United States Trade Representative .....	Robert B. Zoellick
Director of the Office of Management and Budget .....	Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.

Assistant to the President for  
Homeland Security ..... Tom Ridge

Director of National Drug Control  
Policy ..... John P. Walters

Administration of George W. Bush

2002

