

Memorandum on Determination To Waive Military Coup-Related Provision of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2004, With Respect to Pakistan

March 24, 2004

Presidential Determination No. 2004–26

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Determination to Waive Military Coup-Related Provision of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2004, with Respect to Pakistan

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including Public Law 107–57, as amended by section 2213 of Public Law 108–106, I hereby determine that, with respect to Pakistan, a waiver of any provision of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2004 (section 508 of Public Law 108–199, Division D), that prohibits direct assistance to the government of any country whose duly elected head of government was deposed by decree or military coup:

- would facilitate the transition to democratic rule in Pakistan; and
- is important to United States efforts to respond to, deter, or prevent acts of international terrorism.

Accordingly, I hereby waive, with respect to Pakistan, any such provision.

You are authorized and directed to transmit this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of this content of this memorandum.

Remarks to the Radio and Television Correspondents' Association Dinner

March 24, 2004

Thank you. Thanks for inviting me—finally. [Laughter] And thank you for honoring David Bloom. It was a fantastic speech you gave for a man you loved.

I am sorry Laura couldn't be here, and I'm sorry Secretary Rumsfeld is not here either. The guy constantly surprises me. Do you know what Rummy's favorite TV show is? "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy." [Laughter] My Cabinet could take some pointers from watching that show. In fact, I'm going to have the Fab Five do a make over on Ashcroft. [Laughter]

Anyway, it's nice to be with you. A couple of years ago when I was here, I read from my book of "Misarticulations." [Laughter] Fortunately, my verbal phonation and electrocution—[laughter]—have improved. So tonight I'm going to do one of my slide shows. These are actual, unstaged photos pulled from the files of the White House Photo Office. So, ladies and gentlemen, I present a White House election-year album.

As you know, the contest with my opponent is going to be a slugfest. I'm feeling good. [Laughter] I'm feeling ready. [Laughter] I'm psyching myself up for the fight. [Laughter]

I knew it was going to be a tough campaign when Karl Rove started dressing like this. [Laughter]

And this is Condi Rice, of course. Here I am trying to explain John Kerry's foreign policy. [Laughter]

I have to admit it really ticked me off when Democrats questioned my National Guard service in Alabama. Here's a photo proving that I was in Alabama fulfilling my duties. [Laughter]

Political campaigns always have their unexpected moments. This next photo is when I heard that Senator McCain said he was considering being Kerry's running mate. [Laughter]

The next one was taken a couple of months ago. I had just gotten word that Howard Dean had lost Iowa. [Laughter]

In addition to campaign calls, I also spend a lot of time on the phone listening to our