

Q. Was the election free and fair?

President Bush. It's never free and fair when a group of people, unelected people, get to decide who's on the ballot.

Chancellor Schroeder. Well, firstly, I couldn't agree more with this message. We are going to continue being tough and firm on all of that. The message must stay very crystal clear, and it is.

And secondly, the new President has emphasized that he wants the talks to continue, so here we are.

President Bush. Final question.

Germany's Role in Iraq

Q. Mr. President—[inaudible]—sometimes you praise what Germany is doing in Afghanistan to help that country. How would you qualify what it is doing in Iraq to help the reconstruction? Maybe you even could be so free to label it as a part of a reconstruction coalition of the willing?

President Bush. I think that Germany's contribution in Iraq—

Chancellor Schroeder. I understand. It's okay.

President Bush. Oh, sorry, do you want—

Chancellor Schroeder. No, it's okay.

President Bush. You understand? Okay. Very good English, by the way. [Laughter]

Germany's contribution in Iraq is important. The key to success in Iraq is a—is for the Iraqis to be able and capable of defending their democracy against terrorists. And the training mission that the Chancellor referred to is an important part of helping the Iraqis defend themselves.

Parallel with the security track is a political track. Obviously, the political track has made progress this year when 8 million people went to the polls and voted. And now they must write a constitution and have the constitution approved, then have elections later on this year for a Government elected under the new constitution.

And part of the political process is not only the elections and the constitution, but part of the political process is the reconstruction programs, of which Germany is an important part. And I want to thank the Chancellor and his Government.

A free and democratic Iraq in the heart of the Middle East will help the United States and help Germany, because we have been—we will have laid a foundation of peace for generations to come. And I appreciate the—appreciate your focus.

Chancellor Schroeder. There can be no question a stable and democratic Iraq is in the vested interest of not just Germany but also Europe. And that is why we have committed ourselves to that topic right from the start, actually very much from the beginning. We were the ones that jumped at the idea of having a debt relief initiative right at the start, and we are also the ones who have gone in with practical hands-on help. We've gone in and started training of homegrown Iraqi security forces and admin people right away. By now, we've trained a good 1,200 people, about 50 percent of them security staff, and the other 50 percent admin advisers that help with the reconstruction of institutions from within. And this training happens in the Emirates.

President Bush. Well, thank you all for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:45 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to President-elect Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran. Chancellor Schroeder spoke in German, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Executive Order 13381— Strengthening Processes Relating to Determining Eligibility for Access to Classified National Security Information

June 27, 2005

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to assist in determining eligibility for access to classified national security information, while taking appropriate account of title III of Public Law 108-458, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Policy. To the extent consistent with safeguarding the security of the United

States and protecting classified national security information from unauthorized disclosure, agency functions relating to determining eligibility for access to classified national security information shall be appropriately uniform, centralized, efficient, effective, timely, and reciprocal.

Sec. 2. Functions of the Office of Management and Budget. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget (Director):

(a) may, to ensure the effective implementation of the policy set forth in section 1 of this order, assign, in whole or in part, to the head of any agency (solely or jointly) any process relating to determinations of eligibility for access to classified national security information, with the agency's exercise of such assigned process to be subject to the Director's supervision and to such terms and conditions (including approval by the Office of Management and Budget) as the Director determines appropriate;

(b) shall carry out any process that the Director does not assign to another agency (or agencies) under subsection (a);

(c) may, after consultation with the Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of National Intelligence (DNI), and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, issue guidelines and instructions to the heads of agencies to ensure appropriate uniformity, centralization, efficiency, effectiveness, and timeliness in processes relating to determinations by agencies of eligibility for access to classified national security information;

(d) may, with regard to determining eligibility for access to Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) and "special access programs pertaining to intelligence activities; including special activities, but not including military operational, strategic, and tactical programs" (Intelligence SAPs) under section 4.3(a) of Executive Order 12958 of April 17, 1995, as amended, issue guidelines and instructions with the concurrence of the DNI to the heads of agencies to ensure appropriate uniformity, centralization, efficiency, effectiveness, and timeliness in making such determinations relating to those programs;

(e) may, with regard to determining eligibility for access to special access programs (SAP) as defined in Executive Order 12958 other than Intelligence SAPs, issue guidelines and instructions with the concurrence of the agency head with responsibility for the SAP to ensure appropriate uniformity, centralization, efficiency, effectiveness, and timeliness in making such determinations relating to those programs;

(f) may report periodically to the President on implementation by agencies of the policy set forth in section 1; and

(g) shall submit reports to the Congress relating to the subject matter of this order to the extent required by law.

Sec. 3. Functions of the Heads of Agencies.

(a) Heads of agencies shall:

(i) carry out any process assigned to the agency head by the Director under subsection 2(a) of this order, and shall assist the Director in carrying out any process under subsection 2(b);

(ii) implement guidelines and instructions issued by the Director under subsections 2(c), 2(d), and 2(e) of this order;

(iii) to the extent permitted by law, make available to the Director such information as the Director may request to implement this order;

(iv) ensure that all actions taken under this order take appropriate account of the counterintelligence interests of the United States; and

(v) ensure that all actions taken under this order are consistent with the DNI's responsibility to protect intelligence sources and methods.

(b) The Director and other heads of agencies shall ensure that all actions taken under this order are consistent with the President's constitutional authority to (i) conduct the foreign affairs of the United States, (ii) withhold information the disclosure of which could impair the foreign relations, the national security, the deliberative processes of the Executive, or the performance of the Executive's constitutional duties, (iii) recommend for congressional consideration such measures as the President may judge necessary or expedient, and (iv) supervise the unitary executive branch.

Sec. 4. Definitions. As used in this order:

(a) the term “agencies” means: (i) any “executive department” as defined in section 101 of title 5, United States Code, as well as the Department of Homeland Security; (ii) any “military department” as defined in section 102 of title 5, United States Code; (iii) any “government corporation” as defined in section 103 of title 5, United States Code; and (iv) any “independent establishment” as defined in section 104 of title 5, United States Code, but excluding the Government Accountability Office and including the United States Postal Service and the Postal Rate Commission.

(b) the term “classified national security information” means information that is classified pursuant to Executive Order 12958;

(c) the term “counterintelligence” has the meaning specified for that term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 401a); and

(d) the term “process” means: (i) oversight of determinations of eligibility for access to classified national security information, including for SCI and SAPs made by any agency, as well as the acquisition of information through investigation or other means upon which such determinations are made; (ii) developing and implementing uniform and consistent policies and procedures to ensure the effective, efficient, and timely completion of access eligibility determinations, to include for SAPs; (iii) designating an authorized agency for making access eligibility determinations and an authorized agency for collecting information through investigation upon which such determinations are made; (iv) ensuring reciprocal recognition of determinations of eligibility for access to classified information among the agencies of the United States Government, including resolution of disputes involving the reciprocity of security clearances and access to SCI and SAPs; (v) ensuring the availability of resources to achieve clearance and investigative program goals regarding the making of access determinations as well as the collection of information through investigation and other means upon which such determinations are made; and (vi) developing tools and techniques for enhancing the making of access eligibility determinations as well as the col-

lection of information through investigation and other means upon which such determinations are made.

Sec. 5. General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to supersede, impede, or otherwise affect:

- (1) Executive Order 10865 of February 20, 1960, as amended;
- (2) Executive Order 12333 of December 4, 1981, as amended;
- (3) Executive Order 12958, as amended;
- (4) Executive Order 12968 of August 2, 1995;
- (5) Executive Order 12829 of January 6, 1993, as amended;
- (6) subsections 102A(i) and (j) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 403–1(i) and (j)); and
- (7) sections 141 through 146 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2161 through 2166).

(b) Executive Order 12171 of November 19, 1979, as amended, is further amended by inserting after section after 1–215 the following new section: “1–216. The Center for Federal Investigative Services, Office of Personnel Management.”

(c) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect any authority of the Director, including with respect to budget, legislative, or administrative proposals. The Director may use any authority of the Office of Management and Budget in carrying out this order.

(d) Existing delegations of authority to any agency relating to granting access to classified information and conducting investigations shall remain in effect, subject to the authority of the Office of Management and Budget under section 2 of this order to revise or revoke such delegation.

(e) This order is intended solely to improve the internal management of the executive branch and is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by a party against the United States, its departments, agencies, entities, officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

Sec. 6. Submission of Report and Expiration of Order.

(a) The Director shall submit a report to the President, on or before April 1, 2006,

on the implementation of this order and the policy set forth in section 1 of this order.

(b) Unless extended by the President, this order shall expire on July 1, 2006.

George W. Bush

The White House,
June 27, 2005.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., June 29, 2005]

NOTE: This Executive order was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 28, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on June 30.

Statement on Senate Action on the Proposed “Energy Policy Act of 2005”

June 28, 2005

The American people expect their leaders to work together to help provide economic and energy security. I applaud the Senate for working in a bipartisan way to pass comprehensive energy legislation consistent with what I proposed in 2001. This bill will help our economic growth by addressing the root causes of high energy prices and reducing our dependence on foreign sources of energy. It will encourage the use of technology to improve energy conservation and efficiency, help increase domestic energy supplies, support alternative and renewable sources, and enhance reliability. I urge the House and Senate to resolve their differences quickly and get a good bill to my desk before the August recess.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 6.

Address to the Nation on the War on Terror From Fort Bragg, North Carolina

June 28, 2005

Thank you. Please be seated. Good evening. I'm pleased to visit Fort Bragg, “Home of the Airborne and Special Operations Forces.” It's an honor to speak before you tonight.

My greatest responsibility as President is to protect the American people, and that's

your calling as well. I thank you for your service, your courage, and your sacrifice. I thank your families, who support you in your vital work. The soldiers and families of Fort Bragg have contributed mightily to our efforts to secure our country and promote peace. America is grateful, and so is your Commander in Chief.

The troops here and across the world are fighting a global war on terror. The war reached our shores on September the 11th, 2001. The terrorists who attacked us—and the terrorists we face—murder in the name of a totalitarian ideology that hates freedom, rejects tolerance, and despises all dissent. Their aim is to remake the Middle East in their own grim image of tyranny and oppression by toppling governments, by driving us out of the region, and by exporting terror.

To achieve these aims, they have continued to kill in Madrid, Istanbul, Jakarta, Casablanca, Riyadh, Bali, and elsewhere. The terrorists believe that free societies are essentially corrupt and decadent and with a few hard blows, they can force us to retreat. They are mistaken. After September the 11th, I made a commitment to the American people: This Nation will not wait to be attacked again. We will defend our freedom. We will take the fight to the enemy.

Iraq is the latest battlefield in this war. Many terrorists who kill innocent men, women, and children on the streets of Baghdad are followers of the same murderous ideology that took the lives of our citizens in New York, in Washington, and Pennsylvania. There is only one course of action against them, to defeat them abroad before they attack us at home. The commander in charge of coalition operations in Iraq, who is also senior commander at this base, General John Vines, put it well the other day. He said, “We either deal with terrorism and this extremism abroad, or we deal with it when it comes to us.”

Our mission in Iraq is clear. We're hunting down the terrorists. We're helping Iraqis build a free nation that is an ally in the war on terror. We're advancing freedom in the broader Middle East. We are removing a source of violence and instability and laying the foundation of peace for our children and our grandchildren.