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02/21/2004 - Radio Address [765814]

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DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE		PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
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COLLECTION TITLE:

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02/21/2004 - Radio Address [765814]

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Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
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Collection Code: SECLOG

Staff Name: PRESIDENT

Document Date: 2/21/2004

Correspondent:

Subject/Description: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: RADIO ADDRESS FEB 21 04



Radio Address Saturday, February 21, 2004 Draft #6



Good morning.

This week I traveled to Fort Polk, in Louisiana, to visit with soldiers and family members who are giving vital service in the war on terror. Fort Polk is home to some of the Army's oldest and finest units. Since September 11th, 2001, Fort Polk has trained and deployed more than 10,000 troops to fight the terrorist enemy worldwide, including in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Thanks to their bravery and skill, America is waging this fight with focus and determination. Over the last 29 months, many terrorists have learned the meaning of justice. Nearly two-thirds of al-Qaida's known leaders have been captured or killed. The terrorists are on the run, with good reason to fear what the night might bring.

Success in the war on terror also requires that we confront regimes that might arm terrorists with the ultimate weapons. America is determined to meet this danger, and to deny terrorists and dangerous regimes the ability to threaten us with the world's most deadly weapons.

For 12 years, the former dictator of Iraq defied the international community. He refused to disarm or account for his illegal weapons and programs. My Administration looked at the intelligence information, and we saw a threat. Members of Congress looked at the intelligence, and they saw a threat. The UN Security Council looked at the intelligence, and it saw a threat. All of us knew Saddam Hussein's history. He waged aggressive wars against neighboring countries, and aspired to dominate the Middle East. He cultivated ties to terrorists. He built weapons of mass destruction ... he hid those weapons ... and he used chemical weapons against thousands of Iraqis and Iranians. Saddam Hussein doubted our resolve to enforce our word – and now he sits in a prison cell, while his country moves toward a democratic future.

Today in Iraq, our coalition faces deadly attacks from a remnant of Saddam's supporters, joined by foreign terrorists. Recently, we intercepted a letter sent by a senior al-Qaida associate, named Zarqawi, to one of

Osama Bin Laden's top lieutenants. The letter describes the terrorist strategy – to tear Iraq apart with ethnic violence, to undermine Iraqi security forces, to demoralize our coalition, and to prevent the rise of a sovereign democratic government. This terrorist outlines his efforts to recruit and train suicide bombers, and boasts of 25 attacks on innocent Iraqis and coalition personnel. And he urges al-Qaida members to join him in waging war on our coalition and on the people of Iraq.

Zarqawi and men like him have made Iraq the central front in our war on terror. The terrorists know that the emergence of a free Iraq will be a major blow against the worldwide terrorist movement. In this, they are correct. But we have seen this enemy before – and we know how to deal with them. Fighting alongside the people of Afghanistan, we are defeating the terrorists in that country. And fighting alongside the people of Iraq, we will defeat the terrorists there as well. Iraq, like Afghanistan, will be free.

Our coalition is working with Iraq's Governing Council to draft a basic law, with a bill of rights. We are working with Iraqis and the United Nations to prepare for a transition to full Iraqi sovereignty. The establishment of a free Iraq will be a watershed event in the history of the Middle East, helping to advance the spread of liberty throughout that vital region. And as freedom takes hold in the Greater Middle East, the people of the region will find new hope ... and America will be more secure.

Two and a half years ago, on a clear September morning, the enemies of America brought a new kind of war to our shores. Three days later, I stood in the rubble of the Twin Towers. My resolve today is the same as it was then. I will not relent until the terrorist threat to America is removed.

Thank you for listening.

Drafted by: Michael Anton, NSC Speechwriting
Office: (202) 456-9379

(b)(6)

Radio Address Saturdy, February 21, 2004 Draft #4

'04 FEB 19 AMS: 26

Good morning.

This week I traveled to Fort Polk, in Louisiana, to visit with soldiers and family members who are giving vital service in the war on terror. Fort Polk is home to some of the Army's oldest and finest units – including two that are currently deployed in Iraq. Since September 11th, 2001, Fort Polk has also trained and deployed more than 10,000 troops to fight the terrorist enemy.

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Drafted by:	Michael Anton, NSC Speechwriting Office: (202) 456-9379				
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