

Because the terrorist threat continues, the national emergency declared on September 14, 2001, and the measures taken on September 14, 2001, November 16, 2001, and January 16, 2002, to deal with that emergency, must continue in effect beyond September 14, 2002. Therefore, I am continuing in effect for 1 year the national emergency I declared on September 14, 2001, with respect to the terrorist threat.

This notice shall be published in the *Federal Register* and transmitted to the Congress.

**George W. Bush**

The White House,  
September 12, 2002.

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NOTE: This notice was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 13 and published in the *Federal Register* on September 13.

### **Remarks Prior to Discussions With Central African Leaders and an Exchange With Reporters in New York City**

*September 13, 2002*

**The President.** Thank you all for coming. First, I'm honored to be able to meet with my colleagues from Central Africa. The Secretary of State and I look forward to a very frank and constructive dialog about how to continue our common pursuit against terror and how we will work together to promote prosperity. I look forward to constructive dialog. So thank you all for coming.

Before we begin our discussion, let me answer a few questions. Are the interpreters working right now? They are? Yours isn't working, okay. Before we begin our dialog, I'll take three questions from the American press corps, starting with Mr. Fournier, who writes for the Associated Press.

#### **President Saddam Hussein of Iraq**

**Q.** Thank you, sir. Knowing what you know about Saddam, what are the odds that he's going to meet all your demands and avoid confrontation?

**The President.** I am highly doubtful that he'll meet our demands. I hope he does, but I'm highly doubtful. The reason I'm doubtful is he's had 11 years to meet the demands. For 11 long years he has basically told the United Nations and the world he doesn't care. And so, therefore, I am doubtful but, nevertheless, made the decision to move forward to work with the world community. And I hope the world community knows that we're extremely serious about what I said yesterday, and we expect quick resolution to the issue. And that's starting with quick action on a resolution.

Randy [Randy Mikkelsen, Reuters].

#### **United Nations Resolution**

**Q.** Yes, sir, how soon are you expecting the resolution from the United Nations? In a week, month, days?

**The President.** As soon as possible.

**Q.** And how—what kind of deadline would you perceive within that resolution?

**The President.** Well, there will be deadlines within the resolution. Our chief negotiator for the United States, our Secretary of State, understands that we must have deadlines. And we're talking days and weeks, not months and years. And that's essential for the security of the world. This man has had 11 years to comply. For 11 long years, he's ignored world opinion, and he's put the credibility of the United Nations on line.

As I said yesterday, we'll determine—how we deal with this problem will help determine the fate of a multilateral body, which has been unilaterally ignored by Saddam Hussein. Will this body be able to keep the peace and deal with the true threats, including threats to security in Central African and other parts of the world, or will it be irrelevant?

Judy Keen [USA Today].

#### **Timing of Congressional Action/Russian President Putin**

**Q.** Mr. President, thank you. Are you concerned that Democrats in Congress still don't want a vote there until after U.N. action? And secondly, have you spoken with President Putin since your speech yesterday?

**The President.** I have not spoken to President Putin since my speech. I did speak to

his Foreign Minister, as did Colin Powell. I'll speak to President Putin, I'm confident, soon. I'll have—I think we've got a scheduled phone call, actually.

And the first part of the question was, Democrats waiting for the U.N. to act? I can't imagine an elected United States—elected Member of the United States Senate or House of Representatives saying, "I think I'm going to wait for the United Nations to make a decision." It seems like to me that if you're representing the United States, you ought to be making a decision on what's best for the United States. If I were running for office, I'm not sure how I'd explain to the American people—say, "Vote for me, and, oh, by the way, on a matter of national security, I think I'm going to wait for somebody else to act."

And so I—we'll see. My answer to the Congress is, they need to debate this issue and consult with us and get the issue done as quickly as possible. It's in our national interests that we do so. I don't imagine Saddam Hussein sitting around, saying, "Gosh, I think I'm going to wait for some resolution." He's a threat that we must deal with as quickly as possible.

Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:15 a.m. at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Foreign Minister Igor Sergeyevich Ivanov of Russia. Participating in the meeting were: President Pierre Buyoya of Burundi; President Paul Biya of Cameroon; President Ange-Felix Patasse of the Central African Republic; President Idriss Deby of Chad; President Joseph Kabila of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo of Equatorial Guinea; President El Hadj Omar Bongo of Gabon; President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the Republic of the Congo; President Paul Kagame of Rwanda; and President Fradique De Menezes of Sao Tome and Principe.

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest an-

nounced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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#### **September 8**

During the day, the President returned from Camp David, MD, to Washington, DC.

#### **September 9**

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings. Later, he had separate telephone conversations with President Ahmet Necdet Sezer of Turkey, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, and Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen of Denmark, in his capacity as President of the European Union, to discuss the situation in Iraq.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Detroit, MI, where he met with Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Canada. He then toured the U.S. Customs cargo inspection facility next to the Ambassador Bridge.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

During the day, the President had separate telephone conversations with NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson, President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, and Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia to discuss the situation in Iraq.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush attended the Concert for America at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

#### **September 10**

In the morning, the President met with the National Security Council and had intelligence and FBI briefings.

Later, the President had separate telephone conversations with President Jose Maria Aznar of Spain, President Alvaro Uribe of Colombia, and President Vicente Fox of Mexico to discuss the situation in Iraq.

In the afternoon, the President went to the Embassy of Afghanistan where he participated in a roundtable discussion with Arab and Muslim American leaders.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy to Camp David, MD, on September 14.