

# American NEWS & VIEWS

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**By-liner: Democracy Rises In Afghanistan**

By Secretary of State Colin L. Powell

On October 9, millions of Afghans will go to the polls to select their President for the next five years. After a month of campaigning, and months of planning, Afghans across this rugged land and refugees in neighboring Pakistan and Iran will choose among 18 candidates. For the first time in their history, Afghans will select a national leader by secret ballot, and with the full support of the international community.

Four years ago, such a situation was almost undreamed of. The Taliban had their grip firmly on the levers of power in Afghanistan, and tolerated no opposition or dissent. Human rights were trampled underfoot; women's rights were virtually non-existent. Children were not free to study, and women and girls were confined to their homes. Investment - in the economy, in basic infrastructure, education and health care - was at a standstill.

Today, the Taliban are gone, and the Afghan people stand at the dawn of a new day. Thanks to their hard work, and some targeted assistance from the United Nations and over four dozen nations and friends of Afghanistan, the Afghan people will chart their own political destiny. At more than 4,900 polling centers across the country, Afghans will cast their ballots. Provincial authorities will hear voters' complaints of any irregularities. International and domestic monitors will be present at many polling stations. Votes will be tallied at counting centers in the presence of candidate representatives and the media. The interim election commission will compile the results and publish the final tally.

These elections, while extremely important, are part of an ongoing and irreversible process. Over the past two and a half years, Afghans have come together to chart their political future with the Bonn Accords, establish an Interim Government with the Emergency Loya Jirga, and adopt a forward looking and progressive constitution at the Constitutional Loya Jirga. Next spring will see another important step -- parliamentary elections, followed by the seating of parliament, and then the ongoing strengthening of local institutions and the deepening of civic education. All of these steps embody the consolidation of democracy.

The Afghan Government, with the support of the international community, has started to nurture grassroots democracy at the local level. Its leaders are encouraging the organization of village and district councils to form a vital local government base upon which Afghans can build a moderate, stable and democratic state and society. These

and other efforts will draw upon strong Afghan traditions for local empowerment through councils and consensus.

It will take time to build the political institutions needed for a modernizing state and to educate the next generation in the habits of political self determination and support for good governance and strong democracy. But, Afghanistan already has the most important component for making this process work - the burning desire of its people, after decades of war and devastation, to build a democracy and govern themselves. Efforts by millions of Afghans to make the long trek to registration offices, to wait patiently in queues, to brave the threats of the Taliban and others to kill them for seeking self-government -- that represents political self-determination of the most fundamental sort.

When the Taliban attacked election workers, Afghans responded - by swiftly apprehending the perpetrators. When insurgents hijacked a bus, and murdered Afghans who had registered to vote, Afghans responded -- by registering to vote in record numbers. When the Afghan Government asked the international community to increase security in more dangerous parts of the country to improve the climate for elections, the international community heeded that call. Such courage must be honored and supported, and the United States and others in the international community are doing that. There are now over 18,000 coalition troops and almost 9,000 NATO troops in Afghanistan, with additional forces on call if needed. The United Nations, nongovernmental organizations, and other donors have contributed generously to support the registration and balloting process. In Berlin in April, and at this year's U.N. General Assembly, the leaders of the international community affirmed their unwavering commitment to the people of Afghanistan.

As President Bush has emphasized, it is freedom's most precious assets -- tolerance, rule of law and protection of civil rights -- that create successful societies around the world. In Afghanistan, the United States is supporting a civilian government, the Bonn Process, and initiatives to strengthen security and provide a foundation for educating the next generation. If we and other friends of Afghanistan remain committed to this strategy, Afghanistan will emerge as a moderate and democratic society, true to its Islamic heritage, as well as an enduring ally in the war against terrorism.

## Chief U.S. Inspector Says Hussein Sought to Break Sanctions

*Congressional Report, October 6: Iraq Survey Group Report*

Washington -- Former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein was aggressively plotting to subvert U.N. sanctions as part of a plan to produce illicit nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, according to the chief U.S. weapons inspector in Iraq.

Hussein was actively pursuing illegal financing and procurement efforts to undermine U.N.-imposed sanctions that prevented him from reconstituting weapons of mass destruction (WMD) programs after the 1991 Persian Gulf War, Chief Inspector Charles A. Duelfer testified October 6 before the Senate Armed Services Committee. That effort included influencing certain permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, he said.

"The fact that [Hussein] had the intent and capability, and that he was trying to undermine the sanctions that were in place is very disturbing," White House press secretary Scott McClellan told the Washington Post October 6. "And I think the report will continue to show that he was a gathering threat that needed to be taken seriously, that it was a matter of time before he was going to begin pursuing those weapons of mass destruction."

The Senate Armed Services Committee was hearing testimony from Duelfer and Marine Brigadier General Joseph J. McMenam, commander of the Iraq Survey Group, following release of the survey group's final weapons inspection report.

Duelfer said that the U.N.-imposed sanctions program was eroding and that there was a lot of corruption.

The Iraq Survey Group -- a special joint weapons inspection team from the CIA and the Defense Department -- did uncover Iraqi plans for ballistic missiles with ranges from 400 to 1,000 kilometers and for a 1,000-kilometer-range cruise missile, which were all farther than the 150-kilometer range permitted by the United Nations, Duelfer said.

Duelfer testified that Hussein wanted to produce illicit weapons, but did not have the means to produce them by the time of the 2003 U.S.-led Iraq war that toppled Hussein's regime. He also testified that after extensive investigations the prospects of finding an illicit weapons stockpile now is less than 5 percent, although an examination of a huge number of captured files and documents is still under way.

He said Hussein tried to retain the intellectual capability to produce a nuclear weapons program after 1991, but Duelfer's inspectors did not find an active program.

"We found no evidence, nor do we judge that there was one," Duelfer said.

However, Duelfer testified that he believed the world is better off since Saddam Hussein's regime has been deposed and Hussein is in custody.

"Analytically, the world is better off," Duelfer testified.

Duelfer, under committee questioning, said that his investigators have not found evidence of an active mobile biological weapons program. He said two trailers found in May 2003 -- one in Irbil and the other in Mosul -- were designed for the production of hydrogen.

"They have absolutely nothing to do with any biological weapons," Duelfer testified.

However, he added "this is one of those issues where I'm not quite comfortable in pronouncing that there was no mobile system in Iraq. We believe we've done as much investigation as we can. We have found no evidence."

Duelfer replaced David A. Kay in January as the chief U.S. weapons inspector after the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. Duelfer is formally the special adviser to the director of Central Intelligence for strategy regarding Iraqi weapons of mass destruction programs. As head of the Iraq Survey Group he worked independently of the CIA and the Pentagon.

## Text/Fact Sheet: U.S. Boosts Funding to Combat Counterfeiting, Piracy Overseas

*Training programs in Asia, Latin America, Africa, Pakistan supported*

The United States is spending an additional \$1.19 million for overseas training to help combat counterfeiting and other violations of intellectual property rights (IPR), the State Department says.

In an October 6 statement, deputy spokesman Adam Ereli said the new funding builds on \$1.31 million for overseas IPR training announced in August, and is part of a coordinated international effort to stop the theft of intellectual property.

This next phase of U.S. funding will support IPR enforcement projects in Brazil, Pakistan, Korea, Malaysia

and Panama, as well as in the tri-border region of Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil, in Africa, with the international police organization Interpol, and with countries in the China-East Asia Pacific region, the State Department said.

In a related fact sheet, the department's Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) outlined the 10 programs that will be supported with the additional funds.

These include a \$210,000 initiative to train judges, legislators, prosecutors and police from China and neighboring countries to combat intellectual property crime. The program will emphasize online and optical media piracy, the bureau said.

For the tri-border region of Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil, a \$100,000 program will train prosecutors, police and customs officials from all three countries both to improve enforcement skills and foster cooperation, INL said.

Another \$100,000 will be spent on IPR training in Brazil, which is one of the world's largest markets for pirated products. The project is designed to complement the tri-Border initiative as well as ongoing European Union efforts in the region, according to INL.

Following are the texts of the announcement and fact sheet:

*U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Office of the Spokesman  
October 6, 2004*

*STATEMENT BY ADAM ERELL, DEPUTY SPOKESMAN*

*United States Announces Programs to Fight Billions Lost to Intellectual Property Theft*

The United States is launching the second phase of a major initiative to protect U.S. intellectual property rights overseas.

Each year, businesses in the United States lose billions of dollars to criminals engaging in intellectual property theft abroad. The State Department will spend a total of over \$2.5 million on 16 international training programs in various parts of the world to combat piracy and counterfeiting efforts, protect international property rights, and support the rule of law.

In this second phase, the State Department will provide \$1.19 million to ten enforcement-related training programs. All of the programs are part of the Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy ("STOP") initiative announced on October

4, 2004 by the United States Trade Representative, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Justice, and U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Funds will be obligated for projects to combat intellectual property theft in Brazil, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, and Panama, as well as for initiatives in the Tri-border region of Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil; in Africa; with Interpol; and with countries in the China-East Asia Pacific region.

In August 2004 the State Department announced the first phase of the initiative, \$1.31 million for projects in Paraguay, Thailand and Mexico, as well as for projects by the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, Association of South East Asia Nations, and countries participating in the Central America Free Trade Agreement.

Further details on individual programs and projects are available on the website of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs: <http://www.state.gov/g/inl/rls/fs/36830.htm>.

**Fact Sheet**

*Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs  
Washington, DC  
October 6, 2004*

*Intellectual Property Training Programs*

Each year, businesses in the United States lose billions of dollars to criminals engaging in intellectual property theft abroad. A major initiative, launched by the State Department, will help protect U.S. intellectual property rights overseas. The State Department will spend over \$2.5 million on 16 United States Government-sponsored international training programs in various parts of the world to combat piracy and counterfeiting efforts.

Programs

*Tri-Border Initiative: \$100,000*

A major obstacle to fighting transnational crime is poor cooperation between enforcement entities across borders. This has been the case with the nations in the Tri-Border region of Paraguay, Argentina, and Brazil. The intersection of these three countries has long been a hotbed of piracy and counterfeiting of all kinds of products. Funding for this project will allow U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Homeland Security officials to train prosecutors, police, and customs officials from the Tri-Border Region to combat intellectual property crime. By bringing together officials of all three countries, this project will improve intellectual property rights enforcement skills while fostering communication and cooperation, a joint

sense of responsibility, and stronger operational efforts to fight intellectual property rights crimes.

*Brazil: \$100,000*

Brazil is one of the largest markets in the world for legitimate copyrighted products. It is also one of the world's largest pirate markets. Copyright losses due to optical disc piracy in Brazil were estimated by U.S. industry to be \$785 million in 2003, the largest in the Western Hemisphere. Funding for this project will enable U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Homeland Security officials to provide training and technical assistance to Brazilian police, prosecutors, and customs officials in the investigation and prosecution of intellectual property rights crimes. This project will complement the Tri-Border initiative as well as ongoing European Union efforts in the region.

*China East-Asia Pacific: \$210,000*

The People's Republic of China (PRC) is the largest source of counterfeit and pirated goods seized by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Bureau. Nearly 58 percent of the value of all intellectual property rights-infringing imports into the United States come from the PRC. Due to China's large domestic market and large export capability, illegal Chinese products threaten entire legitimate industries. In 2002 alone, U.S. copyright industries estimate their losses due to piracy in the PRC to be almost \$2 billion. Recently, however, the PRC has made progress in revising its intellectual property rights (IPR) laws and developing cooperation and coordination among its IPR enforcement entities. Moreover, the involvement of Vice Minister Wu Yi indicates a new, serious commitment to combat intellectual property rights crime. Funding for this project will enable United States Government officials, together with Hong Kong law enforcement officials, to train judges, legislators, prosecutors and police from the PRC as well as from a number of other East Asia Pacific nations, to combat intellectual property crime, with a particular focus on online and optical media piracy.

*Pakistan: \$150,000*

Pakistan is one of the world's leading producers and exporters of pirated optical disks. In 2003, Pakistan was the fourth largest source of counterfeit and pirated goods seized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection Bureau. U.S. industry estimates that 95 percent of all motion picture discs in Pakistan are pirated. In 2002, piracy losses in Pakistan to United States intellectual property rights holders (motion pictures, music, software and books) amounted to \$127

million. More problematic, is that Pakistan exports pirated media to more than 45 countries, thereby hindering U.S. industry sales of copyrighted works in those economies. Recently, however, the Government of Pakistan reinvigorated its efforts to combat Intellectual Piracy with the formation of the Intellectual Property Rights Advisory Committee and Intellectual Property Academy. Funding for this project will enable the training of Pakistani prosecutors, police and customs and border officials focused on the investigation and prosecution of intellectual property rights crime, with a particular emphasis on optical media piracy.

*African Regional: \$150,000*

The Bush Administration has committed \$15 billion to an AIDS/HIV initiative, including \$1 billion towards the Global Fund and \$9 billion towards prevention and treatment programs in Africa and the Caribbean. If HIV/AIDS and other health initiatives are to be successful, we must be able to ensure that AIDS treatments and other medications are safe and effective. Unfortunately, industry and government sources estimate that up to 40-50 percent of drugs in Nigeria and other African countries are counterfeit. Counterfeit drugs have caused or contributed to health problems and death throughout Africa. Funding for this project will generate regional seminars on how intellectual property rights laws can be used to combat the manufacture and trafficking of counterfeit drugs. Target audiences will include law enforcement officials, health officials and regulators from French and English-speaking sub-Saharan African countries.

*United States Government--Industry DVD: \$100,000*

With input from key USG and industry experts, funding for this project will yield a mass-produced DVD that contains training and technical assistance on combating optical media and Internet piracy for audiences of law enforcement personnel, legislators, policy makers, local business and individuals in Spanish-speaking countries.

*Republic of Korea: \$75,000*

U.S. copyright industries estimate that 2002 losses due to piracy in Korea amount to \$737 million. Online piracy is increasing rapidly, and piracy of non-digital products (especially books and other printed materials) remains a serious problem. Funding for this proposal will provide training and technical assistance to Republic of Korea police, prosecutors, and legislators engaged in efforts to combat online and optical media piracy.

*Malaysia: \$75,000*

Malaysia is a significant source of production and export of pirated optical discs. It is also the world's largest exporter of pirated entertainment software. Many illegal exports reportedly flood Middle East markets, and have shown up in Latin America, Australia, South Africa and the European Union. The United States copyright industry estimates losses in 2002 in Malaysia at \$239 million--and increasing due to growing online piracy. In 2003, the Malaysian government cracked down on retail piracy. Unfortunately, a lack of expertise in investigating and prosecuting intellectual property rights crimes on the part of the Malaysian government resulted in very few convictions or deterrent penalties. Funding for this project will provide specialized training designed to enhance the ability of Malaysian prosecutors, judges, police and legislators to combat intellectual property rights crime, particularly online and optical media piracy.

*Panama: \$75,000*

The transshipment of pirated and counterfeit goods through Panama's Colon Free Zone (CFZ) inflicts severe economic losses on United States industries. While Panama has well-developed intellectual property laws and institutions, lack of enforcement of those laws in the CFZ remains a concern, particularly as the United States prepares to enter into a free trade agreement in the region. Funding for the project will enable specialized intellectual property rights training for Panamanian judicial, police and customs officials specifically responsible for law enforcement in the Colon Free Zone (CFZ).

*Interpol: \$150,000*

Interpol can play a useful role as a clearinghouse for the collection and dissemination of data on intellectual property rights crime; in assessing the effectiveness and capacity of enforcement units around the world to fight such crimes, especially optical media and Internet piracy; and in improving communication and cooperation among law enforcement bodies engaged in transnational investigations concerning piracy and counterfeiting. Funding for this program will be used to advance multinational efforts in the fight against intellectual property rights crimes.

**Vice Presidential Candidates Debate Iraq, War on Terror, Economy**

*Cheney, Edwards also discuss Middle East, Iran, North Korea*  
By Warner Rose  
Washington File Staff Writer

Iraq and the war on terror played a prominent role in the October 5 debate between Vice President Cheney and Democratic vice presidential candidate Senator John Edwards of North Carolina. The debate was held at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Vice President Cheney said the toppling of the regime of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein was intended to eliminate the nexus between terrorists and weapons of mass destruction. "The biggest threat we face today is the possibility of terrorists smuggling a nuclear weapon or a biological agent into one of our cities and threatening the lives of hundreds of thousands of Americans," he said.

Senator Edwards said the Bush administration is "not being straight with the American people" about what he described as a worsening situation in Iraq, with increasing U.S. casualties and rising costs. Reiterating a point made by Senator John Kerry, Edwards said the Bush administration launched the military campaign that toppled Hussein "without a plan to win the peace."

"We need a fresh start," Edwards said.

Cheney defended the progress in Iraq, citing the new government of Prime Minister Ayad Allawi and the upcoming elections in January 2005. He also praised the Iraqi security forces, adding that they have suffered many casualties.

Edwards said the U.S. focus on Iraq had allowed Iran and North Korea to move ahead with their nuclear programs. Cheney said the administration was working in the United Nations and with neighboring countries to deal with these two regimes. Sanctions are already on Iran, the vice president said, adding that the administration would go to the U.N. Security Council for tougher measures if Iran failed to meet its obligations under the non-proliferation treaty.

If elected, Edwards said, Kerry has a "plan for success" in Iraq that includes accelerated training of Iraqi security forces -- outside Iraq if necessary -- and greater support from the United Nations and other countries.

When asked about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Edwards called Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's unilateral withdrawal from Gaza a historic decision that the United States should

support. If Gaza, however, becomes a platform for attacking Israel, then the withdrawal has to be stopped, he said. Cheney said that Yasser Arafat was not a suitable "interlocutor" for negotiations, and added that there must be reform in the Palestinian system.

Cheney and Edwards also offered their views on domestic issues in the 90-minute debate that included some sharp exchanges. Cheney praised the No Child Left Behind Act that established higher standards for education and praised Bush's tax cut policies. Edwards cited the slow economic growth during Bush's term, which he said had brought job loss and increased poverty. This debate is the only one scheduled between the vice presidential candidates.

The transcript for the debate is available at: <http://www.debates.org/pages/trans2004b.html>

### **Text: United States, South Korea Finalize Troop Redeployment Plan**

*"Robust deterrent" maintained despite reduced U.S. presence, Defense says*

After months of consultations, the United States and South Korea concluded an agreement on a U.S. proposal to redeploy 12,500 U.S. troops from the Korean peninsula, the Department of Defense announced October 6.

In a press release issued the same day, the Defense Department said the two countries fully considered the need to maintain "a robust deterrent and defense capability" while increasing combat capacity and assuaging concerns of the South Korean public regarding a perceived "security gap."

The 12,500 U.S. troops will gradually leave Korea in three phases between 2004 and 2008. The first phase of the redeployment includes the 2nd Brigade Combat Team that was sent to Iraq in August.

As part of the agreement, a U.S. multiple-launch rocket system battalion will remain in South Korea, along with associated counter-fire assets on the peninsula. In addition, South Korean forces will assume certain missions, including responsibility for the joint security area in the demilitarized zone that divides North and South Korea.

The United States will continue its \$11 billion investment in enhancing threat deterrent capabilities on the peninsula and in the region.

Following is the text of the DoD news release:

### *U.S., Republic of Korea Reach Agreement on Troop Redeployment*

The Department of Defense announced today that after several months of close consultations, the United States and the Republic of Korea have reached final agreement regarding the June 2004 U.S. proposal to redeploy 12,500 U.S. troops from Korea. Throughout these consultations, the United States has made clear that it remains committed to the defense of the Republic of Korea, to the security and stability of the region and to a strengthened Republic of Korea-U.S. Alliance. The future of the alliance is strong and will be adaptive to change and responsive to the needs of the Korean people.

During these consultations, the United States and South Korea fully considered the combined requirement to maintain a robust deterrent and defense capability while increasing combat capacity. Additionally, consultations considered the Korean public's perceptions regarding a potential security gap.

Specifically, the United States and the Republic of Korea agreed to the redeployment of 12,500 U.S. troops in three phases that will last until 2008. Inclusive in this redeployment is the 2nd Brigade Combat Team that was sent to Iraq in August.

The first phase will be conducted in 2004 and include the 2nd Brigade Combat Team and associated units. The redeployment in 2004 will total about 5,000 troops.

This agreement also includes the transfer of certain missions from U.S. forces to Korean forces, such as South Korean forces taking over security at the joint security area in the demilitarized zone, and the transfer of responsibility for rear area chemical decontamination to a special South Korean unit.

During the second phase, 2005-2006, the United States will redeploy a total of 5,000 troops (3,000 in 2005, 2,000 in 2006), comprising combat units, combat support and combat service support units, units associated with mission transfer areas, and other support personnel.

In the third and final phase, 2007-2008, the United States will redeploy 2,500 troops consisting primarily of support units and personnel.

As part of the agreement, the United States will maintain a multiple-launch rocket system battalion and associated counter-fire assets on the peninsula, and initiate a review of

U.S. Forces Korea pre-positioned equipment and make adjustments as appropriate.

The United States will continue the \$11 billion investment in enhancing U.S. capabilities on the peninsula and in the region to strengthen its mutual deterrent with South Korea. Additionally, the transformation of U.S. Army units in Korea will continue and will lead to a significant overall increase in combat capability.

[WebVersion:

<http://www.defenselink.mil/releases/2004/nr20041006-1356.html>]

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