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Collection: Cheney Vice Presidential Records

Office of Origin: Staff Secretary

Series: Misc. Outbox, 2006

Subseries:

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Presidential Materials Division

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memorandum	Memorandum for the Vice President from Neil Patel and Marie Fishpaw (1 page)	10/31/2006	P5

COLLECTION:

Cheney Vice Presidential Records
Office of the Staff Secretary
Miscellaneous Outbox, 2006
OA/Box Number: 00567

FOLDER TITLE:

October 31, 2006

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RESTRICTION CODES

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

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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Barcode Scanning Sheet

Collection Code: **VTRACK**

Staff Name:

Document Date: **10/31/2006**

Correspondent:

Subject/Description: **2006 MISCELLANEOUS OUT BOX MATERIALS
(UNCLASSIFIED) -- E-MAIL FROM JAMES HENNIGAN -
TONY SNOW PRESS BRIEFING -- E-MAIL FROM MICHELE
RAINES - NEW CNN/ORC POLLS -- ECONOMIC NEWS
SUMMARY FOR OCT 31 06 PREPARED BY OVP
DOMESTIC POLICY -- ARTICLE FROM THE STAR TRIBUNE
- "GOP POURS IN MONEY FOR C ...**

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Tutwiler, Lucy A.**From:** Hennigan, James R.**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2006 1:52 PM**To:** Addington, David S.; O'Donnell, Claire M.; Raines, Michele L.; Morgan, Derrick D.; Patel, Neil S.; Clem, Jill R.; McGinn, Megan E.; McBride, Lea A.; DL-OVP-WW**Subject:** Tony Snow Press BriefingTHE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN

VPOTUS MENTIONS:

Q Tony, since you reacted to Senator Kerry's comments, I wonder -- Charlie Rangel, another powerful Democrat, this morning in The New York Post, is calling the Vice President an SOB, says he is misrepresenting his position on tax cuts or tax increases. I wonder if you will react to that. But, more broadly, since most people are predicting either Democrats take back Congress, or the Republicans keep it with very thin margins, with this kind of rhetoric flying around, what kind of hope does the President have that he's really going to accomplish very much in his final two years when all the dust has settled?

MR. SNOW: Well, I think what's going to happen is when you get a Republican Congress in defiance of all predictions, Democrats are going to have to ask themselves the question, which is, do you want to play a constructive role? In many ways, the strategy has been to create a failed government by obstructing everything the President wants to do, with a couple of noble exceptions like the ports bill, which was important. But there has been a deliberate obstructionist approach on the part of Democratic leaders in both Houses.

As far as Charlie calling names of the President --

Q The Vice President.

MR. SNOW: -- the Vice President -- I'm sorry -- in a year in which, again, on these key issues, the Democrats don't have a plan, it does appear that they have an anger management problem. But on the other hand, I asked the Vice President about it today and he had a big hearty laugh. He knows Charlie.

Q In his campaign speech, he's being very clear about kind of linking a vote for the Democrats to the insurgents and how important it is, therefore, to vote for the Republicans. And in a TV interview in the last couple of days, Vice President Cheney was even more blunt about this. Is it the position of the President that, in fact, the Democratic Party is the party of the insurgents and the party of al Qaeda?

OCT 31 2006

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10/31/2006

MR. SNOW: No, it's the position of the President that the Democratic policies -- he doesn't think for a minute the Democrats are sitting around saying, "go, bin Laden." People understand -- but what he does think is that the policies are simply flat wrong. And if you think through them, you come to the conclusion that the idea, for instance, of withdrawal without any recognition of conditions on the ground, withdrawal without an assurance of victory in Iraq is a recipe for the kind of disaster I outlined before. That's an important distinction to make.

In that sense, yes, it would be good for terrorists because they would have safe haven in Iraq. On the other hand, what he's not saying -- and I'm glad you asked the question -- he's certainly not going to accuse people of running around with "I love bin Laden" t-shirts. It's important to know that people -- you can be patriotic, but you can also be wrong on something very important. And the President hasn't questioned the patriotism of Democrats, and he's certainly not going to accuse them of climbing in bed with bin Laden. But he will be clear that if you follow these policies, or, as I've been saying, really the lack of a policy to its logical conclusion, it could get you in real trouble.

Q Tony, when the President and Vice President talk about how insurgents and volatile forces are watching this election, is there an inference there that they would hope Democrats prevail?

MR. SNOW: Well, I don't -- you know, I'll let you draw your own conclusions on that. He's not trying to --

Q Are you guys polling in the Tora Bora Mountains or -- seriously.

MR. SNOW: That's a good line. That's cute. That's why I didn't answer the question. I don't have a clue. I mean, I've said many times I'm not going to know the thoughts of them, which is why I didn't take that extra leap, Dick.

Q But if you assert they're influencing -- influencing to what end?

MR. SNOW: Influencing?

Q The election process. You've said it. The President and the Vice President have said it.

MR. SNOW: Now you're getting into a separate issue here, which is terrorists who have committed certain acts of terror may try to influence elections by, among other things, shaping media coverage, so that we have a concentration not on what American men and women

have been achieving in Iraq, but instead, acts of violence that give the appearance of defeat at a time when, again, to repeat what General Casey said, they have not lost a single engagement, and there has been -- at least according to the Prime Minister, considerable progress within Iraq, which is why the war is more popular in Iraq than it is in the United States. So to that -- in terms of a -- but that's as much a discussion of propaganda as a tool in a time of war is anything else. Go ahead.

From: Suntum, Margaret M.
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 1:47 PM
Subject: snow press brief, #51

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

2006

October 31,

PRESS BRIEFING
BY TONY SNOW

White House Conference Center Briefing Room

10:43 A.M. EST

MR. SNOW: On today's schedule, the President had a phone call at 7:45 a.m. this morning with President Lula da Silva of Brazil -- a brief conversation, about five minutes, very friendly, the President congratulating President Lula on his recent election victory. The two of them also talked about issues of mutual interest, which include energy, biofuels, and trade. And they both said that they'd like to get together sometime soon. So, more on that when that is put together.

He's had his normal briefings, obviously the meeting with the envoy to the Sudan, Andrew Natsios. At 11:05 a.m., he's going to be doing an interview with regional television media: Alison Burns of Cox Broadcasting; Morris Jones of Sinclair Broadcast Group; and Melissa Charbonneau of the Christian Broadcasting Network.

He departs the White House to Perry, Georgia. At 5:00 p.m. Eastern time he'll be making remarks at the Georgia Victory 2006 rally. Governor Sonny Perdue will do the introductions. It's also going to be in support of congressional candidate Mac Collins, and he'll return to the White House at 8:10 p.m.

10/31/2006

In addition, to help with your planning, the President will travel to Missouri and Iowa on Friday for campaign rallies. Details TBA. And I think that -- questions.

Q Did the United States offer to roll back sanctions on North Korea for money laundering and counterfeiting in order to get North Korea to come back to these talks?

MR. SNOW: No. As Secretary Rice said, issues like that may be discuss-able at some future time, but, no, there have been no offers. But let me also say that the President -- what you've got here with the North Koreans agreeing to return to the six-party talks is a vindication of the strategy the President has adopted. You'll notice who made the announcement -- the Chinese.

The President has said, against criticism from those who have said you just need to engage on one-on-one talks with the North Koreans -- said, no, you have to bring in the people who have the most leverage and influence over the North Koreans and their behavior. The Chinese, having talks with the North Koreans, have persuaded them to come back to the six-party talks. But it would not have been possible for the additional unity and determination supplied by the Japanese, the Russians, and the South Koreans.

I'm sorry, I just saw these. These are -- (laughter.) Here I am talking matters of war and peace and I'm looking at these things.

Q That would be for staff.

MR. SNOW: I'll hand those out to you. Go ahead, I'm sorry.

Q What did we tell them about the sanctions?

MR. SNOW: We didn't tell them anything. We're not negotiating with them at this point. What we're doing is -- now that you've got the process ready for the six-party talks, the President has said, look, we're happy that the six-party talks are going to resume; it's important to ensure that the North Koreans abide by U.N. Security Council resolutions and treaty obligations.

This is very good news. This is a real step forward. And also what it does, one hopes, in the fullness of time, is that the North Koreans will renounce all nuclear programs in a verifiable way; you'll avoid the threat of an arms race in the region; you'll avoid the threat of having a destabilized Korean Peninsula. You're going to have the opportunity for the North Koreans to take advantage of economic, political, and cultural offerings that have been made by the other parties to the talks. There's a way forward now and we're going to continue to move --

Q That's been there for a long time.

MR. SNOW: It's been there for a long time, but --

Q So what's new?

MR. SNOW: What's new is that the North --

Q Is there a carrot that brought them back?

MR. SNOW: No, I think what the carrot is that the Chinese made it pretty clear that they're very unhappy with the way the North Koreans have been behaving. Now, I don't want to tell you what went on behind closed doors because I don't know. The Chinese have been engaged in the negotiations. The good news is that the North Koreans have agreed to what we've been talking about all along, which is a return to the six-party talks. And Secretary Rice has said that she hopes that that commences before the end of the year.

Q But what are we going to make of the Japanese Prime Minister -- I guess the quote is that Tokyo "does not intend to accept North Korea's return to the talks on the premise that it possesses nuclear weapons." Is that an accurate quote?

MR. SNOW: Well, I don't know if it's an accurate quote, and I'd just have to refer that to diplomats. You raise that with State; I don't know.

Q But is it your sense, what you understand, that everyone is on board with the six-party talks?

MR. SNOW: Well, that's the way it works, so --

Q Well, I mean, apparently, there's --

MR. SNOW: Well, again, that's why -- you've got a fractional news story that I haven't seen, so I'd just be making it up, and I don't want to do that. I'll try to find some direction for you. Or give Sean McCormack and the guys at State a call, they may have better guidance.

Q One quick follow-up. Tomorrow the President has no public events at all? There's not going to be any addition to the schedule?

MR. SNOW: Well, again, the President has got some ongoing meetings that are obviously very important. And we'll read out any public events that may occur later.

Q Sounds like something is cooking there.

MR. SNOW: No, not really.

Q Tony, on Iraq, can you wrap up Steve Hadley's trip, what was accomplished, and address the continuing part of the story that there's a possible rift between the President and Maliki?

MR. SNOW: I don't know. Let me start with the second half first. Let's see, we've now had the Prime Minister saying there's no rift, the President saying there's no rift, the National Security Advisor of Iraq saying there's no rift, the U.S. Ambassador to Iraq saying there's no rift, the U.S. National Security Advisor saying there's no rift, and my telling you, on the basis of my observation of the secure conference call the other day, that there's no rift. So there's no rift. Now, I mean, I don't know how many more people you can marshal, but it seems that all the people who've been in the room and have been in critical positions are saying that.

What Steve is doing is paying a visit and assessing the situation, also talking with the Prime Minister.

I think -- again, let me stress the thing that has been most impressive to us, which is the assertiveness of the Prime Minister when it comes to wanting to take over important security operations within Iraq. We could not be happier that we've got a Prime Minister who is a man of action and man who is making decisions. That is absolutely essential for the future of Iraq.

And he's not simply doing it on the security side. He's been very aggressive in recent weeks, as I've pointed out on the political side, reaching out both to Shia and to Sunni. He's been very aggressive on the economic front, and he was giving a readout of economic success in the country. So he understands that to be a Prime Minister means more than simply having to be a commander-in-chief. It means to be a unifying force in a country where a lot of people are yearning to have a free and democratic society. They expressed that with their votes last year.

So, far from having a rift between the two sides, what you have is precisely what the President hoped he would see when he first met the Prime Minister, which is somebody who is willing to make hard decisions, who is willing to lead, who is assertive and also pretty clear-eyed about the challenges that await him.

Q If I could follow up, on the campaign trail, Senator Kerry was in Los Angeles and speaking to some students, saying if they were able to navigate the education system, they could get comfortable jobs, but "if you don't, you get stuck in Iraq." Can you react to that?

MR. SNOW: Yes, I'll actually give you a fuller quote. He

said: "You know education, if you make the most of it, you study hard and you do your homework and you make an effort to be smart, you can do well. And if you don't, you get stuck in Iraq."

It sort of fits a pattern. You may recall that last year Senator Kerry -- on CBS's "Face the Nation" -- accused U.S. soldiers of terrorizing kids and children in Iraq; and recently also described troop concentrations in Baghdad as "having failed miserably."

What Senator Kerry ought to do first is apologize to the troops. The clear implication here is if you flunk out, if you don't study hard, if you don't do your homework, if you don't make an effort to be smart and you don't do well, you "get stuck in Iraq." But an extraordinary thing has happened since September 11th, which is a lot of people -- America's finest -- have willingly agreed to volunteer their services in a mission that they know is dangerous, but is also important. And Senator Kerry not only owes an apology to those who are serving, but also to the families of those who have given their lives in this.

This is an absolute insult. And I'm a little astonished that he didn't figure it out already. I mean, you know, if I were Senator Kerry -- I mean, you've seen me, I say something stupid, I apologize as quickly as possible. And this is something for which he ought to apologize. Meanwhile, it's probably reasonable to ask some of the Democrats -- ask a Jim Webb or a Tammy Duckworth, both of whom are citing their military record -- okay, what do you think about it, what do you think about this quote? Do you agree with him? He was your presidential nominee. And as for the notion that you can say this sort of thing about the troops and say you support them, it's interesting.

Helen.

Q Does the President owe the Democrats an apology for saying that the terrorists -- that they will appease the terrorists?

MR. SNOW: No. Let's take -- you know what's interesting, Helen, and I've said this before --

Q How bellicose was he?

MR. SNOW: I don't think it's bellicose. Look, let's listen to what the Democrats -- or let's think about what Democrats are doing in this election campaign. When it comes to winning the war on terror, what is their plan? They've not said. They have talked about withdrawal --

Q -- 101 in Iraq --

MR. SNOW: -- they've talked about a whole series of things, in terms of complaining -- looking back over their shoulders and complaining about past decisions. But when it comes to the key issue, how do you achieve victory -- they say they want to achieve it, but they won't tell you how. They will tell you what they oppose what the President is doing. They oppose the Patriot Act; they have opposed the Terrorist Surveillance Program; they oppose the program by which we detain, question and bring to justice the worst of the terrorists. So they have opposed all of those things, so we know what they oppose, but we don't know what they're going to do.

Q How does the President propose to win? How does the President -- 101 in October dying --

MR. SNOW: The President understands that it is difficult. This is a man who signs each and every condolence note. He is absolutely aware of the human cost. And he grieves for every family and every person that we've lost. But on the other hand, he also knows two things. First, as General Casey said last week, there is not a single military engagement that we have not won, and we don't give our soldiers credit for that.

Secondly, he also understands that if we were to walk away short of victory it would give terrorists the opportunity to turn Iraq into a stronghold in which they would have access to the world's second largest reserves of petroleum; that they would be able to use oil as a political weapon against the United States, Europe, Asia, could pit the industrialized nations against one another; they could also work in concert with Iran and Syria, which have been active supporters of terror; they no doubt would try to go after Israel, after the Arabian peninsula, perhaps after Egypt.

In other words, the consequences of walking out and leaving a failed state are absolutely catastrophic, and the President understands that. But he also understands the promise of a democratic Iraq. And if you take a look at what's happened -- the Prime Minister, being assertive about what he wants to achieve -- and there has been progress, economically and politically, throughout much of Iraq, not ignoring the difficulties especially around Baghdad and the fierce fighting -- you take a look at that, the promise is if you have a democracy, and when you have a democracy that stands up in Iraq, that sends a powerful message.

Helen, you and I have been students of the region long enough to know that everybody is watching -- everybody is watching. And the way they see it in the region is either terrorists win or democracy wins. And the President is absolutely determined that democracy wins.

Q How would you judge the Maliki government's decision to

remove the checkpoints in the al Sadr neighborhood in Baghdad, which, as you know, is a very troubled place where the militia of Muqtada al Sadr is viewed as having more strength than perhaps the U.S. forces and the Iraqi forces? Is that not a setback today?

MR. SNOW: No, because, again, checkpoints -- to deal with checkpoints does not necessarily change the situation in terms of how you deal with Sadr City. The Prime Minister has also said on a number of occasions, if you look at Sadr City, in his opinion, 90 to 95 percent are people who support the mission and they're opposed to terrorism. And so he has also said that the Iraqis, themselves, are going to be most capable of gathering intelligence going after them.

There are a number of things going on in Sadr City. What he did not say is, let's not continue going after terrorist organizations. As a matter of fact, the other day, when he was walking through and describing his own view of his responsibilities as commander-and-chief -- and I want to quote it correctly -- he made it clear that a fundamental part of that is fighting terror, including militias and including separatist terror groups. He said that "joint efforts continue to pursue terrorists and outlaws who expose the lives of citizens to killings, abductions, and explosions." Abductions also would include a U.S. serviceman.

So the Prime Minister, now on -- I don't know -- three or four occasions at least in the last week, in talking about security, has made it clear that sectarian violence, whether it be through militias or whether it be through Saddam loyalists or others, is not something he's going to accept. As a matter of fact, what he said in a conference call the other day is that he wants the ability to respond more swiftly and more precisely to things as they come.

Q Tony, more on this non-rift with Maliki.

MR. SNOW: Yes.

Q How can you say there's not a rift at all? I mean, that's the impression you're leaving -- when, as Kelly points out, he has one opinion about how to conduct operations in Sadr City, U.S. commanders have another opinion about how to conduct operations in Sadr City -- why is that not a rift?

MR. SNOW: Because -- is every time somebody has a discussion about how best to proceed, is that a rift, or is that a -- actually, a discussion about how best to proceed? I mean, I think what you're trying to do --

Q Well, it's words, not actions. I mean, are his actions what you want?

MR. SNOW: Yes, his actions -- again, the Prime Minister, if you take a look at what he's been doing, he's been very assertive and aggressive. For instance, I've already mentioned a number of times the demobilization of a Shia police battalion --

Q I understand that, but I'm going to go back to a question I've had in the past -- are you completely satisfied with what Mr. Maliki is doing as far as actions in Iraq?

MR. SNOW: Look, what do you mean by completely satisfied? Every single act at every single time --

Q Well, you say there's no rift --

MR. SNOW: I'm not going to get into the rift creation business. As you understand and the President said, and President Maliki understands, there may be times when, on small details -- this is the Prime Minister's words -- on details they may disagree. But on the overall plan for proceeding and how they do it, they do agree. Now, there are going to be times when they disagree on particular actions. For instance, last week, when you had the strike in Sadr City, which he had approved of, which he had known about, but he was not informed at the time that the action took place -- he was unhappy, and he should have been. It wasn't a rift, but it was one of those things where you work together and you try to fix it.

Q Well, are you in this difficult position where you do want to make sure that Maliki doesn't, as the President said, dawdle, and yet you don't want to hit him too hard? I mean, can you explain sort of what position you are?

MR. SNOW: The position is we're actually gratified that you've got an Iraqi Prime Minister who is being very assertive about this stuff. I mean, I really think -- look, for instance, over the weekend, or maybe it was yesterday, there were a whole series of stories that were citing somebody "close to the Prime Minister" who, in fact, wasn't part of any of the discussions about how we're proceeding. And he was painting a dire picture of how the Prime Minister was standing up to the Americans. It's not true. The fact is, if you talk to General Casey -- I've listed all the people who've talked about this -- they're working closely together and they get more closely knitted together with each and every day because they've got the shared mission and they also understand the importance of winning in Baghdad and eventually creating that Iraq that can sustain, defend, and govern itself.

Q So he gets final word? I know it's a sovereign nation. If the military decides they want to put checkpoints up in Sadr City to make things better for the people of Sadr City, but Maliki says, no, no, no -- it's his final decision?

MR. SNOW: No, you operate cooperatively. As you know, under the U.N. agreement right now, the multinational forces in Iraq make military decisions. But they're certainly going to do those in concert with Prime Minister Maliki.

Q That's not a military decision, is it?

MR. SNOW: That's a military decision, but I'm not aware that people have dug in their heels on it.

Q Back on North Korea for a second.

MR. SNOW: Yes.

Q You've been portraying this announcement today as a big step forward, a big move. But why should anybody believe that this time around North Korea will be any more serious about doing something about its nuclear program?

MR. SNOW: Well, the President --

Q Have you received any indication of what they said about why they're coming back to the talks?

MR. SNOW: No. Look, it's pretty clear -- when your number-one trading partner and your number-one supplier of energy comes to you and has a frank discussion, the contents of which I don't know, and out of that comes an agreement to engage in the six-party talks, you'll have to draw your own conclusions.

Here's what the President said. I think it's reasonable to say trust, but verify, because he has said that he wanted to thank the Chinese for encouraging the meeting that got the agreement to the six-party talks -- to get the six-party talks restarted. But he also says, we'll be sending teams to the region to work with our partners to make sure that the current United Nations Security Council Resolution is enforced, but also to make sure that the talks are effective, that we achieve the results we want, which is a North Korea that abandons nuclear weapons programs.

So, look, this is a step forward. Is it an absolute, lock-dead guarantee? We'll find out if the North Koreans are going to make good on their word. What you're doing, of course, is expressing the very kind of skepticism we've had in the past, which is why we've talked about the importance of having verifiable activities on the part of the North Korean government. That has always been one of the preconditions for six-party talks. And again, this is -- this I think is a very important reaffirmation of the way the President went about it.

Q There were also, a couple of weeks ago, reports that people were seeing some movements over in North Korea that might indicate that they were going to do another nuclear test. Have you heard anything more lately about that, whether they've stopped?

MR. SNOW: That would be certainly inconsistent with an agreement to return to the six-party talks.

Q Have you heard anything, though, in terms of whether that activity has stopped?

MR. SNOW: Even if I had -- look, we don't talk intelligence. Come on, you know that, Toby.

Q Tony, since you reacted to Senator Kerry's comments, I wonder -- Charlie Rangel, another powerful Democrat, this morning in The New York Post, is calling the Vice President an SOB, says he is misrepresenting his position on tax cuts or tax increases. I wonder if you will react to that. But, more broadly, since most people are predicting either Democrats take back Congress, or the Republicans keep it with very thin margins, with this kind of rhetoric flying around, what kind of hope does the President have that he's really going to accomplish very much in his final two years when all the dust has settled?

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Q The Vice President.

MR. SNOW: -- the Vice President -- I'm sorry -- in a year in which, again, on these key issues, the Democrats don't have a plan, it does appear that they have an anger management problem. But on the other hand, I asked the Vice President about it today and he had a big hearty laugh. He knows Charlie.

Q You said earlier in response to Bret's question that you thought Senator Kerry should apologize to troops.

MR. SNOW: Yes.

Q I wondered, do you have the same feeling about -- in Illinois, when Pete Roscam told Tammy Duckworth, who, as you know, had lost her legs in Iraq, that she would cut and run from Iraq, and then apologized when he realized that she physically couldn't run? Should he apologize to her? And should -- in Pennsylvania, when Sherwood told Chris Carney, who had worked, as you know, in the Pentagon pre-war, that he had helped make a false case for war, directly criticizing his military service -- should Sherwood and should Roscam also apologize?

MR. SNOW: What you're trying to do on the Tammy Duckworth case -- and first, the President thanks everybody who served, and that would include Tammy Duckworth. What you're doing is you're trying to take a common figure of speech and twist it into a personal insult, and I don't think it fits in that case. And I don't know about the Sherwood thing. I mean I just can't help you with that.

Go ahead.

Q What happened -- to what extent will what happens next Tuesday be a referendum on the President and specifically the war?

MR. SNOW: I think you're going to find out it will be interesting, Peter. Look, what you've got -- in any congressional election you have 435 referenda on House seats, and you've got 33 referenda or 34 on given years on Senate seats. We're going to find out. I think -- I'll tell you -- let me put it this way: The President has made clear and will continue to make clear his determination to win the war on terror of which Iraq is the central front. And I think people are -- again, they're going to ask themselves, what are you going to do? You ask Democrats a simple question: What's your plan? Okay, you complain. What's your plan? What are you going to do to win?

It's an important contrast to make. But on the other hand the President also has the positive message on the other side because he says, here's the plan to win, and here's what's going to happen when we do win. And it creates an entirely changed nature of the region, because democracy will, in fact, catch on in the region and you will have closer relations. Democracies, by their natures, not only are not warlike, but are more inclined to work together on cooperative efforts like free trade and so on. So I think it's -- I'll tell you what, let's ask the question on Wednesday, and we'll try to do the after-action reports. But I --

Q Well, you've been --

MR. SNOW: Yes, and you know what's interesting is -- of course, look, I'm dealing with self-selected audiences. I've talked to Republican faithful, so these are obviously people who support the

President. But I will tell you that their enthusiasm for finishing the job in Iraq -- people understand that it's tough; they understand that it calls upon a nation's patience and its willingness to sacrifice in a faraway place. It has always been hard business, and in every war in American history, the public has recoiled, understandably, at the cost of engagement, especially far away. But they understand also the importance of finishing the job.

And on other issues -- I mean, when it comes to taxes, going back to the Charlie Rangel question -- I mean, Charlie, a month ago, had given the impression that continuing the tax cuts was off the table, and apparently took a different position over the weekend. But those are legitimate issues. Ask yourself, do you really think -- are Democrats going to extend -- are they going to put a permanent end to the marriage penalty? Are they going to get rid of the death tax? Are they going to deal with a number of taxes that have been trimmed under this presidency? Or are they going to let them just sort of pop up again in the dead of night with no vote from Congress?

Those are important issues, and the President is certainly willing not only to take his position on it, but to clarify the differences between the parties.

Q When the President makes a comment on Iraq like the one he made last night in Texas, doesn't he, in effect, make it a referendum on the war? Despite those 435 --

MR. SNOW: Well, I don't know. Look, it's interesting because it may be it will also -- Democrats have obviously made it a key issue for them. And having made it a key issue, you would think that they would tell you what they plan to do. And they haven't. And that also is an issue. So it may be a referendum on the Democrats approach to the most important issue in terms of our strategic interests.

Q Yesterday, Prime Minister Tony Blair said that basically if there's not an international collaboration on changing global warming, there will not only be irreversible environmental damage, there will also be economic damage to the extent -- I think he called it devastating -- to the scale of -- or what happens in world wars. So my question is, does the administration still maintain that its climate change policy is based on not only sound science, but sound economics?

MR. SNOW: Yes, and as a matter of fact, also aggressive activity on the environment. Let me recite a little bit. In 2002, in February, the President committed to cutting greenhouse gas intensity, how much we emit per unit of economy activity by 18 percent. Well, guess what. The intensity declined 2 percent in

2003, and another 2.5 percent in 2004. They're ahead of goals. We're cutting back.

One of the things the President has been talking about, and you've heard a lot of times, Paula, is getting rid of America's "addiction to oil." Well, how do you do that? Well, you innovate your way out by finding energy sources that, in fact, do not contribute to climate change, that cannot be construed as contributing to global warming. He's talked about ethanol, he's talked about nuclear, he's talked about biodiesel, and he's talked about the importance of being aggressive in terms of innovating our way out of it.

You've had the Energy Policy Act of 2005; \$5 billion in tax incentives for clean energy systems and highly efficient vehicles. You've had the Advanced Energy Initiative -- that's a 22 percent increase in Department of Energy research funding. You increase CAFE standards for SUVs. There is \$25 billion on climate change programs, by far the most in the world, that include: Climate Science Program, \$2 billion a year; Climate Technology Program, \$3 billion a year; Climate Vision, 15 industry sectors cutting emissions; you have climate leaders -- more than 70 companies cutting emissions. And what's interesting is we've also been working with our allies on ways to do the same sort of thing.

So the President has, in fact, contrary to stereotype, been actively engaged in trying to fight climate change and will continue to do so.

Q One area that is notably absent and that even Shell Oil and other major players are calling for is global mandatory emissions -- trade program, that unless you do this on an international basis, it's not in the long-term economic interest of the United States, which seems to be one of your arguments, that somehow it benefits the United States in the long-term.

MR. SNOW: Well, actually, what the United States has done is we've actually taken the lead on those kinds of innovations, such as the Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, which involves working together with China, India, Korea -- South Korea -- Japan and Australia. You've got a methane program, 17 countries working to capture 50 million tons of methane emissions. You've got an international partnership for hydrogen energy. You've got Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum, which deals directly with what you're talking about. And there's also a global nuclear energy partnership.

So, look, the President is eager to find any ways and obviously believes in market-based solutions, because what they end up doing is making use of people's natural incentives for doing well by doing the right things.

Q One last follow-up. With respect to oil and the addiction you say the United States has for oil, in the months leading up to the war and afterwards, when asked if this war was all about oil, the administration always denied that was the case, but now, inserting into a lot of these speeches, the President is emphasizing the need to preserve the oil reserves over there and that not to do so would be a very devastating impact on Iraq. But wouldn't it also be a devastating impact on the United States, which relies on oil?

MR. SNOW: not necessarily, because Iraq is not a significant source of oil production for the United States right now. The reason the President talks about the importance of maintaining the Iraqi oil fields is that it offers an opportunity for literally a common pool of wealth that will be used -- he encourages it being distributed among all Iraqis so that they're all going to have a shared economic and financial interest in the success of the country. He looks upon this as a common resource for the Iraqi people. And he makes the very reasonable point that you want the Iraqis to be fully invested, again, literally and figuratively, in making sure that democracy works. And that's a very powerful way to do it.

April.

Q Two things, one on North Korea and the other on Sudan. When did the President decide to pull apart the issue of nuclear weapons and counterfeiting? Because from that podium, he said they were issues that went together. And now you're saying that he's going to deal with the issue of money laundering later.

MR. SNOW: No, I said if it comes up -- Secretary Rice said it could come up at a future date in a forum at the six-party talks. It has not been severed. What's your second question?

Q So if they go into these talks, these upcoming talks that you're looking at, they will deal with both issues at the same time?

MR. SNOW: I don't know how they're going to stage it. That's a question, really, that you need to ask State. They're going to be able to answer that technical question; I can't.

Q And on the Sudan, Muslim peacekeeping forces, did the President and Natsios talk about that at all?

MR. SNOW: You know what, I wasn't in the meeting and I didn't get a more detailed readout. I'll find out for you. Do me a favor and just ping me on it, so I do remember. Actually, can we take a note here?

Q But, also, some of the critics have said that if there is,

indeed, an all-Muslim peacekeeping force, that it would be biased towards Khartoum. What is your thought about that?

MR. SNOW: Well, the one thing that the President made clear -- and let me just pull up some of the comments he made when he was speaking with Ambassador Natsios -- is that the government in Khartoum needs to understand how serious we are about getting peace for the people in Darfur. He said, "The people who have suffered in Darfur need to know the United States will work with others to help solve the problem." And, "The government of Sudan must understand that we're serious -- when you deliver a message to them on behalf of our government" -- he was saying to Andrew Natsios -- "that we're earnest and serious about their necessity to step up and work with the international community." This talks about, the President also had mentioned a credible international peacekeeping force. As you know, he just got back and what he said is that Andrew Natsios has been there for 10 days. And unfortunately, but to nobody's surprise, there is a grim report about the human condition there. And the President is outraged about it and he believes the international community needs to step up, and he believes that the government of Sudan needs to do it, as well.

Q Tony, you mentioned that the President will go to Missouri on Friday. Will he do anything with Senator Talent?

MR. SNOW: I don't know. He's certainly going to be campaigning for him. I'll find out.

Q But it's intended to be for his Senate campaign?

MR. SNOW: Yes. Obviously, for all candidates, but a close and highly watched race down there is Jim Talent. I was campaigning for him there yesterday.

Q Does the President have a feeling about the Michael J. Fox ad, which has been so much in the news in that race and in others?

MR. SNOW: No, I have not heard him talk about it. But it's interesting, let's make a couple of important points when it comes to stem cell research. Any stem cell research that takes place in the United States today is a result of a decision the President made in 2001, to be the first to make available 60 then-existing stem cell lines involving embryonic stem cells. He said at the time also that he believed that those stem cells, the collection of such cells involved the taking of a human life. He did not think it would be appropriate for the federal government to engage in something morally controversial, but he would not outlaw it, and in fact, would permit private investment, which is going on in some places.

Meanwhile, the United States has the most robust program in

investigating the promise of adult and blood cord stem cells, which so far have demonstrated far more promise in dealing with real conditions than embryonic stem cells, which to date at least have not yielded the results that many people would like to see them produce. So when it comes to the issue of stem cell research, there has been no party and no President who has stepped up and made possible more research and encouraged more research than George W. Bush.

Q But beyond that, does he feel that the Fox ads are inappropriate?

MR. SNOW: Again, he just -- I haven't heard him talk about it, don't expect to hear him talk about it.

Q Will he talk about stem cell research if he campaigns with Jim Talent?

MR. SNOW: Well, we'll find out. It's -- look, it's an issue, and I've just given you the position. And also the question is, will you talk about the record of the administration in trying to assess the truth or the veracity of charges that are leveled against members of the Senate --

Q -- going to talk about the record, I would say that those 60 lines didn't materialize.

MR. SNOW: Well, no, at least 21 of them are involved in active research right now, and you know it.

Q Tony, what's the decision-making process on where the President is going to go, leading to Election Day? Why is he going where he's going? And second, have we seen the stump speech, or is it going to continue to evolve and perhaps become even more aggressive?

MR. SNOW: We don't believe in staying in the same place, so the President will continue to sharpen his message. He's going to places where he can make a difference. You know, for all the, "President Bush is not going to go to contested districts" -- well, let's see, he's in Mike Sodrel's district, which is a very close district. He's going down to Mac Collins's district, a close race, today. He was in Texas yesterday, close district. He's going to be in Missouri, you've got a close Senate race.

The President knows that when he gets there -- and some of you have been there. I think there were a lot of people maybe astonished by the boisterousness of the responses that he's seen in Statesboro and in Indiana and elsewhere. Where people see the President, his passion, his commitment, and his determination, it does make a difference, and it sends a powerful message not merely to Republican

partisans, but also independent voters. And more people are going into the undecided category these days because they're scratching their heads and asking the question, who is going to be serious about the future?

So these are going to be events that will be important for those candidates, but it also sends a message nationwide about a President who has a very aggressive view not merely of the next seven days, but the next two years.

Q Is his schedule going to be heavy on contested districts and states?

MR. SNOW: I think so. I mean, I can't give you a full readout of the districts, but so far, yes.

Q There are reports out of Colorado that he'll be there over the weekend. Can you confirm that?

MR. SNOW: No, I can't. Again, I'm still -- look, a number of these things are still in process and we're nailing down final details on a number of them. When I'm in a position to do it --

Q Tell us a little more about that process.

MR. SNOW: You're going to have to call the political office. They're the guys who are working a lot of that out.

Q Has any candidate told him to stay away?

MR. SNOW: Not that I'm aware of.

Q In his campaign speech, he's being very clear about kind of linking a vote for the Democrats to the insurgents and how important it is, therefore, to vote for the Republicans. And in a TV interview in the last couple of days, Vice President Cheney was even more blunt about this. Is it the position of the President that, in fact, the Democratic Party is the party of the insurgents and the party of al Qaeda?

MR. SNOW: No, it's the position of the President that the Democratic policies -- he doesn't think for a minute the Democrats are sitting around saying, "go, bin Laden." People understand -- but what he does think is that the policies are simply flat wrong. And if you think through them, you come to the conclusion that the idea, for instance, of withdrawal without any recognition of conditions on the ground, withdrawal without an assurance of victory in Iraq is a recipe for the kind of disaster I outlined before. That's an important distinction to make.

In that sense, yes, it would be good for terrorists because they would have safe haven in Iraq. On the other hand, what he's not saying -- and I'm glad you asked the question -- he's certainly not going to accuse people of running around with "I love bin Laden" t-shirts. It's important to know that people -- you can be patriotic, but you can also be wrong on something very important. And the President hasn't questioned the patriotism of Democrats, and he's certainly not going to accuse them of climbing in bed with bin Laden. But he will be clear that if you follow these policies, or, as I've been saying, really the lack of a policy to its logical conclusion, it could get you in real trouble.

Q Tony, when the President and Vice President talk about how insurgents and volatile forces are watching this election, is there an inference there that they would hope Democrats prevail?

MR. SNOW: Well, I don't -- you know, I'll let you draw your own conclusions on that. He's not trying to --

Q Are you guys polling in the Tora Bora Mountains or -- seriously.

MR. SNOW: That's a good line. That's cute. That's why I didn't answer the question. I don't have a clue. I mean, I've said many times I'm not going to know the thoughts of them, which is why I didn't take that extra leap, Dick.

Q But if you assert they're influencing -- influencing to what end?

MR. SNOW: Influencing?

Q The election process. You've said it. The President and the Vice President have said it.

MR. SNOW: Now you're getting into a separate issue here, which is terrorists who have committed certain acts of terror may try to influence elections by, among other things, shaping media coverage, so that we have a concentration not on what American men and women have been achieving in Iraq, but instead, acts of violence that give the appearance of defeat at a time when, again, to repeat what General Casey said, they have not lost a single engagement, and there has been -- at least according to the Prime Minister, considerable progress within Iraq, which is why the war is more popular in Iraq than it is in the United States. So to that -- in terms of a -- but that's as much a discussion of propaganda as a tool in a time of war is anything else. Go ahead.

Q A tool to what end, though? Are you suggesting by discussing this now over a period of days that that influence is

intended to unseat Republicans?

MR. SNOW: No, I'm suggesting that that influence is designed to try to weaken American will to finish the job. It's a separate and unrelated item in that sense. But what is -- what I'm also saying is, don't you think Democrats -- and a number of you have written stories about this -- don't you think, on this issue that they consider of such paramount importance, that they ought to be able to get their act together long enough to come up with a plan? If it's that important, you got to figure out what you're going to do?

Q -- the President have a plan?

Q Tony, let me just ask your plan about this idea of -- I believe it was called withdrawal without assurance of victory in Iraq, which I think was the summary of the Democrats' position. And it gets back to this notion of this being a referendum, because isn't what the President putting forward -- is to stay without an assurance of victory in Iraq?

MR. SNOW: No, it's to stay with a determination of victory.

Q There's no assurance of victory in Iraq.

MR. SNOW: Well, Jim, are you saying that you don't think our troops are going to be able to complete the job?

Q I'm not saying -- it doesn't matter what I'm saying. It only matters what you folks are saying.

MR. SNOW: Okay, here's -- let me put it this way. If you'd asked the same question in World War II, people would have looked at you like you were crazy, because even when times looked toughest, there was a national determination to win. And there is a national determination to win in Iraq. And so the assurance I'm giving you is based on the quality and determination not only of U.S. forces, but also the Iraqis who are fighting with them. And the question is not if, but when.

Q But why isn't it a fair reading of this, if the President is going to throw the idea out that what Democrats are doing is advocating leaving without an assurance of victory, why isn't it a fair reading of the situation to say, on one hand, you have leaving without assurance, and on the other hand, you have staying without an assurance?

MR. SNOW: Because to leave is to create a vacuum and there is really not much doubt of what the result is going to be. To stay, with victory as your determination, ensures that you're going to have the ability over time to do what you want to achieve. It seems to me

that you're trying to draw -- let me get to the back rows a little bit first, and then we'll get back up here.

Q Thank you, Tony. Several members of Congress I spoke to on the Republican side say whether or not they retain the majority in the House, Speaker Hastert will not remain in his position. And they said the Speaker has talked about being the next ambassador to Japan. Has the White House had any discussions with him about that?

MR. SNOW: Not that I'm aware of. That's the first I've heard about it. Yes, I'm speechless. That's a new one on me, John.

Go ahead.

Q Tony, two questions. On Sunday, Tim Russert asked Maryland's Republican U.S. Senate nominee Michael Steele, are you running as a proud Bush Republican? Steele replied, and this is a quote, "I'm running as a proud Republican." My question: What is the reaction of the head of the Republican Party to this deletion of him by nominee Steele, who had no such deletion regarding his endorsements by Don King and Mike Tyson?

MR. SNOW: What you -- you forgot Russell Simmons. (Laughter.) You got to finish your endorsement. Look, I'll tell you what -- a couple of things. Number one, the President understands politics and he also wants Michael Steele to be the next senator from Maryland and he's confident he's going to be it. I'm campaigning for Michael tomorrow. So it's not like we're doing anything we can to hide our support for him.

Q The Chairman of the Senate Democratic Campaign said he is confident of a Democratic takeover of the Senate on November the 7th, and the election is a referendum on George Bush. How does the President react to this chairman's predictions?

MR. SNOW: With anticipation of November 8th.

Q On North Korea, you also noted that the President said today he'll be sending teams to the region.

MR. SNOW: Yes.

Q What are the role of those teams and how early could they be sent?

MR. SNOW: We'll be making appropriate announcements at the appropriate time.

Q There are reports that it may be in a month.

MR. SNOW: Well, it's -- look, the Secretary of State has said that she'd like to see talks commence before the end of the year. That's two months. So, I mean, we're working quickly to try to get the process back up and going.

One in the back and then we'll go ahead and --

Q Is the President concerned about the close ties between Prime Minister Maliki and Muqtada al Sadr might hinder a tough stance against the militias, especially the Mahdi Army?

MR. SNOW: No, the President understands, first, that Muqtada al Sadr is part of the government; secondly, that the Prime Minister has made clear the necessity of dealing with key players on both sides. As you know, he met with Muqtada al Sadr and Ali al Sistani a little more than a week ago; they had a reconciliation conference with Sunnis in Saudi Arabia. And furthermore, the Prime Minister has also met with a hundred Sunni leaders, tribal leaders, working on the issue.

If you're going to be the leader of Iraq, and you're going to deal with sectarian issues, and you're going to deal with militias, you're going to have to do the sort of things that Prime Minister Maliki has been doing. I think it shows that you've got a politician who's realistic about how to proceed.

Martha.

Q Tony, some of Senator Kerry's people are saying that Senator Kerry was not talking about the soldiers when he made that comment, but, in fact, was talking about the President.

MR. SNOW: We're deporting high school students to get stuck in Iraq?

Q I'm just telling you what Senator Kerry's people are saying, that he was talking about the President, not the soldiers -- that if he had done his homework, we wouldn't be stuck in Iraq.

MR. SNOW: Okay. A, he -- I'm sorry. Tell them to try version 2.0.

Q When you were talking to Jim about assurance, the Democrats don't have assurance of victory, that implies you can assure victory in Iraq.

MR. SNOW: Let me put it this way. The President is confident of victory. Look, in a time of war -- I love this. Would you have asked, would somebody have said, Lincoln, will you assure victory; Roosevelt, will you assure victory?

Q You just said the Democrats can't assure victory.

MR. SNOW: No, what I'm saying is the Democrats -- by saying that their primary mission is to withdraw from Iraq without an assurance of victory means that you set in place conditions that could create absolute chaos in the region and around the world. The President is determined, knowing the quality and the courage and the ingenuity and the ability of American forces working with the Iraqis, who become more capable with each passing day, that they're going to get the job done. He knows it's going to be tough. But on the other hand, the way you win is you stay determined and steadfast to the goal. And at the same time, as we've been through many times in recent weeks, you remain nimble about the changing conditions on the battlefield.

Q Well, we've also been through many times that the assurances from the administration at the very beginning of the war were that it would be -- we'd be greeted as liberators in Iraq, that it would be almost a cake walk, and that didn't turn out to be true. Isn't that why people have questions about your assurances now? You're assurances at the beginning of the war have not come true.

MR. SNOW: Let me make the point again. If you leave without victory, you create conditions for defeat. If you stay and you're determined to win -- I'll let you ask the question. Have some of your guys in Baghdad ask our forces, do you think you're going to be able to finish the job? My guess is their answer is going to be, yes. And beyond that, we're engaging in chin pulling that's going to get us chasing around a tree for the rest of the --

Q -- Democrats like Murtha have said they feel -- actually, they praise the soldiers and say that they've done their job, but that the rest of it in terms of the strife among Iraqis can't --

MR. SNOW: Again, I've asked you to ask the soldiers what their view is. A lot of these people have re-upped two and three times because they think they're involved in something special. And I dare say CNN gets the kind of mail that we get, which are a lot of people frustrated because their side doesn't get told. We get pictures of people getting killed, but we don't get pictures of people doing their jobs.

Thank you.

END

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Tutwiler, Lucy A.

From: Raines, Michele L.
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 7:48 AM
To: DL-OVP-WW; Addington, David S.; Morgan, Derrick D.; Becker, Brenda L.; McBride, Lea A.; Coffin, Shannen W.
Cc: McBrien, Lauren D.
Subject: New CNN/ORC Polls

FYI, from Hotline On Call -- series of CNN polls shows Menendez, Brown, Webb all leading. Corker ahead of Ford by eight points; Talent and McCaskill tied.

A new round of CNN/Opinion Research polls in five states show Dems leading in 3 of 5 top races and tied in one. Looks like Missouri is the Dems' 51st seat and the GOPers' firewall. The results, of between 500-600 LVs per state (margin of error +/- 4.4% to 4%):

MISSOURI

Sen. Jim Talent (R)	49%
Aud. Claire McCaskill (D)	49

NEW JERSEY

Sen. Bob Menendez (D)	51%
State Sen. Tom Kean (R)	44

OHIO

Rep. Sherrod Brown (D)	54%
Sen. Mike DeWine (R)	43

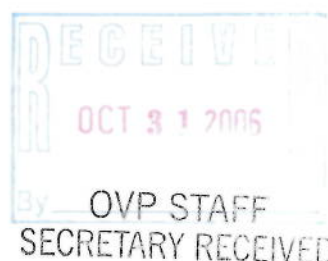
TENNESSEE

Ex-Chattanooga Mayor Bob Corker (R)	52%
Rep. Harold Ford (D)	44

VIRGINIA

Ex-Navy Sec. Jim Webb (D)	50%
Sen. George Allen (R)	46

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Policy

U.S. Drops Bid Over Royalties From Chevron (NYT) The Interior Department has dropped claims that the Chevron Corporation systematically underpaid the government for natural gas produced in the Gulf of Mexico, a decision that could allow energy companies to avoid paying hundreds of millions of dollars in royalties. The agency had ordered Chevron to pay \$6 million in additional royalties but could have sought tens of millions more had it prevailed. The decision also sets a precedent that could make it easier for oil and gas companies to lower the value of what they pump each year from federal property and thus their payments to the government. Interior officials said on Friday that they had no choice but to drop their order to Chevron because a department appeals board had ruled against auditors in a separate case.

A Proposal for Federal Protection From Catastrophe Divides Insurers (NYT) Even as profits on home insurance are soaring, some of the nation's big insurers are turning to Washington in a bid to gain protection against future catastrophic losses. The two biggest companies, Allstate and State Farm, which provide nearly 35% of the insurance on American homes, are seeking legislation that would offer the same kind of program for hurricanes and other natural disasters as the government now promises to provide to commercial insurers in a future terrorism attack. The details are still being worked out, but the insurers and their supporters in Congress are talking about state and federal support kicking in after the industry has paid the first \$4.5 billion in damage, compared with the first \$25 billion in a terror attack. Three Florida lawmakers — two Republicans and a Democrat — have introduced federal legislation that would greatly reduce the risk for home insurers and, they say, make insurance on homes in vulnerable areas more affordable and more available. ... [O]pponents, including a number of other insurance companies, say that the government should not be in the business of bailing out insurance companies for their losses and that any such program would mostly benefit homeowners along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts at the expense of residents elsewhere in the country. They argue that lowering premiums may send the wrong signal to people on the coasts and encourage further construction in vulnerable areas, resulting in higher payouts for insurance and disaster relief.

Employers, Insurers Push Generics Harder (WSJ) [A] growing number of companies are trying harder to push generic drugs on their employees. At prices often 80% cheaper than those of brand-name medicines, generics have become a key tool for health insurers and employers trying to hold back soaring medical costs. There's hardly a health plan today that doesn't use higher copayments on branded drugs as a way to nudge employees toward less-expensive copycat versions. ... The concerted push comes in part because the availability of generics is fast reaching a critical mass -- and as health-care costs continue to soar, employers and insurers are eager to take full advantage of the generics' lower prices. Over the past 12 months, four of the biggest blockbuster medicines -- the cholesterol drug Zocor, the antidepressant Zoloft, the antibiotic Zithromax and the nasal spray Flonase -- have gone generic. Patents for at least 11 more top-selling medicines are expected to expire within the next two years. All told, nearly half of the 60 most commonly prescribed drugs will become available generically over the next four years, at prices that could save health plans and consumers a potential \$49 billion by 2010.

Opinion

Management 101 for Our Public Schools (WSJ, Moe) The Department of Education recently announced its first grants in a new \$94-million program to fund incentive-pay plans for teachers. ... [T]he idea -- that a teacher's pay should depend in part on how much his students actually learn -- is revolutionary. It is also common sense. ... Beyond a brief probationary period, teachers have lifetime job security (tenure) and are virtually impossible to dismiss even if their students learn absolutely nothing year after year. Their pay, moreover, is based entirely on a salary schedule defined by seniority and credentials, and takes no account of whether their students are learning anything. All teachers, good and bad, are rewarded equally -- a truly dumb idea. ... In any organization, the key to effective performance lies in getting the incentives right. Rewards need to be structured in such a way that people with the right talents and skills are attracted to the organization, employees are motivated to be as productive as possible, and unproductive employees have incentives to leave. ... [P]ublic schools, unlike most government organizations, do have a quantifiable bottom line -- namely, student achievement, which can be measured quite reliably through standardized tests. Under NCLB and state accountability systems, students are already being tested regularly. It is a natural next step to connect the dots to teachers: measuring the learning that takes place in each classroom, and creating an incentive system that rewards teachers on that basis.

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10-31 Wyoming News

CASPER
Star Tribune
Wyoming's News Source

GOP pours in money for Cubin

By NOELLE STRAUB

Star-Tribune Washington bureau with wire reports

WASHINGTON -- Facing the prospect of losing their majority in Congress and increasingly uneasy about Rep. Barbara Cubin's re-election chances, national Republicans are pouring nearly \$250,000 into Wyoming to run TV ads against Democratic challenger Gary Trauner.

Also hoping to boost Cubin's chances, Vice President Dick Cheney will make a return campaign appearance in Wyoming on Saturday. But the Republican incumbent must also now contend with a new Wyoming group called Republicans for Trauner.

Cubin was one of 34 House candidates across the country that the National Republican Congressional Committee most recently spent money on, according to Federal Election Commission reports. The committee on Friday spent \$241,078 to run ads that call Trauner "dead wrong for Wyoming."

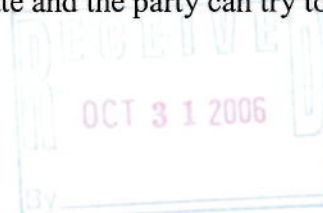
That was the first time the NRCC spent any money on the Wyoming race, according to the report. The committee spent more than \$200,000 each on just 14 of the 34 contests, including Cubin's, in its latest buy.

The money shows Republicans are worried about Cubin's chances, said Nathan Gonzales, political editor of the nonpartisan Rothenberg Political Report, an independent newsletter that analyzes races across the country.

"Every penny is precious to the NRCC, and I think them investing some money into the race is in indication they're not happy with where she's polling right now," Gonzales said. "It's a very Republican district, but she's under 50 percent in the polls, so that's not a great position to be in a week before election day."

Gonzales said the national committee doesn't have enough money to become active in every competitive race right now. "They're looking at the most efficient way to spend money and somehow hold onto the majority," he said.

He added that the NRCC could see Cubin's race as an attractive contest to put dollars behind because Republican voters outnumber Democrats in the state and the party can try to rally its base.



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Cubin's difficulties stem from a combination of how she has run her campaign and the national political environment, Gonzales said. Her recent confrontation with a disabled Libertarian candidate didn't help but is not the main cause of her re-election woes, he added.

"She had been underperforming well before she decided to stick her foot in her mouth," Gonzales said.

Cubin said the late ad buy is a reflection of troubles faced by the GOP nationally with the House page scandal, Iraq and other issues and not because of any problems with her campaign.

"I was down, as were most Republicans in the state, around 10 points just by virtue of being a Republican," Cubin said Sunday in an interview with The Associated Press. "And it's been that way across the country."

But Republican pollster Jon McHenry said when a national committee is putting money into a race like Cubin's, it means the party has some concerns about it.

"They want to make sure they don't let one slip away," said McHenry, with the GOP polling firm of Ayres, McHenry and Associates Inc., based in Virginia just outside the nation's capital.

A race in a normally Republican stronghold such as Wyoming is not one Republicans would typically look out for, he said. "But it's shaped up to be that kind of year where Republicans are defending more territory than they usually have to," he said.

No benefit would come from money left over after the election, McHenry noted, so both Democratic and Republican campaign committees are looking closely at all races where the two candidates are within five points in the polls.

This year Republicans are thinking, "We don't want this to get over 230 Democratic seats; if we ought to win this race, let's put in the money and make sure we do win it," he said.

Cubin is seeking a seventh term against Trauner -- a newcomer on the Wyoming political scene - and Libertarian Thomas Rankin. Last week the nonpartisan Cook Political Report moved Cubin's re-election chances to a more vulnerable category, from "likely Republican" to "lean Republican."

The latest poll in the race showed that Cubin and Trauner were running about even. The poll sponsored by the Wyoming Tribune-Eagle found 44 percent support for Cubin and a little over 40 percent for Trauner, within the poll's margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points. Rankin had 5 percent, and 8 percent were undecided.

National GOP officials will not publicly acknowledge that they fear for Cubin's chances.

The NRCC is running the ads to inform voters about Trauner's stand on taxes and the fact that he had lived in New York before he moving to Wyoming 16 years ago, said NRCC spokesman Ed Patru.

“We want to make sure (Cubin) wins with a decisive margin to discourage other pro-tax, carpetbagging liberals from running against her in the future,” Patru said. “She’ll get back in Congress after election day... We’re not concerned we’re going to lose the race, absolutely not.”

Cheney, who also plans to stump for GOP candidates in Montana and Colorado this week, will make a second trip to Wyoming to campaign on Saturday in Laramie. He also spoke at a rally for Cubin at the Casper Events Center on Oct. 2.

Meanwhile, Cody attorney Stephen Simonton and two others have co-founded a Thermopolis-based group called Republicans for Trauner.

The 64-year-old Simonton, who says he has been a Republican since he reached voting age, believes Cubin has become a “puppet” for the GOP instead of standing for the state. He said he had never met Trauner before he started the group, which he got the idea to form the group when Cubin won her primary election with just 61 percent of the vote.

“I came to realize there were probably a lot of Republicans who feel like I do and have for quite a while,” he said. “It’s very clear that that 40 percent of the Republicans who voted against her are ... pretty upset that she is out of touch with Wyoming.”

Simonton said he has been “amazed” by the people supporting him, which he said make up the vast majority of those he comes into contact with. But he acknowledged that he has run into some conservatives who are “kind of disappointed” he is taking this tack.

The group put out 22,000 fliers that should be delivered to the doors of Republicans across the state this week, he said. They are preparing to run a couple of statewide newspapers ads as well.

Poll: Freudenthal has huge lead over Hunkins

CHEYENNE, Wyo. - Gov. Dave Freudenthal enjoys a huge lead over Republican challenger Ray Hunkins, according to a new poll.

The telephone survey conducted Oct. 18-25 by Aspen Media and Market Research for the Wyoming Tribune-Eagle found 69 percent of likely voters said they would back the Democratic governor, with only 18 percent saying they backed Hunkins. Ten percent of respondents were undecided, 2 percent refused to answer and 1 percent said they supported neither candidate on the ballot.

The poll surveyed 539 people and had a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Oliver Walter, a political science professor and dean of the University of Wyoming's College of Arts and Sciences, said it would be almost inconceivable that Hunkins could overcome the governor's lead before the Nov. 7 election.

"Well, it would be an absolute miracle. Nobody, in my memory, has ever made up that kind of deficit," Walter said. "You would have to have a cataclysmic event to turn something around that big."

Hunkins had a different read on the numbers.

"Well, my reaction is I think the Tribune-Eagle polling firm forgot to call my supporters," he said while on a campaign stop in Thayne.

Ryan Lance, a spokesman for Freudenthal's campaign, said the campaign wouldn't rest until Election Day.

"While the numbers are heartening, we still have some work to do," Lance said.

A Mason-Dixon Polling & Research poll conducted earlier in October for the Casper Star-Tribune showed Freudenthal with a 63-30 lead over Hunkins, with 7 percent undecided. That poll also had a margin of error of 4 percentage points.

The Tribune-Eagle's poll also asked respondents who they thought would better handle a variety of issues facing the state. On each question, Freudenthal came out ahead:

_ On fighting methamphetamine, 45 percent said Freudenthal would do a better job, with 18 percent favoring Hunkins.

_ Asked who would do a better job reining in state government, 57 percent said Freudenthal and 19 percent said Hunkins.

_ Just over half, 53 percent, said Freudenthal would do a better job addressing moral and ethical issues; 20 percent said Hunkins would do better.

_ Overall, 73 percent said the state is going in the right direction.

"The governor has a very unique breadth and scope of knowledge, and I think the voters appreciate that and trust his ability to handle those issues," Lance said.

Hunkins interpreted the numbers differently. "It tells me that there has been a big effort to try and convince the people of this state that the state is on the right track," he said.

Walter said Freudenthal has benefited from the state's booming economy.

Dan Hoffman, senior director of Aspen Media, headquartered in Boulder, Colo., agreed with Walter that a Hunkins comeback at this point would be unlikely.

"When we look at this polling data right now, there is only 10 percent who are unsure," Hoffman said. "It would have to take some really startling news about the governor for him to lose this race."

60912/4

Tutwiler, Lucy A.THE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS

From: Raines, Michele L.
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 11:19 AM
To: DL-OVP-WW; Addington, David S.; Morgan, Derrick D.; Becker, Brenda L.; McBride, Lea A.; Coffin, Shannen W.
Cc: McBrien, Lauren D.
Subject: New CO-05 Poll

New Mason-Dixon poll (10/24-10/27) shows Lamborn leading 47%-40% (+7); Mason-Dixon had previously shown the race tied at 37%.

Republican rally in 5th

Poll suggests backlash to Dem publicity

By George Merritt and Karen E. Crummy
 Denver Post Staff Writers

Republican Doug Lamborn has opened a lead in the surprisingly contested race for Colorado's 5th Congressional District, signaling a possible backlash to projections of a big year for Democrats.

Lamborn leads Democrat Jay Fawcett 47 percent to 40 percent in a poll of 400 likely voters conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research Inc. for The Denver Post.

The race for the Republican- dominated 5th District drew national attention earlier this month when a Denver Post poll showed the candidates tied at 37 percent each. No Democrat has held the seat since it was created in 1972.

The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has since prioritized the 5th as a "red to blue" race. But all the attention may instead be helping Lamborn, said Colorado College political science professor Bob Loevy. "I've detected in Colorado and across the country a bit of a circle-the-wagons attitude on the part of Republicans, and I think this may be helping Lam born at this point," Loevy said.

"I think all of this publicity about 'it's going to be a big Democratic year' has caused a lot of Republicans who might otherwise have voted Democratic ... to develop a psychology of 'my party needs me.'"

On Friday, Vice President Dick Cheney will be in Colorado Springs to help boost Lamborn and other Republicans.

Despite Lamborn's lead, Loevy said it is impressive that Fawcett is even in the conversation - much less challenging for the seat - in a district where registered Republicans outnumber registered Democrats by 2-to-1.

"This, after all, is a district created by Democrats to use up Republican votes, not to elect Democrats to the U.S. House of Representatives," Loevy said.

Fawcett is wooing unaffiliated voters with 52 percent to Lamborn's 34 percent.

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10/31/2006

Fawcett's high polling numbers mirror races in states such as Nebraska, Kansas, Wyoming and California's central valley, where there are similar political demographics, said Amy Walter, senior editor of the nonpartisan Cook Political Report.

"It's a pattern we're seeing. It's not 100 percent unique to the 5th District in Colorado," said Walter, who tracks the nation's congressional races. "Compounding the problem in Colorado is that there is nothing at the top of the ticket pulling Republicans to vote ... and Lamborn can't coalesce the base."

This district historically is the base, but a brutal, six-way primary left Lamborn on shaky ground. Rep. Joel Hefley, who is retiring from the seat after 20 years, has refused to endorse Lamborn, calling his primary campaign "sleazy" and "dishonest."

The poll was conducted last week and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 5 percentage points.

Each of the campaigns took the results as positive news Monday.

Fawcett campaign manager Wanda James said it is a bad sign for Lamborn that he does not have 50 percent of the vote despite being so well-known in the largely Republican district. But she acknowledged the backlash.

"I think the Republican Party has done a good job of rallying its base," she said. And she noted that local Republican advertising has focused on national implications rather than the local race.

"What it has been is, 'If you are voting for Jay Fawcett, you are voting for (Rep.) Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.).' ... If you can find me one Republican who thinks Lamborn is actually the best man for the job, I'll buy you a steak dinner."

Lamborn agreed that Republicans have responded to national implications.

"When Republicans look at what is at stake nationally, they are prone to become good team players," he said. "The last thing they want is a Speaker Pelosi."

That held true for James Wettwer, a registered Republican from Buena Vista. He said he has already voted for Lamborn.

"I'm just concerned about what is going on this election and what the Democrats will do if they take over," Wettwer said.

But John Page, an independent voter from Colorado Springs, said he plans to vote for Fawcett.

"I was really impressed with him at the debate," Page said. "And frankly, I really was not impressed with Doug Lamborn."

Staff writer George Merritt can be reached at 303-954-1657 or gmerritt@denverpost.com.

609214

Durkin, Charles P.

From: Craige, Christopher E LtCol USAF OVP
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 12:55 PM
To: Durkin, Charles P.
Cc: Craige, Christopher E LtCol USAF OVP
Subject: Admiral Keating Invite
Attachments: Bio_Adm_Keating.doc

**THE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN**

Charlie,

Here is the information for the invitation:

WHO: Admiral Timothy J. Keating NORAD/NORTHCOM Commander

WHAT: Dinner invitation for the VP at Commander's house

WHERE: Colorado Springs, Private House, suspect located on Peterson AFB, CO (this is where we will fly into and can/will confirm)

WHEN: Friday, 3 Nov, Time TBD based on boss' schedule

I spoke briefly to the Exec for ADM Keating, but got cutoff and working to recontact (they are currently traveling). Exec is CAPT Greg Nosal, (719) 235-1823.

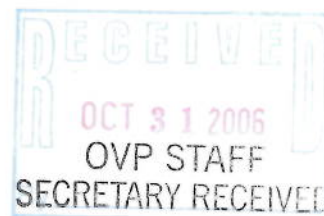
I will relay to him that the VP already has plans, but I will inform him that the invitation is going to the VP's staff for consideration based on scheduling.

Also attached electronic version of Admiral's bio.

V/R
Chris

Lt Col Christopher E. Craige, USAF
Military Aide to the Vice President
202-757-7569

<<Bio_Adm_Keating.doc>>



10/31/2006

NORTH AMERICAN AEROSPACE DEFENSE COMMAND And UNITED STATES NORTHERN COMMAND Biography



Directorate of Public Affairs, Headquarters, NORAD/U.S. Northern Command,
250 Vandenberg, Suite B016, Peterson AFB, CO 80914-3808
Phone: (719) 554-6889 DSN: 692-6889

Admiral Timothy J. Keating UNITED STATES NAVY



Admiral Timothy J. Keating is the Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Admiral Keating, a native of Dayton, Ohio, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1971. Following duty aboard *USS Mason* (DD 852) in the western Pacific, he completed flight training in August 1973. He was ordered to VA-82, deploying twice to the Mediterranean aboard *USS Nimitz* (CVN 68). In September 1978, he reported to VA-122, NAS Lemoore, Calif., and subsequently served with Commander, Carrier Air Wing Fifteen as Staff Landing Signal Officer, deploying to the western Pacific/Indian Ocean aboard *USS Kitty Hawk* (CV 63). From May 1982 to July 1984, as Administrative Officer, Operations Officer and Maintenance Officer with VA-94, he deployed twice to the western Pacific aboard *USS Enterprise* (CVN 65). His next assignment was Aide and Flag Lieutenant to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command.

In May 1987, Admiral Keating assumed command of VFA-87 and deployed with CVW-8 aboard *USS Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71) to the North Atlantic and to the Mediterranean. After his tour with VFA-87, he was assigned to the Naval Military Personnel Command in Washington, D.C., where he served as Head of the Aviation Junior Officer Assignments Branch. He reported as Deputy Commander, Carrier Air Wing Seventeen in January 1991, participating in combat operations in support of *Operation Desert Storm* from *USS Saratoga* (CV 60).

Admiral Keating next served as a Chief of Naval Operations Fellow with the Strategic Studies Group in Newport, R.I. Following duty with the Joint Task Force Southwest Asia in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, he deployed as Deputy Commander, Carrier Air Wing Nine aboard *USS Nimitz* (CVN 68) to the Arabian Gulf. He assumed command of CVW-9 in July 1993. In November 1994, Admiral Keating reported to NAS Fallon, Nev., as Commander, Naval Strike Warfare Center.

Admiral Keating returned to the Naval Military Personnel Command in September 1995 as Director, Aviation Officer Distribution Division. He served as the Deputy Director for Operations (Current Operations/J33), Operations Directorate, the Joint Staff, Washington, from August 1996 until June 1998. He assumed command of Carrier Group Five home ported in Yokosuka, Japan, in June 1998. In September 2000, Admiral Keating reported to OPNAV in Washington as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Plans, Policy and Operations (N3/N5). In February 2002, he assumed command of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and U.S. Fifth Fleet. From October 13, 2003 to October 21, 2004, Admiral Keating served as the Director, Joint Staff. Admiral Keating assumed command of North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command on November 5, 2004.

His awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Distinguished Service Medal with Gold Star, Legion of Merit with three Gold Stars, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, three Air Medals, Navy Commendation Medal with two Gold Stars and Combat "V" and various unit and campaign awards. He has over 5,000 flight hours and 1,200 arrested landings.

(Current as of May 2005)

609214

Heiden, Debra**From:** McBride, Lea A.**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2006 3:09 PM**To:** DL-OVP-WW; Addington, David S.; Becker, Brenda L.; O'Donnell, Claire M.; McConnell, John P.; Morgan, Derrick D.**Subject:** FW: AP - Rangel Regrets Directing Curse At Cheney -- But Not Too MuchTHE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN**From:** Fang Intern, Stephen**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2006 3:07 PM**To:** McBride, Lea A.**Cc:** McGinn, Megan E.; Hennigan, James R.; McBrien, Lauren D.; Raines, Michele L.; Speicher, William R.**Subject:** AP - Rangel Regrets Directing Curse At Cheney -- But Not Too Much**Rangel Regrets Directing Curse At Cheney -- But Not Too Much**

AP - October 31, 2006

WASHINGTON -- Rep. Charles Rangel feels bad about directing a curse word at Vice President Dick Cheney -- but not too bad.

Rangel, a Harlem Democrat who regularly exchanges verbal volleys with his one-time House colleague Cheney, called the vice president a "son of a bitch" Monday when asked by the New York Post about comments Cheney made about him in a television interview.

"He is a son of a bitch, but I shouldn't have said it," Rangel told The Associated Press Tuesday.

"I thought that he should be flattered, there's certainly no animosity in it," said Rangel, saying that he had been making an observation about Cheney. "Some people just have that as part of their personality."

Rangel's name is invoked daily by Republicans seeking to hold onto control of the House of Representatives. Democrats must gain 15 seats to become the majority party, and if they do, Rangel would become the chairman of the powerful tax-writing Ways & Means Committee.

GOP leaders argue a Rangel-led committee would immediately start working to undo the Bush administration tax cuts now set to expire in 2010.

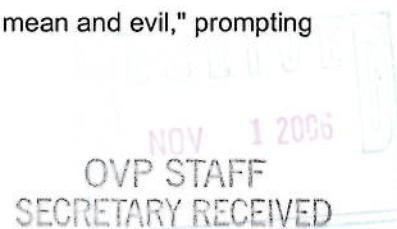
Rangel said the charge is ridiculous, and he has not made any decisions about it.

"They can't get me to say I'm going to extend it. I say that just makes good economic sense to see what the status is of our economy before we start projecting what tax cuts we'll have in the future," said Rangel, the dean of New York's congressional delegation.

Rangel reacted to Cheney's comments in TV interviews Monday in which he told CNBC that Rangel wouldn't keep "a single one" of Bush's tax cuts, and later told Fox News Channel: "Charlie doesn't understand how the economy works."

As much as the two men dislike each other, they clearly love feuding.

More than a year ago, Rangel said he would like to think Cheney is "sick rather than just mean and evil," prompting Cheney to answer: "Charlie is losing it, I guess."



10/31/2006

Durkin, Charles P.

609214

From: Becker, Brenda L.
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 12:28 PM
To: Durkin, Charles P.
Subject: Fw: Statement - (Sen. Kerry) Responding to Republican Distortions, Pathetic Tony Snow Diversions and Distractions

Kerry fighting back

VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN

Brenda Becker
Office of Vice President Cheney
456-6774

-----Original Message-----

From: White House News Update
To: Becker, Brenda L.
Sent: Tue Oct 31 12:13:42 2006
Subject: Statement - (Sen. Kerry) Responding to Republican Distortions, Pathetic Tony Snow Diversions and Distractions

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Liz Richardson 978-257-7424

October 31, 2006

Statement of John Kerry Responding to Republican Distortions, Pathetic Tony Snow
Diversions and Distractions

Washington - Senator John Kerry issued the following statement in response to White House Press Secretary Tony Snow, assorted right wing nut-jobs, and right wing talk show hosts desperately distorting Kerry's comments about President Bush to divert attention from their disastrous record:

"If anyone thinks a veteran would criticize the more than 140,000 heroes serving in Iraq and not the president who got us stuck there, they're crazy. This is the classic G.O.P. playbook. I'm sick and tired of these despicable Republican attacks that always seem to come from those who never can be found to serve in war, but love to attack those who did.

I'm not going to be lectured by a stuffed suit White House mouthpiece standing behind a podium, or doughy Rush Limbaugh, who no doubt today will take a break from belittling Michael J. Fox's Parkinson's disease to start lying about me just as they have lied about Iraq. It disgusts me that these Republican hacks, who have never worn the uniform of our country lie and distort so blatantly and carelessly about those who have.

The people who owe our troops an apology are George W. Bush and Dick Cheney who misled America into war and have given us a Katrina foreign policy that has betrayed our ideals, killed and maimed our soldiers, and widened the terrorist threat instead of defeating it. These Republicans are afraid to debate veterans who live and breathe the concerns of our troops, not the empty slogans of an Administration that sent our brave troops to war without body armor.

Bottom line, these Republicans want to debate straw men because they're afraid to debate real men. And this time it won't work because we're going to stay in their face with the truth and deny them even a sliver of light for their distortions. No Democrat will be

bullied by an administration that has a cut and run policy in Afghanistan and a stand still and lose strategy in Iraq."

#

You are currently subscribed to News Update (wires) as: Brenda_L._Becker@ovp.eop.gov.
To unsubscribe send a blank email to leave-whitehouse-news-
wires-1000163H@list.whitehouse.gov

609214

Tutwiler, Lucy A.**From:** Raines, Michele L.**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2006 5:03 PM**To:** DL-OVP-WW; Morgan, Derrick D.**Cc:** McBrien, Lauren D.**Subject:** Daily Political Notes: 10/31/06✓
THE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN**DAILY POLITICAL NOTES**

October 31, 2006

TOP ITEMS**NRCC goes up with new ads in KY-02** (Rep. Lewis, R); **DCCC goes up with ads in KY-03** (Rep. Northup, R) and **NE-03** (Open, R).**POTUS attends 6,500-person rally for GA Victory** in Perry, GA.**FLOTUS attends rallies for NC Victory** in Fletcher, **NC and TN Victory** in Kingsport, TN and Franklin, TN.HOUSE**CO-05:** Mason-Dixon poll shows Lamborn (R) ahead of Fawcett (D), 47%-40% (+7); in early Oct., they were tied at 37%.**CT-05:** Research 2000 poll shows Murphy (D) leading Rep. Johnson (R), 46%-43% (-3).**IN-03:** Research 2000 poll shows Rep. Souder (R) ahead of Hayhurst (D), 52%-40% (+12).**PA-07:** *New York Times* reports that Rep. Weldon (R)'s daughter was hired as lobbyist for Italian company that he helped win gov't contracts.**PA-08:** *Allentown Morning Call* poll shows Rep. Fitzpatrick (R) leading Murphy (D), 47%-42% (+5).SENATE**MD:** NRSC independent expenditure buys \$470,000 of TV time in Baltimore and Salisbury markets.

Former PG County Exec. Wayne Curry (D) endorses Steele (R).

MO: CNN/Opinion Research poll shows Sen. Talent (R) tied with McCaskill (D) at 49%.**NJ:** CNN/Opinion Research poll shows Sen. Menendez (D) leading Kean (R), 51%-44% (-7).

Quinnipiac poll shows Menendez ahead of Kean 49%-44% (-5).

Strategic Vision poll shows the race essentially tied, with Menendez at 43% and Kean at 42% (-1).

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OH: CNN/Opinion Research poll shows Rep. Brown (D) ahead of Sen. DeWine (R), 54%-43% (-11).

TN: CNN/Opinion Research poll shows Corker (R) leading Rep. Ford (D), 52%-44% (+8).

VA: CNN/Opinion Research poll shows Webb (D) leading Allen (R), 50%-46% (-4).

WA: Strategic Vision poll shows Sen. Cantwell (D) leading McGavick (R), 52%-44% (-8).

GOVERNOR

CO: Rep. Beauprez (R) loans his campaign \$142,000.

GA: Mason-Dixon poll for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* shows Gov. Perdue (R) leading Taylor (D), 53%-36% (+17).

IL: *Chicago Tribune* poll shows Gov. Blagojevich (D) leading Topinka (R), 44%-29% (-15), with Whitney (G) at 13%.

MN: Univ. of Minn. Poll shows Hatch (D) leading Gov. Pawlenty (R), 45%-39% (-6), with 9% for Hutchinson (IP).

OH: CNN/Opinion Research poll shows Rep. Strickland (D) leading Blackwell (R), 59%-36% (-23).

WI: Strategic Vision poll shows Rep. Green (R) in statistical tie with Gov. Doyle (D), 45%-47% (-2).



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502
October 31, 2006

609214
✓
THE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: KEITH HALL

SUBJECT: **ISM Manufacturing Report for October (★★★)**

Public Release: 10:00 am, Wednesday (Institute for Supply Management)

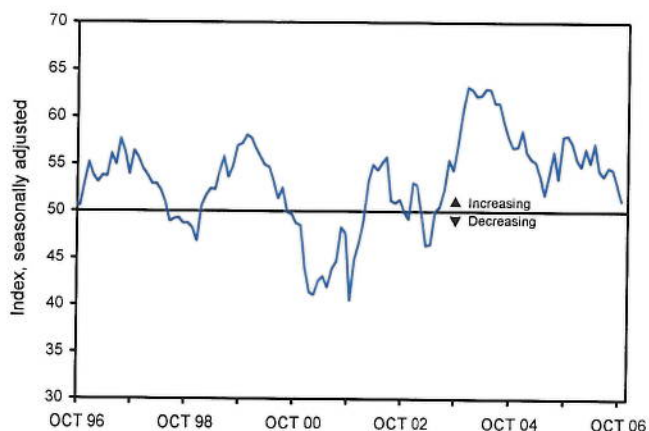
Manufacturing purchasing managers report continued growth in October, but at a reduced pace

**Purchasing Managers' Index (Manufacturing)
October**

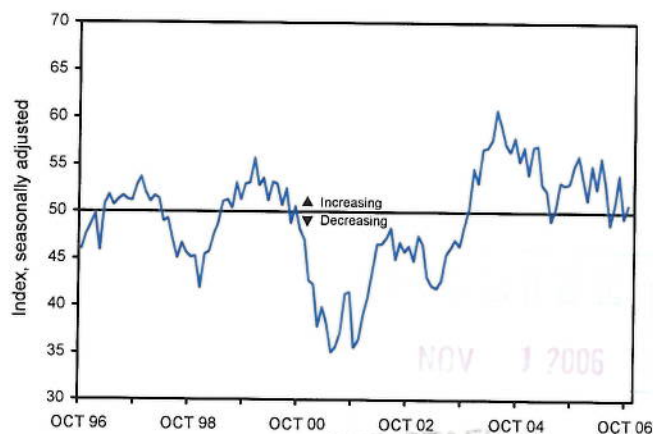
Actual	Expected
51.2	53.0
(-1.7 pts. from September)	

- **The Purchasing Managers' Index suggests that manufacturing activity grew at a slower pace in October**, with the deceleration largely due to slowing growth in production and new orders. The composite index, at 51.2, remained above the break-even level of 50, but was below market expectations. Of the 18 manufacturing industries in the survey, 8 reported increased activity.
- **The manufacturing sector has now grown for 41 consecutive months according to the ISM data.** The Federal Reserve's index of industrial production for manufacturing has not increased as steadily, rising in 32 months over this same period (data available through September 2006).
- **Four of the five component indexes were above 50 (indicating growth) in October:** new orders (52.1), production (51.9), employment (50.8), and supplier deliveries (50.2). However, the inventories index (49.4) remained below 50.
- **The survey's director commented that,** "In October, the manufacturing sector fell to its lowest level of growth since June 2003... There was particularly good news on the pricing front as the prices index fell 14 points, signaling some relief for buyers for the first time in 15 months."

ISM PURCHASING MANAGERS' INDEX



ISM EMPLOYMENT INDEX



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THE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN

609214

Tutwiler, Lucy A.

From: Hennigan, James R.
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 7:19 AM
To: DL-OVP-WW
Cc: Addington, David S.; O'Donnell, Claire M.; Raines, Michele L.; Becker, Brenda L.; McConnell, John P.; Patel, Neil S.; Morgan, Derrick D.; McGinn, Megan E.; McBride, Lea A.
Subject: NYP: RANGEL & VEEP IN ALL-OUT WAR

For the Vice President.
 This article was not included in today's clip package.

**RANGEL & VEEP IN ALL-OUT WAR
 REP. RIPS 'S.O.B.' AFTER TAX ASSAULT**
By GEOFF EARLE - New York Post

October 31, 2006 -- WASHINGTON - Rep. Charles Rangel yesterday blasted Dick Cheney as a "son of a bitch" after the vice president said the Harlem lawmaker would raise taxes and destroy the economy if Democrats take control of the House.

The bitter war of words escalated to the point where the bombastic Rangel even questioned whether the tightly wound Cheney needed professional treatment - and mocked him for accidentally shooting his hunting buddy earlier this year.

Cheney fired the first shot when he predicted that Rangel - who is poised to chair the powerful House Ways and Means Committee if the Democrats seize the House next week - wouldn't continue "a single one" of President Bush's tax cuts.

"I think that would be bad for the economy," Cheney said on CNBC News. "I don't know if the stock market would like it."

He then got in a major hit, saying on the Fox News Channel, "Charlie doesn't understand how the economy works."

Many of Bush's 2001 tax cuts are set to expire in 2011 - meaning rates would jump back up again, boosting taxes by well over \$1 trillion, unless Congress acts to continue the cuts.

"So if a man like Charlie Rangel were to be chairman of the committee, and sitting there with the gavel, all he has to do is not act, just don't call up the legislation, and there'll be a big tax increase," Cheney said.

The vice president's stinging comments were the latest in a series of White House statements intended to raise fears about Rangel, as well as other prominent Democrats, as a way to convince voters to stop them from taking over the House.

Contacted by The Post for a response, Rangel unloaded.

"He's such a real son of a bitch, he just enjoys a confrontation," Rangel fumed, describing himself as "warm and personable." Rangel said Cheney may need to go to "rehab" for "whatever personality deficit he may have suffered."

"When you have those sorts of problems, you're supposed to seek help," Rangel advised. "He acknowledged that he has problems with communication."

Asked whether he was resurrecting over-the-top charges he made last year that he believes Cheney is mentally ill, Rangel cracked, "I don't think he's shot anyone in the face lately, so I'll give him the benefit of the doubt."

OCT 31 2006 OVP STAFF
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The vice president accidentally shot his hunting companion, then-78-year-old Harry Whittington, with a shotgun early this year.

Rangel's digs on Cheney recalled his statements last year that the vice president, who has had four heart attacks, was too sick to work.

"I would like to believe he's sick rather just mean and evil," Rangel, 76, told cable channel NY1.

"Sometimes I don't even think Cheney is awake enough to know what's going on. [Defense Secretary Donald] Rumsfeld is the guy in Washington . . . running the country."

Cheney, 65, responded then, "I'm frankly surprised at his comments . . . They were so out of line it almost struck me that . . . Charlie was having some problem. Charlie is losing it, I guess."

Cheney spokeswoman Lea Anne McBride wouldn't respond directly to Rangel's latest broadsides.

"The vice president has been discussing tax policy, the fundamental difference in Republican and Democrat views on how to keep taxes low and the American economy growing," she said.

Cheney once famously told Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) on the Senate floor to "go f- - - yourself" while Rangel once had a confrontation with Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Thomas (R-Calif.) where the Capitol Police were called in.

Rangel said he is focused on Social Security, tax simplification and the Alternative Minimum Tax that is squeezing even some middle-income families - not what to do in 2011, when the Bush tax cuts expire.

"The president's not going to be around in 2010. I may not be on the committee," said Rangel, who recently said he'd quit Congress if the Democrats don't win control of the House.

"It's quite possible that I might want to extend the tax cuts," he said, without naming any specific tax cut that might continue.

60924

Heiden, DebraVICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN

From: Gunther, Anne Marie
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 5:09 PM
To: DL-OVP-Scheduling; DL-OVP-WW; Denny, Elizabeth A.; Mascolo, Heather C.
Cc: Boyer, Cecelia ; Rodriguez, David J.
Subject: vpr reception april 27

Mrs. Cheney has agreed to have Mr. James Ballinger, Director of the Sybil Harrington, and a group of art collectors and trustees to the VPR to look at the artwork on Friday, April 27, 2007. The VP and Mrs. Cheney will NOT attend the reception and will likely be out at the eastern shore that weekend. Liz will act as the hostess. i'm putting this in italics on her block, just as an fyi.

Liz, Mr. Ballinger will call you tomorrow to work out the details.



10/31/2006

609214

Durkin, Charles P.

From: Becker, Brenda L.
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 12:31 PM
To: Durkin, Charles P.
Subject: Fw: Boehner statement: Kerry Should Apologize for Insulting Troops

Attachments: image001.jpg

They are taking off the gloves.

Brenda Becker
Office of Vice President Cheney
456-6774

THE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN

-----Original Message-----

From: Madden, Kevin
To: kmadden@freedomproject.org
Sent: Tue Oct 31 13:27:04 2006
Subject: Boehner statement: Kerry Should Apologize for Insulting Troops



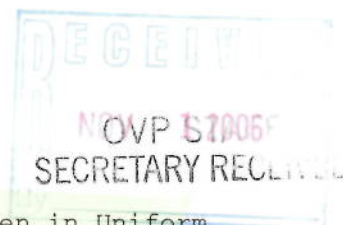
image001.jpg (17
KB)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 27, 2006

CONTACT:

Kevin Madden at (202) 863-8818 or Kevin Smith at (202) 863-8622



Boehner Says Kerry Should Apologize for Insulting America's Men and Women in Uniform

New York, NY — House Majority Leader John Boehner (R-OH) called on Senator John Kerry (D-MA) to apologize to the men and women serving in the U.S. military for the insulting and disparaging comments he made yesterday. Boehner issued the following statement:

"Senator Kerry's comments were disrespectful and insulting to the men and women serving in our military. These Americans who are risking their lives in the fight against terrorism in Iraq deserve better than to have their service demeaned by a United States Senator. Our soldiers need John Kerry's support, yet John Kerry offers nothing more than disparaging commentary.

"John Kerry should apologize and Democrat candidates across the country should publicly

denounce them and demand that Senator Kerry apologize to the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces serving in Iraq."

Yesterday, Kerry belittled the educational level of American troops when he told a gathering of students: "You know education, if you make the most of it, you study hard, you do your homework, and you make an effort to be smart, you can do well. And if you don't you get stuck in Iraq."

The Majority Project

202.863.8818

<<http://www.freedomproject.org/>> www.freedomproject.org

Kevin Madden

The Majority Project

<<http://www.freedomproject.org/>> www.freedomproject.org

Heiden, Debra

00924

From: Addington, David S.

Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 3:04 PM

To: Heiden, Debra

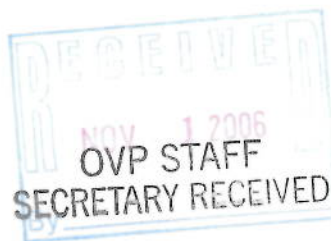
Cc: Durkin, Charles P.; Tutwiler, Lucy A.; Hannah, John P.

THE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN

Debbie:

Please put in Vice President's read file for his information:

The Joint Typhoon Warning Center at Naval Station Pearl Harbor predicts that Typhoon Cimaron will hit Hong Kong in about 48 hours. Current sustained winds are at 97 mph, gusting to 120 mph. Current wave height is 28 feet.



10/31/2006

THE VICE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

609214

Tutwiler, Lucy A.

From: McBrien, Lauren D.
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 8:15 AM
To: DL-OVP-WW
Cc: Raines, Michele L.; Morgan, Derrick D.
Subject: Daily Political Notes: 10/30/06

DAILY POLITICAL NOTES

October 30, 2006

TOP ITEMS

NRCC goes up with ads in CO-05 (Open), **WY-AL** (Rep. Cubin, R); **DCCC goes up with ads in KS-02** (Rep. Ryun, R) and **KY-02** (Rep. Lewis, R).

Rep. Duncan Hunter (R, CA-52) announces he will form an exploratory committee to run for president in 2008.

POTUS attends rallies for Burns (R, GA-08) and Sekula Gibbs (R, TX-22).

FLOTUS attends rallies for PA Victory and NH Victory.

Tony Snow raises \$35,000 for Rep. Sodrel (R, IN-09); raises \$50,000 for Sen. Talent (R, MO) in St. Louis.

Newsweek poll shows POTUS approval at 37%, up from 35%. Generic ballot at -14, unchanged.

HOUSE

CT-04: Research 2000 poll shows Rep. Shays (R) trailing Farrell (D), 43%-47% (-4).

CT-05: *Hartford Courant* publishes Univ. of CT poll showing Rep. Johnson (R) trailing Murphy (D), 42%-46% (-4).

FL-13: Buchanan (R) contributes another \$975,000 of his own money, bringing his total personal donations to \$5.4 million.

ID-01: Mason-Dixon poll shows the race in a statistical tie, with Sali (R) at 39% and Grant (D) at 37% (+2).

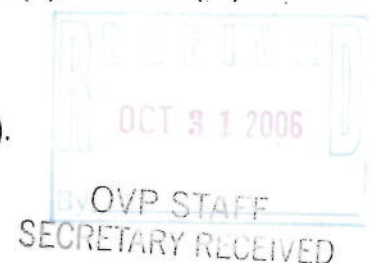
IL-06: *Daily Herald* poll has Roskam (R) narrowly ahead of Duckworth (D), 46%-42% (+4).

IL-08: *Daily Herald* poll has McSweeney (R) in virtual tie with Rep. Bean (D), 39%-42% (-3).

KY-03: *Louisville Courier-Journal* Bluegrass Poll shows Rep. Northup (R) ahead of Yarmuth (D), 48%-42% (+6).

NV-02: Research 2000 poll shows Heller (R) leading Derby (D) 48%-40% (+8).

PA-10: Lycoming College poll shows Rep. Sherwood (R) trailing Carney (D), 38%-47% (-9).



10/31/2006

WI-08: St. Norbert College poll has Gard (R) and Kagen (D) tied at 43%.

SENATE

MT: NRSC goes up on the air with a \$300,000 ad buy; the committee had not run ads in support of Sen. Burns (R) since 8/06.

NV: Research 2000 poll shows Sen. Ensign (R) leading Carter (D), 55%-41% (+14).

PA: West Chester Univ. poll shows Casey (D) leading Sen. Santorum (R), 50%-39% (-11).

TN: Rep. Ford's (D) campaign releases poll showing him leading Corker (R), 48%-43% (-5).

GOVERNOR

CO: Mason-Dixon poll for *Denver Post* shows Ritter (D) leading Beauprez (R), 50%-38% (-12).

ID: Mason-Dixon poll shows Rep. Otter (R) in a statistical tie with Brady (D), 44%-43% (+1).

WI: Rep. Green (R) says he will not use \$468,000 in contributions the State Election Board ordered him to return while his appeal to State Supreme Court is pending.

09/11/17

Tues 10/31/06, 0945 ET

U.S. obeys order to abandon checkpoints

By SINAN SALAHEDDIN, Associated Press Writer, 20 minutes ago

BAGHDAD, Iraq - U.S. troops on Tuesday abandoned checkpoints around the Shiite militia stronghold of Sadr City on orders from Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, the latest in a series of moves by the Iraqi leader to assert his authority with the U.S. administration.

The U.S. military announced the deaths of two soldiers in fighting in the Baghdad area on Monday, one from small arms fire, the other from a roadside bomb. Those brought the number of troops killed in Iraq this month to 103.

U.S. forces disappeared from the checkpoints within hours of the order to remove the around-the-clock barriers by 5:00 p.m. (1400 GMT), setting off celebrations among civilians and armed men gathered on the edge of the sprawling slum that is under the control of the Mahdi Army militia run by radical anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

Iraqi troops loaded coils of barbed wire and red traffic cones onto pickup trucks, while small groups of men and children danced in circles chanting slogans praising al-Sadr, who earlier Tuesday had ordered the area closed to the Iraqi government until U.S. troops lifted what he called their "siege" of the neighborhood.

Extra checkpoints were set up last week as U.S. troops launched an intensive search for a missing soldier, who has yet to be found.

Shortly after leaving Sadr city, U.S. troops dismantled other checkpoints in the downtown Karradah neighborhood where the soldier had been abducted, loading barbed wire coils onto their Stryker armored vehicles.

Al-Maliki's statement said U.S.-manned checkpoints "should not be taken except during nighttime curfew hours and emergencies."

"Joint efforts continue to pursue terrorists and outlaws who expose the lives of citizens to killings, abductions and explosions," said the statement, issued in al-Maliki's name in his capacity both as prime minister and commander of the Iraqi armed forces.

U.S. troops have increased their presence on Baghdad streets as part of a two-month-old security crackdown. However, they rarely man checkpoints in populated areas where they risk coming under attack or angering residents by conducting vehicle and body searches.

Al-Maliki's order underscored the his government's reliance of Shiite support and sensitivity to their concerns.

Besides al-Sadr, the largest Shiite coalition in the 275-member parliament, the United Iraqi Alliance, had also condemned the checkpoints for inflicting what it described as "collective punishment" against residents of Baghdad's Shiite neighborhoods.

"Kidnapping a man can't be a pretext for laying siege to these neighborhoods," Sheik Jalal Eddin al-Sagheer, a prominent Shiite lawmaker, said at a news conference.

Al-Maliki's threatened to further roil relations with the U.S. that hit a rough patch last week after Al-Maliki issued a string of bitter complaints — at one point saying he was not "America's man in Iraq."

Al-Maliki had apparently been angered by a statement from U.S. Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad that the prime minister had agreed to set a timeline for progress on reaching security and political goals — something al-Maliki denied. He also angrily rebuked the U.S. for a raid on Sadr city targeting an alleged death squad leader in which 10 people were killed.

U.S. concern over the relationship was signaled when National Security Adviser

Stephen Hadley showed up unannounced in Baghdad on Monday to meet with al-Maliki and his security chief, Mouwafak al-Rubaie, telling them he "wanted to reinforce some of the things you have heard from our president."

Al-Rubaie told the AP late Monday that Hadley was here to discuss the work of a five-man committee that al-Maliki and Bush agreed to Saturday.

Hadley also presented some proposals concerning the training and equipping of Iraqi security forces as well as security plans. U.S. spokesmen could not immediately be reached on Tuesday and it wasn't known whether Hadley had yet returned to Washington.

American voter support for the war at a low point as the Nov. 7 congressional election approaches, and a top aide to al-Maliki said the Iraqi leader was using the Republicans' vulnerability on the issue to leverage concessions from the White House — particularly the speedy withdrawal of American forces from Iraqi cities to U.S. bases in the country.

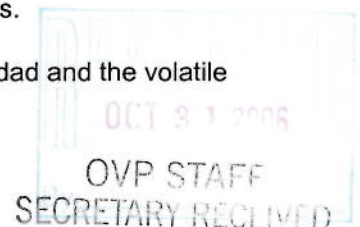
Al-Maliki has said he believes that the continued presence of American forces in Iraq's population centers is partly behind the surge in violence.

His government depends heavily on the backing of a pair of Shiite political organizations and has resisted concerted American pressure to eradicate their private armies — al-Sadr's Mahdi Army and the Badr Brigade, the military wing of Iraq's most powerful Shiite political bloc, the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, or SCIRI.

Three people were killed and five injured by a car bomb in Sadr City early Tuesday, a day after 33 were killed in a similar attack in the district targeting day laborers lining up for jobs.

Both attacks were carried out despite the U.S. security cordon, bringing accusations from residents that the checkpoints had decreased security by restricting the movement of Mahdi fighters.

At least three Iraqi policemen were also reported killed on Tuesday morning in Baghdad and the volatile western city of Fallujah, police said.



The bodies five unidentified people, including a woman, were found dumped early Tuesday morning in eastern Baghdad, police Maj. Mahir Hamid Mussa said. Those killed had been tied up and blindfolded, with their bodies showing signs of torture, Mussa said.

Five more bodies in similar condition were floating in the Tigris River near Suwayrah, 40 kilometers (25 miles) south of Baghdad, a clerk at the town morgue, Hadi al-Etabi, said.

Further south, the morgue in the town of Kut reported receiving 10 bodies, including those of five people allegedly killed by U.S. forces in a raid on a house in the Shejeriyah area, 30 kilometers (18 miles) south of Baghdad, said Maamoun Ajil al-Robaeie, a morgue employee.

New violence was also reported in Baqouba, a chaotic city north of Baghdad where police and militants fought bloody gunbattles last week.

Unidentified gunmen killed three people in a downtown market and attacked a police patrol, killing one officer and injuring two others, according to a spokesman for the Diyala provincial police.

Five bodies were found in the Abu Seida district, 25 kilometers (10 hectares) northeast of the city, said the police spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals.

Gunmen killed Sheik Raed Naeem al-Juheishi, the head of a non-governmental organization dedicated to tracing the fate of victims of the former regime of

Saddam Hussein, in a drive-by-shooting Monday night in Baghdad's chaotic Dora district, Col. Mohammed Ali said.

Saddam and seven co-defendants — including a half brother — have been on trial since Oct. 19, 2005 for their alleged roles in the deaths of about 150 Shiites in Dujail following an assassination attempt against the president in 1982.

A second trial — for genocide against the Kurds — began in August and more are expected to follow.

The military said U.S. troops killed five suspected insurgents and detained one on Tuesday morning during a raid in Baghdad targeting suspected associates of a senior of the al-Qaida in Iraq terrorist group.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Presidential Materials Division

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memorandum	Memorandum for the Vice President from Neil Patel and Marie Fishpaw (1 page)	10/31/2006	P5

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.**

COLLECTION:

Cheney Vice Presidential Records
Office of the Staff Secretary
Miscellaneous Outbox, 2006
OA/Box Number: 00567

FOLDER TITLE:

October 31, 2006

2014-0011-F
AYM13

RESTRICTION CODES

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

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

(b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
(b)(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
(b)(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
(b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
(b)(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
(b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
(b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
(b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

October 31, 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

FROM: Rose Folsom, Director of Correspondence

SUBJECT: INFORMATION: Mail Analysis; 2nd Quarter, April – June, 2006
3rd Quarter, July – September 2006

2nd Quarter

As is typical for the spring quarter, there was an overall increase in requests for congratulations letters for graduation, retirements, weddings and Eagle Scout award ceremonies. In addition, incoming email volume increased dramatically with correspondence about immigration, the war in Iraq, taxes, and gas prices.

Incoming mail by category

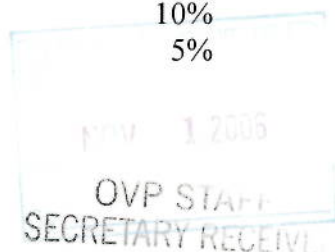
Issue mail (energy, foreign policy, environment etc.)	30%
Eagle Scout greeting requests	25%
General mail (fan letters, information, kids' letters etc.)	20%
Academy nomination requests	10%
Casework	10%
Invitations	5%

3rd Quarter

Eagle Scout commendations were the largest mail category. Correspondence topics included immigration, gas prices and Iraq. There has been an increase in mail supportive of the Vice President since September 11, 2006.

Incoming mail by category

Eagle Scout commendation requests	30%
General mail (information, advice, kids' letters etc.)	20%
Issue mail (breakdown on next page)	20%
Academy nomination requests	15%
Casework	10%
Invitations	5%



429

GDR
10/31/06

THE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN

609214

Breakdown of Outgoing Mail	2nd Quarter 2006	3rd Quarter 2006	Year to Date 2006
VP resume referrals (VP digital signature)	0	4	4
Personal letters (hand-written signature)	120	60	397
Photos (signed lithos)	513	1850	3395
Autographs (autopen or hand-written signature)	54	10	66
Casework letters (staff digital signature)	978	916	2917
Thank You letters (VP digital signature)			
Gifts	113	42	268
Trip thank yous	330	357	1197
Medical Information	5	0	5
Support	191	201	1790
Children's letters (VP digital signature)	685	150	1674
Greetings (VP digital signature)			
Eagle Scout	5280	2862	12276
Birthday	83	95	258
Anniversary	46	30	103
Baby	14	16	51
Graduation	104	5	109
Wedding	39	21	73
Retirement	59	35	133
Charitable Event	120	70	219
Condolence	37	25	118
Christmas greetings	0	1	526
Policy Letters (staff digital signature)	1855	1289	6280
Total	11753	7191	31402

Issues in descending order of frequency:

- Border control / immigration (Republican base is upset)
- Iraq / war on terrorism ("bring our troops home" 50 %; "complete the mission" 50 %)
- Gas prices (letters dropped off with lower prices)
- U.S. involvement with UN (anti-UN; pro John Bolton)
- Humane treatment of detainees
- Advice: winning elections; controlling the border; fighting terrorism
- Difficulty for elderly and disabled to afford necessities

Casework	2nd Quarter 2006	3rd Quarter 2006
Cases Opened	1215	861
Cases Closed	856	925

Top Agency Referrals	2nd Quarter 2006	3rd Quarter 2006
HHS (Financial / medical help, child custody)	173	176
DHS (Citizenship / visa issues)	161	162
DOD (Men wanting to enlist, assignments, work conditions)	132	144
SSA (Disability claims)	73	98

E-mail

- The Vice President receives around 1200 e-mails per day; 95% junk mail; 5% issue mail and requests for help.

NICHOLS_C

609214

FG038

Barcode Scanning Sheet

Collection Code: **VTRACK**

Staff Name:

Document Date: **10/31/2006**

Correspondent:

Subject/Description: **2006 MISCELLANEOUS OUT BOX MATERIALS
(UNCLASSIFIED) -- E-MAIL FROM JAMES HENNIGAN -
TONY SNOW PRESS BRIEFING -- E-MAIL FROM MICHELE
RAINES - NEW CNN/ORC POLLS -- ECONOMIC NEWS
SUMMARY FOR OCT 31 06 PREPARED BY OVP
DOMESTIC POLICY -- ARTICLE FROM THE STAR TRIBUNE
- "GOP POURS IN MONEY FOR C ...**

SCANNED
BY
ORM

60924

WHITE HOUSE AIRLIFT
EEOB/Rm #95
Washington, DC 20502
(202) 757-1203/1211

12/4/2006

**PLEASE NOTE: DO NOT SEND
CHECKS VIA US POST OFFICE.**

GREY BAKER
OVP STAFF

10/31/2006	Balance forward		0.00
11/08/2006	INV #79388. 01-04 NOV 06 AF-2/ADW TO KALISPELL, MT TO JH, WY TO COLORADO SPRINGS, CO TO LARAMIE, WY TO ADW	27.60	27.60
			Amount Due
			\$27.60

UNCLASSIFIED

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE VICE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN

609214

SITUATION ROOM EVENING SUMMARY

October 31, 2006

UNCLASSIFIED

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA

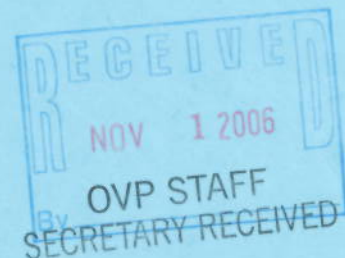
IRAQ: Prime Minister Maliki ordered lifting of checkpoints set up in Sadr City last week during search for missing U.S. Soldier...statement from Maliki's office said such measures "should not be taken except during nighttime curfew hours and emergencies." Separately, militants ambushed minibuses traveling to Baghdad from Tikrit and kidnapped more than 40 Iraqis. (U) AP e0406; Reuters r5696

ASIA

SIX-PARTY TALKS: Pyongyang agreed to rejoin Six-Party Talks after discussions between North Korean, Chinese, and U.S. envoys...South Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman stated, "The government hopes that the Six-Party Talks will resume at an early date as agreed"...Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexeyev said Moscow views North Korea's decision as "extremely positive"... Japanese Foreign Minister Aso said Tokyo "does not intend to accept North Korea's return to the talks on the premise that it possesses nuclear weapons," and that resumption of talks "is conditional on North Korea not possessing nuclear weapons." Separately, North Korea warned South Korea of "catastrophic consequences" if it participates in stopping and searching ships suspected of carrying weapons of mass destruction under Proliferation Security Initiative. (U) AP e0563, a0449

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA: Former President Botha died at age 90...Botha governed South Africa from 1978 to 1989. (U) AP a0661



UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

609124

Baker, Grey D.

From: McKaig, Brian P.
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2006 11:13 AM
To: Baker, Grey D.; Sox, Daniel
Subject: A SecurID card for Grey Baker is ready
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Green

The card may be picked up at **1800 G Street, 10th Floor, Information Assurance.**

When you enter the building, go to the front desk, show them your badge and tell them you need to go to the 10th Floor. They will give you a temporary pass and a fob that you'll use to select the 10th Floor in the elevator and also to open the doors once you're on the 10th Floor.