Key Messages

- Coalition Forces continue to robustly patrol Iraq to eliminate crimes against people and property, rid populated areas of weapons, ammunition and explosives, and stop the black market trade in fuel and other commodities.
- Coalition Forces continue to conduct joint security patrols with Iraqi police in their efforts to increase the professionalism of the police force and prepare them for their role in a self-governed Iraq.
- Our task now is to help the Iraqis rebuild their economy.
- Economic team are working hard on a number of initiatives which will help get the economy going, and provide some much-needed jobs.
- After decades of manipulation and mismanagement, the road to a free and flourishing economy will not be an easy one. But we've already taken one big step: which was the ending of sanctions.

Just some of the Achievements of the Ministry of Justice since war's end

- Consolidated all Baghdad criminal court functions into the two operational Baghdad courthouses May 8, 2003
- $20 emergency payments disbursed in Baghdad on May 10; additional $30 emergency payments and salaries in Baghdad and some governorates on June 1; regular payments now underway
- Assumed responsibility for prisons pursuant to CPA Order No. 10
  - prisons standards set by CPA Memorandum No. 2
  - est. 8 prison facilities operating nationwide
- Extensive facilities repairs underway
  - total $480,000 secured for emergency repairs; over $2M for repairs generally
  - Ministry building now partially operable and work is ongoing
  - Iraqi Judicial College (formerly Judicial Training Institute), which had been completely gutted, was repaired with USAID assistance and re-opened on June 17, the first major reconstruction project completed since Saddam’s fall
- Many courts and courthouses up and running
  - est. 400 courts (est. 100 now operating)
  - est. 130 courthouses (est. 48 now operating)
- De-Ba’athification: interviewed and screened all top officials including Directors General.

Key Quote

The coalition came to Iraq to rid Iraq and the world of Saddam Hussein and his regime. He took away Iraqis’ freedom and, in many cases, their lives. And he invaded, or threatened, his neighbours, the Middle East and the world.

We have brought freedom to the people of Iraq. We came as liberators and we will remain as liberators. The vast majority of Iraqis realise that our presence here is necessary to safeguard this new-found freedom until we have together built the new democratic structures to safeguard it.

We have an enormous job to do to help rebuild this country after decades of mismanagement and abuse, and we will not let the Iraqi people down. Those who are attacking Iraqi citizens, the services they need, and the coalition which liberated them and now protects them, will lose. That is our pledge. We will protect the Iraqi people from these attacks.

Opening Statement by Amb Bremer, Arabic Press Conference, 3 July 2003

Diary

1200 – Background Brief – Baghdad Central – Iraqi Media
1430 – Opening of the Baghdad Interim Council
1800 – Background Brief CPA Official