

## Preparing for Congressional Visits

# Lobbying Your Senators and Representatives to Restore American Integrity, Honor, and Democracy

## Preparing for Your Visit

- **Make an appointment *now*.**  
Contact your Senators and Representatives or their key staff persons as early as possible. Tell them a group of their constituents wishes to propose congressional actions to repair the damage done by the Bush administration and restore integrity, honor and democracy to the United States. If they ask for details, tell them your concerns include the 9/11 Commission Report, impeachment, the War on Terror and the restoration of our constitutional rights.
- **Try to recruit a large group of constituents for the visit.**  
Numbers speak. If you have more than a few people, the member's staff will arrange for a larger room.
- **Select a variety of constituents.**  
If possible, vary your group by age, ethnicity, clergy/laity, military/civilian, etc. Business and community leaders are a plus and should be identified in advance.
- **Optimally, choose four effective spokespersons.**  
Select one to open and present the first theme; two to present the second and third themes; and one for the fourth theme and the closing. Practice by role-playing before your appointment.
- **Arrange to show the three-minute DVD/video clip of WTC 7 collapsing.**  
The clip is available with this package from [dc911truth.org](http://dc911truth.org); you will need a laptop or DVD player. (Usually congressional offices have DVD players; you might ask in advance.)
- **Plan to devote five minutes for each theme.**  
Dialogue with the member will extend the time, but try to keep each theme limited to 5 minutes—unless the member becomes deeply engaged and wants more information and discussion.
- **Stress the action requested after each theme presentation. At the end, hand them a copy of “Congress in Its Finest Hour: Restoring American Integrity, Honor, and Democracy,” with all supporting attachments.**

**IMPORTANT:** Download this set of documents from [dc911truth.org](http://dc911truth.org). Have them printed on good quality paper and collated ahead of time, in the recommended order. (We recommend printing the first sheet, “Finest Hour,” on a single page [front & back] on parchment or parchment-colored paper.) Make as many sets as you need. Be sure to have an extra copy of the DVD to leave behind, since they may want to show it again in the office.

**Review the themes and supporting arguments on the following pages.**

# Notes For Your Presentation

## Opening:

Tell your Representatives/Senators or their staff that you know they're under pressure, that the issues you've come to discuss are difficult ones, but that each is critical to repairing the damage done by the Bush administration and restoring integrity, honor and democracy to the United States.

## Four Lobby Themes:

The following list includes the most important points and the recommendations to make for each. You can present them in order of the ones you feel strongest about, but be sure to cover all four, since they're interrelated and reinforce each other.

***\*An asterisk indicates references and sources provided on a separate attachment.***

### 1. Investigate the Omissions and Distortions in the 9/11 Commission Report

- **Fatally flawed Report**
  - The Commission was required by law to investigate fully the “facts and circumstances relating to the terrorist attacks” of 9/11. Yet, it accepted without question the initial hasty account of 19 Arab hijackers led by Osama Bin Laden, a claim for which the FBI now admits it has “no hard evidence.”\* As a result, **the greatest crime in U.S. history has never been criminally investigated.**
  - The administration resisted naming a commission for an unprecedented 441 days, and did so only after repeated public pressure from the victims’ families. Bush and Cheney refused to be interviewed except off the record, in secret, together, and not under oath.
  - The administration and a Republican Congress appointed the commissioners. Most had serious conflicts of interest.\*
  - Lee Hamilton was quoted on CBC News saying that the Commission was “set up to fail” (started late, not enough time, underfunded); Kean and Hamilton both complained that the administration had lied to them, yet no one was prosecuted; Max Cleland had many objections and was forced off the Commission.
  - Theologian and author David Ray Griffin has identified 115 serious flaws in the report.\*
  - Most of the critical questions by the victims’ families were ignored or unanswered.\*
- **Suspicious WTC Building 7 collapse not mentioned in report (VERY IMPORTANT!)**
  - Show the short video clip. This 47-story building in the WTC complex collapsed several hours *after* the towers. It came straight down in 6.5 seconds. A plane did not hit it; it had relatively small fires and limited damage. The NIST report about why it collapsed is two years overdue (and counting). *This video clip always gets their attention. Most never heard about WTC7.*
  - WTC 7 housed several government offices (SEC, CIA, IRS, DoD, Secret Service, NY Mayor’s Office of Emergency Mgmt). The SEC office was investigating the Enron and WorldCom scandals, and evidence of stolen billions was lost forever.
- **Pre-9/11 blueprint by neoconservative Project for a New American Century (PNAC)**

A white paper titled *Rebuilding America’s Defenses* (September 2000) stated that “a catastrophic and catalyzing event—like a new Pearl Harbor” was needed in order to gain popular support for U.S. geopolitical supremacy and dominance of world resources. Many signers (Abrams, Armitage, Bolton, Cheney, Libby, Perle, Rumsfeld, Wolfowitz) later held key positions in the Bush administration.
- **A Sept. 2007 Zogby poll shows 51% of Americans want Congress to probe Bush/Cheney on 9/11 attacks; 67% fault 9/11 Commission for not investigating WTC7** \* Congress must respond to this constituency.

### **Actions Demanded:**

- Independent, well-funded investigation with subpoena powers and stakeholder representation on the commission: victims' families, first responders, subject matter experts (such as Dr. David Ray Griffin, physicist Dr. Steven Jones and other professionals listed in Engineers and Architects for 911 Truth)
- Testimony in public and under oath
- Release of all documents and testimony from the 9/11 Commission "investigation."

## **2. Impeach Cheney and Bush and Remove Them from Office**

- The Constitution says Congress *shall* impeach for high crimes and misdemeanors. Impeachment is not discretionary. It's a remedy that belongs to the people; the Speaker cannot declare it "off the table."
- **Acts by Cheney and Bush amount to high crimes and misdemeanors.** *Refer to the Supplement provided; review the articles by Bruce Fein and others.\**
- **Not to impeach hands to future administrations the tools that can be used for similarly criminal and unconstitutional acts** – a point stressed by Bruce Fein, constitutional scholar and Assistant Deputy Attorney General in the Reagan Administration, on a recent Bill Moyers Journal program on PBS.
- **Over 80 American cities and towns have passed impeachment resolutions** (*mention any town and towns/cities which have passed resolutions in the member's state.*)
- **50% of Americans favor impeachment** (54% for Cheney; 45% for Bush in the July 5, 2007 American Research Group poll; 69% of *Democrats* favored impeaching Bush and 75% of them favored impeaching Cheney in the same poll).
- **This administration must be stopped.** We cannot simply wait for the next administration: they could start another war; sponsor another terror attack in the U.S.; continue torture, reckless endangerment and disregard for human life; bankrupt the U.S.; steal the 2008 election; destroy liberty at home and further destroy our name around the world.

**Action Demanded:** For Representatives, co-sponsor H.Res. 333 to impeach Cheney. For Senators, vote to convict.

**Make this point:** "The Democrats could easily impeach both Bush and Cheney in the House, as impeachment only requires a majority vote. They could not convict in the Senate without Republican support, as conviction requires ratification by two-thirds of the Senators present. Nevertheless, a House vote for impeachment would take the wind out of the sails of war, save countless lives and perhaps even save humanity from nuclear holocaust." *Paul Craig Roberts on 8/16/07. See Attachment #4\**

## **3. End the So-Called "War on Terror"**

- Acts of terror are performed by individuals, groups, and/or factions within governments. Such acts should be criminally investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice through criminal justice processes, not by waging war against entire societies. Individuals should not be framed by government agents and pursued without evidence, as in the recent Fort Dix, Miami, and JFK airport incidents; innocent people should not be killed, maimed, tortured, and "disappeared."
- The *War on Terror* is first and foremost propaganda—a war on people's minds and on civilized discourse, carried out to promote fear—with anthrax, meaningless color codes, conveniently timed warnings, dramatic arrests of patsy "terrorists"—all drummed through the mainstream media.
- There was no connection between 9/11 and Iraq. *None.* President Bush himself admitted this.
- This supposedly endless war has not been declared by Congress.

- This war is making us less safe and bankrupting our future in terms of a failing infrastructure, polluted air and water, inadequate health care, substandard public education, etc.
- Terrorism cannot be vanquished militarily. Attempting to do so is a set-up for endless war and endless bounty for war profiteers.
- World-wide, the majority of people are more terrorized by the actions of this administration and its state-sponsored terrorism than by any specific terrorist group.
- The way to support our troops is to refuse to deploy them in wars based on lies.

**Action Demanded:** Stop funding the Iraq war and all other wars of choice; bring the troops home now.

#### 4. Restore Our Constitutional Rights

The honored American traditions of the rule of law and the primacy of human rights have been desecrated by the President and Congress. They have approved:

- Spying on citizens without cause.
- Tapping telephones and email without warrants.
- Kidnapping, imprisoning and torturing people without real trials.
- The suspension and negation of the Bill of Rights and the Writ of Habeas Corpus.
- Violations of the Geneva Conventions by targeting civilians.
- Seizing the property of anyone deemed to be helping the Iraqi opposition (which they could interpret as those in the U.S. peace movement).

**The legislative branch cannot give to the executive branch rights that the Constitution gives to the people.**

#### **Actions Demanded:**

- Proclaim and insist that in wartime, as in peacetime, the American system of government includes three branches, and the President's first job is to take care that the law is faithfully executed.
- Shut down Guantanamo and bring the prisoners there within our borders.
- Amend the "material support" laws by requiring proof that an individual's support was intended to further terrorist activities and ensuring that blacklisted groups have a meaningful opportunity to defend themselves.
- Restore our constitutional rights and cherished liberties by supporting legislation to overturn and undo these laws and executive orders. *Refer to rights listed and discuss briefly.*

#### **Closing:**

The Democratic strategy of waiting for the 2008 election will not work. Not only can the administration do great additional harm to U.S. citizens and the world between now and January 2009, but the people are so upset with the Democrats for failing to oppose the administration that they may not reelect them. For Republicans, the continued unquestioning support for this administration will destroy their party. Tell them if they add their names and voices to opposing the Bush administration, including pushing for impeachment and in the other ways outlined here, it could be the most important thing they do in office—and for our country. It could be **their finest hour**.

Tell them you stand ready to help them in any way you can. After suggesting the "carrot" above, tactfully mention this "stick": their failure to act when they are made aware of treason or crimes constitutes **misprision**, a serious federal offense in itself. *Read them the statutes in the Addendum. Then thank them and leave them with the set of documents.*