

THE PRESIDENT

President's Statement  
Draft #8

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

10/7/01

On my orders, a little more than an hour ago, the United States military began strikes against al Qaeda terrorist training camps and military installations of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

## THE PRESIDENT

If any government sponsors the outlaws and killers of innocents, they have become outlaws and murderers themselves. And they will take that lonely path at their own peril.

THE PRESIDENT

In the face of today's new threat, the only way to pursue peace is to pursue those who threaten it. We did not ask for this mission, but we will fulfill it – as Americans have always done our duty to God, and to history, and to one another.

THE PRESIDENT

The name of today's military operation is "Enduring Freedom." We defend, not only our precious freedoms, but also the freedom of people everywhere to live and raise their children free from fear.

## THE PRESIDENT

A commander-in-chief sends  
America's sons and daughters into  
battle in a foreign land only after the  
greatest of care and prayer.

## THE PRESIDENT

We ask a lot of those who wear our uniform – we ask them to leave their loved ones, to travel great distances, to risk injury – even to be prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice of their lives.

THE PRESIDENT

The battle is now joined on many fronts. We will not waver, we will not tire, we will not falter – and we will not fail. Peace and freedom will prevail.

Thank you, and God Bless America.

THE PRESIDENT

None of these demands were met.  
And now the Taliban will pay a price.

By destroying camps and  
disrupting communications, we will  
make it more difficult for the terror  
network to train new recruits and  
coordinate their evil plans.



THE PRESIDENT

At the same time, the oppressed people of Afghanistan will know the generosity of America and our allies. As we strike military targets, we will also drop food, medicine and supplies to the starving and suffering men, women and children of Afghanistan.

THE PRESIDENT

The United States of America is a friend to the Afghan people, and we are the friends of almost a billion people worldwide who practice the Islamic faith.