



THE WHITE HOUSE  
PRESIDENT  
GEORGE W. BUSH

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Office of the Press Secretary  
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## President Bush Attends Veterans of Foreign Wars National Convention, Discusses Global War on Terror

Orange County Convention Center  
Orlando, Florida

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THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Thank you for the warm welcome. And I am proud to address the Veterans of Foreign Wars. (Applause.) I spoke to you when I was a presidential candidate. And this is the fifth time that I have spoken to your national convention as your President. And every time I've been honored to meet with members of the VFW, I come away from these meetings with my -- inspired by your love of country, by your devotion for duty, and for the example you set for those who wear the uniform today.

I also appreciate the fact that you're here in spite of the weather. (Laughter.) Tropical Storm Fay set a challenge for this convention, but your members were wise enough to hang around. I do want to thank the citizens -- the officials of the state of Florida for working hard to make sure that people were ready to address the storm. We watched this very carefully, and I must say that the people of this state worked hard to make sure that this convention and other lives were saved. We appreciate the work of the local officials. And of course, we'll continue to monitor the storm as it moves through, through the area.



I do want to thank my friend, George Lisicki, for his leadership as your National Commander. He's done a fine job on behalf of the VFW. I know firsthand; I've had him to the Oval Office. He's not afraid to speak his mind. I listen. and I know you're proud of the job he has done. (Applause.) And I want to thank his wife, Gloria, for putting up with him. (Laughter and applause.)

I do want to thank Bob Wallace, the Executive Director of the VFW. He has worked very hard to represent you, and he's done so in fine fashion.