

agreed to help Georgia by sending NATO teams to assess the country's needs, and by forming a new NATO-Georgia Commission.

We Have Provided Unprecedented Support For Those Who Defend Our Freedoms

President Bush recognizes that America owes veterans a debt that can never be repaid. The Administration has worked closely and effectively with the VFW on behalf of America's veterans. His budget includes nearly \$94 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs – nearly double its funding at the time he took office. The President and his Administration have also:

- committed more than \$5.5 billion to modernize and expand VA facilities.
- expanded grants to help homeless veterans.
- signed concurrent receipt legislation so combat-injured and severely disabled veterans receive both their military retired pay and their VA disability compensation.
- invested hundreds of millions of dollars to develop new treatments for conditions like traumatic brain injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder.
- implemented recommendations from the President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors, led by Senator Bob Dole and Secretary Donna Shalala, to help veterans build lives of hope, promise, and dignity.
- expanded education benefits for service members and veterans with legislation that also makes it easier for service members to transfer those benefits to their spouses or children, as the President called for in his 2008 State of the Union Address.

To view video from the event, click [here](#).

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