

Speech 06: George W. Bush - Capture of Saddam Hussein -

Practice 1 | Vocabulary

Directions: Listen and repeat.

- **swift** - moving very quickly; able to move very quickly
- **casualty** - a person who is killed or injured in war or in an accident
- **justice** - the fair treatment of people
- **crucial** - extremely important, because it will affect other things
- **privilege** - a special right or advantage that a particular person or group of people has
- **assurance** - a statement that something will certainly be true or will certainly happen, particularly when there has been doubt about it
- **coalition** - a group formed by people from several different groups, especially political ones, agreeing to work together for a particular purpose
- **sovereignty** - supreme power or authority
- **dignity** - the fact of being given honor and respect by people
- **superb** - excellent; of very good quality
- **vast** - extremely large in area, size, amount, etc.
- **precision** - the quality of being exact, accurate, and careful
- **regime** - a government, especially one that has not been elected in a fair way
- **liberty** - freedom to live as you choose without too many restrictions from government or authority
- **relent** - to finally agree to something after refusing

Practice 2 | Speech

Directions: Read the speech aloud with your teacher.

Speech on the Capture of Saddam Hussein

*By **George W. Bush**, on December 14, 2003*

Good afternoon. Yesterday, December the 13th, at around 8:30 p.m. Baghdad time, United States military forces captured Saddam Hussein alive. He was found near a farmhouse outside the city of Tikrit, in a **swift** raid conducted without **casualties**. And now the former dictator of Iraq will face the **justice** he denied to millions.

The capture of this man was **crucial** to the rise of a free Iraq. It marks the end of the road for him, and for all who bullied and killed in his name. For the Baathist holdouts largely responsible for the current violence, there will be no return to the corrupt power and **privilege** they once held. For the vast majority of Iraqi citizens who wish to live as free men and women, this event brings further **assurance** that the torture chambers and the secret police are gone forever.

And this afternoon, I have a message for the Iraqi people: You will not have to fear the rule of Saddam Hussein ever again. All Iraqis who take the side of freedom have taken the winning side. The goals of our **coalition** are the same as your goals -- **sovereignty** for your country, **dignity** for your great culture, and for every Iraqi citizen, the opportunity for a better life.

In the history of Iraq, a dark and painful era is over. A hopeful day has arrived. All Iraqis can now come together and reject violence and build a new Iraq.

The success of yesterday's mission is a tribute to our men and women now serving in Iraq. The operation was based on the **superb** work of intelligence analysts who found the dictator's footprints in a **vast** country. The operation was carried out with skill and **precision** by a brave fighting force. Our servicemen and women and our coalition allies have faced many dangers in the hunt for members of the fallen **regime**, and in their effort to bring hope and freedom to the Iraqi people. Their work continues, and so do the risks. Today, on behalf of the nation, I thank the members of our Armed Forces and I congratulate 'em.

I also have a message for all Americans: The capture of Saddam Hussein does not mean the end of

violence in Iraq. We still face terrorists who would rather go on killing the innocent than accept the rise of **liberty** in the heart of the Middle East. Such men are a direct threat to the American people, and they will be defeated.

We've come to this moment through patience and resolve and focused action. And that is our strategy moving forward. The war on terror is a different kind of war, waged capture by capture, cell by cell, and victory by victory. Our security is assured by our perseverance and by our sure belief in the success of liberty. And the United States of America will not **relent** until this war is won.

May God bless the people of Iraq, and may God bless America.

Thank you.

Practice 3 | Questions

Directions: Answer the following questions.

1. How was Saddam Hussein captured?
2. What are the effects of Saddam Hussein's capture?
3. What is the message of President George Bush for the Iraqi people?
4. Was Saddam Hussein's capture a mark to end the violence in Iraq? Why?