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Contact: Matt Lloyd

PENCE ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR LOAN PROGRAM TO REBUILD IRAQ

Washington, Sep 26, 2003 - Washington, D.C.—Following a hearing in the House International Relations Committee with Ambassador Paul Bremer, the presidential envoy to Iraq, Congressman Mike Pence announced his support for $20 billion the administration requested in reconstruction funds “so long as those funds take the form of a loan from the American people to the people of Iraq.”

“As when the United States rebuilt European countries after World War II, providing a loan for the cost of reconstruction to the Iraqi people will achieve a stable and democratic Iraq without placing an undue burden on future generations of Americans,” said Pence.

Pence pointed out that the Marshall Plan that was put in place after World War II included $1.5 billion worth of loans that were repaid to the United States.

Pence is a member of the House International Relations Committee where he sits on the Middle East Subcommittee.

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