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PENCE COMMENDS BRITISH PRIME MINISTER BLAIR FOR HIS LOYALTY

Washington, Jul 17, 2003 - WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Mike Pence, a member of the House International Relations Committee, and his wife Karen, will welcome British Prime Minister Tony Blair to the Capitol this afternoon. Pence's statement on Blair's visit follows:

"In the tradition of the Congress that welcomed Prime Minister Winston Churchill to Washington, it is a privilege to welcome Prime Minister Tony Blair to Congress.

"The alliance between our two nations has spanned two world wars and countless confrontations against tyranny. Most recently, in the war on terror, America has had no greater or more courageous ally than Great Britain and her decisive leader, Prime Minister Blair.

"It was my honor today to join members of the House and Senate in a rousing welcome of this great world leader."

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