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PENCE: THE TRUTH ON WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

Washington, Jun 11, 2003 - Washington, D.C.- U.S. Congressman Mike Pence today made the following speech from the House floor on the presence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq:

“Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Ohio who just addressed this body raised the issue that I suspect we will hear again and again before this Congress. Where are the WMD’s and whom do you believe? Did the Bush Administration mislead the American people?

“Well, in answering the question of who you believe, I believe Saddam Hussein, Mr. Speaker, who in 1991, after being soundly defeated in the Persian Gulf War, admitted to the U.N. agency responsible for monitoring the ceasefire that he possessed 10,000 nerve gas warheads, 1,500 chemical weapons, and 412 tons of chemical weapons with 25 long-range missiles.

“Even President Clinton, when he bombed Baghdad in 1998, said he did so to, ‘attack Iraq’s nuclear, chemical, and biological programs and its capacity to threaten its neighbors.’

“As a State Department official told the International Relations Committee last week, there was no change in the assessment of the WMD program from the Clinton Administration to the Bush Administration.

“Those weapons were there; the program was there; the President led America aright in this war.”

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