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PENCE TAKES TO HOUSE FLOOR ON WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION CONTROVERSY

"Truth Still Matters," Says Pence

Washington, May 15, 2003 - WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Congressman Mike Pence took to the House floor today to set the record straight on the controversy surrounding weapons of mass destruction in Iraq:

"Mr. Speaker, even here in Washington, DC, the truth still matters. And the truth is, despite what my colleague from Ohio just suggested, the truth is that Iraq had a program of weapons of mass destruction in the months and years prior to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Saddam Hussein himself admitted in 1991 to the possession of 10,000 nerve gas warheads, 1,500 chemical weapons, and 412 tons of chemical weapons agents.

"The truth is President Clinton attacked Saddam Hussein in 1998 to confront his biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons programs.

"The truth is that Great Britain's intelligence community confirmed Iraq's efforts to obtain enriched uranium in Africa.

"The truth is it was that intelligence report that the President spoke of on this floor and the truth is that Iraq had a weapons of mass destruction program and that Operation Iraqi Freedom was our finest and noblest and most necessary hour in these recent times."

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