

The fraying legacy of George W. Bush

With less than a year left in office, President Bush remains confident he will be vindicated for taking unpopular foreign policy stands based on deeply held principles, but which have led to a plunge in global esteem for the U.S.

Now even the economy, formerly regarded as Bush's greatest strength, is slipping into recession and the once-mighty U.S. dollar is languishing around the world

FOREIGN POLICY



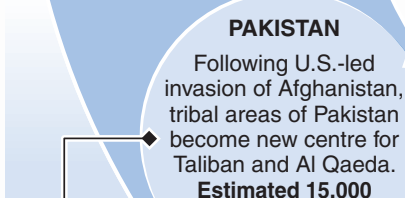

HUMAN RIGHTS

Use of secret CIA prison camps and abuses at **Guantanamo Bay** and **Abu Ghraib** lead to charges that Bush administration sanctions torture



ISRAEL, PALESTINE

Bush hopes to forge peace treaty by year's end, but most see it as too little, too late by a president who has been mostly detached from Middle East diplomacy





PAKISTAN

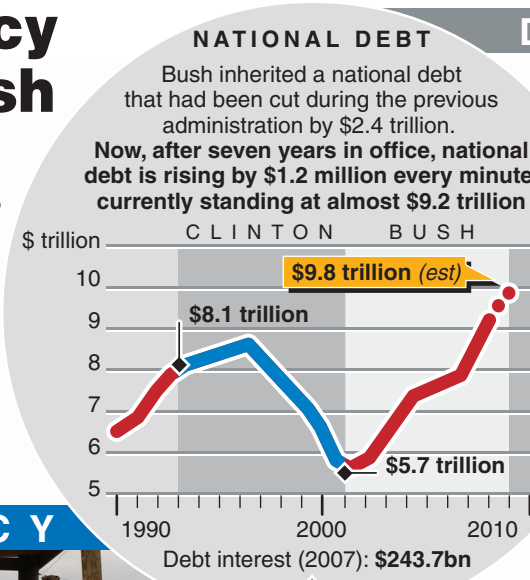
Following U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan, tribal areas of Pakistan become new centre for Taliban and Al Qaeda. **Estimated 15,000 militants now based in Pakistan**

Approval of Pakistan President **Perviz Musharraf** and Al Qaeda leader **Osama bin Laden**

Poll of 1,044 Pakistanis by D3 Systems and Pakistan Institute for Public Opinion, conducted Aug 2007. Margin of error: ± 3%

Pictures: Associated Press
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DOMESTIC POLICY

One in eight Americans now live in poverty

2001:	32.9 million
2002:	34.6 million
2003:	35.9 million
2004:	37.0 million
2005:	36.9 million
2006:	36.5 million


U.S. Census Bureau



Use of soup kitchens in New York is up 20% since 2006

POVERTY


Number of Americans living below poverty line has risen by **3.6 million** – from 11.7% to 12.3% of population since Bush became president



OIL IMPORTS

Bush sets goal to cut Middle East oil imports by 75% by 2025, but oil imports have increased by 8% since 2001. **U.S. now imports 60% of its oil, 3.6bn barrels/year**

Energy Information Administration




IMMIGRATION

Opposition-led Senate wrecks Bush's flagship immigration bill. **Around 12 million illegal immigrants account for one in every 20 U.S. workers**

Pew Hispanic Center

9/11 ATTACKS

By treating September 2001 attacks as an act of war – rather than as an outrageous crime – Bush endows **Al Qaeda** with status of global movement



ROAD TO WAR

In lead up to Iraq War, Bush administration makes 532 unequivocal statements claiming Iraq has weapons of mass destruction, links to Al Qaeda, or both

Center for Public Integrity

Spiralling Pentagon budget	
2001:	\$335.5bn
2002:	\$362.1bn
2003:	\$456.2bn
2004:	\$490.6bn
2005:	\$505.7bn
2006:	\$559.5bn
2007:	\$582.7bn
Additional war-related funding since 2001:	
\$520.0bn	
Supplemental budgets and "bridge" funding allocated by Congress	

IRAN, NORTH KOREA

Bush pledges to keep nuclear weapons out of hands of so-called **axis of evil** regimes, but fails to stop Pakistan selling them weapons technology

IRAQ WAR

Nearly five years of war claim lives of some 4,000 Americans, 300 coalition troops and 100,000-223,000* Iraqis

* Survey by Iraqi government and World Health Organization, Jan 2008

