



HOMELAND SECURITY

War On Terror Timeline

2001

● **September 20, 2001:** President Bush proposes a new Office of Homeland Security.

● **October 7, 2001:** President Bush announces Operation Enduring Freedom to dismantle the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, which is harboring al Qaeda.

● **October 8, 2001:** President Bush establishes the Office of Homeland Security in the Executive Office of the President and appoints Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge as Director.

● **November 19, 2001:** President Bush signs the Aviation and Transportation Security Act, creating the Transportation Security Administration.

● **October 4, 2002:** Six suspected members of the al Qaeda terrorist network operating near Buffalo are indicted.

● **November 25, 2002:** President Bush signs the Homeland Security Act of 2002, establishing the Department of Homeland Security.

● **January 7, 2003:** Congress creates the Select Committee on Homeland Security with authorizing and oversight responsibility for the new Department of Homeland Security.

● **January 17, 2003:** Secretary Powell reopens the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. The embassy had been closed for over 25 years.

● **January 24, 2003:** President Bush swears in Tom Ridge as the first Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

● **March 1, 2003:** Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the alleged architect of the September 11th attacks is captured in Pakistan.

● **March 17, 2003:** Homeland Security Department commences Operation Liberty Shield, an increase in protective measures to defend the homeland.

● **March 19, 2003:** President Bush launches Operation Iraqi Freedom to end the regime of Saddam Hussein and its support of terrorism.

● **April 2, 2003:** House passage of the \$79 billion Wartime Supplemental Appropriations bill to provide crucial funding for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

● **May 1, 2003:** President Bush declares an end to major combat operations in Iraq aboard the USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

● **May 1, 2003:** The Terrorist Threat Integration Center begins operations.

● **May 12, 2003:** Homeland Security Department launches TopOff II, a week-long national training exercise for emergency preparedness and response.

● **June 8, 2003:** Acting on a tip from U.S. authorities, Thai police arrest Narong Penanam, who tried to sell cesium-137 to make a "dirty bomb."

● **June 19, 2003:** Lyman Faris, the Ohio truck driver who plotted with Osama Bin Laden to cut the cables on the Brooklyn Bridge, pleads guilty.

2002

2003

SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER COX

homeland.house.gov

HOMELAND SECURITY

War On Terror Timeline

2003

- **June 24, 2003:** House passes the first ever Homeland Security Appropriations bill, approving \$29.4 billion to bolster our homeland security, bringing funding for First Responders to more than \$20 billion since 9/11.
- **July 16, 2003:** House passage of Project Bioshield to help prevent and inoculate for bio-terror attack.
- **July 22, 2003:** Saddam Hussein's sons, Uday and Qusai, killed by U.S. forces.
- **August 12, 2003:** Arrest in Newark of Hemant Lakhani, London arms dealer who tried to smuggle surface-to-air missiles
- **August 19, 2003:** Iraqi Vice President Taha Yasin Ramadan Al-Jizrawi, #20 on U.S. Most Wanted list, captured.
- **August 21, 2003:** "Chemical Ali" captured in Iraq.
- **September 2, 2003:** Secretary Ridge announces the "One Face at the Border" initiative to unify the border inspection process.
- **September 23, 2003:** Authorities arrest Rusman Gunawan, the brother Of Al Qaeda operative Riduan Isamuddin, in Pakistan and 14 students who were with him were also arrested on charges of suspected terrorism.
- **October 1, 2003:** President Bush signs the first Homeland Security Appropriations bill into law.
- **October 30, 2003:** HR 2886, The Department of Homeland Security Financial Accountability Act is reported favorably out of the Homeland Security Committee
- **November 20, 2003:** HR 3266, The Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act of 2003 passes unanimously in the House Homeland Security's Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness and Response.
- **November 20, 2003:** The Homeland Security Department released final rules to allow the customs and border protection directorate to collect information necessary to identify high-risk cargo shipments bound for the United States.
- **November 26, 2003:** Mohammed Hamdi al-Ahdal, a top al Qaeda leader in Yemen, is captured. Al-Ahdal was one of the top 20 al Qaeda members at large, and is suspected of planning the bombing of the USS Cole in 2000.
- **December 13, 2003:** Saddam Hussein is captured by U.S. forces in a hole north of Baghdad. The former dictator of Iraq is responsible for numerous heinous crimes; an estimated 300,000 victims of Saddam's regime are buried in mass graves in Iraq.

2004

- **February 24, 2004:** The Department of Homeland Security releases their strategic plan, "Securing Our Homeland."
- **March 1, 2004:** The one-year anniversary of the creation of Department of Homeland Security.
- **March 11, 2004:** Terrorist bombings on commuter trains in Madrid, Spain take hundreds of lives in the deadliest terrorist attack on a European target since World War II.
- **March 14, 2004:** In Spain, Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero of the Socialist Party is elected Prime Minister, ousting the ruling Popular Party. The result, it is said, reflects voter backlash against Prime Minister Jose Aznar's strong support for the global war on terror.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER COX

homeland.house.gov