1/30/41  **RICHARD BRUCE CHENEY:** Born to Richard Herbert, a longtime Agricultural Department employee, and Marjorie Lauraine, a homemaker, in Lincoln, Nebraska. Cheney was the eldest of three children, with a brother and sister.

1954  **CHENEYS MOVE TO CASPER, WYOMING.** Cheney was co-captain of the football team and Senior Class President at Natrona County High School. He was an officer of Wyoming’s Boy’s State.

1959-1960  **YALE:** Cheney won a full scholarship but had to leave because of failing grades. According to a post-college friend, Cheney partied too much to focus on course work.

1962  Moved back to Wyoming and worked for $2 an hour at Pacific Power and Light Company, stringing and cutting lines.

1963  Attended Casper Community College for one semester. He later enrolled at University of Wyoming.

1963-1966  **VIETNAM WAR DRAFT DEFERMENTS:** Cheney receives five student and marriage deferments of service during the war. He told *The Washington Post* in 1989, "I had other priorities in the '60s than military service. ... I don't regret the decisions I made. I complied fully with all the requirements of the statutes, registered with the draft when I turned 18. Had I been drafted, I would have been happy to serve."

8/29/64  **MARRIES** Lynne Anne Vincent, his high school sweetheart.

1965  Completes his B.A. degree in Political Science at the University of Wyoming.

7/28/66  Daughter Elizabeth is born.

1968-1969  **MOVE TO WISCONSIN:** The Cheneys moved to Wisconsin and enrolled in doctorate programs at University of Wisconsin - Madison. Lynne earned a degree; however, Dick’s 1968 move to DC prevented him from finishing his doctoral thesis on congressional voting behavior.

1968-1969  **WASHINGTON, DC FELLOWSHIP:** Cheney won a Congressional fellowship and left Madison to take it. He worked in the office of William Steiger, a Congressman from Wisconsin.

3/14/69  Daughter Mary Claire is born.

1971-1973 NIXON WHITE HOUSE: Cheney served under Rumsfeld as White House Staff Assistant. Later, when Rumsfeld was named a White House counselor, Cheney again served under him, as Assistant Director of the Cost of Living Council.

1975 FORD WHITE HOUSE: When Nixon resigned, Ford tapped Rumsfeld to become his Chief of Staff and Cheney followed as his Deputy. When Rumsfeld left the White House to be Defense Secretary, Cheney moved up to become the youngest Chief of Staff ever, at age 34. Cheney held the post for 14 months (1975-1976).

1976 RETURNS TO WYOMING: After Ford lost, Cheney and his family moved back to Casper, where Cheney briefly worked in banking.

1977 CAMPAIGNS FOR CONGRESS: After less than a year back in Wyoming, Cheney decided to run for Congress. He and his family campaigned statewide while living in a camper.

6/1978 SUFFERS FIRST HEART ATTACK: After surviving his first heart attack, Cheney sends letters to many state Republicans explaining why, despite the setback, he wants to continue running for office.

11/1978 ELECTED TO CONGRESS: After winning a three-way Republican primary, Cheney wins the general with 59% of the vote. In Congress, he becomes one of President Reagan's most ardent supporters, with a solidly conservative voting record.


1983 Co-authors KINGS OF THE HILL: Power and Personality in the House of Representatives with his wife Lynne Cheney. The book profiles eight key members of the House of Representatives through American history.

9/1984 SUFFERS SECOND HEART ATTACK.

1988 CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE.

1988 IRAN-CONTRA SCANDAL: Cheney serves as the vice chairman of the congressional investigation commission. During the scandal, he is one of Congress's most stalwart defenders of the Reagan administration.

6/1988 SUFFERS THIRD HEART ATTACK.
8/19/1988  **CHENEY UNDERGOES QUADRUPLE CORONARY BYPASS SURGERY**
at George Washington University Hospital. He was released from the hospital a
week later and rested at home until 9/7/88, when he returned to Congress.

12/1988  **ELECTED HOUSE MINORITY WHIP.**

1989-93  **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE:** Cheney was picked to head the Pentagon after
President Bush's first choice, Senator John Tower, withdrew after it became clear
he wouldn't win Senate confirmation. As Defense Secretary, Cheney won kudos
from conservatives for cutting the military's budget during his term.

1989  **PANAMA INVASION:** Under Cheney, 24,000 American troops invaded
Panama to overthrow General Manuel Noriega.

1990-91  **PERSIAN GULF WAR:** Cheney was credited as the chief architect of U.S.
military strategy in the Persian Gulf War.

1991  **BRIEFINGS FOR RNC DONORS:** Cheney was criticized after giving
Pentagon briefings to individuals who gave the Republican National Committee
gifts of $5,000.

1993-1995  **AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE:** Cheney serves as Senior Fellow at
the American Enterprise Institute. His wife Lynne Cheney also joined the staff of
the AEI in 1993.

1994  **CAMPAIGNING AGAIN:** Cheney campaigned for over 100 GOP candidates in
46 states. He also raised $1,400,000 to be used in a possible presidential bid and
came in fifth in a presidential straw poll, ahead of Pat Buchanan and Dan Quayle.

1/3/95  **DECIDES AGAINST A PRESIDENTIAL BID:** Cheney expresses his
frustration that the race is shaping up over domestic issues, not security concerns.
Bob Woodward, in *The Choice*, explains that Cheney chose to avoid the media
spotlight, which would undoubtedly shine on him and his family members,
including one daughter who is gay.

1995  **JOINS HALLIBURTON,** the world’s largest oil fields services company, as its
Chairman and CEO. Cheney had no prior corporate background.

4/25/00  **PICKED TO HEAD BUSH VP SEARCH.** The list of individuals who Cheney
interviewed or asked to fill out questionnaires includes Senators Chuck Hagel,
Fred Thompson, and Bill Frist, Representative John Kasich, Governor Frank
Keating, and former Senator John Danforth.

5/16/00  **NOT INTERESTED IN PUBLIC OFFICE:** Cheney tells Halliburton
shareholders that when he joined the company in 1995, he "made a long-term commitment to the company and [has] absolutely no desire to go back to government. I’ve done that. I am set in my ways at my age. I’m 59 years old and I didn’t leave anything in Washington."

5/31/00 **SELLS AT LEAST 100,000 SHARES OF HALLIBURTON STOCK** making $5,097,000 or more. Before the sale, Cheney held options on 229,000 shares. Two other Halliburton officers, David Lesar and Jerry Blurton, also sold stock on 5/31. The stock hit a high of $52 1/4 on 5/17/00.

7/3/00 **BUSH DETERMINES CHENEY IS HIS TOP VP CHOICE** after the two meet at Bush’s Texas ranch to review other VP options. Laura Bush recalls her husband saying, "This would really be the best man if he would do it. I wish he would do it.” Bush later asked Cheney to reconsider the post and Cheney said he would discuss the option with his family.

7/21/00 **CHANGES VOTER REGISTRATION** from Texas to Wyoming, to avoid a constitutional obstacle that forbids presidential and vice presidential nominees from being from the same state.

7/24/00 **CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH FOR CHENEY:** Dr. Denton Cooley, after consulting with Dr. Jonathan Reiner and Dr. Gary Malakoff at the George Washington University Medical Center, who examined Cheney on 7/20/2000, said Cheney "is in good health with normal cardiac function."

7/25/00 **BUSH ASKS CHENEY TO SERVE AS VP** on a 6:22am phone call. The two announce Bush’s selection later that day in Austin.

8/10/00 **CHENEYS HIT THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL:** Mr. And Mrs. Cheney speak about education at Tussing Elementary School in Pickerington, Ohio and Anderson County High School in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky.

8/16/00 **LEAVES HALLIBURTON:** Cheney officially leaves Halliburton with a retirement package of more than $33 million in stock and options.

8/24/00 **QUESTIONS SURROUNDING HALLIBURTON RECORD:** The *NY Times* investigates Cheney’s success as a CEO at Halliburton, citing disappointing profits in highway construction and “unusually high” losses on projects in 1998 and 1999. The *Times* says Halliburton stock underperformed most stocks in its industry during Cheney’s tenure.

8/29/00 **HALLIBURTON’S U.S. ARMY CONTRACTS:** Newspapers report Halliburton made more than $2 billion since 1992 from US government contracts to provide services for American troops on peacekeeping missions. The contracts were for U.S. deployments in Bosnia, Kosovo, Somalia and elsewhere.
RICHARD (DICK) CHENEY TIMELINE/cont.

9/4/00  LABOR DAY SLIP OF THE TONGUE: At a campaign event in Illinois, in front of an open microphone on stage Bush leans over to Cheney and points out New York Times reporter Adam Clymer as a “major league ***hole.” Cheney responded, "Oh, yeah, he is, big time."

9/13/00  LYNNE CHENEY TESTIFIES BEFORE CONGRESS ON ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY: Mrs. Cheney, former chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities, testifies before a Senate committee about the entertainment industry marketing violent movies at youngsters. She calls on Gore and Lieberman tell Hollywood to clean up its act when they attend a 9/14 fund-raiser hosted by Hollywood movie mogul Harvey Weinstein.

9/20/00  SAYS HUSSEIN WAS LET OFF THE HOOK: In Lancaster, CA Cheney says the Clinton-Gore administration let Saddam Hussein “slip off the hook” by avoiding weapons inspections. With former pilots and astronauts at his side, Cheney says cuts in funding for military research and development have undermined the military’s ability to respond to future threats.

9/22/00  CRITICIZES TAPPING OIL RESERVE: Campaigning in Iowa, Cheney calls the Clinton administration’s plan to tap the Strategic Petroleum Reserve a "crass political move."

10/9/00  PRAISE FOR CHENEY ON SAME-SEX RELATIONSHIPS: The Human Rights Campaign, in a written statement, applauds Cheney for breaking ranks with the extreme right in the GOP and recognizing that gay and lesbian families have a place in America” during last week’s Vice-Presidential debate. Cheney’s daughter Mary told her parents in the early ‘90s that she’s a lesbian and it became public years later.

10/10/00  CONSERVATIVES CRITICIZE GAY MARRIAGE COMMENTS: The New York Times reports that Cheney has come under criticism from conservative Republicans for his comments on same-sex marriage during last week’s debate. Cheney had said “people should be free to enter into any kind of relationship they want to enter into” and that gay marriage “should be decided by the states.”

11/7/00  ELECTION DAY: Americans cast their ballots for President. Governor Bush and Vice President Al Gore each have close to an Electoral College majority.

11/15/00  VISITS CAMPAIGN WORKERS IN TX: Cheney and his wife Lynne visit campaign workers at the Bush-Cheney Austin, TX headquarters to thank them for all their hard work. He doesn’t answer questions about the Florida recount but does say he hopes for “a quick and speedy resolution.”
11/22/00 **SUFFERS FOURTH HEART ATTACK:** Cheney suffered a slight heart attack, and was rushed to George Washington Hospital, where doctors implanted an artery-clearing device in his chest.

11/26/00 **WINNER?** Florida Secretary of State Katharine Harris declares Bush-Cheney winners in Florida by 537 votes.

12/13/00 **WINNER TAKES ALL:** Gore concedes; Bush wins.

12/14/00 **RECEIVES KEY TO TRANSITION OFFICE:** Cheney travels to the General Services Administration office in Washington, DC to officially receive the key to the Bush-Cheney transition office as well as $5.3 million in federal funds. As for the timing of Cabinet announcements, Cheney says, “We’re going to move as rapidly as we can.”

1/20/01 **SWORN IN:** Officially begins duties as Vice President of the United States.

3/5/01 **CHENEY HOSPITALIZED:** Dick Cheney checks himself into George Washington University Hospital after complaining of two “brief, mild episodes of chest discomfort.” Doctors perform a catheterization and find a blockage.

5/17/01 **CHENEY’S ENERGY MEETINGS:** Vice President Dick Cheney releases his Energy Report. Democrats criticize Cheney's secret meetings with energy company execs and cry foul because the White House refuses to name the attendees.

7/18/01 **MUST HAND OVER RECORDS:** The General Accounting Office demanded that Vice President Dick Cheney hand over records detailing the development of the Bush administration's controversial energy policy, which was drawn up in closed meetings by a task force headed by Cheney.

9/11/01 September 11 attacks.

9/13/01 Cheney is moved to Camp David by the Secret Service in one of the many security measures taken after September 11.

9/16/01 **TALKS ABOUT ATTACKS:** Appears on NBC’s *Meet the Press* in his first public statement to the nation and says that he and Bush had decided to have any commercial hijacked planes shot out of the sky if they approached Washington.

10/18/01 **FIRST VISIT TO WTC:** After being out of sight for so long, Vice President Cheney made a public appearance when he toured the World Trade Center rubble for the first time since the September 11 attacks. He, his wife and his daughter spend their time at the site thanking the workers for their hard work.
SECOND PUBLIC APPEARANCE: Spoke at the annual Alfred E. Smith Memorial dinner, a high-profile Catholic Church charity event, During his talk Cheney emphasized the chances that there will be more attacks on the US. He predicted, “for the first time in our history, we will probably suffer more casualties here at home in America than among our troops overseas.”

12/9/01 IRAQ LINK WITH 9/11: Cheney says there is information suggesting that September 11 hijacker Mohamed Atta met with a senior official of the Iraqi intelligence service in Czechoslovakia the previous April, several months before the attack. Comments such as these have been blamed on people assuming that Saddam Hussein played a role in September 11th.

3/19/02 Cheney ends 11-nation Middle East tour to feel out Arab leaders on plans to widen the U.S. war on terror to include Iraq. Most advise against striking Iraq to remove Saddam Hussein.

6/29/02 (INTERIM) PRESIDENT CHENEY: Temporarily holds presidential power when President Bush undergoes a colonoscopy at Camp David. Cheney held power from 7:09am until 9:24am.

9/11/02 FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Cheney cancels a speech set for 9/10 because the terror alert was raised to Code Orange; instead, he is secluded in undisclosed location through the 9/11 anniversary.

11/5/02 FUNDRAISING PROWESS: Cheney reportedly raised over $40 million for Republican candidates in 2002. President Bush, meantime, raised $140 million.

3/16/03 SADDAM’S NUKES: “We know [Saddam is] out trying once again to produce nuclear weapons. We know he has been absolutely devoted to trying to acquire nuclear weapons. And we believe he has, in fact, reconstituted nuclear weapons…”

3/19/03 WAR: US begins war with Iraq.

5/16/03 President Bush and Vice President Cheney file with FEC to begin re-election drive.

6/17/03 FIRST ’04 FUND-RAISER: In their first 2004 Bush-Cheney campaign fundraiser, Cheney and Bush visit the Washington Hilton where 1,400 attendees pay $2,000-a-plate to munch on hot dogs, burgers and nachos. The event raises $3.5 million.

6/23/03 MORE $$: Attends two Bush-Cheney fund-raisers in Richmond, VA and Boston, raising about $1.7 million.
7/12/03 **REAGAN SHIP:** Commissioned the U.S.S. Ronald Reagan in Norfolk, VA.


7/24/03 **PREWAR INTELLIGENCE:** Cheney joins administration efforts to counter questions about prewar intelligence at a speech at the conservative American Enterprise Institute think tank in Washington.

7/26/03 Lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the Korean War armistice.

7/31/03 Receives award from American Legislative Exchange Council in Washington, D.C.

9/10/03 Attends ceremony to unveil a bust of former Vice President Dan Quayle at the U.S. Capitol.

9/11/03 **SEPT. 11 ANNIVERSARY:** Attends ceremonies in New York City, in President Bush’s stead, commemorating the victims on the second anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

9/14/03 **AL-QAIDA – IRAQ CONNECTION:** Appears on Meet the Press. When host Tim Russert questioned him about the basis for the public's perception of a Hussein-al-Qaida link. Cheney gave a coy answer, "I think it's not surprising that people make that connection." Russert asked directly if such a connection existed. Cheney said, "We don't know."

9/17/03 Addresses the Air Force Association National Convention in Washington, DC and said “President Bush is acting to protect the American people against further attacks, even when that means moving aggressively against would-be attackers.”

9/18/03 Speaks at the Small Business Administration’s Annual National Entrepreneurs Conference for Women in Business awards ceremony in Washington, DC.

9/24/03 Meets with the House Republican Policy Committee on Iraq and the economy on Capitol Hill in an effort to win support for the White House’s $87 billion request.

10/10/03 **CONSPIRACY:** Cheney tells an audience at the Heritage Foundation that President Bush went to war against Iraq because Saddam was contributing to a conspiracy against the United States that could somebody claim “tens of thousands or even hundreds of thousands of lives in a single day of war.”

(Scripps Howard News Service)
**RICHARD (DICK) CHENEY TIMELINE/cont.**

10/17/03  Addresses a Rice University Institute of Public Policy gala in Houston and tells them “Sometimes history presents clear and stark choices. We have come to such a time … We accept the great mission that history has given us.” (AP)

10/27/03  Campaigns with Mississippi gubernatorial candidate Haley Barbour in Columbus, Miss.

11/7/03  **FUND-RAISING TOTAL:** As of today, three days after Election Day ’03, Cheney had raised a total of $11,089,000 for the Bush-Cheney re-election fund and an additional $2,077,500 for Republican candidates around the country this year. From June through October, more than 70 percent of his public appearances were fund-raisers.

11/12/03  Speaks at the 2003 George C. Marshall Foundation Award dinner where Colin Powell received the George C. Marshall Foundation award in Washington.

11/24/03  **RALLYING THE TROOPS:** Over the next couple of months, Cheney has a full schedule of campaign rallies and fundraisers for fellow Republicans around the country.

12/22/03  **REAL POWER:** Addresses military and their families at McCord Air Force Base in Tacoma, Washington. Thanks them for missions in Afghanistan and Iraq and comments on his last visit in 1992 when he was secretary of defense and “had real power and influence.”

1/24/04-27  **EUROPEAN “VACATION”:** Attends the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland where he discusses recent success in the War on Terror. Meets with PM Berlusconi and Italian Leaders in Rome, Italy and then with troops and families stationed in Italy the following day.

2/10/04  Addressed attendees of the AEI annual dinner, honoring Charles Krauthammer.

3/2/04  **SAME SEX MARRIAGE:** Participates in an interview with Lester Holt of MSNBC. The issue of same sex marriage rises.

Q: Mr. Vice President, on a social issue, you've made statements in the past suggesting the issue of same-sex marriage is one that should be left up to the states. The President has, of course, called for a federal constitutional amendment that will essentially ban same-sex marriage. Where are you today?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Well, the President has taken the clear position that he supports a constitutional amendment. His concern has been based, primarily, on developments in San Francisco and Boston, where, in fact, legal cases have arisen and challenges have arisen to existing laws with respect to this issue. He's made clear what the administration position is and I support him.
However, at an event in Florida on **August 24, 2004** he was again asked about his own beliefs on gay marriage. His response was roughly that all Americans have the right to make their own choices about the civil unions they want, but the president sets the policy.

**3/2/04**

**SECOND TERM QUESTIONED:** In an interview Cheney is asked whether he will be replaced as the Vice Presidential nominee.

Q: That mysterious person that Russell Baker once referred to as the "Great Mentioner," has begun to mention other people as possible replacements for you on the ticket. What about that?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Well, the President the other night said he'd put me in charge of the search committee, as he had four years ago and I came up with the same answer again. He told that jokingly, obviously.

But he's asked me to serve with him on the ticket again for the next four years and I'm happy to do that. As long as I can be of assistance and he wants me in that spot, I plan to serve.

**3/17/04**

Visits Ronald Reagan Library and Museum in Simi Valley, California where he is joined by Mrs. Reagan and speaks about national security and the railway bombing in Madrid, Spain.

**3/29/04**

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:** Cheney speaks before the Chamber of Commerce, using the opportunity to scoff at comments made by Kerry that he would eliminate Bush tax cuts that benefit the wealthy. Cheney commented that voters should take a look at Kerry’s Senate record on taxes.

**4/5/04**

**BASEBALL:** Cheney throws out the ceremonial first pitch at the Reds-Cubs game.

**4/12-14**

**ASIA VISIT:** Cheney is in Japan, China and South Korea on a swing through Asia.

**4/17/04**

**NRA:** Cheney delivers the keynote address at the National Rifle Association convention in Pittsburg.

**4/26/04**

**REMARKS:** Cheney delivers a speech at Westminster College Historic Gymnasium. In the speech, he questions whether Kerry will be strong enough in a time of war.

**4/27/04**

**SUPREME COURT:** The Supreme Court holds oral arguments to decide
whether Cheney must disclose records of the administration’s energy policy meetings held three years ago.

4/29/04  **9-11 COMMISSION:** Bush and Cheney appear together before the 9-11 Commission. The White House stipulated that no transcripts of the comments be made and that neither Bush, nor Cheney will speak under oath.

5/11/04  **THE ‘OLE TICKER:** Cheney undergoes exam to check his pacemaker and gets a clean bill of health. He has had four heart attacks in the past, though none as Vice President.

6/1/04  **PATRIOT ACT:** In a speech delivered in Kansas City, Cheney calls the Patriot Act, “a vital weapon in the war against terror.” He also criticizes Kerry’s position on the Act saying Kerry hasn’t presented a single example of a situation where the it has been abused.

6/8/04  **POLITICAL AD:** Media Fund begins airing an ad targeting Cheney’s relationship with Halliburton. The ad accuses Halliburton of “price gouging.”

6/14/04  **MORE POLITICAL ADS:** Move-On.org releases a new ad today targeting Cheney. Ad begins with a shot of the White House, which dissolves into a shot of a domed platter. Inside the platter is a stack of contracts. The ad says that the Bush administration gave Halliburton no-bid contracts in Iraq.

6/16/04  **MORE HALLIBURTON:** Cheney’s office claims that he was not informed in 2002 that Halliburton would receive a no-bid contract to restore Iraqi oil facilities, however his chief of staff, Lewis “Scooter” Libby was aware.

6/21/04  **IT GETS PERSONAL:** The Vice President faces a new attack on a different front. DontAmend.com and the Equality Campaign have introduced a new internet ad campaign that attacks Dick Cheney’s openly gay daughter, Mary, for running her father’s re-election campaign while the Bush-Cheney Administration tries to pass the Federal Marriage Amendment.

6/22/04  **HEATED EXCHANGE:** In a brief argument on the floor of the Senate, Cheney advised Sen. Patrick Leahy to “fuck” himself. Cheney, who was serving in his role as president of the Senate, got in an argument with Leahy over Cheney’s ties to Halliburton and the president’s judicial nominees.

6/30/04  **GREETED WITH JEERS:** Cheney kicks off a busy week of campaigning in New York, where he attends a Yankees game and GOP fundraiser. But, unlike the rousing reception Bush received during the 2001 World Series in the wake of the terrorist attacks, Cheney was greeted with jeers.

7/3/04  **ON THE BUS:** Cheney begins a bus tour through manufacturing-heavy
battleground states Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia as news of declining manufacturing jobs were released.

7/06/04 **ON THE PHONE:** Cheney called Edwards after he was selected as vice president with John Kerry.


7/16/04 **CHENEY CAMPAIGNS:** Vice President Dick Cheney who vows he is staying on as VP and John McCain who has said over and over that he never wants that job will campaign together in the battleground state of Michigan.

7/21/04 **CHENEY TRAIL:** Cheney takes his show to Missouri and Ohio where he talks about health care costs and limiting financial awards for medical malpractice (perhaps a not-so-subtle dig at John Edwards).

7/27/04 **GETTING FRESH WITH THE PRESS:** After an event at Camp Pendleton, Cheney stayed to meet with sailors, but only after the press left. However, NBC’s David Gregory attempted a question before they where shuffled out.

DG: At the Democratic Convention last night, there was the argument that the Democrats could be just as strong on the war on terror, but perhaps wiser. Do you have a response?

DC: That's exactly why we're asking you to get out of here.

8/3/04 **IN BUBBA’S BACKYARD:** Within sight of Bill Clinton's High School, Cheney held his 2nd town hall style event of the campaign in Hot Springs, Arkansas. A 500+ standing room only crowd surrounding him on all sides and he made opening remarks heavy on national security and the war on terror, and then spent 20 minutes fielding questions from a supportive crowd.

8/11/04 **ALL IN THE FAMILY:** Cheney is introduced by his daughter Liz and a town hall meeting in Joplin, Missouri and for the first time in the campaign shared the stage and microphone with Lynne.

8/12/04 **A SENSITIVE WAR:** Cheney ridiculed John Kerry's call for a "more sensitive" war on terror, saying it won't impress the Sept. 11 terrorists or the Islamic militants who have beheaded U.S. citizens. "America has been in too many wars for any of our wishes, but not a one of them was won by being sensitive," Cheney told supporters in this swing state. "A sensitive war will not destroy the evil men who killed 3,000 Americans. ... The men who beheaded Daniel Pearl and Paul Johnson will not be impressed by our sensitivity."

(Pearl’s family later asked both campaign’s not to use Daniel’s name in political
GAY MARRIAGE COMMENTS: At an Iowa town hall meeting, Cheney was asked his views on gay marriage. He responded, "Well, the question has come up obviously in the past with respect to the question of gay marriage. Lynne and I have a gay daughter, so it's an issue that our family is very familiar with. We have two daughters, and we have enormous pride in both of them. They're both fine young women. They do a superb job, frankly, of supporting us. And we are blessed with both our daughters. With respect to the question of relationships, my general view is that freedom means freedom for everyone. People ought to be able to free -- ought to be free to enter into any kind of relationship they want to. The question that comes up with respect to the issue of marriage is what kind of official sanction, or approval is going to be granted by government, if you will, to particular relationships. Historically, that's been a relationship that has been handled by the states. The states have made that basic fundamental decision in terms of defining what constitutes a marriage. I made clear four years ago when I ran and this question came up in the debate I had with Joe Lieberman that my view was that that's appropriately a matter for the states to decide, that that's how it ought to best be handled.

“The President has, as result of the decisions that have been made in Massachusetts this year by judges, felt that he wanted to support the constitutional amendment to define -- at the federal level to define what constitutes marriage, that I think his perception was that the courts, in effect, were beginning to change -- without allowing the people to be involved, without their being part of the political process -- that the courts, in that particular case, the state court in Massachusetts, were making the judgment or the decision for the entire country. And he disagreed with that. So where we're at, at this point is he has come out in support of a federal constitutional amendment. And I don't think -- well, so far it hasn't had the votes to pass. Most states have addressed this. There is on the books the federal statute Defense of Marriage Act passed in 1996. And to date it has not been successfully challenged in the courts, and that may be sufficient to resolve the issue. But at this point, say, my own pre More questions, yes.”

Cheney’s comments sparked a lot of debate, particularly at the RNC platform hearings on 8/25-26. The adopted platform advocates a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage for the first time. The platform then goes further, saying “We further believe that legal recognition and the accompanying benefits afforded couples should be preserved for that unique and special union of one man and one woman which has historically been called marriage.”

HOLDING COURT AT THE RNC: After accepting his party’s re-nomination, Cheney played the role of Bush administrative counterpart as well as his most adoring fan, using the majority of his floor time to reiterate why Bush should be
reelected to the 4,800 delegates present. The next topic on Cheney’s agenda: Kerry’s notorious “flip-flopping” indecisiveness, including Kerry’s position on the war in Iraq. The Vice President spent a good portion of his speech criticizing Senator Kerry for his stance on National Security and lack of clarity in his message for the country. "Senator Kerry says he sees two Americas…It makes the whole thing mutual -- America sees two John Kerry’s." Cheney also summarized golden highlights of the first term of the Bush administration, “years of achievement,” discernible by strengthening the economy and a steadfast position against terrorism.

9/7/04

CHENEY STRIKES A NERVE: Cheney, at a campaign stop in Des Moines, Iowa, made startling comments about the upcoming election: "It's absolutely essential that eight weeks from today, on November 2nd, we make the right choice, because if we make the wrong choice then the danger that we'll get hit again, that we'll be hit in a way that will be devastating from the standpoint of the United States, and that we'll fall back into the pre-9/11 mindset, if you will, that in fact these terrorist attacks are just criminal acts and that we are not really at war." He continued to attack the Democratic Party later that day, while speaking in Manchester, New Hampshire, sighting that Kerry’s “judgment” should be questioned: I don't question his patriotism, I question his judgment. A senator can vote wrong for 20 years as John Kerry did and without consequence to the nation, but a president always, always has the decisive vote.”

10/5/04

VICE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE: Cheney engaged in the only vice presidential debate, squaring off against Edwards in Cleveland, OH. Cheney spoke confidently of the administration’s efforts in Iraq, sighting “significant progress” being made towards democracy. He also mentioned how progress in Iraq could lead to free elections as early as next year; he sighted Saddam Hussein’s reign over the country as significant to the connection between terrorist groups and weapons of mass destruction. Cheney also noted the progress made in Afghanistan, where he claimed the pursuit of Bin Laden is still in progress in addition to an optimistic outlook for the Afghani people, who are scheduled to hold elections on October 9. The Vice President boasted education, tax and tort reform as being the best mechanisms for increasing employment. He briefly touched on medical liability, lobbying Bush’s plan to restrict non-economic damage awards and curb awards granted to lawyers in malpractice cases. The most poignant and perhaps tense moment of the debate arose with the topic of same-sex marriage. Cheney confirmed that the President believed the same-sex marriage amendment, due to developments in Massachusetts and California, was made necessary. Although the Vice President was mum about his lesbian daughter, Edwards praised him for embracing his daughter, regardless of her sexual preference, as well as commending his family values. Cheney’s reply,
“\"Well, Gwen, let me simply thank the senator for the kind words he said about my family and our daughter. I appreciate that very much. That\’s it.\"”

10/14/04 Lynn Cheney in Response to Kerry\’s Remarks about her Daughter from the Third Debate: \"The only thing I can conclude is that this is not a good man, not a good man. And of course, I\’m speaking as a mom, a pretty indignant mom,\" she said with a hint of venom in her voice. \"This is not a good man. What a cheap and tawdry political trick.\”

10/19/04 CHENEY DOUBTS KERRY\’S STRENGTH IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM: Vice President Dick Cheney roused voter mobilization in southern Ohio by endorsing the theme of terror and national security. Cheney emphasized the President\’s hold on threats against the US before he questioned Kerry\’s judgment and strength in wartime. Cheney, accompanied by his was, was campaigning in Ohio to strengthen the traditionally Republican supportive state.

10/23/2004 ON THE ATTACK: In a campaign stop in Farmington, New Mexico, Cheney says that had Kerry been president in recent history, the Soviet Union might not have fallen, a nuclear-armed Saddam Hussein could be in control of the Persian Gulf and the United States might have ceded its national defense to the United Nations.

10/24/04 TREATMENT OF PRISONERS: The New York Times publishes a critical story of a secretive White House policy on the treatment of foreign suspects in the War on Terror. The policy allows the administration to detain foreign suspects indefinitely and “prosecute them in tribunals not used since WW II.” Cheney, a driving force behind the policy, is quoted as saying, “We think it guarantees that we\’ll have the kind of treatment of these individuals that we believe they deserve.” The article condemns the administration for bypassing Congress and several senior officials in the process of forming the policy.

11/02/04 THE 2004 ELECTIONS

11/02/04 POST ELECTION: The Bush-Cheney campaign thinks they have won the election, however Kerry refuses to concede. At 2:45 a.m. (morning of November 3) Edwards makes a public appearance in Boston vowing the Democrats will “fight on.”

11/03/04 OFFICIAL VICTORY: Cheney appears with Bush at a rally in Washington to declare victory in the Presidential race, four hours after Bush accepts a concession call from Kerry. Democrats question Kerry\’s decision to concede without pressing for a full count of the votes in Ohio.

11/12/04 CONTINUING HEALTH TROUBLES: Cheney, who has had four heart
attacks, undergoes three hours of tests at George Washington University Medical Center after experiencing shortness of breath and coughing up phlegm. Doctors say the tests do not show any heart irregularities, only a bad cold. Cheney spends the night at his official residence in Washington. “I feel fine,” Cheney says.

11/15/04  POWELL RESIGNS: Secretary of State Powell announces his resignation. Media attention focuses on the perceived disagreements and animosity between Powell and Cheney (and Rumsfeld) over the course of U.S. foreign policy. Powell’s departure is considered a victory for conservatives, removing the administrations most powerful advocate for multilateral engagement and negotiations.

1/5/04  HASTERT WILL SWEAR IN CHENEY AT INNAUGURATION: It was announced today that House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-IL) will swear in Vice President Cheney at the inauguration on Jan. 20. This will be only the fourth time in American history that the house speaker will swear in the vice president.