

Presidential Statements

At a 20 September 2007 press conference, President Bush said,

You know, part of the reason why there is not this instant democracy in Iraq is because people are still recovering from Saddam Hussein's brutal rule. I thought an interesting comment was made — somebody said to me, "I heard somebody say, 'Now, where's Mandela?'" Well, Mandela's dead because Saddam Hussein killed all the Mandelas.

Although critics have asked, "Doesn't the fact that Nelson Mandela is still alive undercut this argument?" the reference to "all the Mandelas" suggests that Bush had something else on his mind than the death of NELSON Mandela. A revised version makes Bush's *intended* meaning more clear:

'Now, where's IRAQ'S Mandela?' Well, IRAQ'S Mandela is dead because Saddam Hussein killed all the POTENTIAL Mandelas IN IRAQ.

See! This version is nowhere near as demented as the first.

Once again, the liberal press is attempting to undermine the President by quoting what he actually said, rather than what he should have said.

But this is no surprise, since it is well known that a vast left-wing conspiracy is constantly attempting to discredit the President through misunderestimation.

Effete eastern intellectuals routinely assert that Presidential statements are wrong, or laughably inept, or both, when in fact the statements are simply, incontrovertibly true.

Simple analysis shows Bush to be right, pretty much all of the time. Indeed, no other president has been as right as President Bush.

For example, the following statements have all either been made by President Bush or attributed to him:

BUSH: I know how hard it is for you to put food on your family.

Greater Nashua, N.H., Chamber of Commerce, Jan. 27, 2000

FACT-CHECK ANALYSIS: It is hard. Try it. They get all squirmy and the food slides off.

BUSH: The human being and the fish can coexist peacefully.

Saginaw, Mich., Sept. 29, 2000

FACT-CHECK ANALYSIS: There is no absolute proof that fish have WMD and what evidence exists is mainly circumstantial. Some have suggested that human inclinations toward piscivorous might be an impediment to peaceful coexistence, but in fact few things are as peaceful as a trout, resting gently in a pool of butter, surrounded by

toasted almond slivers. Yes, there was that unfortunate situation with Steve Irwin and the stingray, but that seems an isolated incident.

BUSH: More and more of our imports come from overseas.

Beaverton, Ore., Sep. 25, 2000

FACT-CHECK ANALYSIS: And even fewer are made in the United States.

BUSH: Rarely is the question asked, is our children learning?

Florence, South Carolina, Jan. 11, 2000

FACT-CHECK ANALYSIS: Be honest now. Have you ever in your life heard anyone — except Bush — ask, is our children learning? That’s about as rare as things get.

BUSH: If we don’t succeed, we run the risk of failure.

FACT-CHECK ANALYSIS: Well, duh, what better path to failure than through lack of success?

BUSH: It isn’t pollution that’s harming the environment. It’s the impurities in our air and water that are doing it.

FACT-CHECK ANALYSIS: Absolutely true! Guns don’t kill people. Bullets kill people.

BUSH: The problem with the French is that they don’t have a word for entrepreneur.

FACT-CHECK ANALYSIS: Um, well, OK maybe they do. But history shows, or at least should show, that the Saxons actually stole it from the Anglicaneans (or maybe the Grecians).

BUSH: One word sums up the responsibility of any Governor, and that one word is “to be prepared.”

FACT-CHECK ANALYSIS: Some might argue that “to be prepared” seems more like three words, and perhaps this is true, although a good White House counsel could probably make a strong (albeit specious) counter argument. If you can prove that ketchup is a vegetable and torture is legal, how tough is it to show that “to be prepared” is one word?

Seriously, what this really shows is that Bush thinks in Latin — where the ONE word is “futurus paratus.” Now, a pointy headed pseudo-intellectual might say “Isn’t that two words?” but all true pedants know that spaces were not introduced into written language until 900 AD. Thus, in classical Latin, to be prepared would be written FUTURUSPARATUS. (HAH!)

This proves that Bush, like all true scholars, actually thinks in classical Latin and occasionally struggles to get the right translation into idiomatic English (especially when he is tired, which is most of the time, because carrying the weight of the world on your shoulders is hard work, even if you aren’t paying attention).

Ask a recent German immigrant how long he has lived in the United States and, if he’s a bit fatigued, he might well answer, “since three years.” This is not bad English, it is good German, poorly translated.