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### Bush Anoints Himself as the Insurer of Constitutional Government in Emergency

Submitted by davidswanson on Sun, 2007-05-20 05:43.

[Evidence](#)

By Matthew Rothschild, [The Progressive](#)

With scarcely a mention in the mainstream media, President Bush has ordered up a plan for responding to a catastrophic attack.

In a new National Security Presidential Directive, Bush lays out his plans for dealing with a "catastrophic emergency." Under that plan, he entrusts himself with leading the entire federal government, not just the Executive Branch. And he gives himself the responsibility "for ensuring constitutional government."

He laid this all out in a document entitled "National Security Presidential Directive/NSPD 51" and "Homeland Security Presidential Directive/HSPD-20."

The White House released it on May 9.

Other than a discussion on Daily Kos led off by a posting by Leo Fender, and a pro-forma notice in a couple of mainstream newspapers, this document has gone unremarked upon.

The subject of the document is entitled "National Continuity Policy."

It defines a "catastrophic emergency" as "any incident, regardless of location, that results in extraordinary levels of mass casualties, damage, or disruption severely affecting the U.S. population, infrastructure, environment, economy, or government function."

This could mean another 9/11, or another Katrina, or a major earthquake in California, I imagine, since it says it would include "localized acts of nature, accidents, and technological or attack-related emergencies."

The document emphasizes the need to ensure "the continued function of our form of government under the Constitution, including the functioning of the three separate branches of government," it states.

But it says flat out: "The President shall lead the activities of the Federal Government for ensuring constitutional government."

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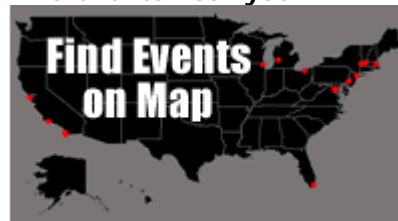
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The document waves at the need to work closely with the other two branches, saying there will be "a cooperative effort among the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Federal Government." But this effort will be "coordinated by the President, as a matter of comity with respect to the legislative and judicial branches and with proper respect for the constitutional separation of powers."

Among the efforts coordinated by the President would ensuring the capability of the three branches of government to "provide for orderly succession" and "appropriate transition of leadership."

The document designates a National Continuity Coordinator, who would be the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism.

Currently holding that post is Frances Fragos Townsend.

She is required to develop a National Continuity Implementation Plan and submit it within 90 days.

As part of that plan, she is not only to devise procedures for the Executive Branch but also give guidance to "state, local, territorial, and tribal governments, and private sector owners and operators of critical infrastructure."

The secretary of Homeland Security is also directed to develop planning guidance for "private sector critical infrastructure owners and operators," as well as state, local, territorial, and tribal governments.

The document gives the Vice President a role in implementing the provisions of the contingency plans.

"This directive shall be implanted in a manner that is consistent with, and facilitates effective implementation of, provisions of the Constitution concerning succession to the Presidency or the exercise of its powers, and the Presidential Succession Act of 1947 (3 USC 19), with the consultation of the Vice President and, as appropriate, others involved."

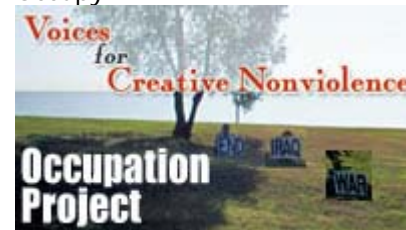
The document also contains "classified Continuity Annexes."

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### National Security and Homeland Security Presidential Directive

Submitted by yankhadenuf on Sun, 2007-05-20 15:35.

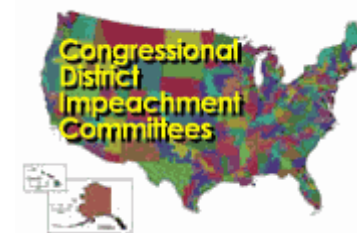
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- **DINOCRATS TRADING LIVES IN IRAQ FOR VOTES IN 2008**  
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White House News

For Immediate Release  
Office of the Press Secretary  
May 9, 2007

National Security and Homeland Security  
Presidential Directive

NATIONAL SECURITY PRESIDENTIAL  
DIRECTIVE/NSPD 51

HOMELAND SECURITY PRESIDENTIAL  
DIRECTIVE/HSPD-20

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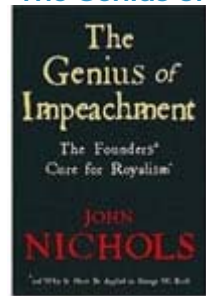


## Impeachment Books

"United States v. George W. Bush et al.," by Elizabeth de la Vega, an indictment, a presentation to a grand jury charging Bush and gang with fraud -- very well argued and documented, even entertaining.



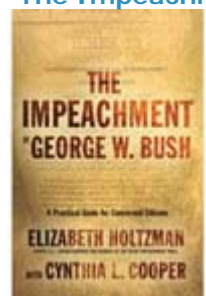
"The Genius of Impeachment: The Founders' Cure for Royalism," by John Nichols, a masterpiece that should be required reading in every high school and college in the United States, a history and portrait of the practice of impeachment.



"Articles of Impeachment Against George W. Bush," by the Center for Constitutional Rights, a short book that lists and explains four (multi-part) articles of impeachment.



"The Impeachment of George W. Bush: A Practical Guide for Concerned Citizens," by Elizabeth Holtzman (former Congresswoman



and member of the Nixon impeachment panel) and Cynthia L. Cooper, an excellent and readable book laying out five major grounds for impeachment of Bush, plus an extra section on Dick Cheney.

"The Case for Impeachment," by Dave Lindorff and Barbara Olshansky, an



## government functions...?

Submitted by Sam Thornton on Sun, 2007-05-20 20:27.

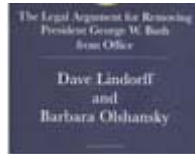
Section (2)(b) on the White House site:

"Catastrophic Emergency" means any incident, regardless of location, that results in extraordinary levels of mass casualties, damage, **or disruption** severely affecting the U.S. population, infrastructure, environment, economy, **or government functions**; (*emphasis added*)

Could a "disruption" in "government functions" be construed to include a failure by Congress to forward an acceptable Iraq funding bill to the President?

I'm guessing I already know what Bush and the AG's positions would be.

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amazingly popular and extremely readable book that explains the context

while also setting forth six articles of impeachment against Bush, plus an extra section on Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Condoleezza Rice, and Alberto Gonzales.

**"Impeach the President: The Case Against Bush and Cheney,"**



edited by Dennis Loo and Peter Phillips, with an introduction by Howard Zinn, a wonderfully well

written collection of essays organized around a list of 12 grounds for impeachment of Bush and Cheney.

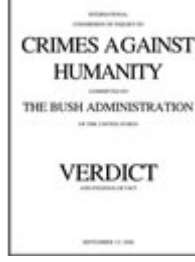
**"George W. Bush versus the U.S.**



**Constitution: The Downing Street Memos and Deception, Manipulation, Torture, Retribution, and Cover-ups in the Iraq**

**War and Illegal Domestic Spying,"** by the U.S. House Judiciary Committee Democratic Staff, a book that not only collects the evidence but also tells us what Congressman John Conyers, the ranking Democrat on the Judiciary Committee, is thinking (the full text, minus a new introduction by Joseph Wilson, is available [here](#).)

**"Verdict and Findings of Fact,"**



by the International Commission of Inquiry on Crimes Against Humanity Committed by the Bush Administration of the United

States, a report that looks at five major international crimes and overlaps significantly with most lists of impeachable offenses (the full text is available at the link and can also be purchased for \$10);

**"Impeach Bush: A Funny Li'l IMPEACH BUSH"** Graphical

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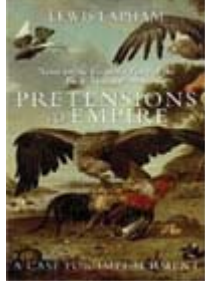




**Novel About the Worstest Pres'dent in the History of Forevar,"** a comic book account of Bush's impeachable

offenses – the crimes really are self-evident, but pictures don't hurt.

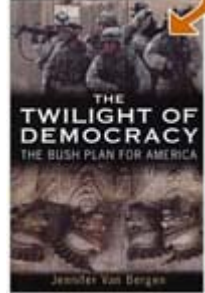
**"Pretensions to Empire:**



**Notes on the Criminal Folly of the Bush Administration,"** by Lewis Lapham, a collection of essays from Harper's magazine,

concluding with one called "The Case for Impeachment," which focuses on Rep. Conyers' report.

**"The Twilight of Democracy:**



**The Bush Plan for America,"** by Jennifer Van Bergen. Find out what the Bush Plan is and how it diverges from what the law and Constitution

say.

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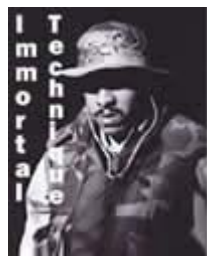
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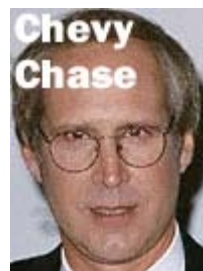


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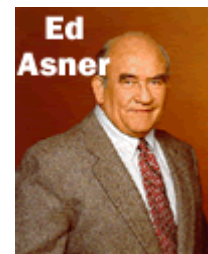
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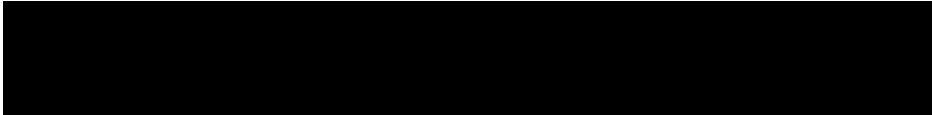
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