

Yeltsin announces major cuts in nuclear arms program

By LARRY RYCKMAN
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Boris Yeltsin today announced cuts in Russia's nuclear arms programs, saying some 600 strategic nuclear missiles have been taken off alert and production of long-range nuclear bombers is being stopped.

In a nationally broadcast speech just hours after President Bush proposed deep cuts in the U.S. and Russian nuclear arsenals, Russia's president said the former adversaries' close ties now guaranteed "success on the path of reducing offensive nuclear arms."

"Nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction in the world must be eliminated," Yeltsin said, urging the world's other

nuclear powers — Britain, France and China — to join in radically reducing their arsenals.

Arms cutbacks would allow Russia to focus more resources on urgent domestic needs and restructure its crippled economy.

Yeltsin said Russia has decided to: —Take off alert about 600 land- and sea-based long-range missiles carrying a total of 1,250 nuclear warheads. Russia is believed to have about 1,000 missiles with 17,000 warheads.

—Dismantle the launching systems aboard six nuclear-missile submarines.

—Stop production of TU-160 "Black Jack" and TU-95MS "Bear" heavy bombers and long-range air- and sea-based cruise missiles.

—Halt programs to design or modernize several types of long-range offensive nuclear weapons.

—Cut weapons purchases by 50 percent and reduce the overall defense budget 10 percent in 1992.

Yeltsin also said that even with nuclear weapons remaining, "we believe ... they should no longer be aimed at corresponding targets in Russia and America."

Secretary of State James A. Baker III said the United States had not known of that proposal before Yeltsin's speech and said Washington would consider not aiming its nuclear arms at Russia. "This issue will be discussed in some detail and depth," he said after meeting with the Russian leader.

Yeltsin said he had urged the leaders of Belarus, Ukraine and

Kazakhstan, the other former Soviet republics with nuclear arms, to match Russia's moves. In all, the former Soviet states are thought to have about 24,000 nuclear warheads.

The speech was Yeltsin's first major pronouncement on disarmament since the Soviet Union died last month and came a day before he was to depart for the West on a trip that will include attendance at a U.N. Security Council session Friday and a meeting with Bush on Saturday.

Yeltsin spoke of creating an international agency to monitor disarmament as the United States and Russia put behind them the nuclear standoff that was for decades the hallmark of their relations.

Just hours before Yeltsin's speech, Bush offered in his State of the Union address to eliminate

1,500 of 2,000 nuclear warheads on U.S. land-based missiles, reduce by one-third the number of warheads on sea-based missiles and convert some bombers to non-nuclear roles.

Bush said that he had discussed his offer with Yeltsin and that the Russian president's response had been positive.

"I want to emphasize that we are not talking about our unilateral disarmament," Yeltsin said. "The United States is taking parallel steps in a gesture of goodwill. It is now possible and necessary to move much further along this road."

Bush's offer was conditioned on the former Soviet states agreeing to eliminate their most potent land-based missiles, which carry 2,460 warheads. It was not clear how many of those

warheads were among those Russia took off alert.

Yeltsin said the number of Russian submarines armed with nuclear missiles involved in combat patrols would be cut in half. He said Russia was prepared to stop such patrols altogether if the United States also would.

He also said strategic nuclear missiles stationed in Ukraine would be dismantled within a shorter period of time than previously planned and emphasized that Russia has taken on Soviet obligations in the area of arms control and treaties.

"The measures we are taking in arms control will by no means undermine the defense capability of Russia and the commonwealth states," he said. "We are talking precisely about reasonable, minimum sufficiency of nuclear and conventional weapons."

Hunger, disease grow in Iraq; food too expensive for millions

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) — Iraqis face growing hunger and disease, and Saddam Hussein has tried to focus their anger against the United Nations for not lifting an 18-month-old economic embargo, Iraqi travelers say.

On Monday, Iraqi soldiers stood by as protesters roughed up U.N. weapons inspectors in Baghdad in an outgrowth of regular, government-staged demonstrations against the sanctions.

But there's some question whether Iraqis generally blame U.N. sanctions for their plight. People fighting a losing battle to make ends meet are seeing scarce food supplies go to the ruling elite and military.

The U.N. Security Council has offered to slightly ease the embargo imposed since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, giving Baghdad the go-ahead to sell oil worth \$1.6 billion to buy food and medicine.

President Saddam Hussein's government rejects that because 30 percent of the money must go to Kuwait as reparations for the 1990 Iraqi invasion.

"I'm no longer able to feed my family of three," said Abdul Wahab, who came to Amman seeking work after being discharged from the army.

"I left my family to fend for themselves with the rationed food while I look for a job in Jordan."

Food is distributed in Iraq through a rationing system, but the amounts are inadequate for the average family, say Iraqis from Baghdad interviewed in hotels in the Jordanian capital.

The average family must turn to the free market, where prices are beyond the reach of most of Iraq's 17 million people.

Travelers say that despite U.N. claims to the contrary, much of the international food aid ends up in the hands of the ruling elite.

Food aid given to the women's federation youth movements and other organizations as well as hospitals wind up in the homes of senior members of these groups and hospital officials, they say.

The travelers claim that food marked as donated ends up on the black market for sale at high prices.

A 6 1/2-pound can of milk powder that cost 16 cents before the gulf war now goes for \$3.30, half the average monthly salary thanks to the dinar's nosedive.

In the last six months, meat prices have doubled to \$1 a pound. The price of eggs has also doubled and for the first time Iraqis are buying single eggs instead of by the carton, travelers reported.

"The food the government provides at subsidized prices isn't enough to feed half my family," said an Iraqi who would identify himself only as Waheed.

"We managed to survive on the savings we had. But they're gone now. Many people sold their household goods to get cash for food. But the black market prices are going up so high there's nothing we can afford any more."

An Iraqi student who gave his

name as Abbas commented: "If there's a hell on earth it's in Iraq for the average family. What crime has the Iraqi people committed to deserve this?"

Saddam appears to be trying to shift the people's attention from the economic and political turmoil in Iraq and turn public opinion against the United Nations, claiming it a tool of U.S. policy.

"The (ruling) Baath Party is using some Iraqi groups to organize mass demonstrations and stage hunger strikes in Baghdad to protest the U.N. sanctions against Iraq," said one Iraqi traveler.

But the traveler said that even on first anniversary of the gulf war, only 10,000 people showed up for an official protest.

The United Nations says the sanctions will remain until Saddam is no longer in control.

High prices don't bother the army that helps keep Saddam in power. Troops regularly gets pay raises and bonuses. And in Baghdad, where Saddam has strong support, basic foods are plentiful at controlled prices.

The regime has become increasingly hostile to the Western media and refuses to provide visas to news organizations like The Associated Press.

An 87-member team of Western experts that visited Iraq last fall estimated that 900,000 children are malnourished, 118,000 of them badly enough that they are at increased risk of dying.

VFW officer installation



(Staff photo by Bonner Green)

Pictured are the 1992 officers of Pampa Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #1657 following installation ceremonies at the Post Tuesday evening. New VFW officers are, from left, Don Emmons, adjutant; E.W. Tott, senior vice commander; Clint Lewis, junior vice commander; Lewis Gallimore, commander; and J. R. Wate, District Commander, who conducted the installation service.

Daughter finds woman declared dead still alive

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — A 75-year-old woman who was declared dead and wrapped in a plastic shroud was found gasping by her children after they rushed to the hospital, a TV station reported.

Doctors at Palms of Pasadena Hospital had tried to revive Emma Brady on Friday but eventually pronounced her dead of cardiac arrest, WTSP said Tuesday.

"We walked into the room and

my mother was in a body bag," Arlene Walsh told the station. "She had a tag on her toe and the body bag was wrapped all the way up to her bust."

Mrs. Brady's head "was going back and she was going gasp ... gasp," said Ms. Walsh, who ran out to find a nurse. "And I asked her, 'Is this what a dead person looks like?' and she said she never saw anything like it."

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The Pampa News

Comic Page

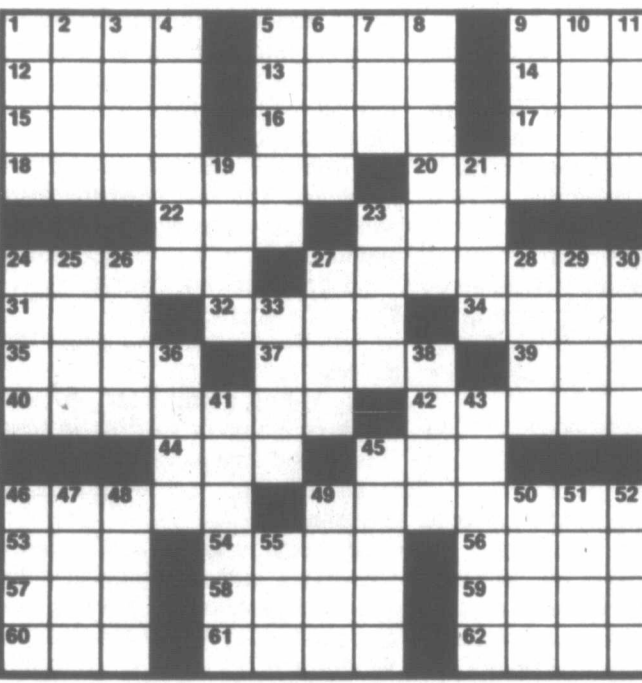
The World Almanac® Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- Cook in an oven
 - Naked
 - Consumed food
 - Hold in check
 - Feels sorry about
 - Dehydrated
 - Wild buffalo
 - and crafts
 - Lingus (airline)
 - Beliefs
 - Actress
 - Anouk —
 - Crickets positions
 - Author —
 - Rand
 - Base before home plate
 - Filthier
 - Own (Scot.)
 - Driving duck
 - Actor Kruger
 - Ink stain
- DOWN**
- want for Christmas
 - Dawn goddess
 - Quality of sound
 - Nobleman
 - Edgar Allan —
 - From — — Z
 - Hurled
 - Church district
 - Motorists' org.
 - Makes angry
 - Kringle
 - UK time
 - Peddle
 - Additions to houses
 - Look at
 - Singer —
 - Adams
 - Astronaut —
 - Slayton

Answer to Previous Puzzle

M	R	E	D	M	I	T	E	C	O	T
A	O	N	E	C	O	U	P	O	N	E
M	I	R	Y	C	O	B	A	C	O	R
E	L	A	C	O	S	U	R	A	R	I
P	R	A	Y	C	L	U				
E	L	T	O	N	G	R	E	E	T	E
M	O	U	E	M	E	E	T	U	K	E
M	A	R	M	I	L	E	C	R	E	W
A	M	E	R	I	N	D	K	I	N	D
H	A	I	M	E	A	T				
K	U	D	O	S	V	U	G	A	K	C
A	D	O	M	I	E	S	A	B	E	L
R	O	N	I	D	E	E	C	L	E	O
T	S	E	C	O	P	S	E	E	L	Y

- Thin nail
- Of aircraft
- Playing card
- Fill with love
- Spoiled children
- Distinctive air
- Soak (flax)
- Writings
- Eve's mate
- Forest unit
- Bronie heroine Jane —
- No ifs, — or buts
- Toward the center of
- Author Jean M. —
- Keep — on
- City in Hawaii
- — the ground floor
- Editor's note
- Virginia willow
- Jacket
- Thorny shrub
- Old weapon
- Record for TV
- Leave — —
- Beaver
- Not at all
- Pawed
- Theater passageway
- License plates
- Harness part
- Appraise
- Food shop
- Author Gardner
- Clothing fabric
- Being
- Crimson



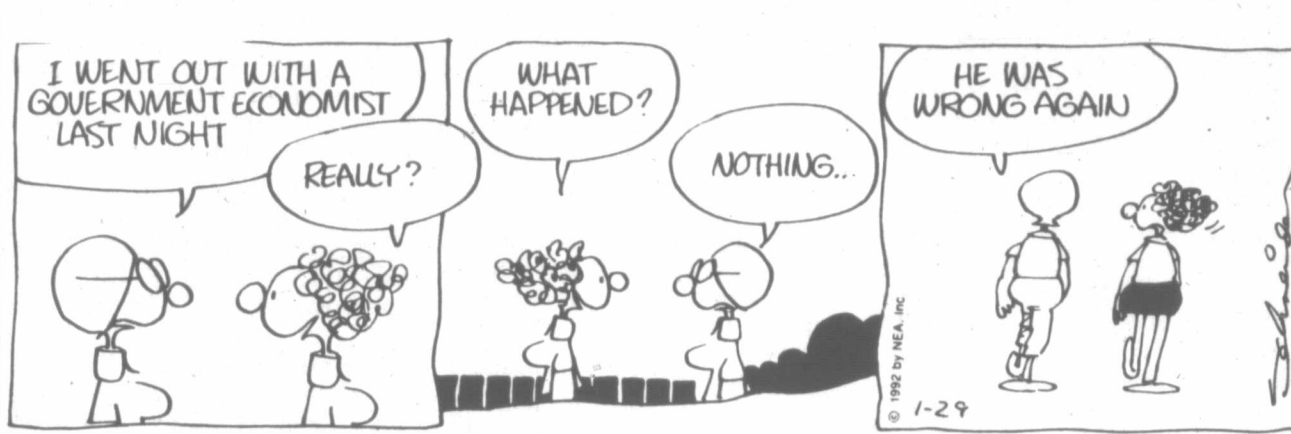
WALNUT COVE



ARLO & JANIS



BEEK & MEEK



B.C.



Astro-Graph

by bernice bede osol

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If there was something important you attempted to do yesterday but had to postpone until today, give this endeavor your maximum effort until it is completed to your satisfaction. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail \$2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Don't deliberately seek confrontations or challenges today, but know in your heart that the odds are tilted in your favor a bit and that you've got a slight edge on the competition.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You might get involved in something today where you will be momentarily unsure of your footing. Don't get rattled; you'll adjust effectively.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) In business negotiations today, don't be the first to reveal your cards. You'll come out ahead — if you let the other party be the one who tips a hand.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Under most conditions, you do equally as well operating independently as you do working with a partner. However, being a team player could produce the best results today.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) It's possible you'll dawdle a bit early in the day and postpone things until the last minute. Fortunately, when you finally get into gear, you'll be an effective producer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Strive for balance today between work and play. Don't view relaxing a little as frivolous; instead, see it as something necessary to revitalize your psyche.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Give priority today to the concerns of those for whom you're responsible. If you neglect these duties, you're likely to collect substantial guilt.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Be optimistic regarding your involvements today. Your attitude is of enormous importance, and others will be more helpful if you think and act like a winner.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Your material trends look very secure and steady at this time. The only fly in the ointment could be your extravagant splurges, such as the one you may experience today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) If something you're presently involved in is directed by others, it might not progress at its proper pace. It's time for you to assert yourself today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Be philosophical about today's events, whether they be favorable or unfavorable. Nature has a way of balancing the books, and you'll come out OK on the bottom line.

MARVIN



By Tom Armstrong



MARMADUKE



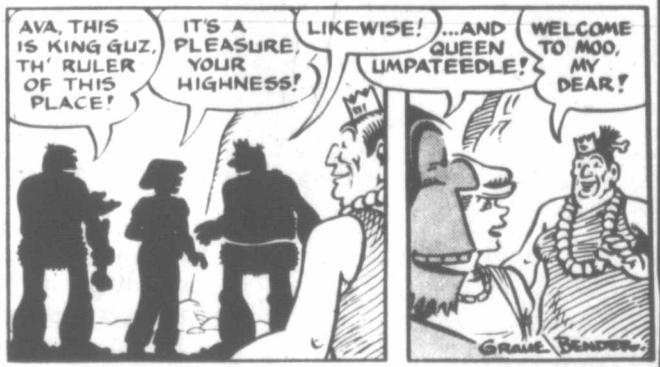
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ALLEY OOP



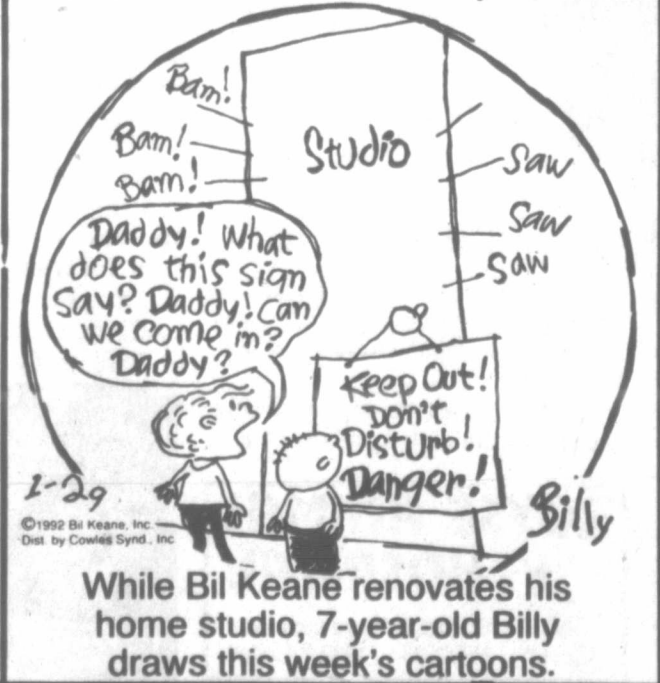
By Dave Graue



SNAFU



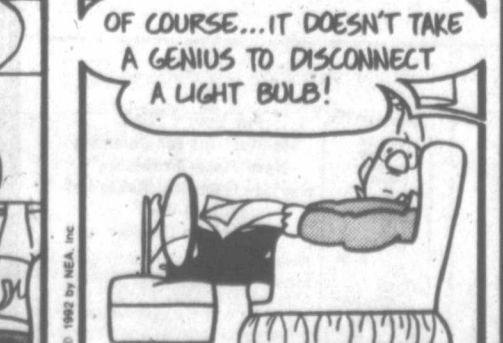
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



THE BORN LOSER



By Art and Chip Sansom



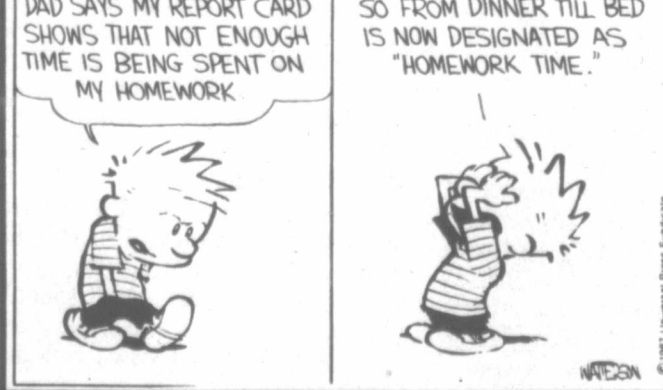
WINTHROP



By Dick Cavalli



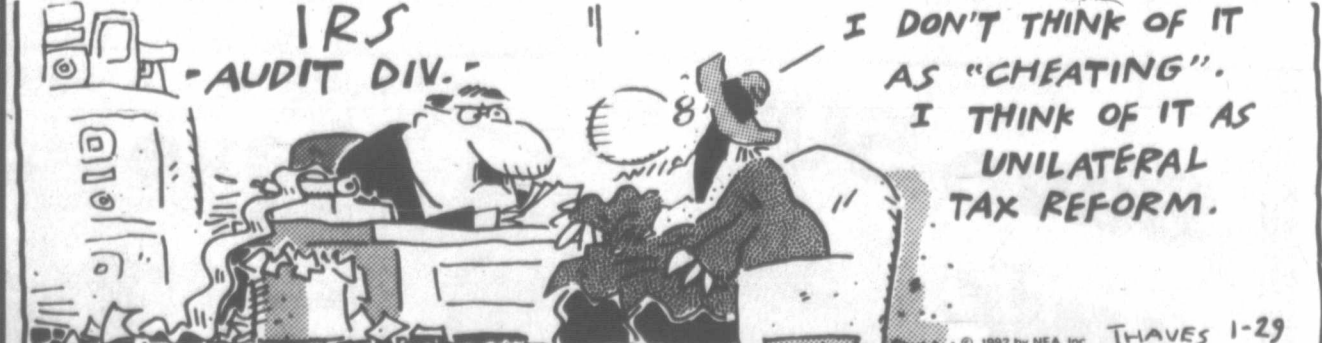
CALVIN AND HOBBS



By Bill Watterson



FRANK AND ERNEST



PEANUTS



By Charles M. Schulz



GARFIELD



By Jim Davis



Americans report mixed reactions to Bush's State of the Union speech

By The Associated Press

He vowed to lift the nation out of tough times "inch by inch," but some Americans watching President Bush's State of the Union speech had their own message: It's time to take bigger strides. Others liked what they heard.

Here are some voices from the nation:

Karen Tegtmeyer, a single, 31-year-old computer programmer, worries about high taxes eroding her modest Dallas neighborhood.

"The president said nothing to ease my fears," said Ms. Tegtmeyer, who hoped for tax cuts that would allow her and her neighbors to do home repairs.

"It looks like our dollars are going to stay in the government's pockets," she said.

Jay Manifold, another computer programmer among a group of friends at the Tegtmeyer home, liked Bush's talk of military cuts.

"Unfortunately," Manifold added, "he spent far more time

talking about new ways to spend money than he did about ways to stop spending money."

In the CTA River Apartments in Tampa, Fla., a housing complex for 240 lower-middle-income retirees, a small group of senior citizens was eager to hear what Bush would say about the elderly. To them, it wasn't enough.

"We're throwaways," said Charles Henry, 78.

"He didn't mention senior citizens — other than to say he wouldn't tamper with Social Security," added Goldie Adams, 76.

"The president just doesn't realize he's a senior, too," said Mrs. Adams, a widow who's learned to cope with rising prices by turning to thrift stores and food-sharing.

Cheers erupted among 20 students from the business school at the University of Rochester in New York when Bush said he wanted to make interest on student loans tax deductible.

"That's a lot of money for a lot

of us," said Todd Nelson, an MBA candidate. He said he has nearly \$50,000 in loans and pays about \$4,000 a year in interest.

Rob Kingsley also liked Bush's proposal to limit taxes on capital gains. But he dismissed much of the rest of the speech.

"That's all politics," he said when Bush mentioned welfare reform. "He's got great ideas, but no recommendations."

Michael Ruetters, president of a growing high-tech company who earned more than \$200,000 last year in salary and bonuses, was impressed with Bush's style.

"I think he used a pretty strong tone. I think some people will be energized," Ruetters said from his home in Carlisle, Mass., a well-to-do, woody town about 20 miles from Boston. "The tone could get consumer confidence up."

Cleo and Dane Malcolm, independent voters in Concord, N.H., liked some of the president's ideas

but aren't sure they'll do that much to help the unemployed.

"Tax credits don't help people out of work," said Ms. Malcolm, 44, whose job in real estate has been dormant for several months with the collapse of the housing market.

Malcolm, a 49-year-old pilot, approved of Bush's plan to boost personal tax exemptions for dependent children. And he praised the president's challenge to Congress. "I have a certain degree of belief in his earnestness," he said.

But his wife doesn't have much confidence in Bush.

"It's been three years people have been hurting," she said. "It's too late for him to kick in for me. How long do people have to hurt before he started doing anything about it?"

Bush's economic plan also seemed to be too little, too late to Caron Stehr, a pre-school teacher in Olympia, Wash.

"It's weird that he's saying all

this has to be done right now," she said. "He's been in office three years, and what has he done?"

She and her husband, Vernon, work part time — he's a woodworker — so both can raise Erin, their 20-month-old daughter.

They carefully balance their budget, so the 30-year-old Ms. Stehr welcomed the proposal to boost by \$500 the exemption for dependent children.

"Sure, I'll take it," she said. "But I'm not feeling like that changes the way our society is supporting families."

Andre and Millicent Powell, a middle-class black couple in Atlanta, wished they'd heard more about plans to help people in their income bracket.

"I didn't hear the fire this time that I heard last year when he wanted to kick Saddam Hussein's behind," Powell said.

"I think Bush is sensitive to the people around him; I don't think he has any sensitivity to the middle class," his wife said.

But Bush did get a standing ovation from Powell, 44, when he called a recent rise in racism unacceptable.

In the Waterstreet Tavern near the South Street Seaport on Wall Street, Wayne Trotman, a 31-year-old banker, worried about the future of his 2 1/2-year-old daughter.

"It causes me to want to hold on and not want to spend money because my little girl ultimately is going to pay for all of this rhetoric," he said. "She will have to live in an environment where she will have to foot the bill for the nearly \$3.7 trillion deficit."

And the assessment from William Pura, 35, a lawyer for a government securities firm?

Bush "is just polishing new shoes," he said. "He's said nothing."

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