

## **SADDAM HUSSEIN'S EXECUTION**

**MESSAGE:** Saddam Hussein's sentencing was the result of a fair judicial process that was denied the Iraqi people under his regime.

### **KEY POINTS:**

#### **Significance of the Execution**

- **Saddam Hussein was executed after a fair trial and appellate review – the kind of justice he denied the victims of his brutal regime.**
- **Saddam's trial was conducted by Iraqis under Iraqi law, and reflects the Iraqi people's determination to live in a society under the rule of law.**
- **Bringing Saddam Hussein to justice will not end the violence in Iraq, but it is an important milestone on Iraq's course to becoming a democracy that can govern, sustain, and defend itself, and be an ally in the War on Terror.**

#### **Handling of the Execution**

- **The U.S. role was limited to the security and transportation of Saddam as has been the case since he has been in custody; Iraq has always maintained legal custody.**
- **By the decision of the Government of Iraq, we returned him to Iraqi control at the prison facility at which point our involvement ended.**
- **The manner in which the execution was conducted was unsatisfactory in some respects, and the Iraqis have begun an investigation to determine where there were shortcomings.**