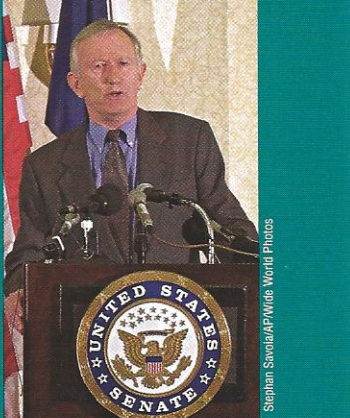


Reuters/Fred Prouser/Jullian Archive/Getty Images

← California residents endure drastic electricity shortages in the fall. To support energy conservation measures Jay Leno stages an "unplugged" episode of NBC's "The Tonight Show."

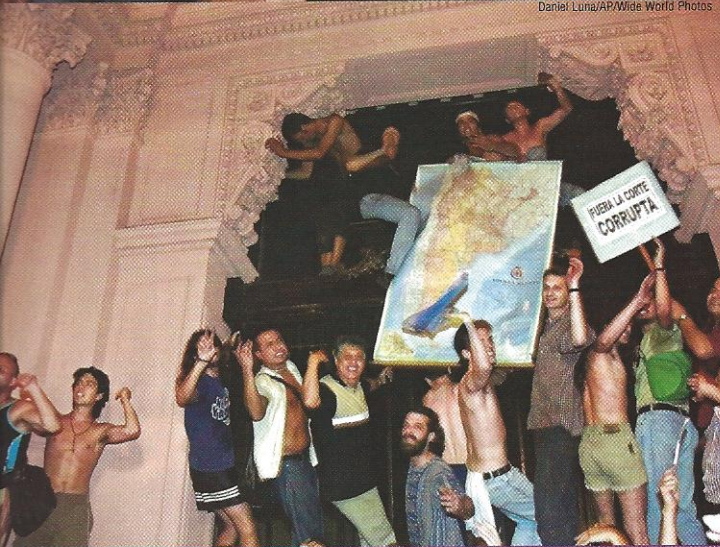
→ Democrats gain majority control of the Senate for the first time since 1994 when Vermont Senator James Jeffords leaves the Republican Party because of his opposition to President Bush's agenda.



Stephan Saobla/AP/Wide World Photos

↙ Argentina's economy collapses, sparking deadly anti-government protests and looting as the country reaches an unemployment rate of 18% and a budget deficit of \$11 billion.

↘ During a year marked by economic recession, Americans open their hands, and wallets, to much-anticipated IRS rebate checks.



Daniel Lurie/AP/Wide World Photos



**Spending Your IRS Tax Rebate Check Today?**

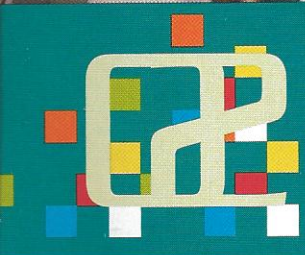
**Here's how...**

**1. Two Party Checks:** All parties named on the checks must be present at the time of purchase.

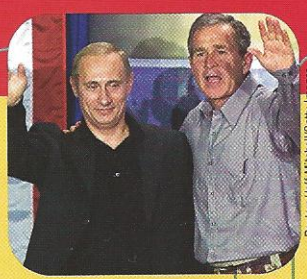
**2. Identification Required:** All parties must present best forms of valid identification, including:  
 • Any driver's license  
 • Birth certificate  
 • Social Security card  
 • Passport (not valid for non-U.S. citizens)

**3. Purchase Required:** Rebate checks are not redeemable for cash without a purchase. See all minimum purchase requirements.

Daniel Lurie/AP/Wide World Photos



# World



Reuters/Jeff Mitchell/Getty Images

↑ Russian President Vladimir Putin and President Bush agree to cut nuclear missile arsenals by nearly two-thirds. Later, Bush unilaterally pulls out of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty to pursue a missile defense system.



AP/Corbis

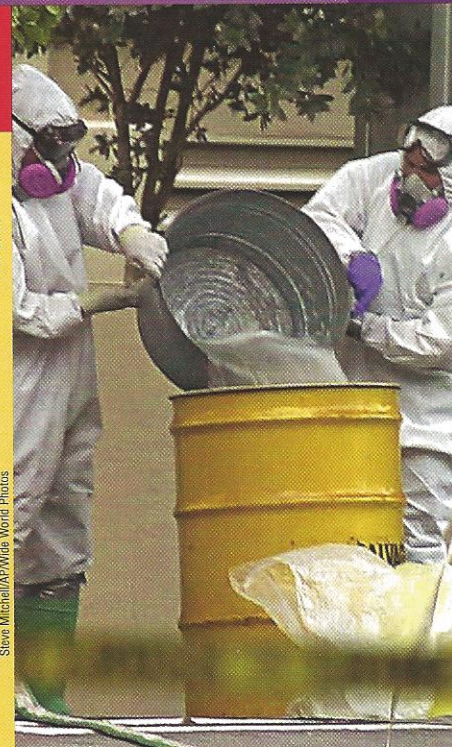
↑ Japanese Crown Princess Masako gives birth to a baby girl in December. The birth generates fresh debate about male-only succession to Japan's throne.

→ Americans face another form of terror when anthrax-laced letters are sent to members of Congress and the media. Five people are killed in the attacks, and clean-up of government buildings costs millions of dollars.



Paul Sakuma/AP/Wide World Photos

← Americans face armed guards and tighter check-in procedures as airport security restrictions are heightened following the terrorist attacks on September 11.



Steve Mitchell/AP/Wide World Photos