

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 2, 2004 LB 172

rear end is in a wringer and somebody has to be the whipping boy or the whipping girl. Or if some group or country which is nonwhite is to be confronted, they trot out Colin Powell or they trot out "Condominium" Rice. Powell, as a military man who knew about war, who knew that Iraq had no weapons of mass destruction, had to go before the UN and humiliate himself before the world, take photographs that he knew were a sham, had to misidentify items that he knew he was misidentifying, and I watched him go through that performance and I lost all respect for him. I had been losing it over a period of time, but this took it all away. I watched a once proud man beaten down and broken before my very eyes. His hair has gotten grayer. He has gotten new wrinkles in his face. He sweats when he used to not sweat, and it's not because of the temperature outside. It's because he knows that what he is doing and saying is contrary to his principles. So he will be called forward to try to clean up the mess that Bush laid down. When Hans Blicks and others connected with the UN were in Iraq searching for these weapons, Bush and his minions, these chubby-cheeked white men who had never been in the military and had never been anything but spoiled, conservative "Repelicans," began to say they're taking too much time, they should have found the weapons. Bush wanted to go to war for his daddy's sake. He said at one point, you know, Saddam Hussein wanted to kill my daddy. So what is the price? Five hundred-plus young Americans because Bush had a grudge against Saddam Hussein. And they are continuing to die. Senator Friend, they are dying every day for nothing, for Halliburton. And you know what they caught Halliburton doing now? Overcharging for the meals served to those young men and women in Iraq. They are charging for 42,000 meals a day when they are serving 14,000. This is "Lon" Cheney's company. Why do I call him "Lon" Cheney and not Dick Cheney? Lon Cheney was known as the man of a thousand faces; Dick Cheney is known by me as the man of a thousand lies. He hides. Do you know why he came out recently? Because it was a prelude to Ground Hog Day. They ridiculed Saddam Hussein for being found in a hole in the ground. Dick Cheney is in a deeper hole where nobody knows where it is with thick reinforced concrete walls. They run and they hide. And they talk about somebody being fearful. And Americans sit and watch their young people die for Halliburton. Bush will tell you all freedom is reigning in Iraq, and the