

## Office of the Governor

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### NEWS RELEASE

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#### **Governor Supports U.S., Great Britain Mission**

Gov. Christie Whitman provides a weekly radio message to radio stations throughout the state. Each week, the message focuses on a different concern or event of interest to New Jerseyans.

This week the Governor expresses her support of the United States' and Great Britain's bombing missions in Iraq. She believes that the United States must play the lead role in helping to secure world peace. The Governor also urges putting aside any concerns about the timing and motives in the decision to launch the mission and uniting behind the men and women in the armed forces.

Attached is the text of the message.

The radio message can be accessed by calling the Governor's actuality line at 609-292-3249. It will be available today, beginning at noon, and will run through the weekend

#### **Governor's Weekly Radio Address December 18, 1998 Iraq Military Mission**

We are approaching one of the holiest times of the year for millions of Americans around the world. Unfortunately, American citizens also find themselves in the midst of a dangerous international conflict.

This past week, the United States and Great Britain commenced bombing missions in Iraq. As you may know, I have spoken out in support of the military mission.

Saddam Hussein is a tyrant with no regard for the health and safety of his own people. Worse, he has repeatedly broken his commitment to the world community, his Arab neighbors, and remains a major threat to international security.

I believe the United States must play the lead role in helping to secure world peace. We must make despots like Saddam understand that we will not tolerate their disregard for international law as they pursue oppressive and aggressive policies.

I trust that every American joins me in wishing safety and a quick return for the men and women of our armed forces who find themselves on a dangerous mission.

While the timing and motives behind the decision to launch this mission have been questioned, we absolutely must put aside those concerns and unite behind the men and women in our armed forces who find themselves in harm's way during this holiday season.

As we celebrate these holy days - Hanukkah, Christmas, Ramadan - I hope New Jersey's citizens will join in praying that the President achieves the goals for this mission with minimal loss of life, and that our troops are home and out of danger as quickly as possible.

God bless our troops, and God bless America.