

Cheney discusses Iraq violence

by UPI

WASHINGTON - Vice President Dick Cheney says President Bush's upcoming meeting with U.S. congressional members about funding the Iraq war will be "to work out procedures."

Cheney, during an exclusive interview on CBS' "Face the Nation" hosted by Bob Schieffer, discussed military funding, the stepped-up violence in the Middle East and the credibility of the Bush administration.

Regarding funding for U.S. troops in Iraq, Cheney said Congress needed to present the president a bill "in the fashion that he would find acceptable with no limitations on the forces in Iraq" He said he did not believe that the Democrats would fail to pass funding for the troops.

Cheney said he didn't know -- but expected to find out -- what forces were causing the increased violence in the Middle East that included a bombing in the Iraqi parliament plus two other bombings elsewhere in the region.

The change, however, means the United States should withdraw troops from the region. "(It's) absolutely essential we get it right, he said.

When asked about the administration's credibility given its seemingly inconsistent statements between now and the past, Cheney said statements are made based on the best information available at that particular time, but "we've got issues we need to work on, though."

The interview with Cheney was taped Saturday and aired unedited Sunday to accommodate the vice president's schedule.

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