

NOVEMBER 4, 2003

**SCHAKOWSKY: BUSH ADMINISTRATION'S MISSTATEMENT OF THE DAY -
IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT** WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) issued today's "Bush Administration's Misstatement of the Day" on Iraq reconstruction efforts.

Dow Jones News Service reported today:

(President) Bush said that despite the continuing violence in Iraq progress is being made to rebuild the country and get it back on its feet.□

The New York Times Magazine, however, published a lengthy report on the failures of US reconstruction efforts in Iraq, the lack of planning for a post war Iraq, and the Pentagon's decision to shut out the State Department from the rebuilding process.□ The story concluded:

The real lesson of the postwar mess is that while occupying and reconstructing Iraq was bound to be difficult, the fact that it may be turning into a quagmire is not a result of fate, but rather (as quagmires usually are) a result of poor planning and wishful thinking. Both have been in evidence to a troubling degree in American policy almost from the moment the decision was made to overthrow Saddam Hussein's bestial dictatorship. Schakowsky said, "Defense Secretary Rumsfeld has been as successful in securing and rebuilding Iraq as President Bush has been in creating jobs.□ The situation will continue to worsen unless and until President Bush replaces the current team in charge of Iraq and engages the international community and the United Nations."□

[Read "Blue Print for a Mess," the Sunday, November 2, 2003 New York Times Magazine article.](#)