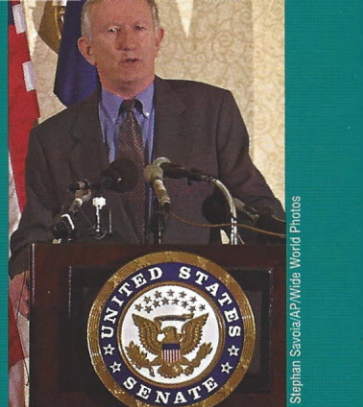


Reuters/Fred Prouser/Hulton Archive/Getty Images

← 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 Savoca/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 Luna/AP/Wide World Photos



Daniel Hatcher/AP/Wide World Photos

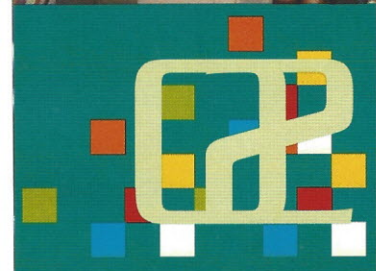
Spending Your IRS Tax Rebate Check Today?

Here's how...

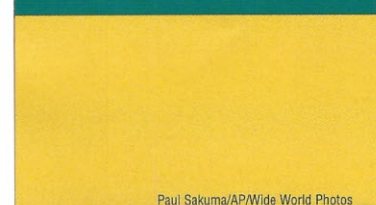
Two Party Checks:
All parties named on the check must be present at the time of purchase.

Identification Required:
All parties must present two forms of valid identification, including:
• Photo ID
• Driver's License
• Social Security Card
• Birth Certificate
• Passport
• Military ID
• Voter Registration Card (used for the second ID only)

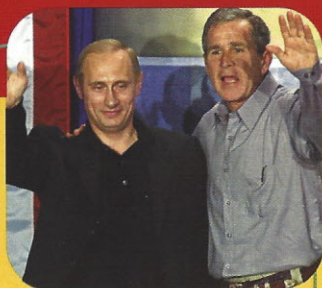
Purchase Required:
Rebate checks are not redeemable for cash without a purchase, and no minimum purchase is required.



World



Paul Sakuma/AP/Wide World Photos



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.



AFP/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.



← 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