

Rice can testify publicly

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The commission's Republican chairman, former New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean, welcomed the decision and said the White House shouldn't be concerned that the testimony would violate the principles of executive privilege or separation of powers.

"We recognize the fact that this is an extraordinary event," Kean said. "This does not set a precedent." He said there was still no time set either for Rice's public testimony or for Bush and Cheney's private appearance. Administration officials said her appearance probably would come at the end of next week.

Bush is staking much of his re-election bid on his performance as president after the 2001 attacks. But former Bush counterterrorism adviser Richard Clarke - in a best-selling book and testimony before the Sept. 11 commission last week - contended the president had been slow to act against al-Qaida before the attacks and compromised the anti-terror battle afterward by going to war in Iraq.

Opinion polls suggest support for Bush's handling of the war on terror has declined. Two surveys out this week show the president's approval ratings on that issue are now in the high 50 percent range after being in the mid-60s for months.

Although the erosion has not hurt Bush in one-on-one polling against Democratic rival John Kerry, the White House saw a brewing problem. It waged a vigorous

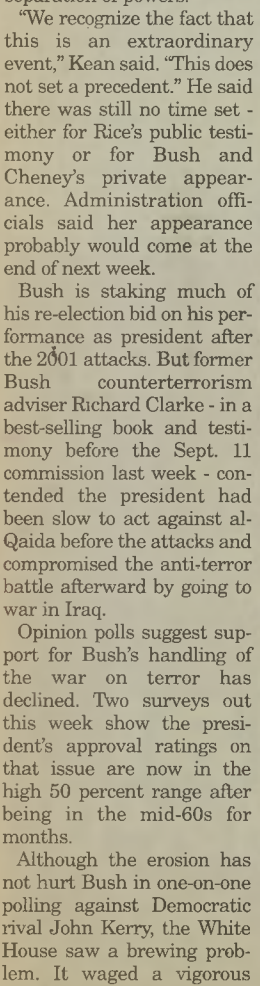
counterattack on Clarke's credibility. But the many hours Rice spent rebutting Clarke in the news media only raised anew the criticism of the White House refusal to let her testify publicly.

Even Republicans began saying the administration's argument on separation of powers should be tossed aside. Commissioner Slade Gorton, a former Republican senator from Washington state, said he was delighted

at Bush's change of heart, but he added: "I think the White House would have been better off if it had made the agreements sooner."

Bush has reversed himself in the face of political realities on several previous occasions, especially on the subject of the Sept. 11 commission.

Most recently, the administration, which had wanted to restrict any access to the president by the panel to just one hour, relaxed that limit.



Bush

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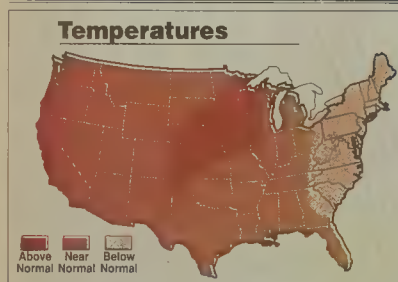
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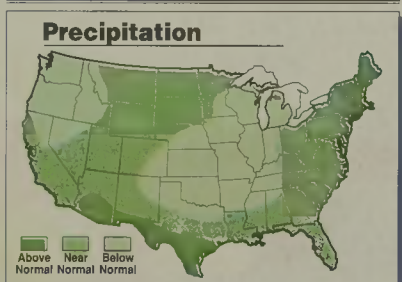
LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Breezy with some sun.	Mostly cloudy and chilly.	Breezy with some sun.	Partly sunny.	Partial sunshine.	Mostly sunny.	Partial sunshine.	Mostly cloudy.
60	40	64/42	66/44	70/48	68/46	68/46	66/46

THE WEEK AHEAD



THE WEEK AHEAD



U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Today			Friday			Saturday			Sunday			Monday		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	60	44	pc	62	46	pc	66	50	s	70	52	s	72	50	s
Boston	44	40	r	46	38	r	48	38	sh	52	40	sh	55	38	s
Chicago	46	34	c	48	36	pc	54	36	pc	52	34	pc	59	39	pc
Cleveland	41	37	sh	49	37	sh	48	38	sh	49	38	sh	50	41	pc
Denver	71	38	pc	64	36	pc	44	34	c	54	30	c	55	27	c
Des Moines	54	34	pc	58	38	pc	60	39	pc	59	40	c	59	38	c
Detroit	47	34	sh	50	36	c	54	36	pc	57	38	pc	57	40	s
Houston	77	62	pc	79	62	t	79	60	t	76	60	t	73	52	pc
Indianapolis	47	38	sh	53	38	pc	59	39	pc	60	41	pc	63	42	pc
Kansas City	57	36	pc	58	38	pc	60	42	pc	62	42	c	63	39	sh
Los Angeles	72	54	pc	76	52	s	76	52	s	70	54	pc	74	52	s
Miami	83	68	s	83	69	pc	85	67	pc	83	67	pc	81	64	s
Minn.-St. Paul	53	29	pc	56	35	pc	53	34	pc	56	37	c	55	37	r
New Orleans	70	61	pc	75	61	pc	74	59	t	75	59	pc	75	56	pc
New York City	47	38	r	46	42	r	55	45	sh	58	41	sh	55	42	s
Omaha	57	34	pc	62	36	pc	60	35	pc	60	35	c	59	37	c
Phoenix	84	54	pc	87	52	pc	74	55	sh	77	57	pc	79	56	pc
San Francisco	76	50	s	78	52	s	74	50	s	65	51	s	64	50	pc
Seattle	56	40	pc	58	42	s	60	42	s	58	42	pc	57	41	c
Washington	49	44	r	54	42	sh	58	42	sh	62	44	sh	55	45	pc

THE NATIONAL SUMMARY

Tropical moisture will fuel showers and thunderstorms over the Southwest during the period. Warm winds will aid in keeping temperatures above normal in the Plains. The Northeast will have more cool and unsettled weather. High pressure will keep the Northwest mainly dry.

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, Hc.

WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Today			Friday			Saturday			Sunday			Monday		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Amsterdam	57	50	r	59	51	r	55	47	pc	56	48	pc	50	39	s
Berlin	58	42	pc	54	41	r	55	38	pc	52	37	pc	48	34	s
Buenos Aires	83	65	pc	84	66	pc	86	69	pc	88	69	pc	89	64	pc
Cairo	95	72	s	92	67	pc	84	54	pc	81	50	pc	84	57	s
Jerusalem	77	58	s	76	49	pc	70	47	s	71	48	pc	72	52	pc
Johannesburg	74	52	pc	71	53	sh	73	53	sh	76	55	c	75	55	sh
London	56	42	r	59	49	r	60	47	pc	63	50	s	58	41	s
Madrid	53	29	r	56	39	pc	60	41	s	62	42	pc	61	41	pc
Mexico City	60	33	r	70	45	pc	71	44	c	64	47	pc	68	39	c
Moscow	25	4	pc	21	5	sf	21	8	sn	31	17	pc	37	23	c
Paris	60	41	c	53	43	r	58	43	pc	56	43	pc	54	35	s
Rio de Janeiro	78	66	c	77	66	r	78	67	pc	77	66	t	76	65	sh
Rome	63	48	c	58	38	pc	50	34	r	55	37	c	51	36	sh
San Juan	85	73	pc	84	72	pc	85	72	s	86	72	s	85	72	pc
Seoul	58	28	r	50	26	pc	47	26	pc	46	35	c	58	42	s
Sydney	77	59	pc	76	55	pc	76	53	pc	72	52	sh	71	55	pc
Tokyo	57	47	c	64	54	pc	57	45	s	56	51	c	61	41	sh
Toronto	45	36	r	48	36	pc	50	34	sh	49	41	sh	48	41	sh
Winnipeg	50	33	pc	48	31	pc	52	32	pc	48	34	s	49	26	sh
Zurich	63	47	pc	59	40	r	52	37	r	55	37	pc	47	28	s

SUN & MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset
Thu., Apr. 1	6:10 a.m.	6:45 p.m.
Fri., Apr. 2	6:08 a.m.	6:46 p.m.
Sat., Apr. 3	6:07 a.m.	6:47 p.m.
Sun., Apr. 4	7:06 a.m.	7:47 p.m.
Mon., Apr. 5	7:04 a.m.	7:48 p.m.
Tue., Apr. 6	7:03 a.m.	7:49 p.m.
Wed., Apr. 7	7:02 a.m.	7:50 p.m.

	Moonrise	Moonset
Thu., Apr. 1	2:53 p.m.	4:20 a.m.
Fri., Apr. 2	3:58 p.m.	4:52 a.m.
Sat., Apr. 3	5:04 p.m.	5:21 a.m.

Moon Phases			
Full	Last	New	First
Apr. 5	Apr. 11	Apr. 19	Apr. 27

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