



← 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.



↘ 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.

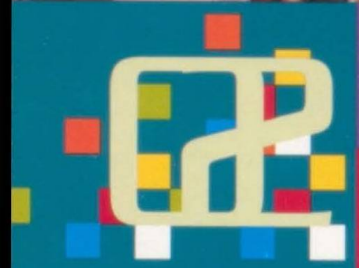
↙ During a year marked by economic recession, Americans open their hands, and wallets, to much-anticipated IRS rebate checks.



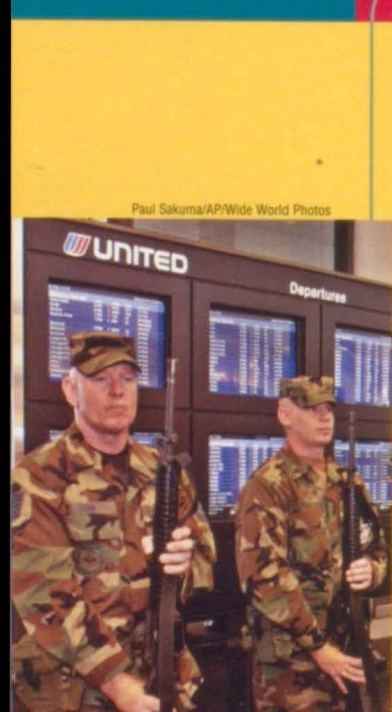
**Spending Your IRS Tax Rebate Check Today?**

Here's how...

- Two-Party Checks:** All parties named on the check must be present at the time of purchase.
- Modification Required:** All parties must present two forms of valid identification, including:
  - Driver's License
  - Social Security Card
  - Birth Certificate
  - Passport
  - Other forms of identification as determined by the retailer.
- Purchase Required:** Rebate checks are not redeemable for cash without a purchase, and no minimum purchase is required.



# World



↑ 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.

← Americans face armed guards and tighter check-in procedures as airport security restrictions are heightened following the terrorist attacks on September 11.

↑ 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.

