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"Extraordinary" Anti-Terrorism Action Gives U.S. Democracy Base a Permanent Shake Up

Dejin Su (An interview with Thomas B. Wilner of Shearman & Sterling, Bradford Berenson of Sidley Austin Brown & Wood, David Cole of Georgetown University)
Washington Observer Weekly (Chinese Magazine)
February 7, 2006

President Bush announced his support for the 'McCain Proposal' after heavy pressure from John McCain, the Republican Senator from Arizona, on Dec 15, 2005. The central idea of McCain's Proposal was to put an end to the cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment of foreign terrorist suspects in U.S. prisons. It prohibits US military interrogators from using interrogation techniques not listed in the US Army Field Manual. But the Graham-Levin-Kyl Amendment greatly restricts foreign terrorist suspects' right to appeal in U.S. federal court, so the aims of McCain's proposal are almost entirely defeated. The issue of when legal enforcements should be implemented as in war time and when as in peace time has aroused fierce disputes among U.S. conservatives and liberals and also resulted in a series of conflicts among Congress, the White House and the Supreme Court, with limits on the authority of the White House becoming a particular focus of attention. U.S. conservatives and liberals' also differ regarding whether the U.S. model of anti-terrorism should be modeled by other countries including China