

# ZELL MILLER'S LIES ABOUT JOHN KERRY

Zell Miller's Sept. 1 speech segments at the Republican Convention debunked

**Zell Miller:** "Listing all the weapon systems that Senator Kerry tried his best to shut down sounds like an auctioneer selling off our national security but Americans need to know the facts. The B-1 bomber, that Senator Kerry opposed, dropped 40 percent of the bombs in the first six months of Operation Enduring Freedom."

**FACT:** Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld went to Capitol Hill June 28 to defend the President's FY 2002 defense budget request before committees in both houses of Congress. Both in the Senate and House Armed Services Committees he met stiff opposition, principally over two facets of the defense proposal: missile defense and cuts in the B-1 bomber program.

Rumsfeld replied that the decision was made by the Air Force, which wanted to go from 93 B-1 bombers down to 60 and to change the basing mode from five down to two to save funds and use the savings to upgrade the remaining B-1 bombers. He noted that he was the secretary of defense in 1960 when the B-1 bomber program was first approved.

<http://japan.usembassy.gov/e/p/tp-se0213.html>

**Zell Miller:** "The B-2 bomber, that Senator Kerry opposed, delivered air strikes against the Taliban in Afghanistan and Hussein's command post in Iraq."

**FACT:** Cheney Proposed Cuts to B-2 Program, According to the RNC, B-2s Were Crucial to Operation Iraqi Freedom. According to the Boston Globe, in 1990, "Defense Secretary Richard Cheney announced a cutback... of nearly 45 percent in the administration's B-2 Stealth bomber program, from 132 airplanes to 75..." (Boston Globe, 4/27/90; From RNC Research Memo, "Kerry's Military: As He Would Like It," 7/18/03

**Zell Miller:** "The F-14A Tomcats, that Senator Kerry opposed, shot down Khadafi's Libyan MIGs over the Gulf of Sidra. The modernized F-14D, that Senator Kerry opposed, delivered missile strikes against Tora Bora."

**FACT:** The F-14D Tomcat program was cut by "Secretary Cheney" and all F-14D tomcat production was officially terminated in March 1990.

[<http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/8629/14var.htm>]

**Zell Miller:** "The Apache helicopter, that Senator Kerry opposed, took out those Republican Guard tanks in Kuwait in the Gulf War. The F-15 Eagles, that Senator Kerry opposed, flew cover over our Nation's Capital and this very city after 9/11."

**FACT:** According to the RNC, AH-64 Apache Helicopters Were Crucial to Operation Iraqi Freedom. In testimony before the Senate Appropriations Committee, Defense Subcommittee, Cheney said, "This is just a list of some of the programs that I've recommended termination: the V-22 Osprey, the F-14D, the Army Helicopter Improvement Program, Phoenix missile, F-15E, the Apache helicopter, the M1 tank, et cetera." In testimony before the House Armed Services Committee, Cheney said, "The Army, as I indicated in my earlier testimony, recommended to me that we keep a robust Apache helicopter program going forward, AH-64...I forced the Army to make choices...So I recommended that we cancel the AH-64 program two years out."

**Zell Miller:** "I could go on and on and on: against the Patriot Missile that shot down Saddam Hussein's scud missiles over Israel; against the Aegis air-defense cruiser; against the Strategic Defense Initiative; against the Trident missile; against, against, against."

**FACT:** Kerry supported at least \$10 billion in defense authorizations for the Patriot program. Kerry has supported at least \$53 billion defense authorizations for the Aegis program Congressional Quarterly Almanacs, 1986-2002; House Armed Service Committee Authorization Conference Report Summaries; Conference Reports for Defense Authorizations, FY1986 - present)