

LETTER FROM LIBERIA: A place where violence is a habit difficult to outgrow **6**

LETTERS **11**

NOTEBOOK: Blair's dilemma: how to cope with Britain's detainees; Afghanistan vs. Pakistan; rewriting Iraq's textbooks; who will replace Jack Valenti?; movie sequels are bombing, and why..... **15**

MILESTONES..... **21**



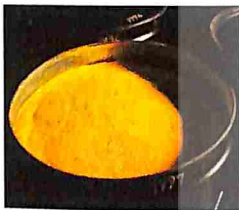
ERIC DRAPER—WHITE HOUSE/AP

C O V E R

A Question of Trust
Bush admits it was wrong to say Iraq sought African uranium. But the controversy over that narrow claim has raised larger concerns about Bush's case for going to war **22**

A Soldier's Life Seven U.S. soldiers died in Iraq the first week of July, and 70 have died since heavy combat ended. The tale of First Sergeant Chris Coffin is a reminder that our G.I.s are on a mission they never prepared for **28**

22▲ In the State of the Union address he prepared last January, Bush included 16 words about Iraq and uranium that he has now retracted



34▼ Democratic rivals shake hands before a New Hampshire July 4 parade. Dean, right, has been blasting Bush; Kerry has now upped his anger too



JIM BOURG—REUTERS



ERIC GRIGORIAN—POLARIS FOR TIME

28▲ The photo and effects of Specialist Jeffrey Wershow, killed this month, adorn a shrine at his memorial service, held last Friday in Baghdad

N A T I O N

IN THE ARENA: Joe Klein on the Dean-Kerry showdown **34**

COVER: *President George W. Bush delivers his State of the Union speech to a joint session of Congress on Jan. 28, 2003. Credit: Photograph for TIME by Brooks Kraft—Corbis*

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HOW FLAWED WAS THE CASE FOR GOING TO WAR AGAINST SADDAM?

PLUS: An intimate look at seven American soldiers who died this month in Iraq

President Bush delivers the State of the Union, Jan. 28, 2003

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