

# Presidential bloopers inspire new ‘Who’s On First?’

President Bush has become famous for his “bloopers,” from spitting on the White House lawn and tripping over his own two feet, to saying things like, “Our enemies are innovative and resourceful, and so are we. They never stop thinking about new ways to harm our country and our people, and neither do we.”

A friend sent me an e-mail of presidential humor, including a photo of Mr. Bush “reading” with this book upside down. She also had a mock dialogue between the President and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice with the title “Who’s On First?” — new version. All who are familiar with Abbott and Costello’s “Who’s On First?” routine will understand where it came from:

George: Condi! Nice to see you. What’s happening?

Condi: Sir, I have the report here about the new leader of China.



## sharon corcoran

• just for fun

George: Great. Lay it on me.

Condi: Hu is the new leader of China.

George: That’s what I want to know.

Condi: That’s what I’m telling you.

George: That’s what I’m asking you. Who is the new leader of China?

Condi: Yes.

George: I mean the fellow’s name.

Condi: Hu.

George: The guy in China.

Condi: Hu.

George: The new leader of China.

Condi: Hu.

George: The main man in China!

Condi: Hu is leading China.

George: Now whaddya’ asking me for?

Condi: I’m telling you, Hu is leading China.

George: Well, I’m asking you. Who is leading China?

Condi: That’s the man’s name.

George: That’s who’s name?

Condi: Yes.

George: Will you, or will you not, tell me the name of the new leader of China?

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: Yassir? Yassir Arafat is in China? I thought he’s dead in the Middle East.

Condi: That’s correct.

George: Then who is in China?

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: Yassir is in China?

Condi: No, sir.

George: Then who is?

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: Yassir?

Condi: No, sir.

George: Look Condi. I need to know the name of the new leader of China. Get me the Secretary General of the U.N. on the phone.

Condi: Kofi?

George: No, thanks.

Condi: You want Kofi?

George: No.

Condi: You don’t want Kofi.

George: No. But now that you mention it, I could use a glass of milk. And then get me the U.N.

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: Not Yassir! The guy at the U.N.

Condi: Kofi?

George: Milk! Will you please make the call?

Condi: And call who?

George: Who is the guy at the U.N?

Condi: Hu is the guy in China.

George: Will you stay out of China?!

Condi: Yes, sir.

George: And stay out of the Middle East! Just get me the guy at the U.N.

Condi: Kofi.

George: All right! With cream and two sugars.

I’ve discovered there are whole lists of “Bushisms” on the Internet, and you can buy books of them as well. I think one reason it is so amusing to hear the President say foolish things is that it makes us feel less embarrassed at our own inadequacies. After all, if he can say things like that and be President, we should be able to do just fine in life.

Some of my favorite Bushisms:

“We spent a lot of time talking

about Africa, as we should. Africa is a nation that suffers from incredible disease.”

“For every fatal shooting, there were roughly three non-fatal shootings. And, folks, this is unacceptable in America. It’s just unacceptable. And we’re going to do something about it.”

“But all in all, it’s been a fabulous year for Laura and me,” summing up his first year in office, three months after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

“I’m honored to shake the hand of a brave Iraqi citizen who had his hand cut off by Saddam Hussein.”

“I’m going to spend a lot of time on Social Security. I enjoy it. I enjoy taking on the issue. I guess it’s just the Mother in me.”

“He married a Texas girl, I want you to know. Karyn is with us. A West Texas girl, just like me.”

## matters of record

**District Traffic**

The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court:

**May 16** — Sharon B. Fisher, 23, St. Joseph, Mo., \$144 for speeding.

Armas E. Hill, 55, Wilmington, Del., \$360 for driving under suspension and \$78 for speeding.

Andrew C. Hutchinson, 30, Millburn, N.J., \$120 for speeding.

Andre M. Wright, 29, Jefferson City, Mo., \$90 for speeding.

Michael S. Bainum, 34, Stillwater, Okla., \$138 for speeding.

Virginia M. Crocker, 56, Lakewood, Colo., \$150 for speeding.

Nicholas L. Piper, 27, Boise, Idaho, \$81 for speeding.

Jimmie L. Kappers, 70, Las Vegas, Nev., \$138 for speeding.

Richard H. Weller Jr., 64, Lakewood, Colo., \$150 for speeding.

Troy L. Veil, 37, Colorado Springs, \$240 for speeding.

James N. Mellor III, 19, Littleton, Colo., \$159 for speeding.

Thomas S. Maxfield, 36, Taylor Mill, Ky., \$126 for speeding.

**May 17** — Eric A. Graves, 30, Goodland, \$187 for speeding.

Gerard D. Guidice, 45, Orlando, Fla., \$159 for speeding.

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