

Is George W. Bush a Moron or a Poet?

by Stephen Elliott-Buckley - Friday, November 22, 2002

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Wednesday this week: the big W comments on his status as a poet while Chretien's press secretary uses the word moron. Who's right?

I'm not a fan of the big W's folksy self-deprecating mask. It makes me nervous.

In an excerpt below from the [text](#) of joint statements made Wednesday at NATO meetings in Prague by the big W and Vaclav Havel, former jailed playwright and current President of the Czech Republic, the big W is initially addressing Havel, then he begins to take questions from reporters.

[Beginning of excerpt.]

"PRESIDENT BUSH: Mr. President, thank you for having us. This is an historic meeting, an historic city, an historic country led by an historic figure.

"I'll answer some questions.

"Q: I have one question for President Bush, and a second question for President Havel.

"President Bush, you have said some lofty words here. The Czech Republic --

"PRESIDENT BUSH: I said some what?

"Q: Lofty words. (Laughter.)

"PRESIDENT BUSH: No one has ever accused me of being a poet before, but thank you. (Laughter.)"

[End of excerpt.]

Also on Wednesday in Prague, Chretien's press secretary, Françoise Ducros, was overheard by reporters

calling W a moron in a seemingly private conversation with another reporter. Today, Chretien [refused](#) to accept Ducros' resignation.

Good for him.

The question that remains is this: is the big W and poet or moron or (terrifyingly) neither?