

YO! BUSH BE GANGBANGIN' LIKE A HOMEBOY

THE FIRST KENNEBUNKPORT-HIP-HOP TRANSLATION DICTIONARY

President Bush, athlete and thinker, is a resourceful linguist. But his peculiar patois—a ratatouille of East Coast posh and Ike-era hep—is truly at home only in places (coastal Maine, *Air Force One*) that are off-limits to most of his constituents, including the very citizens he most needs to reach if his \$7.9 billion

"war on drugs" is to climax in a triumphal Vic Damone (see below). In the interests of opening a line of communication between Mr. Smooth and certain urban fraternal organizations, many of whose members have been implicated in drug crimes, we present the following highly selective *aide-de-translation*.



ACTUAL BUSH	ACTUAL HOMEBOY
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appalling	wack
Big Mo	playing
bit of a cholesterol rise	hemmed up
Cabinet member	cuz
Capitol Hill carp	the 'hood dis
colloquy	rap
Colonel North, e.g.	bounty hunter
communicate congressman	top it off homeboy
Dan Quayle, e.g.	mark, punk
Dan Rather, e.g.	cheese-eater
deep doo-doo	heavy shit
Democrat	crab, E-ricket
diddy	two shakes of a rat's rectum
Doberman thugs [Noriega's men]	hope-to-dies
Donald Trump, e.g.	baller, high roller
don't tell mother	don't play me to the left
drugs	shit
<i>finis!</i>	stick out
firing a laserlike shot	makin' a move

gun	got
had some sex	busted a nut
have good relations	click up
heck	fuck
hi	yo
high 'n' tight	fade
impressive	def
in the soup	wet
just a splash [of coffee]	cop me a rock [of crack]
kicking a little ass	good from the shoulders
kinder and gentler nation	Hollywood
Let him do his thing, and I'll do mine	Keep bustin'
log cab	log cabin
misdemeanor	mis

Mr. Smooth [i.e., Bush]	Bush bastard
my opponent [archaic]	Dumb-kakis, cock
off my game	perpetrating
off the record	good to go
on your side	slidin' down the same pole you're on
one-liner	cap
politicking	gangbangin'
post-Vietnam thing	what time it is
power outage [horseshoe miss]	illin'
put on the [L.L.] Beans	jump in the silk
read my lips	co-bus-dis
semi-ballistic	fired up
show business	slingin'

Skull and Bones club	the set
Silver Fox, Bar [i.e., Mrs. Bush]	broad
six-pack [horseshoe double-ringer]	stupid gold, stupid money
speaker of the House	M.C.
step up to the lick log	put in work
stretched out on the couch	what you 'bout
tapped	jumped-in
thing	uh
thousand points of light	Bics
thrown out	cast out
trash	all in the Kool-Aid without the flavor
tweaky	loc-ed out
Tension City	head up
Unleash Chiang!	Be down!
vacationing	kickin' it
veto	bust that
Vic Damone [victory]	doin' in
vilified	jacket on his ass
wieners	little bro's
working	hangin', bangin' and slangin'
yeah	word

—Martin Kibn