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**Folder Title:**  
Young American Medal Awards Ceremony 9/21/89 [OA 6346]

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Sept. 19, 1989

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT**

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *W*  
FROM: MARK DAVIS *MD*  
SUBJECT: Young American Medal Awards Ceremony

I. SUMMARY:

You are scheduled to appear in the Rose Garden on Thursday, Sept. 21, at 11:20 p.m., to present the Young American Medals for Bravery and for Service. We have provided you with seven minutes of remarks, on cards.

II. DISCUSSION:

These awards cover deeds of bravery performed by young people in 1987, as well as for last year. There are seven recipients -- one is being **posthumously** awarded to John Bankston. He will be represented by his parents, John and Rosie.

Davis/Martin  
Sept. 19, 1989  
Draft: Three  
Title: Hero

**PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: YOUNG AMERICAN MEDAL, ROSE GARDEN  
Thursday/11:20 a.m./Sept. 21, 1989**

((Acknowledgements)) Attorney-General Thornburgh -- Dick -- Director Sessions and my young friends. Welcome to the White House. It will be my honor to bestow, in just a moment, the Young American Medal for Bravery; and the Young American Medal for Service, for 1987 and 1988.

A great writer, I believe it was Emerson, said that a hero is no braver than anyone else; only brave for five minutes longer. Two young people with us today know these minutes of bravery// minutes where terrible events seem to occur in slow motion// minutes facing death and challenging eternity.

One of the recipients of a Young American Medal for Bravery is twelve years old. She is Angela Marie Campanoli ((Camp-PAN-no-lee)), and she attends the 7th grade at Aylen ((A-lynn)) Junior High in Washington State. Angela, her mother Yvonne, her brother Bryan, and a friend, were at the beach in Maui on October fifth, 1988. Three Japanese tourists -- a man, his wife and their little boy -- were also at that same beach, that same day.

The Japanese child got caught in a current, and started to panic. His parents, seeing this, dashed into the rough surf to rescue him. Others got to the child first. But the mother was dragged by a relentless current, out to sea. Angela quickly dove

in, swam to the woman, and held her head above water. Her brother, Bryan, was also right there. And together, Bryan and Angela brought the woman back to shore. Back to her family. Back to her life.

We are also here to honor the late John Bankston of Dallas. On July 17, 1987, a church bus and a van carrying 43 people from a children's camp were swept into the currents of the Guadalupe River in Kerr County, Texas. Pounding waves scattered the group and toppled the bus and van.

The youngsters who survived clung to branches and formed a human chain to cross the river. One of them was Jeff Bowman, who had a cast on his leg from a broken ankle. John carried Jeff on his back for two hours, until they reached a tree. Jeff let go and grabbed a log that was floating downstream. John clung to the tree, and was never seen again. He was 17-years-old. Rosie, John, we know that a parent's grief is a special hardship. But we hope that your grief is tempered by pride, pride in your hero, your son John. ((PAUSE))

In California, a different kind of tragedy almost occurred. On April twenty-sixth, 1988, an armed student walked into the English class of San Gabriel High School; and seventy students suddenly became seventy hostages. One of them is with us today. He is Ruben Ortega. This young man threw his life into the balance. And because of his bravery, his classmates are safe and well today.

When I was Ruben's age, Will Rogers said that being a hero is about the shortest-lived profession on earth.// But Will Roger's wry humor is belied by his own life, a man who lightened the worries of the Great Depression with laughter and goodwill.

So for some, bringing hope and even saving lives is not a matter of minutes. It's a matter of months and years of giving. It's a habit, a habit of the heart. And that is why we give the Young American Medal for Service.

We have with us Freddy Torres of East Boston High School. At age 18, Freddy spent countless hours as a peer leader, inspiring hundreds of young people to stay away from drugs and learn about the dangers of AIDS. And Freddy went beyond the classroom, taking his message where it is needed most -- to the streets. It was out of class that Freddy persuaded young people, often drop-outs, to enlist in drug and AIDS prevention programs.

I have said that from now on, in America, any definition of a successful life must include service to others. By this definition, John Philip Donovan of River Vale, New Jersey, is about as successful as you can be. Last year, when he was 17, John served his community in many ways: As a leader of a Boy Scout Troop with learning and other disabled Scouts as members; as a fund-raiser for Muscular Dystrophy, bringing in sixty-five hundred dollars; as a leader of Students-Against-Drunk-Driving, and many other activities.

Sean Fox of Ethel, Washington, is another young American who cares enough to act. He organized a food bank for Toledo,

Washington; and involved his parents, mayor, school principal and other community leaders in the drive. Because of Sean's work, the food bank serves more than eighty families in need.

Vicki Lynn Urich ((YOUR-ich)) of Alvin, Texas, has dedicated her efforts to cleaning up local beaches and restoring dunes along the Texas Coast. She also started a nationwide aluminum can drive to restore the Battleship Texas, and has been a leader in many other projects.

These services may not be as dramatic as pulling someone from the surf, or subduing a gunman. But Freddy, John, Sean and Vicki know something very profound -- that it is in the daily accumulation of small acts of kindness, that life can improved. And often, lives can be saved.

Let me offer one last thought. Sometimes we lose sight of the vast majority of young Americans who are doing their best to better this world. So for those who worry about the future, perhaps they should consider these four young Americans. You and I know that in the future, our country will be in good hands, because it will be in **their** hands.

And now, it is my honor to present all of you with your Young American medals.

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# Department of Justice

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ADVANCE FOR RELEASE AT 5 P.M. EDT  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1989

OJP  
(202) 724-7782

Attorney General Dick Thornburgh announced today that 1988 Young American Medals for Bravery will be awarded to a young woman from Hawaii and a young man from California. In addition, two young men, one from Massachusetts and one from New Jersey, will receive 1988 Young American Medals for Service.

President George Bush is expected to present the medals for the 1988 awards on a date to be announced. The 1987 awards, whose winners were announced on August 20, 1988, also will be presented at that time.

"These Award winners are examples of what's good about America's youth," the Attorney General said. "Despite all we hear about the acts of small numbers of teenagers, most of today's youths are law abiding young men and women who will become productive adults and good citizens.

"Many of our teenagers perform acts of bravery every day. They also contribute many hours of their time to community projects, including helping senior citizens, the homeless and the

(MORE)

less advantaged. This program affords the Department of Justice the opportunity to select and recognize some of these fine young people for special recognition," Thornburgh said.

The Young American Medals Program, begun in 1950 under an act of Congress, recognizes young people for acts of bravery or conspicuous community service. Although the law directs the Department of Justice to select recipients and administer the program, it specifies that the President must personally present the awards.

Recipients must be younger than 19 years old at the time of their acts of bravery or service. Nominations are submitted to the Department of Justice by governors or, in the case of U.S. territories or the District of Columbia, by the appropriate chief executives.

Director William Sessions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation chairs the Young American Medals Committee. Its other members are David R. Runkel, Assistant to the Attorney General; John C. Lawn, Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration; and Stanley E. Morris, Director of the U.S. Marshals Service.

The Young American Medals for Bravery will be presented to:  
--Angela Marie Campanoli, then 11, and living in Maui, Hawaii. On October 5, 1988, with no regard for her own

(MORE)

safety, this young girl dove into rough and dangerous waters to assist a Japanese tourist who was being swept out to sea. Angela held the victim's head above water until help arrived to pull her closer to shore.

--Ruben Ortega, then 18, of Alhambra, California. On April 26, 1988, a student armed with an assault rifle held Ruben and approximately 70 of his classmates hostage. Ruben risked his life by attacking the armed student, grasping the rifle and the assailant, and wrestling him to the ground. With the help of several students, Ruben held the assailant on the floor until police arrived.

The Young American Medals for Service will be presented to:

--Freddy Torres, then 18, of Boston, Massachusetts. As a drug/alcohol peer leader and an AIDS peer leader, Freddy spent countless hours helping hundreds of young people in Boston stay away from drugs and learn about the dangers of AIDS.

--John Philip Donovan, then 17, from River Vale, New Jersey. John served his community and school through a variety of volunteer activities. These included working with disabled Boy Scouts, serving as the only youth member of a community-wide committee designed to instill a greater sense of pride in the community, and raising funds for muscular dystrophy.

(MORE)

More detailed information about the recipients follows:

**ANGELA MARIE CAMPANOLI**

5300 Rehklau Road, S.E.,  
Lacey, Washington 98503  
(206) 438-1371

Daughter of Yvonne L. and Dennis J. Campanoli

Date of birth: February 15, 1977

On October 5, 1988, Angela, her mother, her brother, Bryan, and her friend were enjoying the sun at Polo Beach, Maui, Hawaii. Polo Beach has a reputation for rough waves and strong currents. On that day, the surf was 2 to 3 feet high, a strong rip tide was in the area, and trade winds were blowing at 12 to 15 knots. The Hawaiian residents knew it was safer to bask in the sun than to risk danger by going swimming.

Three Japanese tourists, a man, his wife and their little boy, were also relaxing on Polo Beach that day. Somehow, the child got caught in a current and started to panic. The parents, seeing this, ran in to rescue him. However, the waves were too rough and the couple found themselves trapped too.

Angela observed that the father was safe (clinging to the rocks) and the little boy was being brought to shore by others on the beach; however, the mother was slowly being swept out to sea. Angela quickly dove in, swam to the woman, and held her head above the water. Angela stayed with her until Bryan swam out to them and helped bring the woman closer to shore. They stayed with the woman until further help arrived to bring her to shore.

**RUBEN ORTEGA**

1801 Garvey Boulevard, Apt. 124  
Alhambra, California 91803  
(818) 570-9840

Son of Clodoalda Ortega

Date of birth: December 10, 1969

On April 26, 1988, a student armed with an assault rifle entered an English class on the campus of San Gabriel High School and held approximately 70 students hostage for about 30-35 minutes. Ruben, one of the hostages, risked his life by attacking the armed student, grasping the rifle and the assailant, and wrestling him to the ground. With the help of several students, Ruben held the assailant on the floor until police arrived. The Mayor of the City of San Gabriel said, "As a result of Ruben Ortega's bravery and quick thinking, the potentially tragic incident was defused to the point that no injuries occurred and there was no property damage to the school premises."

(MORE)

**FREDDY TORRES**  
72 Everett Street  
East Boston, Massachusetts 02128  
(617) 569-6482  
Son of Iris and Manuel Torres  
Date of birth: September 12, 1970

Freddy Torres, an 18-year-old senior at East Boston High School, spent countless hours helping hundreds of young people in Boston stay away from drugs and learn about the dangers of AIDS. As a drug/alcohol peer leader and an AIDS peer leader, Freddy spent many hours in classrooms throughout Boston helping young people learn about better alternatives to taking drugs and the dangers of AIDS. In addition to time spent in the classroom, Freddy often works in the streets bringing young people, some of whom have dropped out of school, into drug and AIDS prevention programs.

In June 1988, the Governor of Massachusetts chose Freddy to testify before the United States Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. He testified in support of funding for Peer Leadership programs and shared his personal experiences with members of Congress. He was the only teenager on the panel.

**JOHN PHILIP DONOVAN**  
623 Cleveland Avenue  
River Vale, New Jersey 07675  
(201) 666-0647  
Son of Bonnie M. and John G. Donovan  
Date of birth: August 22, 1971

During 1988, 17-year-old John Philip Donovan served his community, his school, and others. John served as Junior Assistant Scout Master and Eagle Scout in a Boy Scout Troop with learning and otherwise disabled scouts as members. He was the only youth member of a community-wide organization, the Pride in River Vale (New Jersey) Committee. This committee was formed to help instill a greater sense of civic pride in the community's residents and to secure a greater involvement of those residents in the community's activities. As a fundraiser for Muscular Dystrophy, John raised \$6,500 in contributions. John also maintained active and sustained leadership and involvement in Students Against Driving Drunk, Adopt-a-Family clothing and gift gathering programs, an interscholastic high school leadership forum, the National Model United Nations, including conference leadership in Washington, D.C., high school peer counseling, and science and mathematics tutoring. In addition, John served as Student Council President during 1988.

89-149  
After hours contact: Stu Smith (301) 983-9354



# Department of Justice

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ADVANCE FOR RELEASE AT 6 P.M. EDT  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1988

YAM  
202-633-2395  
(TDD) 202-786-5731

Director William Sessions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation announced today that a young woman from Texas and a young man from Washington will receive the 1987 Young American Medal for Service. The 1987 Young American Medal for Bravery will be awarded posthumously to a young man from Texas.

The medals will be presented by President Ronald Reagan at the White House on a date to be announced, the Director said.

The medals program, begun in 1950 under an act of Congress, recognizes young people for acts of bravery or conspicuous community service. The law directs the Department of Justice to select recipients and administer the program but specifies that the President must personally make the presentations.

Recipients must not have reached their 19th birthday at the time of their acts of bravery or community service. Nominations are submitted to the Justice Department by governors or, in the case of U.S. territories or the District of Columbia, by the appropriate chief executives.

The Young American Medals Committee is chaired by Director Sessions. Its other members are Stanley E. Morris, Director of the U.S. Marshals Service; Patrick S. Korten, Director of Public

(MORE)

Affairs for the Department of Justice; and John C. Lawn, Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Chosen for achievements in 1987 to receive the Young American Medal for Service were:

--Sean Fox, now 19, of Ethel, Washington. Sean played the leading role in establishing a food bank in Toledo, Washington, to serve the needy. Sean spearheaded the drive to set up the bank and enlisted the assistance of local community organizations. The food bank was a success when it opened its doors in February 1987.

--Vicki Lynn Urich, 17, of Alvin, Texas. Vicki has given many hours to cleaning up her community. Specifically, she has worked on beach clean-ups, sand dune restoration projects and recycling of discarded Christmas trees.

Chosen to receive the Young American Medal for Bravery was John Bankston, then 17, of Dallas, Texas, who drowned while helping to rescue occupants from a children's camp bus that was trapped in a flooding river. John lost his life after carrying another youth whose ankle was in a cast. While the young man he aided was saved, the river claimed 10 lives.

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Fuller information about the recipients follows.

(MORE)

**SEAN THOMAS FOX**  
422 Tucker Road  
Ethel, Washington 98542  
(206) 978-4305  
Son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and Sherry Fox  
Date of birth: January 10, 1969

Sean started a food bank in Toledo, Washington, to serve the needy. This idea was inspired after Sean attended a month-long Washington State Governor's School for Leadership. "When I came back, I wanted to do something," said Sean. He contacted his parents, mayor, school principal, and community, civic and church leaders. Toledo was the only town in Lewis County that did not have a food bank and there was a high unemployment rate. Those in need had to drive some 30 miles to another town's food bank. Sean felt that Toledo should "care for their own." After spearheading the initial organizational efforts, he and his committee worked for four months incorporating, dealing with liability concerns, obtaining a site, and procuring food. Said one community leader, "The effort to form the Toledo Food Bank was probably 25% local endeavor and 75% Sean's drive, persistence and unyielding impatience in achieving success. ... he was the driving force in the formation of the food bank." On February 13, 1987, the food bank in Toledo opened its doors. Now it monthly serves more than 80 families in need of food staples.

**VICKI LYNN URICH**  
Route 5, Box 320A  
Alvin, Texas 77511  
(713) 585-6054  
Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie L. and Nelva Urich  
Date of birth: March 5, 1970

Vicki has been a determined pollution control worker in her community. She has dedicated many hours to work on beach clean-ups and dune restoration projects, using discarded Christmas trees to trap the sand on the beaches in Brazoria County. Through the 4-H Club, Vicki made a trash survey of the county's beaches. The results, sent to the Environmental Education Center in Washington, D.C., identified large quantities of non-biodegradable plastic trash. The survey was instrumental in forming the "adopt-a-beach" program. Vicki has also been very active in the beach clean-up projects of her state and the Keep Texas Beautiful campaign. When Vicki learned about the plight of the aging Battleship Texas, she instituted a countywide aluminum can drive to raise funds toward the restoration of the ship.

(MORE)

**JOHN CLINTON BANKSTON (deceased)**  
**1861 Muleshoe Road**  
**Dallas, Texas 75217**  
**(214) 557-1861**  
**Son of Mr. and Mrs. John and Rosie Bankston**  
**Date of birth: January 24, 1970**

On July 17, 1987, John, then 17, drowned while helping to rescue people from a bus accident in the Guadalupe River. A church bus and a van carrying 43 people from a children's camp were swept into the river in Kerr County, Texas. The bus stalled as it was trying to cross the rapidly rising river. Once the drivers discovered that their vehicles were immobilized, they ordered their passengers to get to land. Pounding waves scattered the group and toppled the bus and van. The youngsters clung to branches and formed a human chain to cross the river. John offered to carry Jeff Bowman, also 17, who had a cast on his leg from a broken ankle. John carried Jeff on his back for about two hours, until they reached a tree. "He said, 'We should try to let go,'" Jeff recalled. "I didn't want to drown him or me. I let go." Jeff grabbed a log that was floating downstream but John still clung to the tree. That was the last time Jeff saw John. Although many of the survivors were rescued from the river and from trees by helicopters, 10 people lost their lives. John's body was the only one that still has not been recovered.

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88-305

Davis/Martin  
Sept. 14, 1989  
Draft: Hw007Y

**PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: YOUNG AMERICAN MEDAL, ROSE GARDEN  
Thursday/11:20 a.m./Sept. 21, 1989**

((Acknowledgements)) Attorney-General Thornburgh -- Dick --  
Director Sessions and my young friends. Welcome to the White  
House. It will be my honor to bestow, in just a moment, the  
Young American Medal for Bravery; and the Young American Medal  
for Service, for 1987 and 1988.

A great writer, I believe it was Emerson, said that a hero  
is no braver than anyone else; only brave for five minutes  
longer. Two young people with us today know these minutes of  
bravery// minutes where terrible events seem to occur in slow  
motion// minutes facing death and challenging eternity.

One of the recipients of a Young American Medal for Bravery  
is twelve years old. She is Angela Marie Campanoli ((Camp-PAN-  
no-lee)), and she attends the 7th grade at Aylen ((A-lynn))  
Junior High in Washington State where Angela, her mother, and her father were  
attacked by a shark on the beach in October, 1987. }  
fifth, 1988. Three Japanese tourists -- a man, his wife and

their little boy -- were also at that same beach, that same day.

The Japanese child got caught in a current, and started to  
panic. His parents, seeing this, dashed into the rough surf to  
rescue him. Others got to the child first. But the mother was  
dragged by a relentless current, out to sea. Angela quickly dove

in, swam to the woman, and held her head above water. Her brother, Bryan, was also right there. And together, Bryan and Angela brought the woman back to shore. Back to her family. Back to her life.

((Look to Angela)) Angela, there is a family in Japan that will always remember what you did for them. And in turn, we want you to always remember this ceremony. I cannot cut these flowers and offer them to you. But I want you to know, Angela, that today every flower in this Rose Garden **is for you**. ((PAUSE))

We are also here to honor the late John Bankston of Dallas. On July 17, 1987, a church bus and a van carrying 43 people from a children's camp were swept into the currents of the Guadalupe River in Kerr County, Texas. Pounding waves scattered the group and toppled the bus and van.

The youngsters who survived clung to branches and formed a human chain to cross the river. One of them was Jeff Bowman, who had a cast on his leg from a broken ankle. John carried Jeff on his back for two hours, until they reached a tree. Jeff let go and grabbed a log that was floating downstream. John clung to the tree, and was never seen again. He was 17-years-old. ((Look to parents.)) Rosie, John, we know that a parent's grief is a special hardship. But we hope that your grief is tempered by pride, pride in your hero, your son John. ((PAUSE))

In California, a different kind of tragedy almost occurred. On April twenty-sixth, 1988, an armed student walked into the English class of San Gabriel High School; and seventy students

suddenly became seventy hostages. One of them is with us today. He is Ruben Ortega.

Ruben waited, watching for the right moment. After more than half an hour, the assailant relaxed for just an instant. And in that instant, Ruben threw his life into the balance. Ruben disarmed the gunman, wrestled him to the ground -- and kept him down until the police arrived.

((Look to Ruben.)) Ruben, I don't mean to embarrass you -- but you are a true American hero. You remind me of a few guys I had the privilege of serving with in the war. And though we are not at war today, this country will always be safe because of young men like you. (PAUSE))

When I was Ruben's age, Will Rogers said that being a hero is about the shortest-lived profession on earth.// But Will Roger's wry humor is belied by his biography, a man who lightened the worries of the Great Depression with laughter and goodwill.

So for some, bringing hope and even saving lives is not a matter of minutes. It's a matter of months and years of giving. It's a habit, a habit of the heart. And that is why we give the Young American Medal for Service.

We have with us Freddy Torres of East Boston High School. At age 18, Freddy spent countless hours as a peer leader, inspiring hundreds of young people to stay away from drugs and learn about the dangers of AIDS. And Freddy went beyond the classroom, taking his message where it is needed most -- to the streets.

I have said that from now on, in America, any definition of a successful life must include service to other. By this definition, John Philip Donovan of River Vale, New Jersey, is about as successful as you can be. Last year, when he was 17, John served his community in many ways: As a leader of a Boy Scout Troop with learning and other disabled Scouts as members; as a fund-raiser for Muscular Dystrophy, bringing in sixty-five hundred dollars; as a leader of Students-Against-Drunk-Driving, and many other activities.

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These services may not be as dramatic as pulling someone from the surf, or subduing a gunman. But Freddy, John, Sean and Vicki know something very profound -- that in the daily accumulation of small acts of kindness, life and be improved. And often, lives can be saved.

Let me offer one last thought. We see on the news and in the movies how a few young people go bad. But perhaps we've lost

sight of the vast majority of young Americans who are doing their best to better this world. So for those who worry about the future, perhaps they should consider these four young Americans. You and I know that in the future, our country will be in good hands, because it will be in **their** hands.

And now, it is my honor -- Angela, Ruben, Freddy and John -- to present you with your Young American medals.

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*t*:  
**The  
Toastmaster's  
Treasure Chest**

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Herbert V.<sup>ictor</sup> Prochnow  
and Herbert V.  
Prochnow, Jr.

HARPER & ROW, PUBLISHERS



1817

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NOW  
R.

- 1136 His face was filled with broken commandments.—*John Masefield*
- 1137 The rise in the total of those employed is governed by Parkinson's Law and would be much the same whether the volume of work were to increase, diminish or even disappear.—*C. Northcote Parkinson*
- 1138 The result is a phenomenon that has often been observed but never yet investigated. It might be termed the Law of Triviality. Briefly stated, it means that the time spent on any item of the agenda will be in inverse proportion to the sum involved.—*C. Northcote Parkinson*
- 1139 Being a hero is about the shortest-lived profession on earth.—*Will Rogers*
- 1140 In the early days of the Indian Territory, there were no such things as birth certificates. You being there was certificate enough.—*Will Rogers*
- 1141 For every person wishing to teach there are thirty not wanting to be taught.—*W. C. Sellar and R. J. Yeatman*
- 1142 It had only one fault. It was kind of lousy.—*James Thurber, when asked his opinion of a play*
- 1143 He was born stupid, and greatly increased his birthright.—*Samuel Butler*
- 1144 I am not young enough to know everything.—*J. M. Barrie*
- 1145 A room without books is as a body without a soul.—*Sir John Lubbock*
- 1146 In the last analysis, ability is commonly found to consist mainly in a high degree of solemnity.—*Ambrose Bierce*
- 1147 All civilization has from time to time become a thin crust over a volcano of revolution.—*Havelock Ellis*
- 1148 Know thyself. A Yale undergraduate left on his door a placard for the janitor on which was written, "Call me at seven o'clock; it is absolutely necessary that I get up at seven. Make no mistake. Keep knocking until I answer." Under this he had written: "Try again at ten."—*William Lyon Phelps*
- 1149 No grand idea was ever born in a conference, but a lot of foolish ideas have died there.—*F. Scott Fitzgerald*
- 1150 The Nonconformist Conscience makes cowards of us all.—*Max Beerbohm*
- 1151 Some fellows get credit for being conservative when they are only stupid.—*Kin Hubbard*

- 1418 All you need is to tell a man that he is no good ten times a day, and very soon he begins to believe it himself.—*Lin Yutang*
- 1419 The world has achieved brilliance without conscience. Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants.—*Omar N. Bradley*
- 1420 Talk to a man about himself and he will listen for hours.—*Benjamin Disraeli*
- 1421 Gardens are not made by singing "Oh, how beautiful" and sitting in the shade.—*Rudyard Kipling*
- 1422 The best way to get on in the world is to make people believe it's to their advantage to help you.—*Jean de La Bruyère*
- 1423 He gave her a look that you could have poured on a waffle.—*Ring Lardner*
- 1424 If you would be a leader of men, you must lead your own generation, not the next.—*Woodrow Wilson*
- 1425 I can resist everything except temptation.—*Oscar Wilde*
- 1426 If your riches are yours, why don't you take them with you to the other world?—*Benjamin Franklin*
- 1427 A hero is no braver than an ordinary man, but he is brave five minutes longer.—*Ralph Waldo Emerson*
- 1428 I like Wagner's music better than anybody's; it is so loud, one can talk the whole time without other people hearing what one says.—*Oscar Wilde*
- 1429 He looked at me as if I was a side dish he hadn't ordered.—*Ring Lardner*
- 1430 He has occasional flashes of silence that make his conversation perfectly delightful.—*Sydney Smith*
- 1431 Before I got married I had six theories about bringing up children; now I have six children, and no theories.—*John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester*
- 1432 A little learning is not a dangerous thing to one who does not mistake it for a great deal.—*William Allen White*
- 1433 He knew the precise psychological moment when to say nothing.—*Oscar Wilde*
- 1434 Children have more need of models than of critics.—*Joseph Joubert*

- 1435 There is no wealth but life.—*John Ruskin*
- 1436 It is in the ability to deceive oneself.—*Anatole France*
- 1437 If men are so wicked with religion, what shall we do with goodness?—*Benjamin Franklin*
- 1438 Fame is proof that the people are stupid.—*Benjamin Franklin*
- 1439 No man has a good enough name to live with.—*Abraham Lincoln*
- 1440 A sophisticated rhetorician, inebrated by the power of his own verbosity.—*Benjamin Disraeli*
- 1441 If fifty million people say a fool is a fool, he is a fool.—*Anatole France*
- 1442 A jury consists of twelve persons who have never been asked a question by a lawyer.—*Robert Frost*
- 1443 He must have had a magnificent career of its own.—*Margaret Halsey*
- 1444 The rooster makes more racket than he is worth.—*Chandler Harris*
- 1445 Actors are the only honest hypocrites.—*Robert Benchley*
- 1446 It usually takes me more than an hour to get up to my promptu speech.—*Mark Twain*
- 1447 God often visits us, but most of us don't see him.—*Roux*
- 1448 In America there are two classes of children.—*Robert Benchley*
- 1449 I do not mind lying, but I hate to be lied to.—*Robert Benchley*
- 1450 I wish he would explain his experience.—*Robert Benchley*
- 1451 Experience is the best of schoolmasters.—*Thomas Carlyle*
- 1452 In France we leave unmolested those who sound the alarm.—*Robert Benchley*

Davis/Martin  
Sept. 14, 1989  
Draft: Two  
Title: Hero

**PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: YOUNG AMERICAN MEDAL, ROSE GARDEN  
Thursday/11:20 a.m./Sept. 21, 1989**

CIA Director?

((Acknowledgements)) Attorney-General Thornburgh -- Dick --  
Director Sessions and my young friends. Welcome to the White  
House. It will be my honor to bestow, in just a moment, the  
Young American Medal for Bravery; and the Young American Medal  
for Service.

A great writer, I believe it was Emerson, said that a hero  
is no braver than anyone else; only brave for five minutes  
longer. Two young people with us today know these minutes of  
bravery// minutes where terrible events seem to occur in slow  
motion// minutes facing death and challenging eternity.

One of the recipients of a Young American Medal for Bravery  
is twelve years old. She is Angela Marie Campanoli ((Camp-PAN-  
no-lee)), and she attends the ((grade)) at ((school)) in  
Washington State. Angela, her mother Yvonne, her brother Bryan,  
and a friend, were at the beach in Maui on October fifth, 1988.  
Three Japanese tourists -- a man, his wife and their little boy -  
- were also at that same beach, that same day.

The Japanese child got caught in a current, and started to  
panic. His parents, seeing this, dashed into the rough surf to  
rescue him. Others got to the child first. But the mother was  
dragged by a relentless current, out to sea. Angela quickly dove

Yvonne +  
Denise

206-  
438-  
1371  
Lacy  
WA

7th  
Hylan (A - Len) Jr. High

in, swam to the woman, and held her head above water. Her brother, Bryan, was also right there. And together, Bryan and Angela brought the woman back to shore. Back to her family. Back to her life.

((Look to Angela)) Angela, there is a family in Japan that will always remember what you did for them. And in turn, we want you to always remember this ceremony. I cannot cut these flowers and offer them to you. But I want you to know, Angela, that today every flower in this Rose Garden **is for you**. ((PAUSE))

In California, a different kind of tragedy almost occurred. On April twenty-sixth, 1988, a student armed with an assault rifle walked into the English class of San Gabriel High School; and seventy students suddenly became seventy hostages. One of them is with us today. He is Ruben Ortega.

→ kind of  
Daewoo  
K2  
semi-  
automatic

Ruben waited, watching for the right moment. After more than half an hour, the assailant relaxed for just an instant. And in that instant, Ruben threw his life into the balance. Ruben disarmed the gunman, wrestled him to the ground -- and kept him down until the police arrived.

((Look to Ruben.)) Ruben, I don't mean to embarrass you -- but you are a true American hero. You remind me of a few guys I had the privilege of serving with in the war. And though we are not at war today, this country will always be safe because of young men like you. (PAUSE))

When I was Ruben's age, Will Rogers said that being a hero is about the shortest-lived profession on earth.// But Will

Steve Higgins  
223-caliber  
Korean-made ATF in CA  
assault rifle  
K1 or  
K2

Roger's wry humor is belied by his biography, a man who lightened the worries of the Great Depression with laughter and goodwill.

So for some, bringing hope and even saving lives is not a matter of minutes. It's a matter of months and years of giving. It's a habit, a habit of the heart. And that is why we give the Young American Medal for Service.

We have with us Freddy Torres of East Boston High School. At age 18, Freddy spent countless hours as a peer leader, inspiring hundreds of young people to stay away from drugs and learn about the dangers of AIDS. And Freddy went beyond the classroom, taking his message where it is needed most -- to the streets.

I have said that from now on, in America, any definition of a successful life must include service to other. By this definition, John Philip Donovan of River Vale, New Jersey, is about as successful as you can be. Last year, when he was 17, John served his community in many ways: As a leader of a Boy Scout Troop with learning and other disabled Scouts as members; as a fund-raiser for Muscular Dystrophy, bringing in sixty-five hundred dollars; as a leader of Students-Against-Drunk-Driving, and many other activities.

These services may not be as dramatic as pulling someone from the surf, or subduing a gunman. But Freddy and John know something very profound -- that in the daily accumulation of small acts of kindness, lives can be saved.

Let me offer one last thought. We see on the news and in the movies how a few young people go bad. But perhaps we've lost sight of the vast majority of young Americans who are doing their best to better this world. So for those who worry about the future, perhaps they should consider these four young Americans. You and I know that in the future, our country will be in good hands, because it will be in **their** hands.

And now, it is my honor -- Angela, Ruben, Freddy and John -- to present you with your Young American medals.

# # #

Fox  
Ewuch  
Banton  
1988  
9-10-89  
total 7 kids  
combined for  
'87-'88

Tina

**ADDRESS: YOUNG AMERICAN MEDAL, ROOM 450 OE0B  
THURSDAY/11:30 A.M./SEPT. 21, 1989**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL THORNBURGH -- DICK -- DIRECTOR  
STANLEY MORRIS -- DIRECTOR SESSIONS -- BILL -- DAVID  
RUNKEL, AND ESPECIALLY YOU MEDAL WINNERS. WELCOME TO  
THE WHITE HOUSE. IT WILL BE MY HONOR TO BESTOW, IN  
JUST A MOMENT, THE YOUNG AMERICAN MEDAL FOR BRAVERY;  
AND THE YOUNG AMERICAN MEDAL FOR SERVICE, FOR 1987 AND  
1988.**

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- 2 -

**A GREAT WRITER, I BELIEVE IT WAS EMERSON, SAID THAT  
A HERO IS NO BRAVER THAN ANYONE ELSE; ONLY BRAVE FOR  
FIVE MINUTES LONGER. TWO YOUNG PEOPLE WITH US TODAY  
KNOW THESE MINUTES OF BRAVERY, MINUTES WHERE TERRIBLE  
EVENTS SEEM TO OCCUR IN SLOW MOTION, MINUTES FACING  
DEATH AND CHALLENGING ETERNITY.**

ONE OF THE RECIPIENTS OF A YOUNG AMERICAN MEDAL FOR BRAVERY IS TWELVE YEARS OLD. SHE IS ANGELA MARIE CAMPANOLI ((CAMP-PA-NO-LEE)), AND SHE ATTENDS THE 7TH GRADE AT AYLEN ((A-LYNN)) JUNIOR HIGH IN WASHINGTON STATE. ANGELA, HER MOTHER YVONNE, HER BROTHER BRYAN, AND A FRIEND, WERE AT THE BEACH IN MAUI ON OCTOBER FIFTH, 1988. THREE JAPANESE TOURISTS -- A MAN, HIS WIFE AND THEIR LITTLE BOY -- WERE ALSO AT THAT SAME BEACH, THAT SAME DAY.

THE JAPANESE CHILD GOT CAUGHT IN A CURRENT, AND STARTED TO PANIC. HIS PARENTS, SEEING THIS, DASHED INTO THE ROUGH SURF TO RESCUE HIM. OTHERS GOT TO THE CHILD FIRST. BUT THE MOTHER WAS DRAGGED BY A RELENTLESS CURRENT, OUT TO SEA. ANGELA QUICKLY DOVE IN, SWAM TO THE WOMAN, AND HELD HER HEAD ABOVE WATER. HER BROTHER, BRYAN, WAS ALSO RIGHT THERE. AND TOGETHER, BRYAN AND ANGELA BROUGHT THE WOMAN BACK TO SHORE. BACK TO HER FAMILY. BACK TO HER LIFE.

- 5 -

WE ARE ALSO HERE TO HONOR THE LATE JOHN BANKSTON OF DALLAS. ON JULY 17, 1987, A CHURCH BUS AND A VAN CARRYING 43 PEOPLE FROM A CHILDREN'S CAMP WERE SWEEPED INTO THE CURRENTS OF THE GUADALUPE RIVER IN KERR COUNTY, TEXAS. POUNDING WAVES SCATTERED THE GROUP AND TOPPLED THE BUS AND VAN.

- 6 -

THE YOUNGSTERS WHO SURVIVED CLUNG TO BRANCHES AND FORMED A HUMAN CHAIN TO CROSS THE RIVER. ONE OF THEM WAS JEFF BOWMAN, WHO HAD A CAST ON HIS LEG FROM A BROKEN ANKLE. JOHN CARRIED JEFF ON HIS BACK FOR TWO HOURS, UNTIL THEY REACHED A TREE. JEFF LET GO AND GRABBED A LOG THAT WAS FLOATING DOWNSTREAM. JOHN CLUNG TO THE TREE, AND WAS NEVER SEEN AGAIN. HE WAS 17-YEARS-OLD.

ROSIE, JOHN, WE KNOW THAT A PARENT'S GRIEF IS A SPECIAL  
HARDSHIP. BUT WE HOPE THAT YOUR GRIEF IS TEMPERED BY  
PRIDE, PRIDE IN YOUR HERO, YOUR SON JOHN. ((PAUSE))

IN CALIFORNIA, A DIFFERENT KIND OF TRAGEDY ALMOST  
OCCURRED. ON APRIL TWENTY-SIXTH, 1988, AN ARMED  
STUDENT WALKED INTO THE ENGLISH CLASS OF SAN GABRIEL  
HIGH SCHOOL; AND SEVENTY STUDENTS SUDDENLY BECAME  
SEVENTY HOSTAGES. ONE OF THEM IS WITH US TODAY. HE IS  
RUBEN ORTEGA.

THIS YOUNG MAN THREW HIS LIFE INTO THE BALANCE. AND  
BECAUSE OF HIS BRAVERY, HIS CLASSMATES ARE SAFE AND  
WELL TODAY.

WHEN I WAS RUBEN'S AGE, WILL ROGERS SAID THAT BEING  
A HERO IS ABOUT THE SHORTEST-LIVED PROFESSION ON EARTH.  
BUT WILL ROGER'S WRY HUMOR IS BELIED BY HIS OWN LIFE, A  
MAN WHO LIGHTENED THE WORRIES OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION  
WITH LAUGHTER AND GOODWILL.

SO FOR SOME, BRINGING HOPE AND EVEN SAVING LIVES IS NOT A MATTER OF MINUTES. IT'S A MATTER OF MONTHS AND YEARS OF GIVING. IT'S A HABIT, A HABIT OF THE HEART. AND THAT IS WHY WE GIVE THE YOUNG AMERICAN MEDAL FOR SERVICE.

WE HAVE WITH US FREDDY TORRES OF EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL. AT AGE 18, FREDDY SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS AS A PEER LEADER, INSPIRING HUNDREDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO STAY AWAY FROM DRUGS AND LEARN ABOUT THE DANGERS OF AIDS.

AND FREDDY WENT BEYOND THE CLASSROOM, TAKING HIS MESSAGE WHERE IT IS NEEDED MOST -- TO THE STREETS. IT WAS OUT OF CLASS THAT FREDDY PERSUADED YOUNG PEOPLE, OFTEN DROP-OUTS, TO ENLIST IN DRUG AND AIDS PREVENTION PROGRAMS.

I HAVE SAID THAT FROM NOW ON, IN AMERICA, ANY DEFINITION OF A SUCCESSFUL LIFE MUST INCLUDE SERVICE TO OTHERS.

- 11 -

BY THIS DEFINITION, JOHN PHILIP DONOVAN OF RIVER VALE, NEW JERSEY, IS ABOUT AS SUCCESSFUL AS YOU CAN BE. LAST YEAR, WHEN HE WAS 17, JOHN SERVED HIS COMMUNITY IN MANY WAYS: AS A LEADER OF A BOY SCOUT TROOP WITH LEARNING AND OTHER DISABLED SCOUTS AS MEMBERS; AS A FUND-RAISER FOR MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY, BRINGING IN SIXTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS; AS A LEADER OF STUDENTS-AGAINST-DRUNK-DRIVING, AND MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES.

- 12 -

SEAN FOX OF ETHEL, WASHINGTON, IS ANOTHER YOUNG AMERICAN WHO CARES ENOUGH TO ACT. HE ORGANIZED A FOOD BANK FOR TOLEDO, WASHINGTON; AND INVOLVED HIS PARENTS, MAYOR, SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AND OTHER COMMUNITY LEADERS IN THE DRIVE. BECAUSE OF SEAN'S WORK, THE FOOD BANK SERVES MORE THAN EIGHTY FAMILIES IN NEED.

- 13 -

VICKI LYNN URICK ((YOUR-ICH)) OF ALVIN, TEXAS, HAS DEDICATED HER EFFORTS TO CLEANING UP LOCAL BEACHES AND RESTORING DUNES ALONG THE TEXAS COAST. SHE ALSO STARTED A NATIONWIDE ALUMINUM CAN DRIVE TO RESTORE THE BATTLESHIP TEXAS, AND HAS BEEN A LEADER IN MANY OTHER PROJECTS.

- 14 -

THESE SERVICES MAY NOT BE AS DRAMATIC AS PULLING SOMEONE FROM THE SURF, OR SUBDUING A GUNMAN. BUT FREDDY, JOHN, SEAN AND VICKI KNOW SOMETHING VERY PROFOUND -- THAT IT IS IN THE DAILY ACCUMULATION OF SMALL ACTS OF KINDNESS, THAT LIFE CAN BE IMPROVED. AND OFTEN, LIVES CAN BE SAVED.

LET ME OFFER ONE LAST THOUGHT. SOMETIMES WE LOSE SIGHT OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF YOUNG AMERICANS WHO ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO BETTER THIS WORLD.

- 15 -

SO FOR THOSE WHO WORRY ABOUT THE FUTURE, PERHAPS THEY SHOULD CONSIDER THESE YOUNG AMERICANS. YOU AND I KNOW THAT IN THE FUTURE, OUR COUNTRY WILL BE IN GOOD HANDS, BECAUSE IT WILL BE IN THEIR HANDS.

AND NOW, IT IS MY HONOR TO PRESENT ALL OF YOU WITH YOUR YOUNG AMERICAN MEDALS.

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