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VFW

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

3/4

When I asked my scheduler what day I was going to speak to the VFW, she said "March 4th." I said, "Don't order me around like that. I just asked what day it was."

OR
We're meeting on ^{the day that the Army dreads} ~~what those~~ all year ^{long}
~~in the military Army consider~~
~~the worst day of the year:~~
March Fourth.

Room 450
3
Cheng, Jinsong, Dennis
1

Thank you for your support

and invite meeting of

AL. vfw DAV

State Leadership

about 150

1:45 pm

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 1, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST *DD*

FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*

SUBJECT: REMARKS FOR VETERANS BRIEFING

I. SUMMARY

On Monday, March 4, at 1:45 p.m., you will drop by a briefing for veterans in Room 450.

II. DISCUSSION

The audience of 180 members of various veterans organizations will have already been briefed by Secretaries Derwinski and Cheney, and Gen. Scowcroft.

The remarks (5 minutes, on cards) thank veterans for their strong support before and during the war.

Grant/Simon
March 1, 1991
3 p.m. / A:VETERANS

**PRESIDENTIAL DROP-BY: VETERANS BRIEFING
ROOM 450 E.O.B.
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 1991
1:45 P.M.**

((Thank you, very much, for such a warm welcome ... I understand you've been briefed by Secretary Cheney and General Scowcroft, as well as our very able Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Ed Derwinski -- and what a tremendous job he's doing. // I'm glad to see the familiar faces from America's largest veterans groups -- the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion, and our other veterans organizations. Welcome, again, to the White House.))

((You know, when I asked Governor Sununu what day I was going to speak to the veterans, he said, "March fourth." /// I replied, "Don't order me around like that. I just asked what day it was." /// Obviously an Army joke. ///))

I want to begin by giving credit where credit is due. From the day that Saddam Hussein first invaded Kuwait, America's veterans stood rock-solid behind our troops. You understood what was at stake: **the rule of law and the cause of freedom.** You understood that when the forces of aggression arise, **America must stand ready to do the hard work of freedom.**

You understood because you've been there. And you know how important the support of the folks back home is to our troops. **Our brave men and women are coming home soon -- home to the**

respect and gratitude of the American people. // And let me tell you -- they've earned it. //

I want all of our troops back as soon as possible, every last one of them. We are demanding that Iraq release all coalition prisoners of war immediately. // We will hold Iraq accountable for all soldiers missing in action, and Iraq must release the remains of all who have fallen. // We are here today to ensure that our nation always remembers those who defended her -- the heroic men and women who stood where duty required them to stand. //

This has been a triumph for the 28 nations united against aggression. But as I said in my address to the nation the final night of Kuwait's liberation, this is not a time to gloat or brag. It's a time to be proud -- proud of our troops, proud of our friends who stood with us, and proud of our people. Their strength and perseverance ensured that our success was as certain as our cause was true.

We owe it to our veterans that they return to an America confident and full of promise. The hard work of freedom awaits us -- but the American people are up to the job, as they have always been. Let me close with the words of Abraham Lincoln, who spoke to the nation on this very day in 1865, at the end of a devastating civil war:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's

wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

Those words, inscribed on the marble of the memorial which bears his name, were from President Lincoln's Second Inaugural. They were a fitting call to honor the nation's veterans.

God bless our valiant soldiers, those who have risked their lives and those who have sacrificed their lives -- may we hold their memory sacred forever. And may God bless the United States of America.

#



VIVIENNE

LINCOLN MEMORIAL captures in marble the nobility of spirit associated with President Abraham Lincoln. A symbol of liberty and justice, the memorial is frequently chosen as a site for rallies and demonstrations by groups gathering in Washington.

LINCOLN MEMORIAL, a monumental structure commemorating President Abraham Lincoln, situated in West Potomac Park, Washington, D. C. On the main east-west axis of the city in direct line with the Capitol and the Washington Monument, it was completed in 1922.

The memorial, designed by Henry Bacon, resembles a classic Greek temple. The exterior, of white Colorado marble, is an impressive colonnade 189 feet long and 118 $\frac{2}{3}$ feet wide (58 x 36 meters), consisting of 36 Doric columns representing the states in the Union at the time of Lincoln's death, together with two columns at the entrance. On a frieze above the colonnade appear the names of these states, and on the attic walls above are the names of the 48 states when the memorial was dedicated.

LINCOLN'S STATUE, the work of Daniel C. French, is in the central chamber of the memorial.

LOUIS H. FROHMAN



The interior is divided into 3 chambers by Ionic columns, each 50 feet high and 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter at the base (15 x 17 meters). Dominating all, in the central chamber, is a 19-foot (5.8 meter) statue of Lincoln seated in an attitude of contemplation, executed by Daniel Chester French in white Georgia marble. In the two side chambers, carved on massive stone tablets are the texts of the Gettysburg Address and Lincoln's second inaugural address. Two mural paintings by Jules Guérin on the north and south walls above the tablets allegorically illustrate principles suggested by Lincoln's life: justice, liberty, immortality, fraternity, unity, and charity.

The memorial grounds were planned to harmonize with the building and surrounding structures. To the east, bordered by stately English elms, a reflecting pool mirrors the memorial on one side and the Washington Monument on the other. Visitors to the Lincoln Memorial derive an impression of solemn dignity and nobility associated with the memory of Abraham Lincoln.

The planning commission to establish a memorial to the slain Civil War president was created by an act of Congress on Feb. 9, 1911. The chief congressional advocate, Sen. Shelby M. Cullom of Illinois, served on the commission. The commission's recommendations for the memorial were approved by Congress on Jan. 24, 1913. Ground was broken on Feb. 12, 1914, and the memorial was dedicated on May 30, 1922.

VINCENT L. EATON

Former Chief Editor, Library of Congress

LINCOLN PARK, a city in southeastern Michigan, in Wayne county, is on the Ecorse River immediately southwest of Detroit, of which it is a residential suburb. The city is 10 miles (16 km) from the Detroit Civic Center. Many of Lincoln Park's residents commute to employment in the Detroit metropolitan area. There are a few small machine shops in Lincoln Park.

Within the city limits is Council Point, which overlooks the Ecorse River. This was the meeting place on April 27, 1763, of the Indian council at which the Ottawa Indian chief Pontiac made plans to capture Detroit from the British. The council was the start of Pontiac's War.

Lincoln Park was incorporated as a village in 1921 and as a city in 1925. It has a mayor-council form of government. Population: 45,108.

JAMES E. SCHAFFER

Lincoln Park Public Library

SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1865

Weeks of wet weather preceding Lincoln's second inauguration had caused Pennsylvania Avenue to become a sea of mud and standing water. Thousands of spectators stood in thick mud at the Capitol grounds to hear the President. As he stood on the East Portico to take the executive oath, the completed Capitol dome over the President's head was a physical reminder of the resolve of his Administration throughout the years of civil war. Chief Justice Salmon Chase administered the oath of office. In little more than a month, the President would be assassinated.

Yellow-Countrymen:

At this second appearing to take the oath of the Presidential office there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then a statement somewhat in detail of a course to be pursued seemed fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration of four years, during which public declarations have been constantly called forth on every point and phase of the great contest which still absorbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation, little that is new could be presented. The progress of our arms, upon which all else chiefly depends, is as well known to the public as to myself, and it is, I trust, reasonably satisfactory and encouraging to all. With high hope for the future, no prediction in regard to it is ventured.

On the occasion corresponding to this four years ago all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending civil war. All regarded it, all sought to avert it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to *saving* the Union without war, urgent agents were in the city seeking to *destroy* it without war—seeking to dissolve the Union and divide effects by negotiation. Both parties deprecated war, but one of them would *make* war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would *accept* war rather than let it perish, and the war came.

One-eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the southern

part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was somehow the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpetuate, and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union even by war, while the Government claimed no right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it. Neither party expected for the war the magnitude or the duration which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the *cause* of the conflict might cease with or even before the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph, and a result less fundamental and astounding. Both read the same Bible and pray to the same God, and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces, but let us judge not, that we be not judged. The prayers of both could not be answered. That of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes. "Woe unto the world because of offenses; for it must needs be that offenses come, but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh." If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offenses which, in the providence of God, must needs come, but which, having continued through His appointed time, He now wills to remove, and that He gives to both North and South this terrible war as the woe due to those by whom the offense came, shall we discern therein any departure from those divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to Him? Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said "the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

Grant/Simon
March 1, 1991
8 a.m. / A:VETERANS

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speech
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Encyclopedic Americans

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