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Folder Title:
World War II 50th Anniversary Video 11/19/91 [OA 8319]

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G	26	21	7	7

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

31 OCT 18 P5:49
October 10, 1991

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

TO: KATHERINE L. SUPER
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

THROUGH: DAVID F. DEMAREST, JR.
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: LEIGH ANN METZGER *lam*
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR PUBLIC LIAISON

WM. B. CALDWELL *wbc*
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

REQUEST: For the President to video-tape a message that can be used by any organization involved in the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary events associated with World War II (WW II).

PURPOSE: To provide a medium for all organizations to involve the POTUS in the initiation of their 50th Anniversary events.

BACKGROUND: To provide a national recognition, by the POTUS, of the commencement of the four year commemorative period recognizing the 50th Anniversary of WW II. It would also honor the veterans and their families.

The POTUS message would provide the necessary momentum and focus national attention on the events associated with the commemoration of WW II. The address could emphasize this period is an opportunity for all Americans to get involved.

The POTUS message could emphasize the commemorative period as an educational opportunity to study the events and lessons of the war, and the sacrifices made by the American people.

The POTUS is scheduled to participate in one, possibly two, network shows on this period. However, these are not being done for use by the general public.

3 pages

2

DATE: Early November

DURATION: 5-10 minutes

LOCATION: Oval Office

PARTICIPANTS: The President

REMARKS: Script to be provided by speechwriters

MEDIA

COVERAGE: Taped address to be made available after 17 November
to the general public.

Too long! Cut a
page. (Rogich)

Simon
Nov. 18, 1991
Draft 1 (WWII.VID)

PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II
ROOM 459
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1991

Fifty years ago, in a moment frozen in the memory of all who were alive, the peace of a Sunday morning was shattered and America was at war. World War II stands as a dividing line in our history. In some ways, it still defines ^{we (Nsc)} who are, and what we stand for as a Nation.

Over the next four years, Americans will observe various anniversaries involving World War II. We will honor the military giants who mobilized the forces -- Marshall, King, Arnold -- and the commanders who led our warriors across the battlefields of Europe and the Pacific: Eisenhower, ^{Bradley (Vets)} Patton, Nimitz, Doolittle, Halsey, MacArthur.
↳ universal hero to WWII soldiers

But most of all, we will honor the courageous citizen-soldiers ^{every (omb)} ~~(from race, creed, and walk of life)~~ ^{we (Nsc)} who defended freedom in its hour of peril: the sailor firing an anti-aircraft gun at Pearl Harbor, the marine splashing ashore onto the bloody sands of Guadalcanal, the airborne rifleman who dropped into the night sky over Normandy, the airman who braved the skies plunging deep into enemy territory, the Coast Guardsmen and merchant seamen who kept the vital cargo moving through dangerous sea-lanes, and the defense workers who pounded out the products that made America the "arsenal of democracy." Fifty years later, the memorial to World War II veterans is all around us: an America strong and free, ^{and} ~~her proud example~~ ^{brightly lighting} the way to liberty ^{for} all nations. (Rogich)

America has always held a special place in history. In fighting to preserve our own democracy, we've sought to extend the blessings of liberty throughout the world. Never in human history have freedom, democracy, and basic human rights been so widely enjoyed. In perhaps our most stirring achievement, even our enemies in World War II have adopted these ideals and now number among our staunchest allies. That proud legacy is shared by all Americans.

Those of us who remember World War II must pass on what we learned to our grandchildren. Never again will America be unprepared. Never again will we appease an aggressor who threatens our vital interests. Never again will we isolate ourselves and pretend the rest of the world's problems don't affect us. America must continue to lead. Our most important strength is not military or economic. It's moral power -- and *(Peters)* the world needs our moral leadership now more than ever.

The United States will always be a force for peace. But the peace we seek is a real peace -- not merely the absence of war, but the triumph of freedom. During these four years of commemoration, let us rededicate ourselves to the principles for which our veterans so valiantly fought. Let us extend the hand of gratitude to those whose suffering and sacrifice made victory certain. And let us resolve that when the final history is written, the Second World War will become known \ as the Last World War.

It's tempting to echo Churchill and say World War II was

America's "finest hour." \ But we know, just as we knew during
the darkest days of 1942, that America's best days lie ahead of
us. And may God continue to bless America -- ~~freedom's~~ ^{the} home of

#

the free +
brave.

MEMORANDUM OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO:

Bob

YOU WERE CALLED BY- YOU WERE VISITED BY-

Col. Tom Baker

OF (Organization)

WWII Comm. Committee

PLEASE PHONE FTS AUTOVON

202-653-1016

WILL CALL AGAIN IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

delete: #3 "soldiers"

in the sent -> but most of all...

RECEIVED BY

CBA

DATE

11/19

TIME

6:40

63-110 NSN 7540-00-634-4018
★ U.S. GPO: 1987-181-246/40025

STANDARD FORM 63 (Rev. 8-81)
Prescribed by GSA
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

To Bob

Date 11/19 Time 10:50

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Col. Tom Baker

of WWII Memorial

Phone 653-1016

Area Code	Number	Extension
TELEPHONED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PLEASE CALL
CALLED TO SEE YOU		WILL CALL AGAIN
WANTS TO SEE YOU		URGENT

RETURNED YOUR CALL

Message * Col. Ron Green

at Pentagon

(703) 697-4670

-> Baker called to make sure you get all info you need - but call Col. Green for info. Please

Operator

AMPAD EFFICIENCY®

23-021 CARBONLESS

Simon
Nov. 18, 1991
Draft 1 (WWII.VID)

PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II
ROOM 459
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1991

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Over the next four years, Americans will observe various anniversaries involving World War II. We will honor the military giants who mobilized the forces -- Marshall, King, Arnold -- and the commanders who led our warriors across the battlefields of Europe and the Pacific: Eisenhower, Patton, Nimitz, Doolittle, Halsey, MacArthur.

But most of all, we will honor the courageous citizen-soldiers from race, creed, and walk of life who defended freedom in its hour of peril: the sailor firing an anti-aircraft gun at Pearl Harbor, the marine splashing ashore onto the bloody sands of Guadalcanal, the airborne rifleman who dropped into the night sky over Normandy, the airman who braved the skies plunging deep into enemy territory, the Coast Guardsmen and merchant seamen who kept the vital cargo moving through dangerous sea-lanes, and the defense workers who pounded out the products that made America the "arsenal of democracy." Fifty years later, the memorial to World War II veterans is all around us: an America strong and free, her proud example lighting the way to liberty.

America has always held a special place in history. In fighting to preserve our own democracy, we've sought to extend the blessings of liberty throughout the world. Never in human history have freedom, democracy, and basic human rights been so widely enjoyed. In perhaps our most stirring achievement, even our enemies in World War II have adopted these ideals and now number among our staunchest allies. That proud legacy is shared by all Americans.

Those of us who remember World War II must pass on what we learned to our grandchildren. Never again will America be unprepared. Never again will we appease an aggressor who threatens our vital interests. Never again will we isolate ourselves and pretend the rest of the world's problems don't affect us. America must continue to lead. Our most important strength is not military or economic. It's moral power -- and the world needs our moral leadership now more than ever.

The United States will always be a force for peace. But the peace we seek is a real peace -- not merely the absence of war, but the triumph of freedom. During these four years of commemoration, let us rededicate ourselves to the principles for which our veterans so valiantly fought. Let us extend the hand of gratitude to those whose suffering and sacrifice made victory certain. And let us resolve that when the final history is written, the Second World War will become known \ as the Last World War.

It's tempting to echo Churchill and say World War II was

America's "finest hour." \ But we know, just as we knew during the darkest days of 1942, that America's best days lie ahead of us. And may God continue to bless America -- freedom's home.

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Simon
Nov. 19, 1991
Draft 2 (WWII.2)

PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II
ROOM 459
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1991

Fifty years ago, on December 7th, the peace of a Sunday morning was shattered and America was at war. World War II stands as a dividing line in our history. In some ways, it still defines who we are, and what we stand for as a Nation.

Over the next four years, Americans will gather to observe the various anniversaries of the war. I've asked the Secretary of Defense ^{to establish a committee} to help coordinate these events and I urge all ^{Americans} civic and veterans ^{organizations} groups to join in the remembrances.

We will honor the military giants who mobilized the forces and led them across the battlefields of Europe and the Pacific. But most of all, we will honor the courageous citizen-soldiers from every race, creed, and walk of life, who defended liberty in its hour of peril. And we will remember those on the homefront -- the workers who turned America into the "arsenal of democracy." Fifty years later, the memorial to World War II veterans is all around us: an America strong and free, her proud example lighting the way to liberty.

Those of us who remember World War II must pass on what we learned to our grandchildren. Never again will America be unprepared. Never again will we appease an aggressor who threatens our vital interests. Never again will we isolate ourselves and pretend the rest of the world's problems don't affect us. America must continue to lead. Our most important

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The United States will always be a force for peace. But the peace we seek is a real peace -- not merely the absence of war, but the triumph of freedom. During these four years of commemoration, let us rededicate ourselves to the principles for which our veterans so valiantly fought. Let us extend gratitude to those whose suffering and sacrifice made victory certain. And let us resolve that when the final history is written, the Second World War will become known \ as the Last World War.

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Col. Tom Barber 703-697-4670
4673

Fifty years ago, in World War II, our nation was engaged in a noble crusade to preserve for ourselves and our children the blessing of freedom, justice, and human dignity. Today, as we reflect back on that violent struggle, we should remember with profound gratitude the millions of veterans who fought around the globe and the countless workers who toiled on the home front. Americans of every race rallied to that splendid cause bravely and selflessly. Their sacrifices day after day, and those of their families, led the way to victory.

In this spirit of remembrance, I have asked Secretary of Defense Cheney to establish a World War II Commemoration Committee to coordinate a series of memorial programs, beginning with the anniversary of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1991, and ending on Veterans Day on November 11, 1995. During these four years, Americans will have a chance to express their appreciation to those brave patriots; we will hold in special remembrance those who gave their last full measure of devotion to America. I urge all Americans, as individuals and as members of civic, fraternal, educational, and religious organizations, to join in this effort.

In these four years, we will honor the commanders-in-chief, Presidents Roosevelt and Truman, who guided the nation in those dark hours when the lights went out all over the world. We will honor the military giants who mobilized the forces--Marshall, King, Arnold--and the commanders who led our warriors across the battlefields of Europe and the Pacific--Eisenhower, Patton, Nimitz, *Baradley* MacArthur, *LeMay*. Their names will forever brighten the pages of American history. *Halsey* *Doolittle*

But most of all we will honor the courageous citizen-soldiers from every corner of America who were the ultimate victors in that bitter and costly conflict. We will honor the sailor who manned an anti-aircraft gun in the desparate battle of Pearl Harbor, the airborne rifleman who dropped from the night sky into Normandy, the marine who stormed ashore onto the black and bloody sands of Iwo Jima, the airman who carried the battle deep behind the enemy's lines everywhere, and the Coast Guardsman and the Merchant Mariner who sustained the vital sea-bridge across the Atlantic in the face of enemy attacks and savage storms.

We will honor Willie and Joe, the grunts immortalized by Bill Mauldin, who were the true forgers of the victory, the real defenders of our freedom and their own. Their names may not make it into the history books--but we know who they are.

(Here I would respectfully urge the President to interject a paragraph recalling his own role in the war, particularly on being shot down, and perhaps share his deepest thoughts and emotions on that experience.)

We Americans have a duty to learn from World War II. The legacies of that crusade are timeless. Never again will we be caught unprepared; never again will we appease an aggressor who threatens America's vital interests; never again will we return to what the historian Richard Ketchum calls the borrowed years, when we innocently believed that troubles elsewhere would somehow pass us by.

Drawing on the wisdom derived from World War II, America will seek to deter the eruption of hostilities. But if deterrence fails, let the aggressor be aware that principal among the legacies of World War II is our certain belief that freedom is not free and cannot be taken for granted. Let him understand that while we know from experience that war is terrible, we also believe that there are ideals for which we will fight and die.

During these four years of commemoration, then, let us rededicate ourselves to the principles of freedom, justice, and human dignity for which our veterans fought so valiantly. Let us together extend the hand of gratitude to veterans everywhere for their sacrifices and suffering, as well as for their valor. As this message reverberates across the nation, and around the world, let us resolve that the tremendous sacrifices of the World War II generation will not have been in vain.

May God bless our veterans and their families and may God bless America.

Vid RAVDIN
(703) 697-8191