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# FOIA MARKER

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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Backup Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**OA/ID Number:** 13782  
**Folder ID Number:** 13782-003

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**Folder Title:**  
Turkey Presentation 11/20/91 [OA 8312]

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>

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## ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF THANKSGIVING TURKEY

### EVENT BACKGROUND

- 1) According to Eddie Aldrete, this event will be the 43rd annual presentation of the live turkey.
- 2) 20 people from the National Turkey Federation will attend, including the Federation's president: Wyatt Upchurch. Traditionally, the bird comes from the home state of the Federation's president, in this case: North Carolina. The state also happens to be the country's largest turkey producer (depending on N.C. elections returns, there might be a joke in this). If N.C. were a country, it'd be the largest turkey producing country in the world--second only to the United States. N.C. grows about 52 million birds a year..about as turkeys consumed on Thanksgiving Day alone.
- 3) Usually, the presented turkeys average about 50 pounds each.
- 4) Take care on jokes that might be seen as too sympathetic to the turkeys--you will be quoted by the animal rights crazies.

### HISTORY

- 1) January 26, 1784: A rather upset Ben Franklin wrote his daughter, "I wish the Bald Eagle had not been chosen as the Representative of our Country; he is a bird of bad moral character...The Turkey is a much more respectable Bird, and withal a true original Native of America."
- 2) The first Thanksgiving Proclamation was made by Governor Bradford three years after the Pilgrims settled at Plymouth:

"To all ye Pilgrims:

"Inasmuch as the great Father has given us this year an abundant harvest of Indian corn, wheat, peas, beans, squashes, and garden vegetables, and has made the forests to abound with game and the sea with fish and clams, and inasmuch as he has protected us from the ravages of the savages, has spared us from pestilence and disease, has granted us freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience; now I, your magistrate, do proclaim that all yea Pilgrims, with your wives and ye little ones, do gather at ye meeting house, on ye hill, between the hours of 9 and 12 in the day time, on Thursday, November ye 29th, of the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and twenty-three, and the third year since ye Pilgrims landed on ye Pilgrim Rock, there to listen to ye pastor

and render thanksgiving to ye Almighty God for all his blessings. William Bradford, Ye Governor of Ye Colony."

- 3) In 1827, Sarah J. Hale, a magazine editor in Boston, Massachusetts, began a campaign urging the adoption of a uniform day for the observance of Thanksgiving throughout the country. She wrote editorials and personal letters to the governors of all the states and also wrote to the President. Her campaign was eventually successful. On October 3, 1863, President Lincoln issued his first national Thanksgiving Proclamation, setting apart the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving day.
- 4) In 1621 the settlers of Plymouth colony celebrated thier first harvest home with a day of thanksgiving to God for his bounty. The day was primarily a religious one, but inevitably it was also a day of family and social enjoyment. The observance of an annual day of thanksgiving first became general throughout New England. After the Revolution it spread to the Middle States, then to the West. It reached the Southern states after the Civil War. (Kind of the order of the spread of early Republicanism--no?)
- 5) Of the 102 pilgrims who had set sail on the Mayflower the previous autumn, only 51 sat down at the festive board when the first Thanksgiving dinner was held in the New World in 1621. The other 51--exactly half of the original party--lay buried on a nearby hill in unmarked graves, smoothed over in order that the Indians might not count the dreadful losses that had occurred because of disease and privation.
- 6) About 3,000 years before Thanksgiving was observed here in America, God spoke to Moses in the days when the Israelites had just escaped from Egypt. They were having their first experience in the wilderness in the Sinai. The **original proclamation** from God is reported in Exodus 23:16: "Thou shalt keep the feast of harvest, the first fruits of thy labors, which thou has sown in the field: and the feast of in-gathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labors out of the field."

#### JOKES

- 1) Some people get squeamish about raising thier own turkey for Thanksgiving, but not me. One year we bought a live turkey in January. We called him Clarence and all through the year we fed him, took him for walks, played with him. He was just like one of the family--even Millie was getting jealous. But when it came November there was no nonsense about it. We had him for Thanksgiving dinner. He sat on my right.

- 2) Inviting your relatives over for Thanksgiving dinner performs a very useful function. It eliminates loneliness, quiet..and leftovers.
- 3) I have to admit, I have a terrible time carving turkey. I'll tell you how bad it is--one year the turkey's family sued for malpractice.
- 4) It was awfully nice of you folks to bring us these turkeys all the way from North Carolina...but, you know, it really wasn't necessary...we get them sent over from Congress all the time.
- 5) There's an ongoing historical inaccuracy about that first Thanksgiving. History books tell us the Pilgrims ate wild turkeys. That isn't so. The turkeys weren't wild--until they found out what the Pilgrims had in mind.
- 6) A turkey's an old bird that strutted and got caught.
- 7) Mark Twain's comment on Thanksgiving day actually hints at the wholesale slaughter of turkeys that accompanies it, but as usual displays his wit. In Pudd'nhead Wilson's Calendar he writes: "Thanksgiving Day. Let all give humble, hearty, and sincere thanks now, but the turkeys. In the island of Fiji they do not use turkeys: they use plumbers. It does not become you or me to sneer at Fiji."
- 8) Thanksgiving has sometimes been referred to humorously as "Thanksgobble Day."
- 9) POTUS: Thanksgiving is a time of giving thanks. Personally, I am particularly thankful, that as President, I don't have to have brocolli at my Thanksgiving table. I am also thankful that I'm not a turkey.
- 10) POTUS: A couple of years back, we had to staple the poor turkey's feet to the platform. And it's not out of cruelty to animals, as some tried to allege...it was a matter of national security---the bird's security clearance hadn't come through yet.
- 11) POTUS: There was a day when these birds used to be sedated in this kind of ceremony....that of course was before the advent of mandatory drug testing.

#### QUOTES/LINES

- 1) The season of Thanksgiving is customarily the time for counting our blessings and expressing our gratitude to the source of those blessings. I think it is a good exercise for us to do this, for when we count our blessings we become more aware of how fortunate we are in our time and our

place. Today I am going to be the vehicle by which still another blessing will come your way. It is the blessing of brevity, so let me get right to it.

- 2) "A French proverb tells us: 'Gratitude is the heart's memory.' And so it is. For when we are thankful, we are thinking not only of blessings of the immediate present, but also of good things received in the past. Especially is this so at Thanksgiving."

--Esther Burkholder

- 3) "It is good that we should set aside a day in each year for Thanksgiving, but it would be better if we gave thanks every day. For the absence of thankfulness does not mean that we are merely ungrateful--it means that we are missing the thrill of appreciation and pleasure. There seems to me no greater misfortune than having so much that all of it becomes meaningless; than wanting what you haven't, rather than what you have. Seven of the wisest words I know are, 'Only those are rich who desire little.'"

--Channing Pollock

- 4) His heart wrung with anguish over the suffering and death of so many Americans on the battlefields of the Blue and Gray, President Abraham Lincoln still found much to thank Almighty God for in the grim October days of 1863, in a Thanksgiving Day Proclamation that has significance and meaning for all of us today. He said:

"The year that is drawing to its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God..

"Needful diversions of wealth and strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship...Population has steadily increased..

"No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy..

"It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people...by a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens...."

- 5) "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord."  
--Psalms 92:1
- 6) "Heap high the board with plenteous cheer,  
and gather to the feast,  
And toast the sturdy Pilgrim band  
whose courage never ceased."  
--Alice Williams Brotherton, "The First  
Thanksgiving Day."
- 7) "The earth has rolled around again and harvest time is here,  
The glory of the seasons and the crown of all the years."  
--Carolyn Wells, "The Meaning of Thanksgiving  
Day," 1922.

I can understand why tennis is so popular these days. You ever try to leap over a volleyball net?

Tennis is a fascinating game, particularly if you're middle-aged. If there was no such thing as tennis, cardiologists would have had to invent it.

To be a good tennis player, you have to be thin. Really thin. Like, not only can you jump over the net, but through it too!

One of the great medical problems today is tennis elbow. It comes from watching tennis on television with your elbow on a bar.

### THANKSGIVING

It's Thanksgiving. Let's all microfilm our troubles and Xerox our blessings.

The Pilgrims didn't have an easy time of it. Can you imagine eating a meal of turkey, stuffing, gravy, cranberries, corn, cider, squash, rolls, turnips, pumpkin pie, apple pie, mince pie and fruit—when Alka-Seltzer was still three hundred years away?

The Pilgrims were the people who had those guns with the barrel that looked like a lily. They were called "cold tablet" guns. You pulled the trigger and the bullet could go four ways.

If you're ever feeling unloved, unwanted and unnoticed—just imagine how the celery feels at a Thanksgiving dinner.

Thanksgiving dinner is a very time-consuming event. It takes an hour to eat; a day to cook; a week to arrange; and a few months to pay for.

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ball game, and I told  
time with a question  
!  
ast night. The emcee  
Washington stand up  
rst, this message from

WS

f us into Quakers. I  
lock News, the Six  
News. I keep hoping  
vil—and you'll never  
'Clock News.  
w come just enough  
k News?  
  
out "Fifteen-Love"  
  
when he found out



You don't know what fear is until you've invited twenty-five people over for Thanksgiving dinner and your wife is making it from a mix!

I knew we were in trouble this Thanksgiving the minute my wife asked me to carve the Big Mac.

And my wife made a gravy I'll never forget. One quart of vodka, two quarts of rum and three quarts of brandy. I asked her, "Where did you get this recipe?" She said, "From a cookbook." I said, "Who wrote it?" She said, "Betty Crooked!"

I like those turkeys you can just stick in the oven. You know the ones. For two whole months before Thanksgiving Day they're mainlining butter!

We had a very upsetting thing happen at Thanksgiving dinner. One of the guests complained that the turkey was tough. What made it so upsetting, it was our butcher.

I don't want to brag, but we have an oven that can cook our Thanksgiving turkey in three minutes. It's not a microwave oven. It's a two-pound turkey.

We had kind of an exciting Thanksgiving last year. My wife's recipe for stuffing called for a dash of salt—and she used Epsom. If you think the salt had a dash, you should have seen us!

I have to admit, I have a terrible time carving turkey. I'll tell you how bad it is—one year the turkey's family sued for malpractice.

I'm one of those nervous carvers. I shake so much, each year we have an etiquette problem. What wine do you serve with fingers?

And every Thanksgiving I get very suspicious of butchers.

We had spaghetti for Thanksgiving dinner. I won't say why we had spaghetti for Thanksgiving dinner but that's the last time I ever buy a turkey that knows karate!

I watched some of those special Thanksgiving shows on TV and I wanna tell you something: all the turkeys weren't in ovens!

And after one of our Thanksgiving dinners everybody likes to sit back and enjoy a good smoke. It's the one coming from the oven!

Now I sit me down to eat.  
The food looks great, the setting neat;  
And if I overdo it, well, sir—  
Would you pass the Bromo Seltzer?

Thanksgiving is when 200,000,000 Americans gorge themselves on turkey dinners—then turn on the TV to watch 22 football players get exercise.

The day after Thanksgiving is when you can go to any garage sale in America and get a good buy on half a turkey.

## THEFT

Two drunks came out of a bar and saw someone siphoning gas out of their car. One drunk nudged the other and said, "Man, I hope I never get that thirsty!"

Last night our house was broken into and robbed, but it's just wonderful the detailed record the police keep on these things. We were the thirty-fourth ditto mark from the top.

I've been robbed three times in the last year and I've had it. The next time I'm robbed, I'm gonna call the cops. You should hear what I'm gonna call the cops!

- 1 Remember that time is money.<sup>1</sup>  
*Advice to a Young Tradesman*  
[1748]
- 2 They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.  
*Historical Review of Pennsylvania* [1759]
- 3 Idleness and pride tax with a heavier hand than kings and parliaments. If we can get rid of the former, we may easily bear the latter.  
*Letter on the Stamp Act* [July 11, 1765]
- 4 The grand leap of the whale up the Fall of Niagara is esteemed, by all who have seen it, as one of the finest spectacles in nature.  
*To the editor of a London newspaper* [1765], intended to chaff the English for their ignorance of America
- 5 Here Skugg lies snug  
As a bug in a rug.  
*Letter to Miss Georgiana Shipley*  
[September 1772]
- 6 There never was a good war or a bad peace.<sup>2</sup>  
*Letter to Josiah Quincy*  
[September 11, 1773]
- 7 You and I were long friends: you are now my enemy, and I am  
Yours,  
B. Franklin  
*Letter to William Strahan* [July 5, 1775]
- 8 We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately.  
*At the signing of the Declaration of Independence* [July 4, 1776]
- 9 Poor man, said I, you pay too much for your whistle.  
*The Whistle* [1779]
- 10 Here you would know and enjoy what posterity will say of Washington. For a thousand leagues have nearly the same effect with a thousand years.  
*Letter to Washington* [March 5, 1780]
- 11 George Washington, Commander of the American armies, who, like Joshua of old, commanded the sun and the moon to stand still, and they obeyed him.  
*A toast at a dinner in Versailles*<sup>3</sup>
- 12 No nation was ever ruined by trade.  
*Thoughts on Commercial Subjects*
- 13 I wish the bald eagle had not been chosen as the representative of our country; he is a bird of bad moral character; like those among men who live by sharpening and robbing, he is generally poor, and often very lousy.  
The turkey is a much more respectable bird, and withal a true original native of America.  
*Letter to Sarah Bache* [January 26, 1784]
- 14 He [the sun] gives light as soon as he rises.  
*An Economical Project* [1784]<sup>4</sup>
- 15 A republic if you can keep it.<sup>5</sup>  
*Response* [September 18, 1787]
- 16 Our Constitution is in actual operation; everything appears to promise that it will last; but in this world nothing is certain but death and taxes.  
*Letter to M. Leroy* [1789]
- 17 The next thing most like living one's life over again seems to be a recollection of that life, and to make that recollection as durable as possible by putting it down in writing.  
*Autobiography* [1731-1759],<sup>6</sup> ch. 1
- 18 Eat not to dullness; drink not to elevation.  
*Ib.* 6
- 19 I shall never ask, never refuse, nor ever resign an office.  
*Ib.* 8
- 20 Human felicity is produced not so much by great pieces of good fortune that seldom happen, as by little advantages that occur every day.  
*Ib.* 9
- 21 When men are employed, they are best contented; for on the days they worked they were good-natured and cheerful, and, with the consciousness of having done a good day's

<sup>1</sup>We reckon hours and minutes to be dollars and cents.—T. C. HALIBURTON [1796-1865], *The Clockmaker* See Theophrastus, 91:17.

<sup>2</sup>I cease not to advocate peace; even though unjust it is better than the most just war.—CICERO [106-43 B.C.], *Epistolae ad Atticum*, bk. VII, epistle 14

It hath been said that an unjust peace is to be preferred before a just war.—SAMUEL BUTLER, *Butler's Remains* [1759], *Speeches in the Rump Parliament*

<sup>3</sup>The British minister had proposed a toast to George III, in which he likened him to the sun, and the French minister had toasted Louis XVI, comparing him with the moon.

<sup>4</sup>Letter to the *Journal de Paris* advocating Daylight Saving Time.

<sup>5</sup>In Philadelphia, a Mrs. Powel "asked Dr. Franklin Well Doctor what have we got a republic or a monarchy? A republic replied the Doctor if you can keep it." Recorded by JAMES MCHENRY, one of Washington's aides, in his diary; published in the *American Historical Review*. XI [1906], 618.

<sup>6</sup>The *Autobiography*, begun in 1771, was first published (unauthorized, mangled, and in French) in 1791, and in complete and accurate form in 1868.

Yesterday I saw one trying to teach a parakeet to say, "Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!"

For Thanksgiving, the Poultry Raisers of America are sending the biggest turkey in the country to the White House. The (OPPOSITION PARTY) claim he's already there.

There's an ongoing historical inaccuracy about that first Thanksgiving. History books tell us the Pilgrims ate wild turkeys. That isn't so. The turkeys weren't wild—until they found out what the Pilgrims had in mind.

I know a farmer who has a foolproof way of getting ready for Thanksgiving. For a week before, all he does is show the turkeys the Seven O'Clock News, the morning headlines, the editorials, *Time* and *Newsweek*—then they go quietly. Some even volunteer.

Feeling down and tired of living?  
Then here's a thought for this Thanksgiving:  
If you think your future's murky—  
Compare it to that of a turkey!

Thanksgiving is when turkeys who fatten up all year go to the chopping block. With humans, it's April 15th.

Thanksgiving turkeys have the same complaint as our receptionist: "All they want is my body!"

I once roasted a turkey and he really took it hard. Kept calling me a no-good baster.

Some people get squeamish about raising their own turkey for Thanksgiving, but not me. One year we bought a live turkey in January. We called him Clarence and all through the year we fed him, took him for walks, played with him. He was just like one of the family. But when it came November there was no nonsense about it. We had him for Thanksgiving dinner. He sat on my right.



General Services Administration  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, DC 20405

TO: DICK AUSTIN  
FROM: KATHRYN GADDY  
DATE: November 19, 1991  
RE: Desert Share Update

OPTIONAL FORM 89 (7-80)

<b>FAX TRANSMITTAL</b>		# of pages ▶ 1
To <i>Molly Osborne</i>	From <i>Anyllis Riedler</i>	
Dept./Agency	Phone # <i>GSA 501-2800</i>	
Fax # <i>456-1647</i>	Fax # <i>219-1243</i>	
NSN 7540-01-317-7388 5099-101		GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

*Tony Artigliere  
Deputy Chief of Staff,  
GSA*

\$ TOTALS TO DATE

Turned Over to GSA For Distribution:

\$188,969,516 in food  
11,829,041 in sundry packs  
\$200,798,557 TOTAL EXCESS ITEMS TO GSA.

Already Transferred By GSA (out of above total):

\$149,258,938 in food  
11,829,041 in sundry packs  
\$161,087,979 TOTAL TRANSFERRED - AS OF 11/19/91

DISTRIBUTION BY RECIPIENT TO DATE

Interagency Council

FOOD

\$85,357,810 transferred  
26,700,691 allocated  
\$112,058,501 TOTAL

NON-FOOD

\$3,537,050 transferred  
\$3,537,050 TOTAL

Other Federal Agencies

FOOD

\$16,411,223 transferred  
8,796,717 allocated  
\$25,207,940 TOTAL

NON-FOOD

\$2,541,261 transferred  
\$2,541,261 TOTAL

State Surplus Agencies

FOOD

\$47,489,905 transferred  
4,213,170 allocated  
\$51,703,075 TOTAL

NON-FOOD

\$5,750,730 transferred  
\$5,750,730 TOTAL

# The Historical Society of York County

250 EAST MARKET STREET • YORK, PENNSYLVANIA 17403 • 717/848-1587

November 12, 1991

Carol Aarhus  
OEOB, Room 111 1/2  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Aarhus:

Enclosed is a copy of the pamphlet Mr. Reisinger and I were telling you about.

Also enclosed is a copy of that original Thanksgiving recommendation of November 1, 1777 from the collections of the National Archives. The printed copy from The Journals of the Continental Congress 1773-1789, Volume IX. 1777 is a little easier to read than Samuel Adams' original.

I think it is interesting that Samuel Adams, Richard Henry Lee, and Daniel Roberdeau were just assigned this task Friday, October 31; and they came right up with it Saturday.

Several significant events occurred while Congress was meeting in York from September 1777 to June 1778. Please let us know anytime we may be of assistance.

Sincerely,



June Lloyd  
Librarian

enc.

11  
Report of the Com. for  
Appointing day of Thanksgiving  
passed Nov. 1. 1777 —





433  
of Education, so necessary for cultivating  
the Principles of true Liberty, <sup>the</sup> and Virtue,  
~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> under his maturing Hand; and to purpose  
the Means of Religion for the Promotion  
and Enlargement of that Kingdom which  
consisteth in Righteousness, Peace and  
Joy in the Holy Ghost"

And it is further recommended,  
that severe Labor, and such Recreation  
as, though at other times innocent, may  
be unbecoming the Purpose of this  
Apprenticeship, may be omitted on their  
~~Friday~~ <sup>solemn</sup> ~~solemn~~ <sup>solemn</sup> occasions

The Historical Society of York County  
250 EAST MARKET STREET  
York, Pennsylvania 17403



LIBRARY  
**THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF YORK COUNTY**  
250 East Market Street  
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA 17403

**TO**  
Carol Aarhus  
OEDB, Room 111 1/2  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

**RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED**

X-RAYED BY  
USGS #41

Contact → Joel Proctor

Iowa → Gary Ruka, VP of procurement for  
Pres. this yr. works for L-R  
Louis Rich (2<sup>nd</sup> largest)

All commercial turkeys are  
bred for sedentary/docile  
purposes.

WH → Hand-fed, been around people  
personal attn.

→ Call Public Liaison, Molly Osbourne

↓ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

no proc. → definite tomorrow

Molly—

POTUS will sign proc.

Gary Ruka (Roo-kah)

with  
POTUS

Exec VP Stuart Proctor, (Fr.)

turkey will be in cage

~~who~~ until after

proc. signing

in aud. → 4<sup>th</sup> gr. class fr. St. Agnes  
Cathedral School  
wrote letter to POTUS

70-80 in aud.

November 12, 1991

**MEMORANDUM TO THE COMMUNICATIONS STAFF**

**FROM:** KATHY RUST *KR*  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

**SUBJECT:** 1991 WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT ORDER

I am happy to announce the holiday season is quickly approaching and it's now time to purchase White House Christmas ornaments.

In order to get the bulk rate purchase price (\$9.90 each) it's suggested that the Office of Communications submit one order for entire our staff.

If you are interested please fill out the attached form and return it to my office (Room 196) no later than Friday, November 22, 1991.

Remember these ornaments are a nice way to thank individuals that have been helpful throughout this past year.

-----

**WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT ORDER FORM  
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXT.** \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ORNAMENTS ORDERED** \_\_\_\_\_ **AMT. DUE** \_\_\_\_\_

The orders should be paid for in cash or checks payable to Kathy Rust. Once the initial order is placed it will take 3 days for delivery.

Grant

SPEECHWRITING AND RESEARCH OFFICES  
DAILY PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH SCHEDULE

EVENT/LOCATION	DATE	PROJ.OFFICER	WRITER/RESEARCH	T.S. DRAFT	STAFFING	TO POTUS
Bush-Quayle Fundraising Dinner Dallas, TX	11/01/91 Friday	Kaufman	Smith Grossman	10/23/91 Wednesday	10/25/91 Friday	10/29/91 Tuesday
Quality Award	11/01/91 Friday	Demarest	Duggan Simon	10/23/91 Wednesday	10/25/91 Friday	10/29/91 Tuesday
Thanksgiving Square Dallas, TX	11/01/91 Friday	Rogich	Duggan Simon	10/25/91 Friday	10/28/91 Monday	10/28/91 Monday
Reagan Library Dedication Simi Valley, CA	11/04/91 Monday	Rogich	Smith Grossman	10/23/91 Wednesday	10/25/91 Friday	10/29/91 Tuesday
President's Environmental Youth Awards	11/05/91	Holiday	McGroarty Bunton	10/28/91 Monday	10/30/91 Wednesday	11/01/91 Friday
Dinner Toast The Hague	11/08/91 Friday	Rogich	McGroarty Bunton	10/29/91 Tuesday	10/31/91 Thursday	11/04/91 Monday
Embassy Greetings (Talking Points) Rome, Italy	11/08/91 Friday	Rogich	Grossman Grossman	10/29/91 Tuesday	10/31/91 Thursday	11/04/91 Monday
Vatican American Seminary Community Greetings (Talking Points) Rome, Italy	11/08/91 Friday	Rogich	Duggan Simon	11/01/91 Friday	11/01/91 Friday	11/04/91 Monday

SPEECHWRITING AND RESEARCH OFFICES  
DAILY PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH SCHEDULE

EVENT/LOCATION	DATE	PROJ.OFFICER	WRITER/RESEARCH	T.S. DRAFT	STAFFING	TO POTUS
American Community Greeting American Embassy (Talking Points) The Hague	11/09/91 Saturday	Rogich	Aarhus Aarhus	11/01/91 Friday	11/01/91 Friday	11/04/91 Monday
Embassy Greetings (Talking Points) The Hague	11/09/91 Saturday	Rogich	Bunton Bunton	10/29/91 Tuesday	10/31/91 Thursday	11/04/91 Monday
The Hague	11/09/91 Saturday	Rogich	McGroarty Bunton	10/29/91 Tuesdau	10/31/91 Thursday	11/04/91 Monday
Address GOPAC Charter	11/11/91 Monday	Kaufman	Grant Aarhus	11/04/91 Monday	11/06/91 Wednesday	11/08/91 Friday
Wreath Laying Arlington Cemetary	11/11/91 Monday	Rogich	Simon Simon	11/04/91 Monday	11/06/91 Wednesday	11/08/91 Friday
Asia Society Annual Dinner New York City	11/12/91 Tuesday	Scowcroft	Snow Nix	11/01/91 Friday	11/05/91 Tuesday	11/07/91 Thursday
Bush-Quayle Fundraising Dinner New York City	11/12/91 Tuesday	Kaufman	McGroarty Bunton	11/01/91 Friday	11/05/91 Tuesday	11/07/91 Thursday
National Future Farmers of America Kansas City, Mo!	11/13/91 Wednesday	Rogich	Duggan Simon	11/04/91 Monday	11/06/91 Wednesday	11/08/91 Friday

SPEECHWRITING AND RESEARCH OFFICES  
DAILY PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH SCHEDULE

EVENT/LOCATION	DATE	PROJ.OFFICER	WRITER/RESEARCH	T.S. DRAFT	STAFFING	TO POTUS
Sen. Bond and MO GOP Fundraiser St. Louis, Mo	11/13/91 Wednesday	Kaufman	Smith Grossman	11/04/91 Monday	11/06/91 Wednesday	11/08/91 Friday
Drop-by Pres. Advisory Committee on Educ. Excel. for Hispanic Americans Roosevelt Room	11/14/91 Thursday	Demarest	Martin Nix	11/06/91 Wednesday	11/08/91 Friday	11/12/91 Tuesday
President Menem of Argentina (Arrival, Toast, Entertainment Card)	11/14/91 Thursday	Scowcroft	Grant Aarhus	11/06/91 Wednesday	11/08/91 Friday	11/12/91 Tuesday
Lunch with President's Drug Advisory Council (Tenative on remarks) Camp David	11/15/91 Friday	Holiday		11/07/91 Thursday	11/11/91 Monday	11/13/91 Wednesday
National Endowment for the Humanities 1991 Charles Frankel Prizes East Room	11/15/91 Friday	Holiday	Duggan Simon	11/07/91 Thursday	11/11/91 Monday	11/13/91 Wednesday
OEOB Drug Event (Tenative)	11/15/91 Friday	Demarest		11/07/91 Thursday	11/11/91 Monday	11/13/91 Wednesday
Teleconference for Fortune 500 Forum	11/15/91 Friday	Smith	McGroarty Bunton	11/07/91 Thursday	11/11/91 Monday	11/13/91 Wednesday
Teleconference for the Southern Newspaper Publishers Assoc. Annual Convention	11/18/91 Monday	Smith	Snow Nix	11/08/91 Friday	11/12/91 Tuesday	11/14/91 Thursday

SPEECHWRITING AND RESEARCH OFFICES  
DAILY PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH SCHEDULE

EVENT/LOCATION	DATE	PROJ.OFFICER	WRITER/RESEARCH	T.S. DRAFT	STAFFING	TO POTUS
Victory Awards (TBD on remarks)	11/18/91 Monday	Demarest		11/08/91 Friday	11/12/91 Tuesday	11/14/91 Thursday
NRCC Luncheon Presidential Forum	11/19/91 Tuesday	Kaufman	Smith Grossman	11/11/91 Monday	11/13/91 Wednesday	11/15/91 Friday
Turkey Presentation Rose Garden	11/20/91 Wednesday	Demarest	Grant Aarhus	11/12/91 Tuesday	11/14/91 Thursday	11/18/91 Monday
RNC Chairman's Advisory Board	11/21/91 Thursday	Kaufman	Snow Bunton	11/13/91 Wednesday	11/15/91 Friday	11/19/91 Tuesday
Video Taping Session	11/21/91 Thursday	Rogich	Staff Staff	11/13/91 Wednesday	11/15/91 Friday	11/19/91 Tuesday
Kickoff Ohio 2000	11/22/91 Friday	Holiday	Duggan Simon	11/14/91 Thursday	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday
Teleconference with 41st Annual Assoc. of Christian Schools	11/25/91 Monday	Demarest	Smith Grossman	11/14/91 Thursday	11/19/91 Tuesday	11/21/91 Thursday
Imperial Banquet Dinner Toast Imperial Palace Toyko, Japan	11/29/91 Friday	Rogich	Smith Simon	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
After Dinner Toast Prime Minister's Residence Tokyo, Japan	11/30/91 Saturday	Rogich	Grossman Grossman	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday

SPEECHWRITING AND RESEARCH OFFICES  
DAILY PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH SCHEDULE

EVENT/LOCATION	DATE	PROJ.OFFICER	WRITER/RESEARCH	T.S. DRAFT	STAFFING	TO POTUS
Japanese Diet Tokyo, Japan	11/30/91 Saturday	Rogich	Grant Grossman	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Kodak R&D Plant Tokyo, Japan	11/30/91 Saturday	Rogich	Grant Simon	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Mita Senior High School Tokyo, Japan	11/30/91 Saturday	Rogich	McGroarty Grossman	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Welcoming Reception Hotel New Otani Tokyo, Japan	11/30/91 Saturday	Rogich	Grossman Grossman	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
American Community Greetings Collier Field House Korea	12/01/91 Sunday	Rogich	Bunton Bunton	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Brief Remarks to American and Japanese Students Omiya Gardens Kyoto, Japan	12/01/91 Sunday	Rogich	Duggan Grossman	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Embassy Greetings (Talking Points) Tokyo, Japan	12/01/91 Sunday	Rogich	Martin Grossman	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Address National Assembly Korea	12/02/91 Monday	Rogich	McGroarty Bunton	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday

SPEECHWRITING AND RESEARCH OFFICES  
DAILY PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH SCHEDULE

EVENT/LOCATION	DATE	PROJ.OFFICER	WRITER/RESEARCH	T.S. DRAFT	STAFFING	TO POTUS
Breakfast with US and Korean Business Community Korea	12/02/91 Monday	Rogich	Grant Bunton	11/18/91 Monay	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Camp Casey  Korea	12/02/91 Monday	Rogich	Simon Simon	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Kodak Speech  Korea	12/02/91 Monday	Rogich	Duggan Bunton	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
State Luncheon Toast Blue House Korea	12/02/91 Monday	Rogich	Snow Bunton	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Ground Breaking Ceremony New American Chancery Singapore	12/03/91 Tuesday	Rogich	Martin Aarhus	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Singapore and American Bus. Community Westin Hotel Singapore	12/03/91 Tuesday	Rogich	Duggan Aarhus	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
State Dinner Toast Istana Palace Singapore	12/03/91 Tuesday	Rogich	Smith Aarhus	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Address Australian Parliament  Canberra, Australia	12/05/91 Thursday	Rogich	McGroarty Nix	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday

SPEECHWRITING AND RESEARCH OFFICES  
DAILY PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH SCHEDULE

EVENT/LOCATION	DATE	PROJ.OFFICER	WRITER/RESEARCH	T.S. DRAFT	STAFFING	TO POTUS
Embassy Greetings (Talking Points) Canberra, Australia	12/05/91 Thursday	Rogich	Nix Nix	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Post-Australian Parliament Event Canberra, Australia	12/05/91 Thursday	Rogich	Smith Nix	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Prime Minister's Lunch Toast  Canberra, Australia	12/05/91 Thursday	Rogich	Martin Nix	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Dinner Toast Kirribilli House Sydney, Australia	12/06/91 Friday	Rogich	Grant Aarhus	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
National Maritime Museum  Sydney, Australia	12/06/91 Friday	Rogich	Duggan Aarhus	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
State Luncheon Remarks Sydney Convention And Exhibition Centre Sydney, Australia	12/06/91 Friday	Rogich	Snow Nix	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Brief Remarks to Asian Ambassadors Hickman AFB Honolulu, Hawaii	12/07/91 Saturday	Rogich	McGroarty Simon	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday

SPEECHWRITING AND RESEARCH OFFICES  
DAILY PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH SCHEDULE

EVENT/LOCATION	DATE	PROJ.OFFICER	WRITER/RESEARCH	T.S. DRAFT	STAFFING	TO POTUS
Kilo 8 Remarks Honolulu, Hawaii	12/07/91 Saturday	Rogich	Snow Simon	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
USS Arizona Memorial Ceremony Honolulu, Hawaii	12/07/91 Saturday	Rogich	Smith Simon	11/18/91 Monday	11/20/91 Wednesday	11/25/91 Monday
Reception for Kennedy Center Honors Blair House	12/08/91 Sunday	Firestone	Duggan Simon	11/29/91 Friday	12/03/91 Tuesday	12/05/91 Thursday
Departure Statement for Visit of Prime Minister Miksotakis of Greece South Lawn	12/12/91 Thursday	Scowcroft		12/04/91 Wednesday	12/06/91 Friday	12/10/91 Tuesday
National League of Cities Telconference (LRS)	12/12/91 Thursday	Demarest		12/04/91 Wednesday	12/06/91 Friday	12/10/91 Tuesday
Tree Lighting	12/12/91 Thursday	Demarest		12/04/91 Wednesday	12/06/91 Friday	12/10/91 Tuesday
Christmas in Washington Pension Building	12/15/91 Sunday	Rogich		12/05/91 Thursday	12/09/91 Monday	12/11/91 Wednesday
Bill of Rights Event Mt. Pelier, VA	12/16/91 Monday	Rogich		12/06/91 Friday	12/10/91 Tuesday	12/12/91 Thursday

10/30/91 18:20:14

SPEECHWRITING AND RESEARCH OFFICES  
DAILY PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH SCHEDULE

Page: 9

EVENT/LOCATION                      DATE                      PROJ.OFFICER                      WRITER/RESEARCH                      T.S. DRAFT                      STAFFING                      TO POTUS

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Am. Farm Bureau Federation      01/12/92  
(LRS)  
Kansas City, MO

SES Presidential Rank Awards      01/14/92  
(LRS)  
Constitution Hall

Small Business Legislative      01/28/92  
Council  
(LRS)

1992 President's Dinner              04/21/92              Kaufman  
Tuesday

To MK

Date 11/13/91 Time 4:25pm

**WHILE YOU WERE OUT**

M. Andrew Crosby

of \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (703) 538-6181

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

Message \_\_\_\_\_

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EC  
Operator

AMPAD EFFICIENCY®

23-021 CARBONLESS

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

202 682-1200  
Eastland 296-1683

Michael Elliot  
~~200~~ Suite 510  
 1331 Penn Ave NW  
 20004

Bill Fritts  
 Mrs. Floyd  
 Mr. Mead

I remember attending <sup>last year's</sup> ~~this same~~ Turkey Ceremony ~~last year~~, before going off to the Persian Gulf to share Thanksgiving Dinner with our troops in the Saudi desert. For many families, the memory of last Thanksgiving must seem very distant. Next Thursday will be a great day, a sort of homecoming, for many families: full of pride for our brave servicemen and women, and happiness at having them at the table -- at home -- for the first time in two years. To each and every one of them, I say again what I said to them in the desert that day: **Thank you. Thank you for standing for freedom, for our security, and for peace in the world.**

To the families of those who gave their lives in the line of duty, we say thank you, too -- for we will always be grateful to them and to you.

As we thank the Lord for His blessings of freedom, security, and peace, we also remember those Americans who are out of work ... in poor health ... or just plain lonely. We seek solutions to the problems facing our Nation -- most of all, the repair of hope and the end of hunger and homelessness.

Like the Pilgrims at Plymouth, and the early colonists at Jamestown, New Amsterdam and St. Augustine, we too thank the Lord for sustaining us through times of peril and hardship. America is unlike any other Nation on Earth, and we must never take for granted God's abundant blessings upon our land and our people. That is what makes Thanksgiving such a uniquely American holiday.

And so, with that said, I am pleased to sign the Thanksgiving proclamation for 1991. [SIGN PROCLAMATION]

Before I invite the kids up here to see the turkey, let me say that I've granted the traditional Presidential Pardon to this turkey, so you can rest assured he will not be on anybody's dinner table next week. Instead, he'll live out his days gobbling away at a children's petting farm.

So happy Thanksgiving everyone, and come on up, kids.

# # #

# DOUG GAMBLE

Nov. 7/90

424 - 36th Place  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
(213) 546-6409

TO: STEPHANIE LAUDNER

WHITE HOUSE TURKEY PRESENTATION (Beth Hinchliffe)

I ASKED (JOHN SUNUNU) IF HE THOUGHT THERE MIGHT BE AN IMAGE PROBLEM RESULTING FROM THIS EVENT TODAY, AND HE SAID HE WAS SURE THE TURKEY COULD SURVIVE IT.

ONCE AGAIN IT'S BEEN PROVEN THAT AMERICA IS A COUNTRY WHERE EVEN A TURKEY CAN MAKE IT TO THE WHITE HOUSE. AND JUST FOR THE RECORD, I'M REFERRING TO MY FRIEND HERE.

MILLIE WAS PRETTY JEALOUS OF THIS GUY UNTIL I EXPLAINED THAT HE PROBABLY WON'T BE AROUND LONG ENOUGH TO WRITE A BOOK.

I ONCE SAID YOU CAN TAKE BROCCOLI AND STUFF IT, SO NOW I HAVE A PLACE TO DO JUST THAT.

I WANT TO ASSURE THOSE WHO THINK A TERRIBLE FATE AWAITS THIS FELLOW, THAT WE WON'T EXPOSE HIM TO THE ULTIMATE TRAVAIL -- QUESTIONS FROM THE WASHINGTON PRESS CORPS.

HE FEELS SAFE AROUND ME. EVER SINCE I CELEBRATED PEARL HARBOR DAY THREE MONTHS EARLY, TURKEYS RELAX IN NOVEMBER BECAUSE THEY FIGURE I OBSERVED THANKSGIVING IN AUGUST.

Ref.  
PN6151  
.072  
W14

Also by Robert Orben

THE JOKE-TELLER'S HANDBOOK

THE AD-LIBBER'S HANDBOOK

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ONE-LINER COMEDY

2500 JOKES TO START 'EM LAUGHING

ORBEN'S CURRENT COMEDY

(a topical humor service for public speakers)

# 2100 Laughs For All Occasions

*Robert Orben*

DOUBLEDAY & COMPANY, INC.

GARDEN CITY, NEW YORK

1983

Last night I was trying to watch a baseball game, and I told my kid if he interrupted me one more time with a question about his homework he was gonna get it!

I heard a wild thing on a game show last night. The emcee asked a contestant: "Why did George Washington stand up in the boat crossing the Delaware? But first, this message from Preparation H."

## TELEVISION NEWS

The human race is paying its dues.  
If you don't believe it, tune in the news!

TV news broadcasts are turning a lot of us into Quakers. I shake every time I hear one.

I'm an optimist. I watch the Five O'Clock News, the Six O'Clock News, and the Seven O'Clock News. I keep hoping it'll get better.

Hear no evil, see no evil, and speak no evil—and you'll never get to be the anchor man on the Seven O'Clock News.

If there's no divine plan for this world, how come just enough happens each day to fill the Seven O'Clock News?

## TENNIS

I lost interest in tennis when I found out "Fifteen-Love" wasn't an orgy.

My brother-in-law lost interest in tennis when he found out that "serve" had nothing to do with food.

I can understand why tennis is so popular these days. You ever try to leap over a volleyball net?

Tennis is a fascinating game, particularly if you're middle-aged. If there was no such thing as tennis, cardiologists would have had to invent it.

To be a good tennis player, you have to be thin. Really thin. Like, not only can you jump over the net, but through it too!

One of the great medical problems today is tennis elbow. It comes from watching tennis on television with your elbow on a bar.

## THANKSGIVING

It's Thanksgiving. Let's all microfilm our troubles and Xerox our blessings.

The Pilgrims didn't have an easy time of it. Can you imagine eating a meal of turkey, stuffing, gravy, cranberries, corn, cider, squash, rolls, turnips, pumpkin pie, apple pie, mince pie and fruit—when Alka-Seltzer was still three hundred years away?

The Pilgrims were the people who had those guns with the barrel that looked like a lily. They were called "cold tablet" guns. You pulled the trigger and the bullet could go four ways.

If you're ever feeling unloved, unwanted and unnoticed—just imagine how the celery feels at a Thanksgiving dinner.

Thanksgiving dinner is a very time-consuming event. It takes an hour to eat; a day to cook; a week to arrange; and a few months to pay for.

Thanksgiving dinner is the American equivalent to a Chinese dinner. You eat it and a year later you're hungry again.

Restaurants are so crowded on Thanksgiving Day, they make a fortune selling Indian cocktails. Indian cocktails—that's what you drink while you're waiting for your reservation.

This is the month we play Thanksgiving roulette. That's when six different friends invite you to Thanksgiving dinner and one is on Weight Watchers.

We always go to Grandmother's on Thanksgiving Day. She owns a McDonald's.

I always take my family and all the relatives out for Thanksgiving dinner. I figure the wife I save may be my own.

Thanksgiving is when millions of Americans get together to drink, talk, eat and go home again. It's known as the Four Gs—Giggle, Gabble, Gobble and Git!

Every Thanksgiving we have relatives over, and my wife has come up with a great recipe for roasting the turkey. You cook it one family argument for each five pounds.

My neighbor has an interesting theory about Thanksgiving. He feels that most families have so many relatives coming over for Thanksgiving dinner, they'll never notice one more. So for the last ten years he's been going into some strange house on Thanksgiving Day and saying he's Uncle Harry. Nine times it worked out well—the tenth time it worked out great. There was another phony claiming she was Aunt Harriet and they put them up for the night.

Inviting your relatives over for Thanksgiving dinner performs a very useful function. It eliminates loneliness, quiet and leftovers.

One year they all burped at the same time and blew out windows in Omaha, Nebraska!

You don't know what fear is until you've invited twenty-five people over for Thanksgiving dinner and your wife is making it from a mix!

I knew we were in trouble this Thanksgiving the minute my wife asked me to carve the Big Mac.

And my wife made a gravy I'll never forget. One quart of vodka, two quarts of rum and three quarts of brandy. I asked her, "Where did you get this recipe?" She said, "From a cookbook." I said, "Who wrote it?" She said, "Betty Crooked!"

I like those turkeys you can just stick in the oven. You know the ones. For two whole months before Thanksgiving Day they're mainlining butter!

We had a very upsetting thing happen at Thanksgiving dinner. One of the guests complained that the turkey was tough. What made it so upsetting, it was our butcher.

I don't want to brag, but we have an oven that can cook our Thanksgiving turkey in three minutes. It's not a microwave oven. It's a two-pound turkey.

We had kind of an exciting Thanksgiving last year. My wife's recipe for stuffing called for a dash of salt—and she used Epsom. If you think the salt had a dash, you should have seen us!

I have to admit, I have a terrible time carving turkey. I'll tell you how bad it is—one year the turkey's family sued for malpractice.

I'm one of those nervous carvers. I shake so much, each year we have an etiquette problem. What wine do you serve with fingers?

And every Thanksgiving I get very suspicious of butchers.

Yesterday I saw one trying to teach a parakeet to say, "Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!"

For Thanksgiving, the Poultry Raisers of America are sending the biggest turkey in the country to the White House. The (OPPOSITION PARTY) claim he's already there.

There's an ongoing historical inaccuracy about that first Thanksgiving. History books tell us the Pilgrims ate wild turkeys. That isn't so. The turkeys weren't wild—until they found out what the Pilgrims had in mind.

I know a farmer who has a foolproof way of getting ready for Thanksgiving. For a week before, all he does is show the turkeys the Seven O'Clock News, the morning headlines, the editorials, *Time* and *Newsweek*—then they go quietly. Some even volunteer.

Feeling down and tired of living?  
Then here's a thought for this Thanksgiving:  
If you think your future's murky—  
Compare it to that of a turkey!

Thanksgiving is when turkeys who fatten up all year go to the chopping block. With humans, it's April 15th.

Thanksgiving turkeys have the same complaint as our receptionist: "All they want is my body!"

I once roasted a turkey and he really took it hard. Kept calling me a no-good baster.

Some people get squeamish about raising their own turkey for Thanksgiving, but not me. One year we bought a live turkey in January. We called him Clarence and all through the year we fed him, took him for walks, played with him. He was just like one of the family. But when it came November there was no nonsense about it. We had him for Thanksgiving dinner. He sat on my right.

Can we turn that's one around

We had spaghetti for Thanksgiving dinner. I won't say why we had spaghetti for Thanksgiving dinner but that's the last time I ever buy a turkey that knows karate!

I watched some of those special Thanksgiving shows on TV and I wanna tell you something: all the turkeys weren't in ovens!

And after one of our Thanksgiving dinners everybody likes to sit back and enjoy a good smoke. It's the one coming from the oven!

Now I sit me down to eat.  
The food looks great, the setting neat;  
And if I overdo it, well, sir—  
Would you pass the Bromo Seltzer?

Thanksgiving is when 200,000,000 Americans gorge themselves on turkey dinners—then turn on the TV to watch 22 football players get exercise.

The day after Thanksgiving is when you can go to any garage sale in America and get a good buy on half a turkey.

## THEFT

Two drunks came out of a bar and saw someone siphoning gas out of their car. One drunk nudged the other and said, "Man, I hope I never get that thirsty!"

Last night our house was broken into and robbed, but it's just wonderful the detailed record the police keep on these things. We were the thirty-fourth ditto mark from the top.

I've been robbed three times in the last year and I've had it. The next time I'm robbed, I'm gonna call the cops. You should hear what I'm gonna call the cops!

NATIONAL

Turkey

91 NOV 12 P5:55 FEDERATION

11319 Sunset Hills Road · Reston, Virginia 22090 · Ph: (703) 435-7206 Fax: (703) 481-0837

TO: CAROL AARHUS

COMPANY:

FAX#:

FROM: STUART PROCTOR

DATE: 11/12/91

THERE ARE 9 PAGE(S) TO FOLLOW.

COMMENTS: Per your request. Pls call if you need additional info. Stuart



1992 ANNUAL Convention

NATIONAL TURKEY FEDERATION

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET?

*The mission of the National Turkey Federation (NTF) is to be the national advocate for all segments of the turkey industry and to provide services that enhance its members' ability to provide consumers with high quality, nutritious products.*

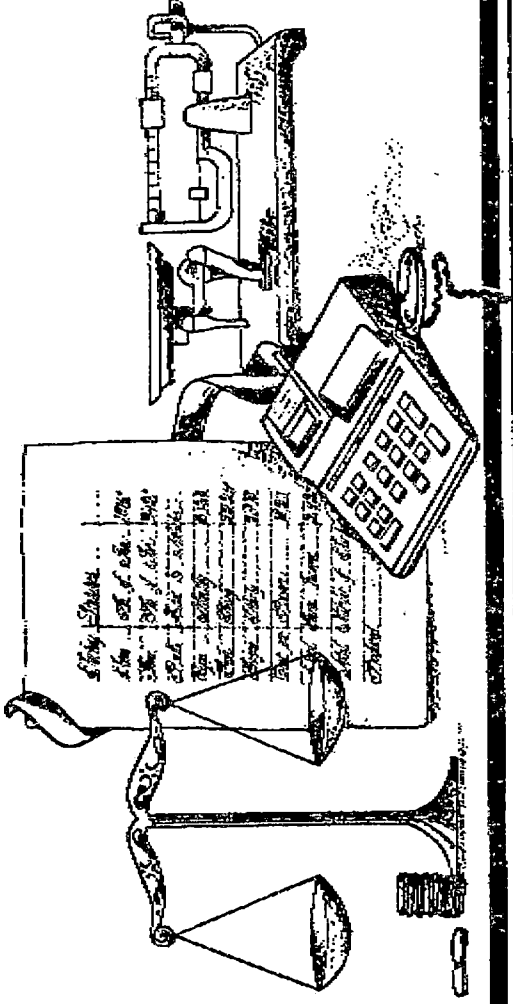
NTF was formed in 1939 and incorporated in 1940 as a nonprofit trade association to protect and pursue the various interests of the turkey industry. NTF represents all segments of the industry in the United States, with its grower and processor members accounting for more than 95 percent of the nation's turkey production and marketing.

Financial and program support is received from a strong network of 26 affiliated state turkey organizations, which are allocated a number of board members based on production and quota payments.

The board of directors elects an executive committee of 12 to set policy and direct the association. The executive committee hires an executive vice president to run the day-to-day activities and accomplish the mission and goals. In addition to the executive vice president, the association employs three government relations staff, four consumer affairs staff, and three member service and administrative staff.

Varied program activities are targeted to assist growers, processors, distributors and suppliers. Considerable emphasis is placed on government affairs, both legislative and regulatory, consumer education and promotion, and member services.

The turkey industry has no government-mandated price support programs and adheres to the principles of a free enterprise system with minimal government regulation.



# NATIONAL TURKEY FEDERATION

## PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF TURKEY

Year	Pounds	Year	Pounds
1935	1.7	1968	8.0
1940	2.9	1969	8.3
1945	3.5	1970	8.2
1946	3.7	1971	8.5
1947	3.6	1972	9.1
1948	3.1	1973	8.5
1949	3.3	1974	8.9
1950	4.1	1975	8.6
1951	4.4	1976	9.2
1952	4.7	1977	9.2
1953	4.8	1978	9.2
1954	5.3	1979	9.9
1955	5.0	1980	10.4
1956	5.2	1981	10.7
1957	5.9	1982	10.7
1958	5.9	1983	11.2
1959	6.3	1984	11.4
1960	6.1	1985	12.1
1961	7.4	1986	13.4
1962	7.0	1987	15.3
1963	6.8	1988	16.0
1964	7.4	1989	17.2
1965	7.5	1990	18.4
1966	7.8	1991	19.2*
1967	8.6	1992	20.0*

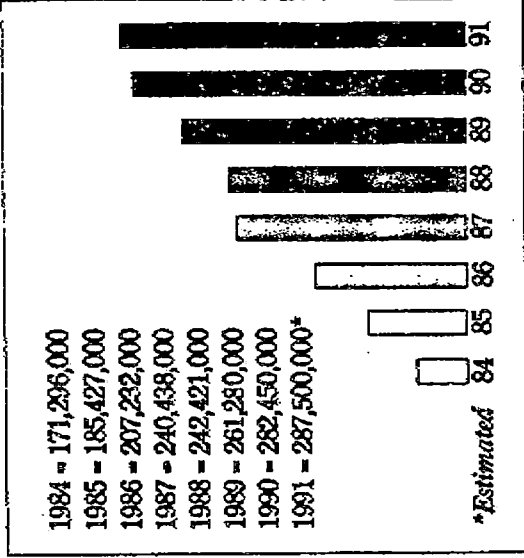
\* Estimated by NTF

Per Capita Consumption of Turkey  
in Pounds by Quarters

1985	2.1	2.3	2.9	4.9	12.1
1986	2.4	2.5	3.2	5.3	13.4
1987	2.6	3.0	3.7	6.0	15.3
1988	3.1	3.5	3.9	5.5	16.0
1989	3.2	3.4	4.4	6.2	17.2
1990	3.7	3.9	4.4	6.4	18.4

\* Figures Rounded

Total Number of Turkeys Produced



\* Estimated 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91

### Top Turkey Processors

Rank	Processor	1990
1.	ConAgra <sup>a</sup>	837
2.	Louis Rich Foods	476
3.	Rocco Turkeys	402
4.	Bil Mar Foods	400
5.	Jennie-O Foods	371
6.	Carolina Turkeys	360
7.	Cargill	360
8.	Norbest, Inc.	300
9.	Wampler-Longacre Turkey, Inc.	294
10.	Cuddy Farms	250

<sup>a</sup>In millions of pounds  
<sup>b</sup>Armour Swift-Eckrich  
 According to 1991 estimates of November-December 1990 Turkey World Magazine

### Expenditures for Turkey Per Person

Year	Dollar Amount
1984	11.31
1985	12.66
1986	14.80
1987	15.48
1988	15.31
1989	17.10
1990	18.27

### Cold Storage Stocks of Frozen Turkey Meat as of December 31

Year	Pounds <sup>a</sup>
1984	125
1985	150
1986	178
1987	266
1988	250
1989	236
1990	306
1991 <sup>**</sup>	260

<sup>a</sup> In millions    <sup>\*\*</sup> Estimated

### 1984-1991 Turkey Production and Live Weight and Retail Weight (RTC)

Year	Number of Turkeys <sup>a</sup>	Live Weight <sup>**</sup>	RTC <sup>**</sup>
1984	171	3.384	2.685
1985	185	3.704	2.942
1986	207	4.147	3.271
1987	240	4.895	3.833
1988	242	5.059	3.960
1989	261	5.465	4.285
1990	282	6.042	4.734
1991 <sup>***</sup>	288	6.140	4.817

<sup>a</sup>In millions of turkeys    <sup>\*\*</sup>In billions of pounds    <sup>\*\*\*</sup>Estimated

### 1984-1991 Turkey Production Total Farm Income\*

Year	Beef	Pork	Lamb & Mutton	Chicken <sup>+</sup>
1984	78.41	51.50	1.51	55.96
1985	79.20	51.88	1.45	58.28
1986	78.83	48.99	1.40	59.66
1987	73.85	49.17	1.34	63.59
1988	72.64	52.46	1.40	65.50
1989	69.30	52.00	1.46	69.20
1990	67.80	49.80	1.50	72.20
1991 <sup>**</sup>	67.60	50.90	1.50	75.70

\*Retail weight in pounds    <sup>\*\*</sup>Estimated  
<sup>+</sup>Carcass weight in pounds

### Turkey Production Total Farm Income\*

1986	1.95	1.70	1.95	2.23	2.38	2.42 <sup>**</sup>
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<sup>\*</sup> In billions of dollars    <sup>\*\*</sup> Estimated

Pounds of Turkey Processed Each Year <sup>a</sup>	Year	Fresh	Frozen
	1984	849	1,725
	1985	1,037	1,763
	1986	1,256	1,875
	1987	1,559	2,158
	1988	1,706	2,218
	1989	1,970	2,204
	1990	2,150	2,410
	1991 <sup>**</sup>	2,224	2,418

<sup>a</sup>In millions of federally inspected pounds (RTC)  
<sup>\*\*</sup>Estimated

### TURKEY IS A NATURAL WINNER

(Product)	Cal	Fat	Sat Fat	Chol	Sodium	Protein	Iron
Whole Turkey per 3-ounce Roasted, skinless	129	2.6g	0.9g	64 mg	59 mg	25 g	1.5 mg
Beef Per 3-ounce Roasted, trimmed	192	9.4 g	4.2 g	73 mg	57 mg	25 g	2.6 mg
Pork Per 3-ounce Roasted, trimmed	198	11.1 g	3.8 g	79 mg	59 mg	23 g	1.1 mg
Lamb Per 3-ounce Roasted, trimmed	176	8.1 g	3.0 g	78 mg	71 mg	24 g	1.7 mg
Ground Turkey Per 3-ounce Braised	195	11g	3.2 g	58 mg	70 mg	21 g	1.6 mg
Ground Beef 76% Lean Per 3-ounce Broiled, trimmed	251	16.9 g	6.5 g	86 mg	71 mg	23 g	2.6 mg
Ground Beef 82% Lean Per 3-ounce Broiled, trimmed	233	14.4 g	6.0 g	86 mg	69 mg	24 g	2.6 mg

#### Total Export Value\*

1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991**
15.0	14.2	16.1	24.3	24.2	33.4	47.0

\* In millions of dollars \*\* Estimated

#### U.S. Turkey Exports\*

Year	Whole Body	Parts & Cut-Up	Total
1984	7.6	18.9	26.5
1985	7.0	20.0	27.0
1986	7.0	18.5	25.5
1987	7.9	25.2	33.1
1988	7.4	43.5	50.9
1989	8.9	31.7	40.6
1990	13.7	40.2	53.9
1991**	9.5	60.5	70.0

\* In millions of pounds \*\* Estimated

### HANDLE WITH CARE

- Do not leave turkey at room temperature.
- Refrigerate turkey at 40° F. or below.
- Cook ground or boneless turkey to a minimum internal temperature of 160° F.
- Cook bone-in turkey to an internal temperature of 170° F.
- Cook whole turkey to 180° F. in inner thigh.
- Cool food rapidly. Store in small, shallow containers.
- Always keep hands, utensils and work areas clean.

Other titles in this series include:

Raising Turkeys

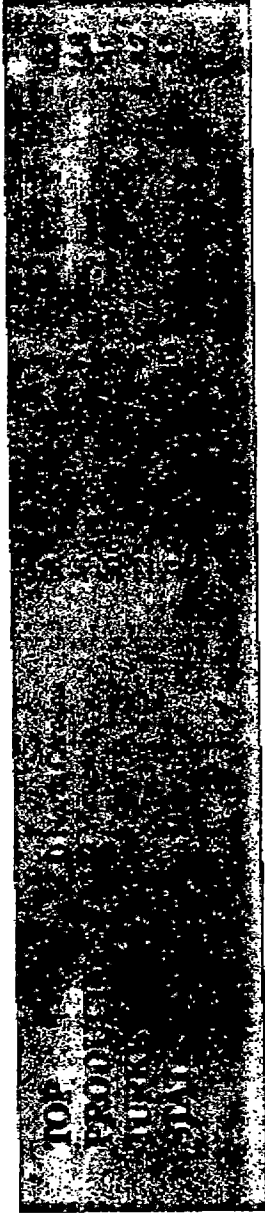
Turkey Trivia

Turkey Storage & Preparation

THE NATIONAL TURKEY FEDERATION

11319 Sunset Hills Road

Reston, Virginia 22090



Turkeys: Number Raised in 1990 and 1991<sup>1/</sup>

State	1990	1991	Percent of 1990	1991 as Percent of 1990
Arkansas	22,000	22,500		102
California	31,900	30,000		95
Colorado	2/	2/		
Georgia	2,010	1,860		93
Indiana	13,700	14,800		108
Iowa	8,800	8,700		99
Minnesota	46,300	46,000		99
Missouri	21,000	21,000		117
North Carolina	58,000	58,800		101
North Dakota	1,320	1,320		100
Ohio	4,750	5,400		114
Oklahoma	2/	2/		
Oregon	2,300	2,300		100
Pennsylvania	8,430	8,500		101
South Carolina	5,500	5,500		100
South Dakota	2,600	2,700		104
Texas	2/	2/		
Utah	3,960	4,100		104
Virginia	17,000	18,200		107
Wisconsin	2/	2/		
Other States 2/	20,300	21,200		104
20 State Total	266,440	272,880		102
Connecticut	30	30		100
Delaware	3/	3/		
Illinois	4,460	2,750		62
Kansas	400	250		63
Maryland	3/110	3/115		105
Massachusetts	170	140		82
Michigan	4,300	4,700		109
Nebraska	2,080	2,080		100
New Hampshire	20	20		100
New Jersey	100	95		95
New York	480	490		102
West Virginia	3,850	3,950		103
U.S. Total	282,450	287,500		102

<sup>1/</sup> 1990 revised. 1991 preliminary based on turkeys placed September 1, 1990 through August 31, 1991.

Excludes young turkeys lost.

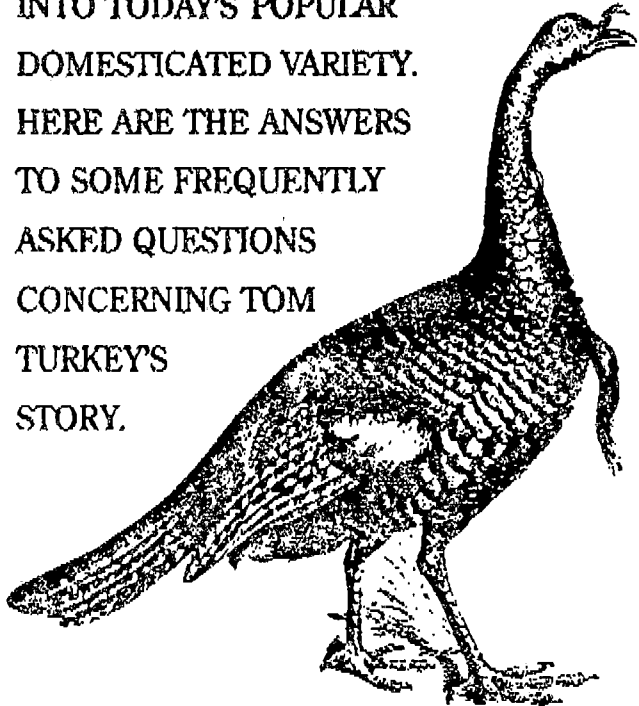
<sup>2/</sup> Combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

<sup>3/</sup> MD, and DE, combined.



# NATIONAL TURKEY FEDERATION

OPINIONS VARY CONCERNING THE EVOLUTION OF THE WILD TURKEY INTO TODAY'S POPULAR DOMESTICATED VARIETY. HERE ARE THE ANSWERS TO SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONCERNING TOM TURKEY'S STORY.



## Did You Know...

◆ Only tom turkeys (males) gobble. Hen turkeys (females) make a clicking noise.

## Fear of Flying

◆ Domesticated turkeys cannot fly. Wild turkeys can fly for short distances up to 55 miles per hour and can run 25 miles per hour.

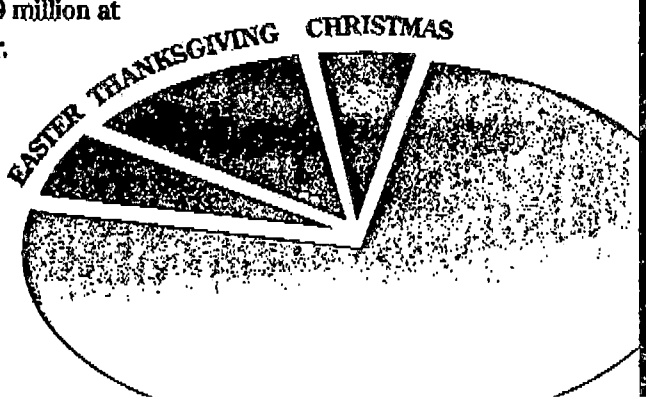
## TALKING BACK

**Q** Are turkeys really dumb?

**A** Turkeys are not dumb, however, the domesticated turkey may appear less cunning and more docile compared to the wild turkey whose survival depends on their adjustment to a less protective environment.

## TURKEY FAVORED FOR HOLIDAY TABLE

In 1991, about 300 million turkeys were raised. We "guesstimate" that 45 million of those turkeys were eaten at Thanksgiving, 23 million at Christmas and 19 million at Easter.



TURKEY HISTORY & TRIVIA

# AMERICA IS EATING TURKEY



In 1990 per capita consumption of turkey was 18.4 pounds compared to 10.5 pounds in 1980, a 75 percent increase. In 1989, 41 percent of American homes served turkey at least one time in a two week period. That's up 58% from four years prior.

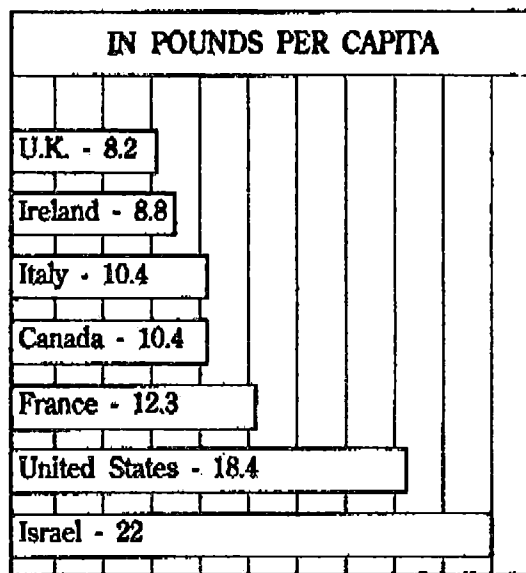
\* 96 percent more people from ages 18 to 34, as well as 100% of females from age 55 to 64, are enjoying turkey. Clearly, turkey appeals to all age groups.



\* The young and not so young prefer turkey all year.

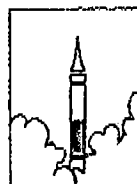
\* 81 percent more teenagers consume turkey today than in 1981.

\* Affluent, traditional families are the most likely to consume turkey at least once in a two-week period. Double-income families with no children, affluent empty-nesters and working parents also head the list of those who have made turkey a regular part of their lifestyles.



According to USDA 1990 data the above countries consumed the most turkey.

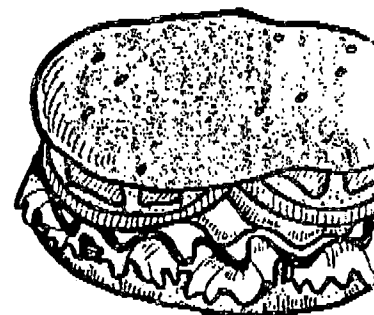
## The Voyage of Turkey



When Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin sat down to eat their first meal on the moon, their foil food packets contained roasted turkey and all the trimmings.

## VOTED #1

**Q** What is the most popular form of turkey eaten?



**A** American households consume turkey more often as a sandwich than any other way, with sandwiches accounting for 44% of all turkey consumption. Low fat, convenient products like ground turkey, sausage, bacon and various turkey parts are increasingly popular.

# For Turkey Braised, the Lord Be Praised.

- from 19th Century Guide to Food Preparation



## HISTORY REPEATED

President Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863, in response to a campaign organized by magazine editor Sara Josepha Hale.

Some experts think the first Thanksgiving dinner was served by the Pilgrims in 1621. Others credit the settlers of Virginia's Jamestown with celebrating the first Thanksgiving as their extension of England's ancient Harvest Home Festival.

## A PRESIDENTIAL WELCOME

**Q** Does the Federation do anything special to recognize Thanksgiving?

**A** Since 1948 the National Turkey Federation has presented a live turkey and two dressed turkeys to the President of the United States.

## GETTING ENOUGH

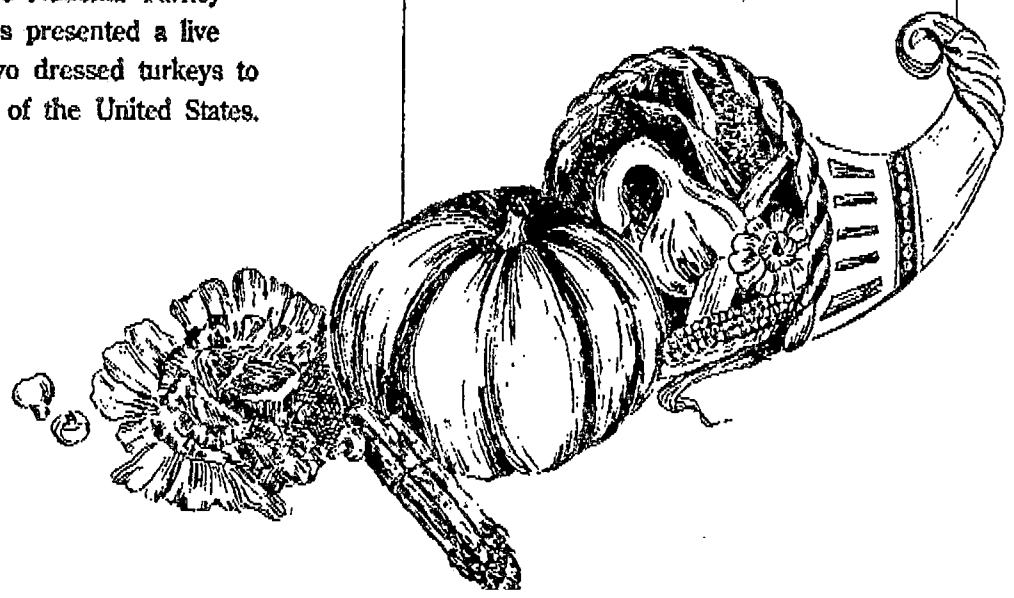
Many people report drowsiness after eating Thanksgiving dinner.

Recent studies suggest that the composition of a meal (particularly the ratio of carbohydrate to protein) influences the production of brain neurotransmitters which are involved in sleep, mood and depression.

Neurotransmitters in the brain are produced by the amino acid, tryptophan. A carbohydrate-rich - not a protein-rich - meal increased the level of tryptophan in the brain.

Since many people eat an unusually large, many-coursed, carbohydrate rich meal at Thanksgiving, they often associate the drowsiness they feel with the turkey. To be more accurate, they should associate their sleepy feelings to the increased amount of carbohydrates consumed.

Z  
Z  
Z's



TURKEY HISTORY & TRIVIA

## THE ART OF LAYING AN EGG

**Q** What does a turkey egg look like and are they sold for consumption?

**A** Turkey eggs, slightly larger than jumbo chicken eggs, occasionally may be purchased at health food stores or at farm markets. They are not a common retail item. Even though excellent for cooking and nutritious, they are expensive, costing about 75 cents per egg. The majority of turkey eggs are used to support turkey production.

## WEIGHING IN

### WEIGHING IN AT 86 POUNDS...

Leacroft Turkeys Ltd. of Petersborough, United Kingdom raised the world's heaviest turkey.

*Other titles in this series include:  
Raising Turkeys  
Turkey Storage & Preparation  
Turkey Statistics 1991*

THE NATIONAL TURKEY FEDERATION  
11319 Sunset Hills Road  
Reston, Virginia 22090

### Bird of Courage

Benjamin Franklin, who proposed the turkey as the official United States bird, was dismayed when the bald eagle was chosen over the turkey. Franklin wrote to his daughter, referring to the eagle's "bad moral character," saying, "I wish the Bald Eagle had not been chosen as the Representative of our country! The Turkey is a much more respectable Bird, and withal a true original native of America."

### Feathers, Feathers and More Feathers

It's estimated that turkeys have approximately 3,500 feathers at maturity. ♦ The bulk of turkey feathers are disposed of, however, some feathers may be used for special purposes. ♦ For instance, dyed feathers are used to make American Indian costumes or as quills for pens. ♦ The costume that "Big Bird" wears on "Sesame Street" is rumored to be made of turkey feathers. ♦ Turkey feather down has been used to make pillows. ♦ For commercial use, turkey skins are tanned and used to make items like cowboy boots, belts or other accessories.

advance, congratulations to each and every one of you.

[At this point, the awards were presented.]

Well done, everybody. What a great day. What an inspiring day here at the White House. Thank you all very, very much.

*Note: The President spoke at 10:28 a.m. in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building. Bart Simpson is a character in the television show "The Simpsons."*

**Letter to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate Transmitting a Report on the Potential Effects of Space Nuclear Reactors on Gamma-Ray Astronomy Missions**

November 14, 1990

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

I herewith forward a Report on the Potential Effects of Space Nuclear Reactors on Gamma-Ray Astronomy Missions pursuant to section 1012 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991 (Public Law 101-189).

Sincerely,

George Bush

*Note: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Dan Quayle, President of the Senate.*

*Thought you*

**Proclamation 6229—Thanksgiving Day, 1990**

November 14, 1990

*may want.*

By the President of the United States of America

**A Proclamation**

In the first Presidential Thanksgiving Day proclamation, George Washington observed that "it is the Duty of all Nations to ac-

knowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey his Will, to be grateful for his Benefits, and humbly to implore His Protection and Favor." As a people who have long enjoyed unparalleled material prosperity and the priceless blessings of peace and freedom, we Americans cannot fail to fulfill this great, yet joyous, duty. Thus, we pause each year on Thanksgiving Day to express our gratitude for the goodness and generosity of our Creator and to ask His continued protection and guidance in all our endeavors, both as individuals and as a Nation.

The observance of Thanksgiving was a cherished tradition in America long before George Washington called his countrymen "to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be." Indeed, we trace the tradition of giving thanks back to some of the earliest settlers in this country—not only the Pilgrims at Plymouth but also early colonists at Jamestown, New Amsterdam, and St. Augustine. With hands clasped in prayer and hearts full of gratitude, these men and women gave public thanks to God for having been sustained through times of hardship and peril.

William Bradford's account of the experience of the settlers at Plymouth Colony is not only a moving description of the trials of emigration to a wilderness but also captures their profound faith and contains a timeless exhortation to succeeding generations:

Being thus passed the vast ocean . . . they had now no friends to welcome them, nor inns to entertain or refresh their weatherbeaten bodies, no houses or much less towns to repair to . . . And for the season it was winter, and they that know the winters of that country know them to be sharp and violent . . . Besides, what could they see but a hideous and desolate wilderness? . . . Neither could they, as it were, go to the top of Pisgah, to view from this wilderness a more goodly country to feed their hopes, for which way soever they turned their eyes

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(save upwards to the heavens) they could have little solace or content . . . . What could now sustain them but the spirit of God and His grace? They cried to the Lord, and He heard their voice, and looked on their adversity. Let them therefore praise the Lord, because He is good, and His mercies endure for ever.

The historic observance of a day of thanksgiving at Plymouth in 1621 was one of many occasions on which our ancestors paused to acknowledge their dependence on the mercy and favor of Divine Providence. Today, on this Thanksgiving Day, likewise observed during a season of celebration and harvest, we have added cause for rejoicing: the seeds of democratic thought sown on these shores continue to take root around the world. In Central and Eastern Europe, in Latin America, and elsewhere, courageous men and women are beginning to reap the blessings of freedom and self-government. Peoples who once suffered under the heavy yoke of totalitarianism have begun to claim the liberty to which all are heirs.

Our gratitude for the rights and opportunities we enjoy as Americans may be measured by how carefully we use and preserve these gifts, as when we cultivate in our children a love of freedom and an understanding of the responsibilities that freedom demands of us. We tend the precious blossom of our liberty when we recall the example of our ancestors and strive to ensure that our own lives are firmly rooted in faith. Like our forebears, we must cherish the values and beliefs that are the foundation of strong, loving families and caring communities and recognize the importance of learning and hard work, because these are the wellspring of progress and prosperity.

The great freedom and prosperity with which we have been blessed is cause for rejoicing—and it is equally a responsibility. Indeed, Scripture tells us that much will be asked of those to whom much has been given. Our "errand in the wilderness," begun more than 350 years ago, is not yet

complete. Abroad, we are working toward a new partnership of nations. At home, we seek lasting solutions to the problems facing our Nation and pray for a society "with liberty and justice for all," the alleviation of want, and the restoration of hope to all our people.

This Thanksgiving, as we enjoy the company of family and friends, let us gratefully turn our hearts to God, the loving Source of all Life and Liberty. Let us seek His forgiveness for our shortcomings and transgressions and renew our determination to remain a people worthy of His continued favor and protection. Acknowledging our dependence on the Almighty, obeying His Commandments, and reaching out to help those who do not share fully in this Nation's bounty is the most heartfelt and meaningful answer we can give to the timeless appeal of the Psalmist: "O give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever."

Finally, on this Thanksgiving Day, let us also remember all those Americans abroad who labor to advance the ideals for which this great Nation stands. Whether Peace Corps volunteers or military or diplomatic personnel, these selfless individuals often accept great personal risks and sacrifices to serve our country. Let us remember, in particular, those Americans held hostage and members of the Armed Forces serving in the Persian Gulf region. On this day, let us pray for their well-being and their safe return to the United States. And let us be thankful that such fine men and women are still willing to answer the call of duty to country and to defend the cause of liberty.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby call upon the American people to observe Thursday, November 22, 1990, as a National Day of Thanksgiving and to gather together in homes and places of worship on that day of thanks to affirm by their prayers and their gratitude the many blessings God has bestowed upon us.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of November,

in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 2:32 p.m., November 15, 1990]

**Remarks at the Thanksgiving Turkey  
Presentation Ceremony**  
November 14, 1990

Is that the bird? Hey, Sam! I know you've been waiting out here and getting cold, but I want to welcome all you kids and all you older kids to the Rose Garden, especially Tom over there. After everything that's been going on in Washington these past few months, it's great to finally be sharing a stage with someone I can call a turkey and get away with it. [Laughter] So, I welcome him. I want to assure those of you who fear that a terrible fate awaits Tom Turkey that we've decided to spare him. He will not be subjected to questions from the Washington press corps after this ceremony. [Laughter]

Tom, since you come from North Carolina, and out of respect for the Governor of that State, my friend Jim Martin, I'm going to give you a Presidential pardon, and you can spend the rest of your life at a nearby children's farm. So, he'll be all right at Thanksgiving. Other turkeys may not; this one's going to be okay.

I'm glad to see the kids from the Key Elementary School and the New Hampshire Estates Elementary School. Here's a story you can take back to your teachers. Ben Franklin was upset that the bald eagle was named our national symbol because he wanted it to be the turkey. He said: "The turkey is a much more respectable bird, and a true original native of America." I'm sure that's a sentiment that Wyatt Upchurch and Stuart Proctor here and the National Turkey Federation would strongly applaud.

You know, Thanksgiving is really special to me because it's a truly American holiday, one that sums up the good, generous heart of this country. And it reminds us of our

real American values, the ones we just can't afford to forget: values like deep gratitude for the rich blessings of this great land, unselfish generosity towards those in need, and commitment to the primary importance of family.

With those values in mind, inside there in the Oval Office, I just signed the 1990 Thanksgiving Day Proclamation, continuing a Presidential tradition that was begun by our first President, George Washington. I was pleased to have five religious leaders from different denominations on hand for the signing. And continuing an even longer tradition that dates back to the Pilgrims, we can draw our inspiration from these early Americans. They suffered and lost so much and yet gave a day of genuine rejoicing for the little bit that they did have. How much more gratitude we, who have so much, owe today to our God, our fellow citizens, our country, and our brave service men and women so far from home this holiday.

Barbara and I will be with them, incidentally, Thanksgiving Day—with some of them over in Saudi Arabia. And I know I'll express what's in the heart of every American when I shake their hands—young men and young women—and say: Thank you. Thank you for standing for freedom, for our security, and for peace in our world.

And perhaps their sacrifice will make those of us at home this Thanksgiving Day reflect even more deeply. So that when we give thanks for our food, we will think of those that are ravaged by hunger; when we give thanks for our health, we will think of those imprisoned by pain or illness or despair; when we give thanks for our freedom, we will also think of those who live in darkness or tyranny; when we give thanks for our future, we will think of those who don't know hope. And we will realize that we have two obligations above all others. First: We must not take for granted the blessings of our lives. And second: For our lives to have true meaning, we must share with others. For this holiday reminds us that it's inner riches, not external wealth, by which we are measured. After all, Thanksgiving is not a time of the year, but it really is an attitude of the heart.

Thanks for coming. God bless everyone here, your families, all those being held hos-

tage, and our service men and women here and abroad. And to all you kids, Happy Thanksgiving. I'm glad you came to the White House. Thanks a lot.

*Note: The President spoke at 1:42 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Wyatt Upchurch and Stuart Proctor, president and executive vice president of the National Turkey Federation, respectively.*

**Proclamation 6230—National American Indian Heritage Month, 1990**  
November 14, 1990

By the President of the United States  
of America

**A Proclamation**

Long before European explorers set foot on the North American continent, this great land had been cultivated and cherished by generations of American Indians. Unbeknownst to their fellowman halfway around the world, these Native peoples had developed rich, thriving cultures, as well as their own systems of social order. They also possessed a wealth of acquired wisdom and skills in hunting, tracking, and farming—knowledge and skills that would one day prove to be invaluable to traders and settlers from Europe.

Today Americans of all ages recognize the many outstanding achievements of this country's original inhabitants and their descendants. Young and old alike know the story of Sacajawea, the Shoshone woman who helped to guide Lewis and Clark on their historic expedition and, in so doing, helped to open the door to the Great West. The giant redwood trees protected in a number of our national parks bear the name of Sequoia, in honor of the great Cherokee leader who taught thousands of Indians to read and write and, in so doing, helped to unite and strengthen the Cherokee Nation. We also recall the achievements of Charles Curtis, the proud descendant of Native Americans who served this country not only as a member of Congress but also as Vice President. However, such celebrat-

ed examples constitute only a small portion of the rich, centuries-old heritage of American Indians. Indeed, each of the many tribes that have inhabited this great land boasts a long and fascinating legacy of its own.

Last year, when signing into law the "National Museum of the American Indian Act," I noted that our Nation would be moving forward with a new and deeper understanding of the diverse heritage of Native Americans. Like the many educational and cultural events currently being held across the country in observance of National American Indian Heritage Month, the development of a national museum dedicated to the preservation of American Indian history, art, language, literature, anthropology, and culture will help to enhance public awareness of—and appreciation for—these proud peoples.

During National American Indian Heritage Month, as we celebrate the fascinating history and time-honored traditions of Native Americans, we also look to the future. Our Constitution affirms a special relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes and—despite a number of conflicts, inequities, and changes over the years—our unique government-to-government relationship has endured. In recent years, we have strengthened and renewed this relationship. Today we reaffirm our support for increased Indian control over tribal government affairs, and we look forward to still greater economic independence and self-sufficiency for Native Americans.

The Congress, by Public Law 101-343, has designated November 1990 as "National American Indian Heritage Month" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this month.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim November 1990 as National American Indian Heritage Month. I encourage all Americans and their elected representatives at the Federal, State, and local levels to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

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JOURNALS OF THE  
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

1774-1789

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Volume IX. 1777

October 3-December 31

WASHINGTON  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1907

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1777

Prayers.

A letter, of the 18 October, from General Gates, with the copy of the convention at Saratoga, ~~whereby General Burgoyne surrenders himself and his whole army;~~ and another, of the 20th, enclosing the copy of a letter from him to Major General John Vaughan, were read:<sup>1</sup>

*Ordered*, That the letters from General Gates, with the papers enclosed, be referred to the Board of War, and that the Committee of Intelligence publish the convention.

*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a recommendation to the several states, to set apart a day of thanksgiving, for the signal success, lately obtained over the enemies of these United States:

The members chosen, Mr. S[amuel] Adams, Mr. R[ichard] H[enry] Lee, and Mr. [Daniel] Roberdeau.

A letter from Robert Towers, to Mr. Roberdeau, was laid before Congress and read:

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the Board of War.

*Ordered*, That Colonel Wilkinson, who brought the despatches from General Gates, be directed to attend [Congress]:

Colonel Wilkinson attending, was admitted, and having informed Congress that he had sundry papers to lay before Congress as soon as he could have time to digest and arrange them, and having answers to sundry questions relative to the situation of our army, and those of the enemy, before, at the time of, and since the capitulation of General Burgoyne, he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That an express be immediately despatched to General Washington, with a copy of General Gates's letter to Congress, and the enclosed capitulation.

Adjourned to 4 o'Clock.

<sup>1</sup>The letter of the 18th is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 154, I, folio 278.

The question being then put on the first motion, and the yeas and nays required:

<i>New Hampshire,</i> Mr. Folsom,	no } no	<i>New Jersey,</i> Mr. Elmer,	ay } ay
<i>Massachusetts Bay,</i> Mr. S. Adams,	no } no	<i>Pennsylvania,</i> Mr. Roberdeau,	no } no
J. Adams,	no } no	<i>Maryland,</i> Mr. Smith,	ay } *
Gerry, Lovell,	no }	<i>Virginia,</i> Mr. Jones,	ay }
<i>Rhode Island,</i> Mr. Marchant,	no } no	R. H. Lee,	no } ay
<i>Connecticut,</i> Mr. Dyer,	ay } ay	F. L. Lee,	ay }
Law, Williams,	ay }	Harvie,	ay }
<i>New York,</i> Mr. Duane,	ay } ay	<i>North Carolina,</i> Mr. Penn,	ay } ay
Duer,	ay }	Harnett,	ay }
		<i>South Carolina,</i> Mr. Heyward,	ay } ay
		Laurens,	ay }

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

||The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,||

Adjourned to 10 o'Clock to Morrow.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1777

Mr. [William] Clingan, a delegate from Pennsylvania, attended and took his seat.

Congress proceeded to the choice of a president; and, the ballots being taken,

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Henry Laurens was elected.<sup>1</sup>

The committee appointed to prepare a recommendation to these states, to set apart a day of thanksgiving, brought in a report; which was agreed to as follows:

Forasmuch as it is the indispensable duty of all men to adore the superintending providence of Almighty God; to acknowledge with

<sup>1</sup> Roberdeau wrote: "Henry Laurens, Vice President of South Carolina, a worthy, sensible, indefatigable Gentleman, was this day chosen by a unanimous vote, except his own, President of Congress." *Pennsylvania Archives*, First Series, V, 735.

gratitude their obligation to him for benefits received, and to implore such farther blessings as they stand in need of; and it having pleased him in his abundant mercy not only to continue to us the innumerable bounties of his common providence, but also to smile upon us in the prosecution of a just and necessary war, for the defence and establishment of our unalienable rights and liberties; particularly in that he hath been pleased in so great a measure to prosper the means used for the support of our troops and to crown our arms with most signal success: It is therefore recommended to the legislative or executive powers of these United States, to set apart Thursday, the eighteenth day of December next, for solemn thanksgiving and praise; that with one heart<sup>1</sup> and one voice the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts, and consecrate themselves to the service of their divine benefactor; and that together with their sincere acknowledgments and offerings, they may join the penitent confession of their manifold sins, whereby they had forfeited every favour, and their humble and earnest supplication that it may please God, through the merits of Jesus Christ, mercifully to forgive and blot them out of remembrance; that it may please him graciously to afford his blessing on the governments of these states respectively, and prosper the public council of the whole; to inspire our commanders both by land and sea, and all under them, with that wisdom and fortitude which may render them fit instruments, under the providence of Almighty God, to secure for these United States the greatest of all human blessings, independence and peace; that it may please him to prosper the trade and manufactures of the people and the labour of the husbandman, that our land may yet yield its increase; to take schools and seminaries of education, so necessary for cultivating the principles of true liberty, virtue and piety, under his nurturing hand, and to prosper the means of religion for the promotion and enlargement of that kingdom which consisteth "in righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost."

And it is further recommended, that servile labour, and such recreation as, though at other times innocent, may be unbecoming the purpose of this appointment, be omitted on so solemn an occasion.<sup>2</sup>

||The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,||

Adjourned to 10 o'Clock on Monday.

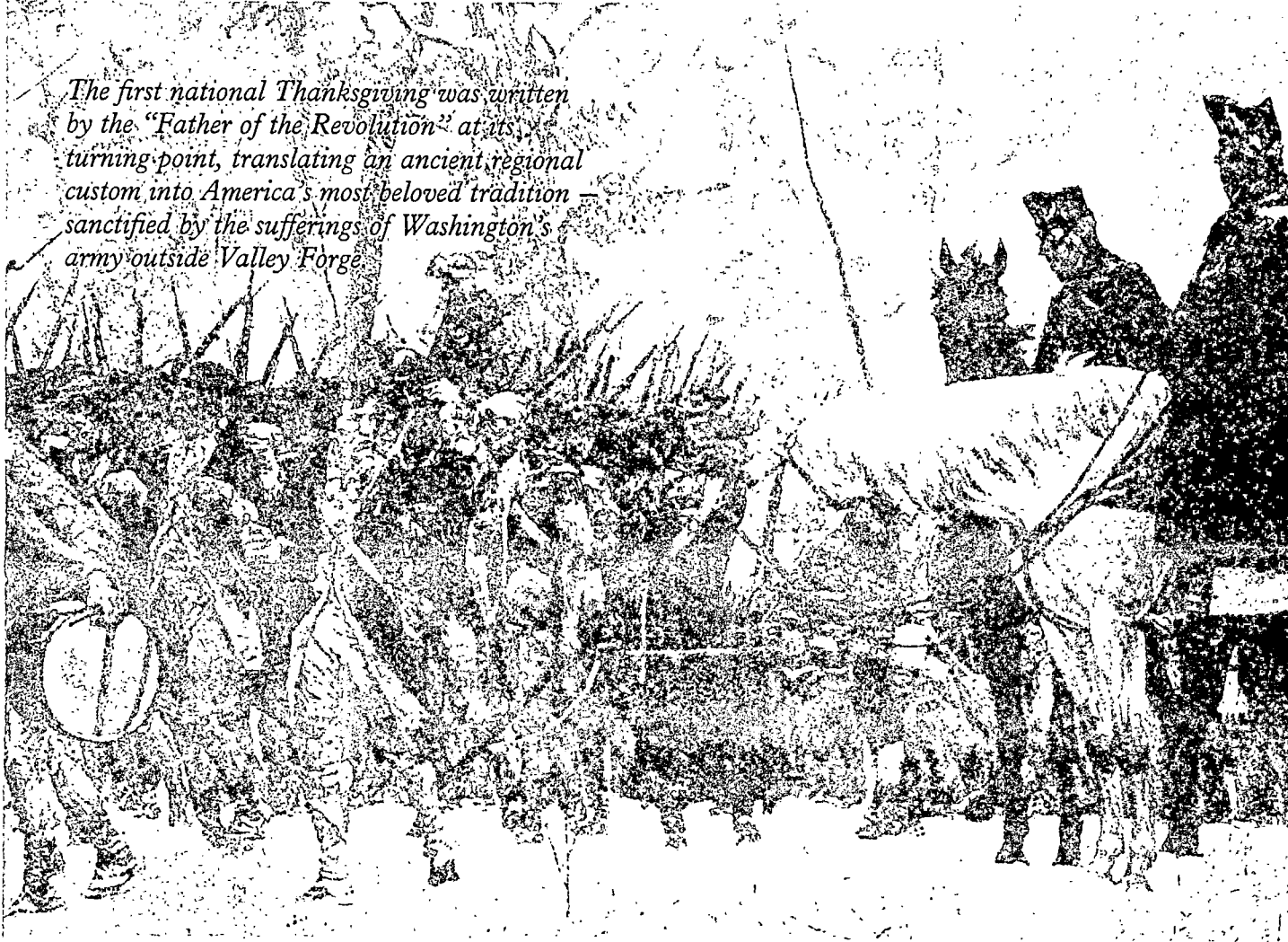
<sup>1</sup>The original read: "That at one time and with one voice."

<sup>2</sup>This report, in the writing of Samuel Adams, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 24, folio 431.

Thanksgiving in spite of suffering

12621  
The  
*First Thanksgiving*  
of the  
UNITED STATES

*The first national Thanksgiving was written by the "Father of the Revolution" at its turning point, translating an ancient regional custom into America's most beloved tradition — sanctified by the sufferings of Washington's army outside Valley Forge.*



**"Mankind is never truly thankful  
for the benefits of life  
until they have experienced  
the want of them."**

*—An Army surgeon near Valley Forge  
on the first national Thanksgiving Day*

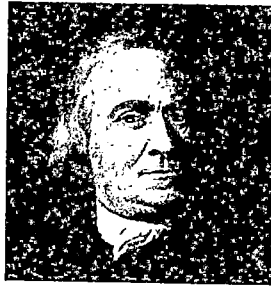
*A final roar from the old lion, Samuel Adams, — not raging against tyranny this time, but praising God — crowns the career of the “Father of the Revolution.” At the moment of the “Turning Point of the Revolution” he translated an ancient New England custom (by a Proclamation written with his own hand) into the most universal and beloved of all American traditions — Thanksgiving. On the bitter December day Thanksgiving was celebrated, the emerging giant George Washington with his army sanctified by their suffering this first national Thanksgiving in the bitter cold outside Valley Forge.*

*From this time on, Thanksgiving became the property of all Americans, instinctively rooted in all cultures and religions, vitally expressing in humility and gratitude what one President has called, “The story of the American spirit.” At a tumultuous moment in world history, this universal spirit began to saturate the soul of America — gratitude to God for life itself.*

### **Prayer Unites People**

From the earliest days, the English colonies proclaimed fasts or thanksgivings to mark a time of great crisis or rejoicing. In New England they became regular, fasts in the spring and thanksgivings in the fall. Sometimes a town would proclaim one of these days of prayer in sympathy with another town’s need or joy — Salem reached out to Plymouth and in 1774 Williamsburg in Virginia reached out to Boston. It united them in spirit. Because of the Williamsburg Proclamation, the Virginia Royal Governor dissolved the House of Burgesses. The “rump session” then promptly issued the call to the other colonies for the First Continental Congress. Proclamations of special days of prayer are based on the oldest principle in American or perhaps any society — prayer unites people.

The first issue of the first day of the First Continental Congress in 1774 was — can we open the business with prayer? Can we pray together? Despite their diversity of religions, inspired by Samuel Adams, they decided that they could — unanimously. From that first day miraculous unity seemed to hold the far flung colonies together. Nearly a year later in June of 1775 the Second Continental Congress dared to ask a whole continent to pray and fast together.



It had an electric effect, uniting the American people in spirit a year before the Declaration of Independence.

1777 began with a third call to national prayer and fasting by the Continental Congress saying, “the war . . . is likely to be carried to the greatest extremity. . . it becomes all public bodies, as well as private persons, to reverence the Providence of God, and look up to Him as the Supreme Disposer of all events and the arbiter of the fate of nations . . .” Washington observed it with his army near Morristown, New Jersey. Though weeks apart by fast post rider, the states felt together in spirit — united in the worship of God.

### **1777 Unfolds**

In England John Burgoyne had convinced Lord North and George III that the only way to halt the revolution was to split New England from the Southern states. On June 18th he found himself at the head of the British expedition starting southward from Canada to join up with the British force who were to proceed northward from New York City in a classic pincers movement.

But, instead British General Howe in New York sailed southward to capture the American capital of Philadelphia on September 26th just behind the Continental Congress who fled westward to York, Pennsylvania. By October 17th after several days of battle near Saratoga, New York — with winter coming on and with no assistance from New York — Burgoyne surrendered his army of 5,728 officers and men to American General Horatio Gates. It was the “Turning Point of the Revolution.”

General Gates dispatched his adjutant, an improbable 21 year old Colonel with a genius for trouble, James Wilkinson, to present his official report to the Congress at York. Then, with the



nation waiting for the official account of the greatest news of the war, Wilkinson unaccountably took 12 days to cover the 285 miles between Saratoga and York . . . saying he was hampered by



heavy rains and swollen rivers. Actually, he went by to see Ann Biddle (later his wife) at Easton and at Reading he let slip the hottest conspiracy of the Revolution, "The Conway Cabal" (later he challenged General Gates to a duel and became a

co-conspirator with Aaron Burr). By the 21st of October the Continental Congress had unofficially received the news of Saratoga through General Washington although there was still no official news from Gates. State capitals meanwhile were unofficially receiving the news and proclaiming Thanksgiving; each, of course, at different times.

Still waiting at York, Samuel Adams on Sunday, October 26th wrote a friend, "The Express (Gates' official account) is expected every Hour." Then this master strategist and mover of men wrote what was in the back of his mind — a vision many others shared, "I hope our Countrymen will render the just Tribute of Praise to the Supreme Ruler for . . . His Interposition in favor of a People struggling for their Liberties." Then came his own inspiration and design, "Congress will, I suppose, recommend the setting apart *one Day of publick Thanksgiving* to be observed throughout the United States."

### The Thanksgiving Resolution

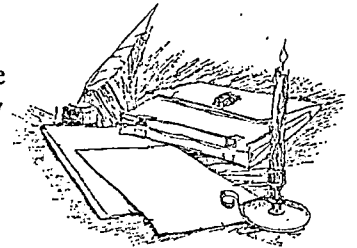
Finally, Colonel Wilkinson arrived. The "Journals of Congress" for Friday, October 31st (the 13th day since the victory and the 10th day since Congress had first received the unofficial news) tells its own story:

"Prayers. A letter of the 18th of October, from General Gates, with the copy of the convention at Saratoga . . . were read." The immediate reaction of Congress was a Thanksgiving resolution which carried out the intention of Adams' letter of the previous Sunday, "Resolved, that a committee of three be appointed to prepare a recommendation to the several states to set apart a day of thanksgiving . . ." (members chosen were S. Adams, R. H. Lee [Adams' usual ally from Virginia] and D. Roberdeau [Adams' landlord]).

So at sunset Friday, Samuel Adams, 55, had the authority to write the first Thanksgiving Proclamation, the gratitude of the people of an infant nation for the decisive turning point in the fight for independence to which for 29 years he had passionately devoted his life. For him it was a God-given victory in a righteous cause.

In the next few hours before midnight he must have scratched out by candlelight in his own deliberate hand (shown here) the three pages of the first national Thanksgiving Proclamation. That night he gave each of us the national thanksgiving tradition which every American has known since infancy.

Thanksgiving could have died out as a quaint New England custom, an accident of history, but Adams' determination started this — our most beautiful national tradition.



Next morning, Saturday, November 1st, the Journal reports — "The committee brought in a report; which was agreed to as follows: Forasmuch as it is the indispensable duty of all men to adore the superintending providence of Almighty God; to acknowledge with gratitude their obligation to him . . ." (the Proclamation went in part) "It is

*Forasmuch as it is the indispensable Duty of all Men, to adore the superintending Providence of Almighty God: — To adore and adore with Gratitude their Obligations*

therefore recommended . . . to set apart Thursday the eighteenth day of December next, for solemn thanksgiving and praise, that with one heart and one voice the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts and consecrate themselves to the service of their divine benefactor . . ." (the Proclamation proper was a single sentence of more than 360 words — a real outpouring). On the same day Henry Laurens, President of the Congress, wrote a letter to each of the Governors of the 13 states enclosing the Thanksgiving Proclamation.

account of a remarkable chasm in the hills) . . . starvation here rioted in its glory," said Private Joseph Martin.

In Washington's general orders of the 17th of December (note the date) he explained why he intended to establish the army at Valley Forge (6 miles distant) with confidence that the army would "with one heart and one mind resolve to surmount every difficulty with a fortitude and a patience, becoming their profession, and the sacred cause in which we are engaged." Foreseeing the necessary



So for the first time it happened that a Thanksgiving was kept in the United States. The times before it had been dark. Many had become discouraged. In states in which the Thanksgiving custom was comparatively new there was much preaching and feasting. The army everywhere observed it with reverence.

### Thanksgiving in suffering

But war was grim with Washington's army near Philadelphia. Countermarching and maneuvering in the face of Howe's occupation of Philadelphia — Washington and his army, tattered and hungry from months of constant marching and fighting, now had to take up winter quarters close enough to limit British foraging and supply. Crossing the Schuylkill River, "We at last settled down at a place called 'The Gulph' (so named on

sacrifice, he added that he himself would "share in the hardship and partake of every inconvenience." The army was preparing to fight for survival, not against bullets and cannon, but against snow and frost and hunger.

So as a grand paradox of history Washington added to his order — "Tomorrow being the day set apart by the Honorable Congress for public Thanksgiving and Praise; and duty calling us devoutly to express our grateful acknowledgements to God for the manifold blessings he has granted us, the General directs that the army remain in its present quarters, and that the Chaplains perform divine service with their several Corps and Brigades. And earnestly exhorts, all officers and soldiers, whose absence is not indispensibly necessary, to attend with reverence the solemnities of the day."

This first national Thanksgiving Day "was dark and misty, cold rain fell. Had not Congress long before this time appointed the day as a day of general thanksgiving, the celebration, because of the weather conditions, might not have been held."

Thanksgiving in suffering. Here is repeated the classic pattern of great Thanksgivings of history, thanksgiving despite suffering seems to presage a growth of soul in individual or nation.

"This is Thanksgiving Day" Lt. Col. Henry Dearborn wrote in his dairy on Thursday the 18th of December, "God knows we have very little to keep it with, this being the third day we have been without flour or bread, and are living on a high, uncultivated hill, in huts and tents, lying on the cold ground. Upon the whole I think all we have to be thankful for is that we are alive and not in the grave with many of our friends."

The army was not only starved but naked . . . many shirtless and barefoot. "Hundreds of my companions . . . might be tracked by their blood on the rough, frozen ground . . . but hunger, nakedness and sore shins were not the only difficulties . . . we had hard duty to perform and little or no strength to perform it with."

"Mankind is never truly thankful for the benefits of life," philosophized Surgeon Albigeance Waldo that day, "until they have experienced the want of them."

The day after Thanksgiving, December 19th, "Was a day in history. Under the lash of stormy winds and piercing cold, ice formed on the roads . . . The little army of some 11,000 men, of whom

nearly 3,000 were incapacitated by sickness and nakedness, and which had so recently sustained a campaign with . . . unparalleled courage and bravery," commenced the march west to Valley Forge, and started there a test of suffering which was to result in the strength that brought victory and a new nation.

Across the Atlantic in Paris, Benjamin Franklin, with news of the victory at Saratoga, had

In C O N G R E S S,  
N O V E M B E R 1, 1777.

**F**OR AS MUCH as it is the indispensable duty of all men to adore the superintending providence of Almighty God, to acknowledge with gratitude their obligations to Him for benefits received; and to implore such farther blessings as they stand in need of: And if having pleased him in his abundant mercy, not only to continue to us the *innumerable* bounties of his common providence; but also to smile upon us, in the prosecution of a just and necessary war for the defence and establishment of our unalienable rights and liberties: *Particularly* in that he hath been pleased in so great a measure, to prosper the means used for the support of our troops; and to crown our arms with most *signal* success:

It is therefore recommended to the legislative or executive powers of these United States, to set apart THURSDAY, the eighteenth day of *December* next, for SOLEMN THANKSGIVING and PRAISE: That at one time and with one voice, the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts, and consecrate themselves to the service of their DIVINE BENEFACTOR: and that, together with their sincere acknowledgments and offerings, they may join the penitent confession of their sins, whereby they had forfeited every favor; and their humble and earnest supplications that it may please God, through the merits of Jesus Christ, *mercifully* to forgive and blot them out of remembrance. That it may please him graciously to afford his blessing on the Governments of these States respectively, and prosper the PUBLIC COUNCIL of the whole. To inspire our commanders both by land and sea, and all under them, with that wisdom and fortitude which may render them fit instruments, under the providence of Almighty God, to secure for these United States, the greatest of all human blessings, INDEPENDENCE and PEACE. That it may please him, to prosper the trade and manufactures of the people, and the labour of the husbandman, that our land may yet yield its increase. To take schools and seminaries of education, so necessary for cultivating the principles of true liberty, virtue and piety, under his *nurturing* hand: and to prosper the means of religion, for the promotion and enlargement of that kingdom which consisteth in RIGHT EOUSNESS, PEACE, AND JOY IN THE HOLY GHOST.

*And it is further recommended,* that servile labour, and such recreation as, though at other times innocent, may be unbecoming the purpose of this *appointment*, may be omitted on so solemn an occasion.

By order of C O N G R E S S,  
HENRY LAURENS, President.

played on the fears of the French that the British might offer a treaty to the Americans. So, on that same December 17th that George Washington issued his poignant Thanksgiving order, the French Foreign Minister promised the American Commissioners in Paris that France would recognize American independence and make a treaty — thus insuring eventual American victory.

The army's terrible experience at Valley Forge became its emerging strength as the winter snows started melting. It showed the amazing rightness of a Thanksgiving in crisis and suffering — the assertion of faith that carries humans through terrible trials.

From this first Thanksgiving in December of 1777 the prayer proclamations of fasts and thanksgivings each year did not cease throughout the Revolution. From the local pulpit or as a broadside at the tavern door, these proclamations of prayer were the voice of the people's deepest sentiments in their free legislatures. They saw the religious and political convictions in the same document as merely the two sides of a life of action. They proved their sincerity by staking their lives on it. "The sacred cause" so often repeated by Washington and others, was certainly seen as freedom for America, but also God's plan for the freedom of humanity.

It was Washington who began the Presidential Thanksgiving Proclamations in 1789 voicing his own conviction that, "it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God." Washington's final Thanksgiving Proclamation in 1795 captures a nobility never exceeded by any President, "... impart all the blessings we possess, or ask for ourselves to the whole family of mankind."

With the growth of peace, power and prosperity, outspoken reliance on God by a President in a prayer proclamation ceased after

John Adams and James Madison. But, in the 1840's a determined woman editor, Mrs. Sarah Josepha Hale, started a one woman campaign to restore this public expression of a nation's trust in God. Yet it was not until the nation was on the brink of civil war in December of 1860 that President Buchanan issued the first prayer and fasting proclamation in 44 years. He beseeched God, "to save us from the horrors of civil war . . . to remember us as he did our fathers in the darkest day of the Revolution." But it was not to be.

The new President, Abraham Lincoln, asked for days of fast and prayer in 1861, 1862 and 1863. Finally, on July 15, 1863 President Lincoln proclaimed the first Thanksgiving in 48 years and since then every American President has issued at least one Thanksgiving Proclamation every year. So another even more terrible struggle implanted firmly the ancient heritage.

Today, official Thanksgivings are observed in Japan, Switzerland, Canada and Liberia in addition to innumerable other ancient celebrations of gratitude around the world. In 1975 the United Nations Meditation Group celebrated the first "International Thanksgiving."

Thanksgiving unites people. The Continental Congress dared to ask for Thanksgiving on a national scale — declaring publicly their dependence upon God. Healing and harmony and growth have been the result. In gratitude we recognize our common dependence, and therefore, under God, our common humanity.

*This brochure was made possible by many people, but we are especially thankful to Richard L. Bushman, Kenneth E. Harris, Bill Murchison, Nicholas Olsberg, Albert Outler, Martin J. A. G. Petersilia, John F. Reed, Landon Charles Reisinger, David Steindl-Rast, Peter Stewart, Waldo E. Stewart and many others for text, history and interpretation. For illustrations we appreciate the cooperation of the Valley Forge Historical Society, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (detail of Adams by Copley), every effort was made to contact the owners of copyright material reproduced in these pages especially the portrait of James Wilkinson and Ann Biddle reproduced in "Tarnished Warrior" by James R. Jacobs, published by Macmillan in 1938, the National Archives, the Massachusetts Historical Society and from "Men Without Countries" an illustration by Rick Duiker, copyright 1969 by John Edward Weems, reproduced by permission of Houghton Mifflin Co.*

THANKS-GIVING SQUARE FOUNDATION, BOX 1777, DALLAS, TEXAS 75221, 214/651-1777

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To MK  
Date 11/12 Time 6:45

**WHILE YOU WERE OUT**

M Frank Kelly  
of \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code Number Extension

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

RETURNED YOUR CALL

Message Call in the AM.  
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Aarhus  
October 15, 1991  
A: THANKS  
Draft One

**PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: THANKSGIVING DAY MESSAGE FOR THE TROOPS**

When the early settlers came to America more than three centuries ago, they experienced many years of hardship, peril, and fear. The praises of thanksgiving to God for His bountiful blessings despite extreme adversity gave rise to the custom of setting aside one day each year to worship with family and friends -- giving **special** thanks for the blessings bestowed upon us. It is fitting, then, that we celebrate this holiday of Thanksgiving: thanking God for all He has done, while at the same time, asking for forgiveness -- praying not for an easier life, but allowing our misfortunes to help us become stronger. \\\

A year ago, I stood in the sand and ate Thanksgiving dinner on the hood of a jeep with some of our troops stationed in Saudi Arabia -- troops who later went on to defend freedom and battle tyranny in the Persian Gulf. That Thanksgiving dinner is one I certainly never will forget. \\\ This year, Americans all across the country will say a prayer for our servicemen and women, and for the families whose soldiers were lost in Operation Desert Storm.

For over two hundred years, our nation has faced many difficult challenges. America's men and women in uniform have been on the front line in defense of our way of life, our beliefs, and our values. Your devotion to liberty has enabled freedom's light to shine more brightly across the world. \\\

So, take a moment today to say a special prayer of Thanksgiving. Give thanks for our family and friends... Give thanks for the countless blessings we receive each and every day... Give thanks that our work is helping the United States of America show other countries the way to peace and democracy... Remember those who are less fortunate in this world, and vow to make each person's life we touch a little brighter. \\

Some of you may be spending this holiday away from loved ones. For your exceptional service and sacrifice, we all are grateful; you are in our thoughts and our prayers. To all our servicemen and women, wherever you may be stationed, Barbara and I, and the rest of the Bush family, wish you a happy Thanksgiving. May God bless you all.

# # # # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 20, 1991

INTERVIEW OF THE PRESIDENT  
IN SATELLITE TOUR WITH NBC-OWNED AND OPERATED TV STATIONS

Old Executive Office Building

10:17 A.M. EST

(WRC-TV, Washington, D.C.; Anchor: Doreen Gentzler)

Q Most of the local stories that we've been covering lately seem to be related to the troubled economy -- state and local budget shortfalls and the big budget cuts that are resulting; unemployment; business bankruptcies; the stock market. Yet, you've indicated that you'll wait until January to talk about economic proposals. Why wait, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: I'm not waiting to talk about it. We've been trying to get through the Congress growth proposals that I think would or would have had a very good effect on the economy. I've got a package of about six or seven items, some of which are job-intensive, like the transportation bill. But, no, I'm not going to wait on that. What I think I will do, though, is at the time of the State of the Union, put it all together and challenge the Congress to do that which in my view they should have done some time ago.

I'm concerned about it. People are hurting. And I think we have to do something. But it's not a question of complacency, it's a question of not being able to get through the Congress the very things that I think would help the economy.

Q Some of your critics right now are charging that your administration doesn't really have a coherent economic policy. How do you respond to those critics?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, that's true because we're getting into a political season and it's true that the critics are saying that. But they don't look at the proposals that we have made -- IRAs and capital gains reduction and a good transportation bill. We have several other things that make up for a good package.

But the problem is, we're caught in a political year. I'd love to see IRAs for first-time home buyers. That would stimulate the housing business. But we haven't been able to get it through. So I think we have to just guard against the political charge, look at the fact -- and the fact is we've got good ideas, that I've challenged the Congress to act on. They haven't done it.

So what we've got to do now is use this time to gather up our position on all of these things, repackage, maybe add to it, be concerned about this economy; and then, with the whole nation watching, when the Congress comes back, say: Now, look, here's what we must do. Now, you should support the President. Let's lay politics aside now for a little bit, even in an election year, and try to get something done that will help the people that are hurting.

So that's that approach. But I think you're right. I think you're accurately reflecting the attacks on me that come every single day. I'm used to that, but I think much more important than political attacks is: Can't we get something done to help people?

MORE

Q Mr. President, you have said that you oppose statehood for the District of Columbia even though the District gets about 86 percent of its revenue from local residents and businesses. Why do you oppose statehood for the District?

THE PRESIDENT: Because I think of Washington as a federal city; I'm not going to change my view on it. I think it was set up as a federal city, I think that's the way it should be -- disproportionate federal government participation here -- and I think the relationship we've got with the city government is good. You've got a good mayor, we're trying to work with her, and I don't think we need statehood for the city, and that's been a constant position.

Q The Mayor is asking for statehood.

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, I know she is; and so are many of the predictable senators. But I don't think that was the way the whole system was designed; and if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Q All right. Mr. President, what is your administration doing about AIDS?

THE PRESIDENT: We've got the best research program going on AIDS -- I'm glad you asked it, because we are spending a tremendous amount of money on AIDS -- much more per capita on AIDS than we are on cancer, on heart disease -- the biggest killers. In fact, so much so that some of those illnesses, the people that are advocating more care are saying, hey, you're disproportionately engaged here. So the one thing is, we've got a great research program right here -- the National Institutes of Health, under Dr. Fauci and Dr. Broder and others. So that's very, very positive, and we're making pretty good strides, if you heard Fauci the other day.

We also are going forward in an educational sense, trying to teach people that AIDS can be controlled -- sometimes, not always -- by behavior. It is one disease where a person's individual choice can make a difference whether that person gets the disease or not. That's not true in the inadvertent poisoning, say, from a blood contribution. But you're seeing efforts being made now to be sure that that blood supply is clean as possible, so that's a helpful approach to be taking on AIDs.

So I think we're on top of it. We're moving the drugs to market faster, and we're getting criticized by some on that, but I think that's a good approach. It's a tough one, and I think the President should -- and I'm trying to show the compassion I feel for the victims of this disease. But I think most people realize behavior is important. Stop doing those things that bring AIDS upon you. And I think that's a good message, too.

Q All right. Mr. President, before we say good-bye, anything you want to say to Redskin fans in Washington?

THE PRESIDENT: I hope I've made amends for my indiscretion for rooting for the home team, which I consider -- I have to stay with that position. I'm not going to flip on that one. And who knows, maybe they'll meet again. Having said that, when I was doing my mea culpa with your associates there, I did it from the heart: One, respect for Joe Gibbs; and secondly, I'm caught up, as everybody around else here is, in the excitement of this undefeated team. It's good for the community. It's good for the country, as a matter of fact. So put me down as a fan most of the time.  
(Laughter.)

Q All right. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Good to see you back.

\* \* \*

(WNBC-TV, New York, N.Y.; Anchor: Chuck Scarborough)

Q Good morning, Mr. President. Thank you for joining us today and taking some of your time out for us.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, sir. Nice to see you.

Q Good to see you, too. Mr. President, I'd hoped to begin this interview by getting your reaction to whatever decision Mario Cuomo made about running for President, but he's still being coy. He is not, however, shy about blaming your administration for New York's economic mess. So perhaps there is some bit of wisdom you'd like to share with him to help him make his decision?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I had better stay out of that one, Chuck. Nice try, though. (Laughter.) But that's a matter -- you know, there are all kinds of people running over there and let them make that determination, and then I will confidently take on whoever wins what will be some hotly-contested primaries. But I had better stay out of fine-tuning the New York situation.

Q The Democrats though, both announced and unannounced, are apparently drawing a bit of blood in their sniping at you on the economy --

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q -- and on domestic issues. And there are close associates of yours who are eager for you to get your campaign officially underway, to declare your candidacy, to get your team organized, and to attack aggressively the economic problems that seem to be making you vulnerable. Why haven't you organized your campaign yet and gotten it together?

THE PRESIDENT: I think it's a little easy -- I'd make a distinction between having a total campaign organization in place and attacking aggressively on this economy that's sluggish and that's causing enormous hardship and concern to people. I'm going to keep pushing for the growth package that I have and that I've had before the Congress for a long time; and then, come the State of the Union, add to it, and present to the nation, eyeball to eyeball, what I think is best and say, hey, let's set politics aside and let's get something done for the people. So there's one thing.

In terms of the reelection, I think you'll be seeing my coming out with some top people for the campaign quite soon: who to run it, who to support the person running it. And then the campaign organization will be fleshed out very quickly after that. So I make a distinction between the two, but I can see why people are linking them. And you're right -- I'm under fire every day. You've got a lot of Democratic candidates and they're trying to blame the President for everything and attack. Fortunately, the people know that, if you refer to these endless numbers of surveys, that the Congress has to share a little responsibility. In fact, the people say most of it.

So I'm going to keep trying to help people with the economy and then we'll have a vigorous, strong campaign. And that will help, Chuck, because I think it will deflect -- the campaign organization in 50 states will help deflect some of this intensive criticism coming out of the Democratic National Committee and resonating through the candidates.

MORE

Q Are you getting good advice from your Chief of Staff, John Sununu?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I'm getting good advice from him. Very good.

Q I ask that because there's a published report today in The New York Times saying that those closest to you are getting ever more discontented with him -- even your staff and your own family. Your children are derisively calling him Governor "Nunu," according to The Times, and Barbara has turned against him.

THE PRESIDENT: That's all crazy.

Q Is it?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, it is. It is not true. Do we call him "Nunu"? Yes, I do. My boys do, and do it with affection and have since 1988 when he had a large part in my being elected. But that's an affectionate thing. But I saw that piece. And, Chuck, where they get these mischievous inside-the-Beltway things, I do not know. My wife has great affection for John, great confidence in him. And so it's this time of year. And the guy that wrote that story, they love this inside stuff. I mean, they thrive on it. The country doesn't care about that. They say, what are you going to do to help me? I'm out of a job, I need help. And it's there that we're trying to do better. And it's there that I'd like people to concentrate on our suggestions. And maybe that would get the Congress to move on some of them.

Q Let me shift gears over to Pan Am 103, the terror bombing of Pan Am 103. Last week, two Libyans were indicted for the bombing of that plane that killed 188 Americans, in total 270 people. The families of those who were lost don't think the buck stops with Libya. They are persuaded that Iran and Syria were deeply involved in the bombing of that airplane, and they are suspicious that your administration is not blaming Iran and Syria because you don't want to interfere with the peace process in the Middle East.

THE PRESIDENT: That's an erroneous assumption. A lot of people got way out front blaming Syria early on. And let me say that the intelligence community and the Justice Department have done a superb job of trying to get to the bottom of this. It was like searching for a needle in a haystack. And they found the needle in an enormous haystack.

Q So there's no evidence linking Iran or Syria to the bombing?

THE PRESIDENT: No. And Iran is not involved in the peace process. You might remind the people that are saying that. Syria is. And a charge has been, as you properly state, by some of the families, well, there's some covering up to keep Syria, and that's not the case. We are going to get to the bottom of all of this. But I think most people that have looked at the indictments and looked at the evidence -- and I've looked at the evidence -- give great credit to those that have done this detective work. And it's not just here, it's in Scotland and it's around the world.

So I'm satisfied that we're on the right track. But if there's any further links to be examined, this Justice Department will be pursue them.

Q Mr. President, thank you very much for your time.

THE PRESIDENT: It's very nice of you to do it this way.

Q It's been a pleasure.

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(WTVJ-TV, Miami, Ft. Lauderdale; Anchor: Tom Randles)

THE PRESIDENT: Hey, Tom. Can you see me?

Q Yes, I can. Good morning, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning, sir. I see you loud and clear. Hear you and see you.

Q We here in South Florida have a very special interest in a story that continues to unfold as we speak -- the flow of Haitian refugees from Haiti to the U.S. The State Department says it does not feel these people, who have risked their lives to come here, will be persecuted when they're sent back.

On the contrary, Mr. President, we're hearing stories from Haitians who fled Haiti that their lives are in jeopardy. In some cases, they've been beaten, they've been threatened, their homes burned -- all because they supported democratically-elected Jean Bertrand Aristide.

How can your administration continue to stand by a policy that says it's okay to accept certain ethnic groups because of tyranny in their homeland, but not Haitians?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think that we would deny people who are genuinely politically prosecuted entry. The law provides for that. The law also provides that people fleeing economic chaos do not automatically get entry. And there's another side of it, Tom. And that is that when you see the boats heading out, two layers on a little sailboat like I saw -- maybe on a channel that you represent -- I'm saying I don't want to have a policy that acts as a magnet to risk these peoples' lives. And those people that were turned back by the Coast Guard, in accordance with policy, diffused out into the countryside.

So we've got a policy. It is a fair policy. It does make a distinction between economic refugees and political refugees. But let me assure you: It is not based on some race or double standard. If the Cubans started out, a new Mariel boat lift started out, the same thing would happen. It is consistent policy.

Q So in effect, you are saying that, in fact, if Fidel Castro should fall, or things should drastically change in Cuba and we see a wave of Cubans -- a huge wave of Cubans coming to our shores, that your administration will change its policy and the doors to the United States will be shut for these people as well?

THE PRESIDENT: No, that we already have a policy that says we are not going to do what happened in Mariel -- people were going to be sent back if they're economic refugees. Now, if somebody can prove -- and they have proper procedures for this -- that there's political persecution, that is something different.

Frankly, I think if Castro fell, you would see the exodus going the other way. I just think that he's swimming totally against the tide, whereas in Haiti they're at least trying to go the democratic route, and we're trying to work with the OAS to restore democracy, even though Aristide is -- there's a little controversy surrounding him. But he was elected; he ought to be restored. And we are supporting sanctions in the OAS to get him restored. But if Castro -- it probably would go the other way, Tom.

Q Mr. President, why not, at least temporarily, relax, perhaps, our country's emigration policy just temporarily until Mr. Aristide is restored and allow these people to come to our shores?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, because we have yardsticks for whether it's political persecution or economic persecution. And those yardsticks should be followed.

What I'm confused about a little bit is, what's going to be the final determination on Aristide at home in Haiti? Our position is, he was elected and he ought to go back. And we are working with the OAS to that end, and we have sanctions in place to that end.

But I don't think that there's any reason to change the policy, because I do think if it's political persecution by some of these bullies that threw out Aristide, those people can seek asylum. But if you have just the whole country turning out for economic reasons -- and the economy of Haiti is a disaster -- we just can't handle that. So that's the moral underpinning of this policy.

Q We also have a great deal of interest in what happens in Cuba. We talked about it a little bit earlier: Specifically the fall of Fidel Castro. What does your administration believe will actually happen to him? What is the most likely scenario, and what kind of time frame do you think we're talking about here?

THE PRESIDENT: I believe in the fall of Fidel Castro, because I don't think that that country can be the only country, not just in this hemisphere, but one of a handful around the world, to be staying with the totalitarian model, in this case Marxist model, when all of the other countries are going to the other way.

So I have confidence in the will of the people in Cuba, and I can't tell you how it's going to happen, but Castro will not survive this. The people will take matters into their own hands at some time. Now, he runs a very cruel and intrusive security force against the people, not allowing elections, not allowing democracy, tough on human rights. So I'm not saying it's easy, but I just think the tide is so inexorable that he won't be around. And I can't give you a time frame on that, but I'm not going to change American policy. We are not going to lighten up. We are going to stay with it.

Q All right, Mr. President, thank you for joining us.

THE PRESIDENT: Nice to see you, sir.

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(KNBC-TV, Los Angeles, California; Anchor: Linda Douglas)

Q Mr. President, good morning.

THE PRESIDENT: See you, hear you, loud and clear, Linda.

Q It's much earlier here than it is there.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, what are you doing up so -- no, no, wait a minute -- it's 7:30 a.m. out there, isn't it?

Q (Laughter.) I understand you've completed a lot of your day by this hour back in Washington.

THE PRESIDENT: 10:30 a.m. -- I get to the office at 7:00 a.m.; walk in the door at 7:00 a.m.

Q Admirable commitment. Let me ask you off the top, sir, about the economy again. I want to go back to some of the earlier questions. Analysts from Wall Street were quoted all over the place yesterday as the market was fluctuating wildly, once again -- quoted as saying that there was concern about a perceived lack of leadership on your part in solving the economic problems. How do you react to the ongoing criticism that one hears from Republicans and businesspeople in Wall Street who are obviously concerned about the instability in the economy?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I'm concerned about it, too. And I think it's sluggish. I think there are some reassuring signs, like unemployment and inflation. But these can change. So what I've been trying to do is to get a growth package through the Congress for the last two years. I've challenged them as recently as the State of the Union message to move forward on something like the highway bill that would really help. I believe capital gains would help. I believe IRA, changing the IRA laws for first-time home buyers would help. But I'm up against a Congress that wants to do it some other way.

So when I hear the charge, I can understand because people are hurting. People need the government to do what it can. It's not going to be totally done by government. But government has an important role, and I share the frustration that some feel about inactivity. I think they also see that the Congress is in this in a big way and unable to go forward. I'd like them to go forward on what I think is a sound growth package. I think it would really help. I think it would help in California. Because as we move back on defense spending, everybody -- all the opposition -- is saying we ought to. In fact, some of them wanting to go much faster than I do on that, there's going to be economic hardship. So we ought to have growth. We ought to have job creation. That's why I still come back to the -- especially for your state -- this concept of a lower capital gains rate. I think it would stimulate new business.

Q Mr. President, today Democratic candidate Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton will blame part of the country's economic woes on greed on the part of corporate executives. He complains that CEOs make an average of 85 times more than their lowest-paid workers and would eliminate the possibility of deducting as a business expense any executive's salary that is more than 25 times that of the lowest-paid worker. Are high executive salaries a problem, in your estimation?

THE PRESIDENT: I can't imagine anybody can deduct his salary as a business expense. I mean, you pay tax on the salary. But I think it sends a signal when they're way out of whack. I think it sends a signal to the family that's hurting: Wait a minute, what's going on here? But I don't know what he's proposing. I haven't heard the Clinton proposal, and I don't know what government should do about setting salaries or setting labor rates or setting relations between the employer and the employee. I just -- I don't believe that's the function of government. I'm not sure that's what he's proposing; but, yes, when people see -- when somebody is hurting and they see an extraordinarily high salary, I think it causes discontent.

Q Do you blame any of the policies of the Reagan administration for today's economic problems?

THE PRESIDENT: No, but I blame the increasing federal deficit and increasing federal spending on everybody in the past. I mean, I have my responsibility to bear for that; Congress has a responsibility. But I do think that these extraordinarily high

deficits, which result from well-intentioned legislation passed in the '60s, some of it, is a problem that we have to address. And we've tried to do that by a very unpopular budget agreement that put caps on spending. And now what I'm trying to do, Linda, is to hold the line on this spending. Because every time I turn around, in the side door, over the transom, comes new spending proposals by this Congress. And I have to sometimes say no to popular-sounding legislation.

Q Mr. President, you know that the Democrats are going to have several televised prime time debates during the primary season which will give them an opportunity to complain about you at length on prime time TV. Would you welcome prime time primary debates on the Republican side if Pat Buchanan and David Duke challenge you for President?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q And would you participate?

THE PRESIDENT: No. I have no plans to participate. I've got some responsibilities to run the country and I'll keep doing that. And then we'll concentrate -- I assume there might be a couple of debates in the general election, although we haven't addressed that yet. I don't want to run against other Republicans. I want to try to lead this country and try to straighten out some of the problems that exist. And so I don't have any plans to do that. And I don't know what the Democrats are doing, other than knocking me, which is standard fare and we expect that. I mean, that's what -- they all gang up and see who can say the nastiest things and yell the loudest.

It's what the people want, I think, is something a little different. They know there's a political year, but I think they want to see some action by the Congress and a little less name-calling. So I'm going to continue to reach out to Congress and try to help people. Your state is hurting, and I think some of the proposals I have made can help. So we'll keep trying to work for it.

Q Thank you very much, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: Nice to see you. Thanks.

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(KCNC-TV, Denver, Colorado; Anchor: Bill Stuart)

Q Good morning, Mr. President. This is Bill Stuart in Denver.

THE PRESIDENT: How are you?

Q I'm fine. How are you?

THE PRESIDENT: Good, Bill.

Q Mr. President, at the end of the Gulf war your approval rating, your popularity was so high that some suggested, I think only half jokingly, that we forego the '92 election because you would win so easily; why spend all that money? But since the end of the war, your popularity has eroded somewhat. Our News 4-Denver Post poll shows that 54 percent of Colorodans now approve of your job, the job you're doing -- down considerably. Why do you think your popularity has eroded since the end of the war?

THE PRESIDENT: I think it's the economy. I think people are hurting in this country. I think they'd like to see more

action out of Washington, D.C., although the whole answer doesn't lie in Washington. But there's things Washington can do, and the President has to bear his share of responsibility for some of that -- not all of it, because I think Congress is in this, and I think the same surveys you talk about seem to put more of a burden on the Congress.

So I think when people are hurting -- and they are -- they say, hey, what's gone wrong? What's happening? Why isn't the President doing more? I think it's some of that. So I have to get out and make clear, here's a growth package that would have helped this economy if Congress had moved. Then, in the State of the Union, here's some new ideas and a package. Take my case not to Congress, but over their heads to the American people, and make clear that people understand I am engaged, that I'm concerned, and I've got good ideas for helping solve the problems.

I think I've got the latter right now, and I'm trying to stay totally engaged. But I think that's what it is, Bill.

Q Fifty-one percent of the Colorodans surveyed in this latest poll say they'll spend less this Christmas season than last, indicating a real crisis in confidence. Is there anything you can do in the short run to turn that around?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it's difficult. Because if you talk too optimistically about the economy, you send an unrealistic signal. If you talk too gloomily, you get people discouraged. I tried to say the other day I think there are some interesting fundamentals out here: inflation being way down and interest rates being way down -- way down -- are good in terms of what the consumer can go out and buy.

But I don't want to sound naive about it. I don't want to act like there are no problems there. The economy is sluggish, and we're trying, through the proposals I've made on growth, to get it moving. So there's a delicate balance. And I think more than anyone else in the country, obviously, that if the President misspeaks or sounds euphorically optimistic or overly pessimistic, you send the wrong signals to a skiddish market and to the people.

So I'm trying to say, look, we're in tough times, they're going to get better. The fundamentals are pretty good, but I recognize that people are hurting, and here's what I want to do about it. Let's do something about the IRAs to stimulate home-buying. Capital gains that would stimulate new businesses and jobs. A transportation bill that would create jobs on the infrastructure, and just get the message across better.

Q You mentioned Congress just a minute ago. Sixty-eight percent of the people we talk to say things are on the wrong track in Washington, going in the wrong direction. That doesn't seem to bode well for any incumbent, whether he's the president or a senator or a congressman, does it?

THE PRESIDENT: Not particularly, no. I'd like to see them change control of the Congress and then I think we could really get something done. And I'll be taking that case in the election to the American people. One party has controlled Congress for, you know, 40 out of the last 45 years or something, and I think it builds up an insensitive bureaucracy and I think it just makes Congress less effective -- pass laws for everybody else but not for themselves -- and I think people are tired of that.

But I don't want to just sit here blaming Congress. I mean, we're in this together. I think most of the American people know I've tried to hold out my hand to Congress. I'm getting a little tired being the javelin catcher out there from the concerted

attacks that are kind of orchestrated out of the Democratic National Committee for a lot of old, tired ideas that have been tried and failed.

So I've got the politics over the horizon, but more important is: How is that family doing out there? And they're hurting and we've got to help them.

Q Let me follow up on that, talking about Congress. Do you plan to campaign in Colorado next year for the Republican candidate, whoever he or she may be, running against Senator Tim Wirth? How important is that Colorado seat to you?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I've always done that and I expect I will. I can't make a pledge that I'll be in Colorado. I would expect it's such an important state, I would expect I would, and I'll be working hard for the Republican candidates, and undoubtedly, for myself, and taking the case, the whole case, to the American people. And it'll get clearer then. It's fairly clear when you see these endless polls -- you know, the president against whoever it is. But I'm not complacent about it, and I shouldn't be. As long as somebody is out there, Democrat or Republican, that needs help and we're not doing our part back here, whether it's Congress or the administration, we've got to do better.

Q Mr. President, our time has run out, I'm told. Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: Nice to be with you, Bill. Thank you, sir.

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(WMAQ-TV, Chicago, Illinois; Anchor: Warner Saunders)

Q Mr. President, good morning. I'm Warner Saunders, and welcome to Chicago.

THE PRESIDENT: Glad to be with you, sir, this way.

Q Well, I have tried to contact as many people as I possibly could since I found out that I had this assignment, and I asked them what they would ask you. And this represents -- this line of questioning, of course, represents, hopefully, my best effort and theirs.

THE PRESIDENT: Fire away.

Q What is your position on the use of condoms and the distribution of clean needles to IV drug users to help stop the spread of AIDS?

THE PRESIDENT: I have not been in favor of a federal clean needle program, and I am not in favor of a federal condom distribution program.

Q There are people, of course, who say that there's almost --

THE PRESIDENT: I am in favor of helping --

Q -- no way of stopping this.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I don't think I'd be that pessimistic. We're doing a fantastic amount of research on AIDS, and I think when you talk to the top researchers at NIH, you'll find they are somewhat optimistic. We can get the drugs to the market quicker;

we can do better on education. Because you see, Warner, AIDS is one disease where a person can control, to some degree, whether you get it or not. And behavior has a lot to do with it. So I think we can do a better job in that area, too. I noticed Magic Johnson had something to say about that the other day, and I was very interested because he's coming on to our National AIDS Commission.

Q And, of course, that's a big step forward in this whole health issue.

Let's move a little bit to the issue of the cities themselves. The ghettos of this country certainly are becoming a cancer to the society, and many people believe that here in Chicago the administration doesn't view the problems of the poor, the problems of the ghettos as important as international problems. What is your reaction to that criticism?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think that's an erroneous observation. But look, I can understand when you have fantastic levels of street crime in some of these heavily-impacted districts that people are saying: Help. Actually we've got a good National Drug Strategy. We've got a good crime bill, if I can ever get it out of the Congress. We're starting a brand-new education 2000 program that helps educate these kids, give people a better shot in the schools and give them a chance to pull themselves out.

So I think we've got good programs, but I think they hear this charge, we're more interested in world peace or -- but I think a President has a responsibility for both, frankly. Maybe --

Q Is the Congress, Mr. President, the stumbling block in getting these kinds of programs to people are hurting inside of these poor communities of our great cities?

THE PRESIDENT: I think to some degree. I think the Congress should be blamed. In other words, Warner, we've got an unacceptably sluggish economy, and I've made some proposals that in my best bet would help them. And I can't get it through a Congress that is controlled, both Houses, by another party. I was elected to do certain things, and I've done some of them; but we need to change that a little bit, I think.

Q You know, I was just with a group of car dealers last night, and they are really hurting. And so I told them that I'd be speaking with you this morning and after they stopped laughing I said, no, really it's going to happen. (Laughter.) And they said, well, ask this guy why is he downplaying the seriousness of the economic downturn? Are you downplaying it?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think so. I'll tell you there's a delicate balance though. A President has a unique pulpit, not only in this country but in the world. And you don't want to talk the country into a deep recession. So when I point out that interest rates are low, historically low, or where inflation is low, acceptably low, these are good things preparing us for recovery.

I don't want to emphasize just the bad things to talk us into a depression. And I don't want to emphasize only the good things to make those car dealers think I'm out of touch. But I do think for car dealers, hey, look, interest rates are getting down there. This wouldn't too bad a time for a family, if it had the confidence that it would have a job tomorrow, to go out and purchase cars. So I'm trying to find the right balance without being euphoric or without being pessimistic.

Q On the issue of civil rights, I talked with a number of civil rights leaders last night, both black and white. And one of the most conservative of them said something, and I quote

here: "It appears there is little difference between the platform of David Duke and the policies of George Bush, minus the -- minus KKK, Nazi history -- that Bush is against affirmative action, integration and the poor who are on welfare." What's your reaction, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: The guy's got it backwards. If it is was a guy, maybe it was -- I don't know who --

Q It was a guy.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, he's got to go back and do a little research. We're going to sign a bill, a civil rights bill. I can't imagine -- and I'm getting attacked from the Nazi down there for signing this bill. What I didn't want was a quota bill. I don't believe in quotas. I don't think most blacks or whites or Hispanics believe in quotas. And I fought back an attempt to ram a quota bill down on the throats of the American people. Maybe that's what the person is thinking of.

But I'm the guy that's going to sign this one. I'm the guy that sponsored and worked hard for the best civil rights legislation in this century -- and that's the Americans With Disabilities Act that helps others. So I think I would just refute the charge, coming from a frustrated leader who clearly is frustrated. But I think we've got a good record, working hard to support education, black colleges, many things of that nature.

So you take a few shots in this business.

Q Mr. President, thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: It's nice to be with you, Warner. Thank you, sir. Good questions. Tell the people that you got it from you did fine. I don't know about the answers; the questions were good.

Q Thank you again.

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10:56 A.M. EST