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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Canton, Michigan)

For Immediate Release

August 25, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE AMERICAN LEGION 74TH ANNUAL
NATIONAL CONVENTION

Sheraton Chicago Hotel
Chicago, Illinois

10:15 A.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very, very much. And may I salute our Governor who is with me; our Secretary Ed Derwinski; Governor Edgar here. And thank you, Dom, for that introduction. He put a lot of emphasis on that "paid up" member. (Laughter.)

But let me -- you've had a great leader here, and I know you're going to have another great one. But I just salute Dom for all he's stood for.

And let me also mention Sparky Gierke who is serving with the same devotion he served those here at the Legion, serving in the administration.

A lot happens in a week. A week ago, I could have laid claim to being the second most charismatic member of the Bush family. But after my grandson got up there -- George P. -- at our convention in Houston, I guess I'm now the second most charismatic George Bush. Things are not going well here. (Laughter.) So anyway, I mention this only because I know how Legionaires feel about family. And I hope you'll excuse me if I say I was very proud of both Barbara and that grandson. (Applause.)

You know, I very much appreciate even the invitation to speak here this morning. If you'll allow me just to divert a minute because of something that is happening in the country. I was in south Florida last evening. And while I was stunned by the incredible physical destruction that I witnessed on this hurricane, you can't help but be impressed by the way Americans pull together in times of crisis. We are at our best when times are tough.

And south Florida has been declared a federal disaster area, and you should know that there are -- what -- 27 federal agencies, including our military services, pulling together to assist all Floridians in their time of need. (Applause.) I know I speak for all veterans on this one, and all Americans, when I say that our prayers are with the people of south Florida, and also now being threatened, the coast -- the Louisiana coast being threatened -- the people also of south Louisiana who stand in Andrew's path at this very moment. No matter where the victims live, we as a nation will do absolutely everything we can to help these good people recover. (Applause.)

I want to say that -- start this morning by saying that the bond we share links us, whether we served in the South Pacific or South Vietnam, or whether we stood watch along that 38th Parallel or braved the sands of Desert Storm. Just as you answered your country's call, so, too, America should serve those who served their country. (Applause.)

The specialized health care centers we've created, the new outpatient clinics, the billion dollars more we've

MORE

invested in veterans' health care every year -- each is a sign of the debt we owe America's veterans; of the investment we make in the men and women who wear this country's uniform. Just yesterday, I announced an innovative new job training program that will help all Americans -- including servicemen leaving the military, defense workers retooling for the new challenges of the civilian economy, or older veterans seeking better jobs and a new beginning. (Applause.)

Frankly, the debt we owe is one we can never pay in full, but we need to do our utmost -- just as America's vets gave their all when they were called. You have my commitment, as a proud member of the American Legion -- Post 77 Member For Life -- that we will protect these programs that preserve your well-being. We owe it to the veterans. (Applause.)

I was a little negligent in my introductory remarks because, sitting over my right shoulder here, albeit a Democrat -- this is a nonpartisan meeting, so I -- you're showing the flag here -- is Sonny Montgomery, one of the great friends the veterans have ever had, I'll tell you. Congressman Montgomery of Mississippi. (Applause.)

Now, I know that today I'll not have your attention all to myself. Two hours from now, you're going to hear maybe a different message. But I respect the American Legion's tradition of nonpartisanship. It's been that way and I'm determined it will remain that way today. I wouldn't give a partisan speech to this group -- you've already sacrificed enough for your country. (Laughter and applause.)

So bear with me because I want to make a few serious comments. I want to talk to you this morning about the world we knew -- about the new world we're now forging.

Fifty years ago this summer, America's at war. At the age of 18 I went off to fight. Like many of you, I was scared -- but I was willing. And I was young -- but I was ready. Like so many of you, I had barely lived, when I began to watch men die.

My own experience was in my mind during Operation Just Cause, when we freed Panama and jailed Noriega. (Applause.) And then again, two Augusts ago, when I had to make a tough call, a call that only the Commander-in-Chief makes -- the difficult decision to send young men and women into harm's way. As President, with that experience behind me and mindful of the trust of everyone who would serve, my sense of duty was magnified a thousand times. And when I faced that decision, the American Legion never wavered. You were there with solid support -- no vacillation -- you supported our men and women 100 percent. And I will always be grateful to you. (Applause.)

Your leaders went there -- your leaders went and showed the Legion flag, and gave those young men and women the strong support, bringing with them messages from home from the families. It was a wonderful way that the American Legion supported those who were actually in the field. Whether they were regular Army or the magnificent National Guardsmen that were called to serve, whoever it was, the Legion backed them up.

I want to thank you for that support over the years. If you had not been there in the past to help fight for a strong defense, our soldiers would not have been prepared; they would not have been equipped to fight to keep us free. (Applause.)

And when the calm came after Desert Storm -- when our troops came home to a hero's welcome -- the outpouring of love and honor was a grateful nation's way of saying thanks. But it was something more. It was a reaching out -- a warm embrace -- a welcome home to all who wear the uniform, including the unsung heroes of another war, those who, to that moment, had not

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been recognized -- a long-overdue recognition of gratitude to the veterans of the Vietnam War. And the country rallied behind them and at long last gave them their proper honor. (Applause.)

Now, some of you may remember this. Four years ago, I met with you as Vice President: September 7th -- (laughter) -- a day that will live in infamy. (Laughter.) Okay, I wanted to say it before you did. (Laughter.) What does it take to live something down with this crowd? (Laughter.)

Since then, we've seen a world of change. What if I'd said then, that day, that by the end of my first term a wall would fall in Berlin; that we would have agreed to cut nuclear weapons by a full 75 percent -- including the elimination of all those MIRVed ICBMs, the most destabilizing strategic weapons? Because we did our children sleep safer.

What if I'd said that the Soviet regime that once claimed that "history was on its side" would be found only in the history books -- and that the "dominoes" would fall in democracy's direction?

What if I told you four years ago that the Cold War would be over, that the West would win without a shot being fired? You'd say it was a miracle. But a miracle we did more than pray for -- a miracle that Americans worked for, fought for, died for. Because the truth of the matter is, communism didn't just fall -- you helped push it. (Applause.)

There are many heroes of the Cold War. Men and women whose courage and sacrifice turned the tide toward freedom. The brave people of Eastern Europe, who kept faith when freedom was a distant dream. The people in this country who gathered in taverns and restaurants in Cleveland and Pittsburgh and Detroit and, yes, right here in Chicago, to keep the hope of the captive nations alive, even when the fashionable few mocked their devotion as futile. The honor roll must also include men of moral courage like Pope John Paul II; like President Ronald Reagan, who called the Soviet Union an "evil empire" -- which it was -- and called for the Berlin Wall to be torn down -- and it was. (Applause.)

Most of all, the tribute must include the American people, who paid the price in more ways than we can measure to win freedom's great victory. And especially you: You who slogged through the mud, sailed the seas, flew headlong into fire. This truly was your finest hour.

And there is one hero America must never forget -- and that is the hero who has not yet come home. And I pledge to every American family awaiting word of its loved ones we will demand the fullest possible accounting for every POW and MIA. And we will not have normal relations with Hanoi until we are satisfied on that count. (Applause.)

I am very proud of our accomplishments -- thankful that I've been able to give the order so many Presidents longed to give, for many of our nuclear forces to "stand down," stand down from alert. And yet, in spite of freedom's great gains, I know that our world today is more uncertain, more unpredictable than the world we've left behind.

The Soviet bear may be extinct -- but there are still plenty of wolves in the woods. Renegade rulers, outlaw regimes, madmen we simply cannot allow to get a finger on the nuclear trigger.

You have my word: This President will never allow a lone wolf to endanger the security of the United States of America. (Applause.)

Foreign policy is not a footnote, a loose end that we wrap up and then safely forget. It requires steady,

MORE

experienced leadership. Think back not too long ago to the time of gas lines and grain embargoes. In Teheran, Americans were held hostage. In Moscow, America was seen as weak and uncertain. This is a lesson we ignore at our peril.

Now those days are gone -- but our strength in the future, like any great nation, rests on our eternal vigilance. We need to speak up for the military muscle that gives meaning to America's moral leadership. We need to say -- even now that the Cold War is over: America is safe, as long as America stays strong. (Applause.)

You see, the world is still a dangerous place -- and if America does not lead, who will?

Take Iraq, as a test case for the most difficult security challenges we are likely to face in the future. We tried peaceful means to bring Iraq into the family of nations. Given the dangerous neighbors, given the vital interests at stake, it was right to try. Had we not made those efforts -- had we not exhausted every peaceful means -- we would never have been able to build the unprecedented United Nations coalition that stopped a tyrant in his tracks -- and rolled him back to Baghdad. (Applause.)

Now, let's also get straight what was at stake: A madman with missiles and chemical weapons stood on the brink of a choke-hold on much of the world's energy supplies, threatening to overrun our allies. We destroyed that threat, liberated Kuwait and locked up a tyrant in the prison of his own country.

We know now Saddam Hussein was developing the weapons to destroy Israel. Tens of millions of deaths of Arabs or Israelis would not matter to this killer. The Middle East could well have become a nuclear apocalypse. That is what was at stake.

Now, some who were faint-hearted and stood in the way of crushing Saddam's aggression now have the gall to say, "you stopped the war too soon." Some also say that General Norman Schwarzkopf wanted to march into Baghdad and "get" Saddam. False!

I'll never forget -- this is a true story and history has it recorded on film -- sitting in the Oval Office on February 27, 1991, our troops having performed so magnificently in the field. And with me in the room was General Scowcroft and the Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell. They recommended to me, as President, who has the responsibility for this, that we stop the slaughter; our mission was accomplished. I asked, are you sure that our field commanders feel this way? They both said, yes, but to double-check, General Powell got up from the couch in our office -- you all have seen pictures of it -- walked over to the desk that you see pictures of, reached into the front, right-hand corner of the desk, and there was a secure telephone; picked up that secure phone and got General Schwarzkopf on the line in my presence. And General Powell looked up at me after he had talked to Schwarzkopf and he said, "Mission accomplished, stop the killing."

And he was right. We are not in the slaughter business. We are in the business of crushing aggression. And we did it. And I don't like this historical revision. We did the right thing; we did the compassionate thing in the end as well. (Applause.)

If we'd continued, hundreds of thousands of American troops would be on the ground in Iraq today -- attempting to pull warring factions together, or bogged down in some guerrilla warfare. Whether in Korea or in Lebanon, history shows us the danger of losing sight of our objectives. Liberators can easily

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become occupiers. A Commander-in-Chief has to know not only when his objectives have been reached, but when to consolidate his gains.

And one other thing let me say right here. I feel on me the weight of every -- obligation to every family of every single man or woman serving in the armed forces. And I am not going to commit our ground forces to a war until I know what the mission is, how that mission will be achieved, and how those forces will come out, their honor intact, victory in hand. We've seen too many combat situations where we asked those kids to fight with one hand behind their back. Not as long as I am Commander-in-Chief. (Applause.)

Instead of playing the world's policeman, we worked with the United Nations to destroy Iraq's remaining weapons of mass destruction -- to keep Iraq under control. Through an embargo, through tight control over oil exports and U.N. inspections, we are putting the lid on Saddam. And believe me, he is going to live up to each and every one of those U.N. resolutions. I am determined to see that and I will. (Applause.)

And as you know, today a whole new world of hope is dawning in the Middle East. This very week, as Arab and Israeli sit down together in Washington we are winning the peace. And that was made possible by the sacrifice of those involved in Desert Storm.

There will be other regional conflicts. There will be other Saddam Husseins. Look around the world -- look at the threats we face: Terrorism. The terrible drug cartels. Regional conflicts as the breakup of empire gives vent to ancient hatreds. The spread of nuclear and chemical weapons. From Gaddafi in Libya to Kim Il Sung in North Korea, the threats on our horizon could look a lot like the threat we turned back in Iraq.

Take the threat of chemical weapons. I really get emotional about chemical weapons when I see these young people here today and think of the horror that they can wreak. During Desert Storm, the danger from chemical weapons did not materialize. In the next conflict, it might. Our task is clear: There must never be "a next time." For me, banning chemical weapons has been a priority since the day, eight years ago, when I went to Geneva on instructions from President Reagan to present our draft convention. In the next few days, we expect the completed convention to be presented in Geneva. And it is my hope -- it is my aim -- that before this year is out, the nations of the world will unite to ban chemical weapons, to banish this scourge from the face of the Earth.

Now, our work in the world did not end with our victory in the Cold War. Our task is to guard against the crises that haven't yet caught fire -- the wars that are waiting to happen -- the threats that will come upon us with little or no warning.

I make this promise: As long as I am President, our services will remain the best-trained, the best-equipped, the best-led fighting forces in the entire world. That is the way we guarantee the peace. (Applause.)

I hope that I've earned your trust to meet those challenges and to stand up for America's interests and these ideals that all veterans share. I hope I've earned your trust to bring together foreign policy and security policy and economic policy -- so that it can make a difference in your hometown, your neighborhood, your life. Because the military challenges we're bound to face are only a part of the future.

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The end of the Cold War means new opportunities -- new opportunities for global prosperity, for new markets for American goods. From Moscow to Managua, free market reform is now sweeping away the dead hand of state socialism. Capitalism is recognized the world over as the engine of prosperity and social progress -- and nations are reorganizing themselves to unleash the limitless potential of the individual.

Now, governments can go two ways: They can help foster free enterprise -- or they can put obstacles in its path. There is no question what course we must take. The U.S. will remain a forceful advocate for free and fair trade. In the 21st century, America must be not only a military superpower, but an economic superpower, an export superpower.

I won't wade into all the statistics that point in this direction, but I will tell you this: Every additional \$1 billion of exports stamped Made In America means 20,000 new American jobs. Last year alone, America was the world's number one exporter. We sold a record \$422 billion worth of goods. That's a lot of paychecks for the American people.

But the promise of new prosperity must not blind us to new challenges. It's an economic fact of life that many of our key security partners are now our toughest economic competitors. Nations that lack the confidence to compete will be tempted to seek refuge behind the walls of protectionism.

We didn't end the Cold War to make the world safe for trade wars. We must fight the protectionist impulse here at home and we must work with our partners for trade that is free, fair and open. (Applause.) We're making progress -- by forging a new North American Free Trade Agreement, to open new markets from Manitoba to Mexico. And we're pushing hard to complete a strengthened global trade agreement.

My strategy would go further. The U.S. must build a new network of trade agreements -- with Eastern Europe's new democracies, with the new nations of the old Soviet Union, with our neighbors to our south, to the south in Latin America, with the dynamic economies of the Pacific as well.

If we are to sustain our status as an export superpower, we must not allow ourselves to be tied down to one trade bloc. Our domestic market -- the largest market in the world -- gives us leverage. I intend to use it for good -- by strengthening America's global reach as a complement to our security presence. America must maintain a strong presence in markets across the Atlantic and the Pacific.

The key is an agenda that fully integrates our domestic, economic and foreign policies. In our world today, these three topics have become one issue.

You're going to ask, you ought to ask, all right, what are we going to do to get ready for the game?

Well, fair question. Here's my answer: We must build on the fundamentals of lower tax rates, limits on government spending, less red tape and regulation -- and more trade and more competition -- (applause) -- to generate the growth that means more opportunity -- and more jobs. And I think that in the '90s government can add to this growth program by building opportunity and hope for individuals, empowering families and communities.

I'd like to close with the words of a President from the other party -- John F. Kennedy. On a sentry box in Gibraltar, he found scrawled these words -- I'd like to read them to you:

God and the Soldier all men adore
In time of trouble and no more
For when war is over, and all things righted

God is neglected -- and the soldier slighted.

Just as we must never forget our God, we must never forget you, who put your lives on the line for freedom. Sure, that means supporting the programs, the policies, the principles that keep us strong. But it also means building an America of which you can be proud -- an America worthy of the blood we shed and the friends that we lost.

It means building an America which is safer, stronger, and more secure. An America in which every Coast Guardsman, ever soldier, every sailor, every airman every Marine, every Guardsman can say, this is the dream that I fought for.

Thank you for your warm welcome -- for your love of our country. And may God bless the United States of America, the greatest, freest country on the face of the Earth. Thank you all. (Applause.)

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10:44 A.M. CDT

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Grand Ballroom
Sheraton Hotel & Towers

McGroarty/Grossman
August 24, 1992
10:00 a.m.
LEGION.2

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1992

Ed Timbrlake's file
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Mark Gallon

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Dominic DiFrancesco
of Fran Siscoe
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[[ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS]] Thank you, ----, for that introduction.

Thanks, too, to all of you who represent our Nation's largest and fastest-growing veterans' organization -- now three million strong. ((I'm glad the most charismatic member of our family is here with me. I'm sure you saw Barbara last week in Houston. I may be Commander-in-Chief, but ask any of our kids: they'll tell you she's the five-star general in our family. //)) As always it's a great privilege to join you -- and an honor to renew old ties.

The bond we share links us, whether we served in the South Pacific or South Vietnam, whether we stood watch along the DMZ or braved the sands of Desert Storm. Just as you answered your country's call, so too America should serve those who served their country. //

As a lifelong member of the American Legion, I'm proud of what we have done together to repay our debt to veterans. Proud of the specialized health care centers we have created / proud of the new outpatient clinics / proud of the billion dollars more we have invested in veterans' health care every year. //

Don Smith
VA: pub aff

And if Congress sends me legislation to dismantle the VA system -- well, think of my veto pen as a Patriot missile. I'll

→ Dan Jenkins net stories ←
→ letters ?? ←

McGroarty/Grossman
August 24, 1992
7:00 p.m.
LEGION.3

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGION
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Gov. Edgar TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1992

SEC. DERWINSKI DOMINIC DiFRANCESCO (from SIScoe)
[[ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS]] Thank you, ----, for that

introduction. Thanks, too, to all of you who represent our Nation's largest and fastest-growing veterans' organization -- now three million strong. ((A week ago, I could lay claim to being the second most charismatic member of the Bush family. After my grandson George P. spoke in Houston -- I guess I'm now the second most charismatic George Bush.) As always it's a great privilege to join you -- and an honor to renew old ties.

The bond we share links us, whether we served in the South Pacific or South Vietnam, whether we stood watch along Korea's DMZ or braved the sands of Desert Storm. Just as you answered your country's call, so too America should serve those who served their country. //

The specialized health care centers we have created / the new outpatient clinics / the billion dollars more we have invested in veterans' health care every year: each is a sign of the debt we owe America's veterans. / You have my commitment - ^{Houston Post 77 - 4 years} - as a [xx]-year member of the American Legion -- that we will protect these ~~programs~~ that preserve your well-being. //

Now, I know today that I will not have your attention to myself. ~~Two~~ ~~hours~~ ~~from~~ ~~now~~, you're going to hear a different story. I respect the American Legion's tradition of non-partisanship. I know I can count on you to listen as I say my

piece. One last thing: My opponent may have the advantage of going second. But he won't have the last word.

You will -- on November 3rd. //

I want to talk to you this morning about our new world -- and what it means, for us and for our children. /

50 years ago this summer, America was at war. At the age of 18 I went off to fight. I was scared -- but I was willing. I was young -- but I was ready. I knew what was right, and what was wrong. I had barely lived, when I began to watch men die.

My own experience was in my mind two Augusts ago, when I made the difficult decision to send young men and women into harm's way. As President, with that experience behind me, and mindful of the trust of everyone who would serve, my sense of duty was magnified a thousand times. // And when I faced that decision, I drew strength from the American Legion's steadfast support for an American military second to none.

And when the calm came after Desert Storm -- when our troops came home to a hero's welcome -- the outpouring of love and honor was a grateful nation's way of giving thanks. But it was something more: It was a reaching out -- a warm embrace -- a welcome home to all who wear the uniform, to the heroes of another war: to the veterans of Vietnam. ///

~~X~~ Four years ago, I met with you as Vice President: ~~September 7th~~ -- a day that will live in infamy. // ~~Since then, we've seen a world of change.~~

Louisville
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What if I had said that by the end of my first term that a Wall would fall in Berlin. That ancient enemies -- Israeli and Arab -- would be talking peace. That the regime that once claimed that "history was on its side" would be found only in the history books -- and the "dominoes" would fall in democracy's direction. //

What if I told you -- four years ago -- that the Cold War would be over ... that the West would win ... without a shot being fired? You'd say it was a miracle ... But a miracle we did more than pray for -- a miracle Americans worked for / fought for / died for. Because the truth of the matter is, communism didn't just fall -- it was pushed. //

There are many heroes of the Cold War. Men and women whose courage and sacrifice turned the tide toward freedom. The brave people of Eastern Europe, who kept faith when freedom was a distant dream. The people in this country who gathered in taverns and restaurants in Cleveland and Pittsburgh, Detroit and Chicago, to keep the hope of captive nations alive, even when the fashionable few mocked their devotion as futile. The honor roll must also include men of moral courage like Pope John Paul II / like President Ronald Reagan, who called the Soviet Union an evil empire -- which it was. And called for the Berlin Wall to be torn down -- and it was.

Most of all the tribute must include all the American people, who paid the price in more ways than we can measure to win freedom's great victory. For those who served on the

frontlines and in the factories, the defeat of communism is a badge of honor that this nation will always wear.

Some want to rewrite history ... want to skip over the struggle ... claim the outcome was inevitable. But from Pork Chop Hill to Da Nang, American graves tell a different story. This was a real struggle -- with real choices to be made.

I'm proud of our accomplishments -- thankful that I've been able to give the order so many Presidents longed to give, for many of our nuclear forces to "stand down" from alert. And yet in spite of freedom's great gains ... I know that our world today is more uncertain -- far more unpredictable -- than the world we've left behind. //

The Soviet bear may be extinct -- but there are still plenty of wolves in the woods. Renegade rulers / outlaw regimes / madmen we simply cannot allow to get a finger on the nuclear trigger. //

You have my word: This President will never allow a lone wolf to endanger American security. //

Think back not too long ago to a time of gas lines and grain embargoes. In Teheran, Americans were held hostage. In Moscow, America was held in contempt. Foreign policy isn't a footnote ... a loose end we wrap up, and then safely forget.

We need to speak up for the military muscle that gives meaning to America's moral leadership. We need to say -- even now that the Cold War is over: America is safe ... so long as

America stays strong. // The world is still a dangerous place -
- and America still must lead.

Take Iraq as a case in point: Not because we want to get it right for the history books -- but because we need to see Iraq as the test case for the most difficult security challenges we are likely to face in the future.

We tried peaceful means to bring Iraq into the family of nations, at a time when Iran's anti-Americanism was at its height. Had we not made those efforts -- had we not exhausted every peaceful means -- we would never have been able to build the unprecedented UN coalition that stopped a tyrant in his tracks -- and rolled him back to Baghdad.

Let's also get straight what was at stake:

A madman with missiles and chemical weapons stood on the brink of a choke-hold on much of the world's energy supplies, threatening to overrun our allies -- and turn the Middle East into a nuclear powderkeg. We destroyed that threat / liberated Kuwait / and locked up a tyrant in the prison of his own country.

Now some of those who, back then, cast their vote against action -- criticize us now for not doing more. But if we had, hundreds of thousands of American troops would be on the ground in Iraq today -- attempting to pull warring factions together, ending up by trying to enforce a new kind of colonialism that simply does not suit us. [[Whether in Korea or in Lebanon, history shows us the danger of losing sight of our objectives. History shows us how easily liberators can become occupiers.

~~A Commander-in-Chief has to know not only when to cut his losses -- but when to consolidate his gains. //]]~~

Instead of playing the world's policeman, we worked with the U.N. -- to destroy Iraq's remaining weapons of mass destruction - - to put in place serious limits on Iraq's sovereignty. Through an embargo, through tight control over oil exports and UN monitoring, we are maintaining an ongoing quarantine on Iraq's ability to threaten its neighbors. //

And today, as Arab and Israeli sit down together in Washington -- we are winning the peace made possible by Desert Storm.

There will be other regional conflicts. There will be other Saddam Husseins.

Look around the world -- look at the threats we face: Terrorism. The drug cartels. Regional conflict, as the breakup of empire gives vent to ancient hatreds. The spread of nuclear and chemical weapons. / From Khadafy in Libya to Kim Il Sung in North Korea, the threats on our horizon will look a lot like the threat we turned back in Iraq. //

Take the threat of chemical weapons. During Desert Storm, that danger did not materialize. In the next conflict, it might. Our task is clear: There must never be ... "a next time." For me, banning chemical weapons has been a priority since the day 8 years ago when I went to Geneva to present our draft convention. Tomorrow, the completed Convention will be presented in Geneva.

It is my hope -- it is my aim -- that before this year is out, by

back in DC Feb 21, 94
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no ceremony, no signing.
This month treaty will be completed
they will forward it.

the nations of the world will unite to ban chemical weapons. To banish this scourge from the face of the Earth. //

Our work in the world did not end with our victory in the Cold War. Our task is to guard against the crises that haven't yet caught fire -- the wars waiting to happen -- the threats that will come upon us with little or no warning. //

So the question is: Who do you trust to meet those challenges -- to stand against aggression ... to stand for America's interests and ideals?

Who do you trust ... to bring together foreign policy, security policy, and economic policy -- so that it can make a difference in your hometown ... your neighborhood ... your life?

Because the military challenges we're bound to face are only one part of the picture.

The end of the Cold War means new opportunities -- new opportunities for global prosperity, for new markets for American goods. From Moscow to Managua, free market reform is now sweeping away the dead hand of state socialism. Capitalism is recognized the world over as the engine of prosperity and social progress -- and nations are reorganizing themselves to unleash the limitless potential of the individual.

Now, governments can go two ways: They can help foster free enterprise -- or they can put obstacles in its path. There is no question what course we must take. The U.S. will remain a forceful advocate for free and fair trade. In the 21st Century,

America must be not only a military superpower, but an export superpower.

I won't wade into all the statistics that point in this direction, but I will cite just one: Every additional \$1 billion dollars of exports stamped Made In America means 20,000 new American jobs. //

But the promise of new prosperity must not blind us to new challenges. It is an economic fact of life that many of our key security partners are our toughest economic competitors. Nations that lack the confidence to compete will be tempted to seek refuge behind the walls of protectionism.

We did not end the Cold War to make the world safe for trade wars. We must fight the protectionist impulse here at home -- and we must work with our partners for trade that is free, fair and open. // We're making progress -- progress by signing the North American Free Trade Agreement, to open new markets from the Yukon to Yucatan. We're pushing hard to complete a strengthened global trade agreement. We must build a new network of trade agreements -- with Eastern Europe's new democracies, with the new nations of the old Soviet Union, with our neighbors in Latin America. Finally, if we are to sustain our status as an export superpower, we must not allow ourselves to be tied down to one trade bloc. America must maintain a strong presence in markets across the Atlantic and the Pacific. //

The key is an agenda that fully integrates our domestic, economic and foreign policies. In our world today, these three topics have become one issue. //

You're going to ask -- you ought to ask -- alright, what are we doing to get ready for the game? //

Fair question. Here's my answer: We must build on the fundamentals of lower tax rates, limits on government spending, less red tape and regulation -- and more trade, more competition, to generate the growth that means more opportunity ... more jobs.

And I think that in the '90's, government can add to this growth program by building opportunity and hope for individuals, empowering families and communities. //

That's what it will take: The kind of American spirit that carried the day -- from the 40 years of Cold War to the 40 days of Desert Storm. The spirit that helped us wage the war -- must now help us win the peace.

Together, we can make America safer and stronger for all our people.

Thank you for your warm welcome -- and for your love of country. May God bless this great nation, the United States of America.

Tom Scully 578
② Job Training that we announced today
→ one sentence on the impact of job training on vets

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① → total volume of foreign trade in the US
→ total value of our exports for last year

X X X X Defense Dept
paperweights / that the last Soviet T-72 would have turned turret
and rumbled out of Afghanistan?

What if I said that ancient enemies -- Israeli and Arab --
would be talking peace? What if I had predicted that the regime
that once claimed that "history was on its side" would be found
only in the history books -- and the "dominoes" would fall in
democracy's direction. //

What if I told you -- four years ago -- that the Cold War
would be over ... that the West would win ... without a shot
being fired?

You'd say it was a miracle ... But a miracle we did more
than pray for -- a miracle Americans worked for / fought for /
died for. Because the truth of the matter is, communism didn't
just fall -- it was pushed. //

The roll call of heroes must include the people of Eastern
Europe, who kept faith when freedom was a distant dream / the
people in this country who gathered in Rotary Halls and
restaurants in Cleveland and Pittsburgh and Chicago, to keep the
hope of captive nations alive / men of moral courage like Pope
John Paul II / to all the American people, who paid the price in
more ways than we can measure to win freedom's great victory.

I'm proud of our accomplishments -- thankful that I've been
able to give the order so many Presidents longed to give, for
many of our nuclear forces to "stand down" from alert. And yet
in spite of freedom's great gains ... I know that our world today

is more uncertain -- far more unpredictable -- than the world we've left behind. //

That isn't contradictory. That's just the way the world is.

The Soviet bear may be extinct -- but there are still plenty of wolves in the world. Renegade rulers / outlaw regimes / Baghdad bullies. Madmen we simply cannot allow to get a finger on the nuclear trigger. //

You have my word: This President will never allow a lone wolf to endanger American security. //

You see, I don't believe foreign policy is a footnote ... a loose end we wrap up, and then safely forget. So I ask you to think for a moment -- think back to a time of gas lines and grain embargoes. In ^{X sp.}Teheran, Americans held hostage. In Moscow, America held in contempt.

Someone has to set the record straight. Someone has to speak up for the military muscle that gives meaning to America's moral leadership. Someone has to say -- even now that the Cold War is over: America is safe ... so long as America stays strong. //

Take Iraq as a case in point: Not because we want to get it right for the history books -- but because we need to see Iraq as the test case for crises to come.

We tried peaceful means to bring Iraq into the family of nations, at a time when Iran's anti-Americanism was at its height. Had we not made those efforts -- had we not exhausted

every peaceful means -- we would never have been able to build the coalition that chased Saddam Hussein back to Baghdad, into the prison of his own country.

Had we listened to the armchair strategists -- had we marched on Baghdad, hundreds of thousands of American troops would be on the ground in Iraq today, attempting to enforce a new kind of colonialism. Instead, we stopped the war / we saved American lives / the moment we met our objectives. And instead of playing the world's policeman, we turned to the U.N. to put in place a trade embargo. Tight control over oil exports. Serious limits on Iraq's sovereignty -- aimed at imposing a quarantine on future aggression. //

The results are clear for all to see: The liberation of Kuwait. The protection of American interests. The rollback of a madman bent on acquiring weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them -- a menace to American interests, to the state of Israel and to our Arab friends.

And today, as Arab and Israeli sit down together in Washington -- we are winning the peace made possible by Desert Storm.

Look around the world -- look at the threats we face: The spread of nuclear and chemical weapons. Terrorism. The drug cartels. Regional conflict, as the breakup of empire gives vent to ancient hatreds. / From North Africa to North Korea, the threats on our horizon will look a lot like the threat we turned back in Iraq. //

[[CASE IN POINT: POSSIBLE INSERT ON PROGRESS TOWARD
ELIMINATING CHEMICAL WEAPONS.]]

So the question is: Who do you trust to meet those challenges -- to stand against aggression ... to stand for American interests and ideals?

Who do you trust ... to bring together foreign policy, security policy, and economic policy --so that it can make a difference in your hometown ... your neighborhood ... your life?

Because the military challenges we're bound to face are only one part of the picture.

The end of the Cold War means new opportunities -- new opportunities for global prosperity, for new markets for American goods. From Moscow to Managua, free market reform is now sweeping away the dead hand of state socialism. Capitalism is recognized the world over as the engine of prosperity and social progress -- and nations are reorganizing themselves to unleash the limitless potential of the individual.

Now, governments can go two ways: They can help foster free enterprise -- or they can put obstacles in its path. There is no question what course we must take. The U.S. will remain a forceful advocate for free trade. In the 21st Century, America must be not only a military superpower, but an export superpower.

But the promise of new prosperity must not blind us to new challenges. It is an economic fact of life that many of our key security partners are our toughest economic competitors. Nations

that lack the confidence to compete will be tempted to seek refuge behind the walls of protectionism.

We did not end the Cold War to make the world safe for trade wars. We must fight the protectionist impulse here at home -- and we must work with our partners for trade that is free, fair and open. //

{NAFTA, Global/GATT.} We must build a new network of trade agreements -- with Eastern Europe's new democracies, with the new nations of the old Soviet Union, with our neighbors in Latin America. Finally, America must maintain a strong presence in markets across the Atlantic and Pacific. //

The key is an agenda that fully integrates our domestic, economic and foreign policies. In our world today, these three topics have become one issue. //

You're going to ask -- you ought to ask -- alright, what are we doing to get ready for the game? //

Fair question. It will take lower tax rates, limits on government, less regulation -- and more trade, to generate the growth that means more opportunity ... more jobs.

It will take recognition by government that the private sector is the engine of prosperity -- that, in America, wealth is created from the ground up, not from the top down. //

It will take a freeze on federal spending -- and a President willing to stand up to the Congress to make that freeze stick.

It will take a President ready to say government is too big and it spends too much -- and back it up by cutting 246 programs and 4,000 ~~wasteful~~ projects that are a waste of taxpayers' money.

ALUC

It will take new initiatives that give taxpayers a say when it comes to driving down the deficit.

When I hear the editorialists and the economists and the liberal elite sneer at my idea to let people dedicate 10 percent of their taxes to the deficit -- then I know we're onto something. Because I don't think it's a joke to give the American people the power to make the choice to pay down the deficit instead of giving Congress more money to burn. I think it's a powerful message to the men and women America sends to Washington to represent not only us, but our children and grandchildren. //

47 (Truman Dec.)

(air war)
Jan 16 -

That's what it will take: The kind of American spirit that carried the day -- from the 40 years of Cold War to the 43 days of Desert Storm. The spirit that helped us wage the war -- must now help us win the peace.

Feb 79
(cease fire)
Iraq.

Together, we can make America safer and stronger for all our people.

Thank you for your warm welcome -- and for your love of country. May God bless this great nation, the United States of America.

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The Associated Press, September 8, 1988

September 8, 1988, Thursday, BC cycle

LENGTH: 238 words

HEADLINE: AP-Kentucky News Summary

KEYWORD: Kentucky News Summary

BODY:

(Here is Kentucky news from the Associated Press) Vice President George Bush was applauded at the 70th annual American Legion convention in Louisville today when he said the nation must develop a health care policy for veterans over 65. Bush, who belongs to American Legion Post 313 in Houston, says he will continue preferential treatment for veterans in federal hiring if elected.

Democratic Senator Dennis DeConcini (Dee Con-see-nee) of Arizona was booed and heckled today when he urged Legionnaires to give democrat Michael Dukakis a fair hearing tomorrow at the convention in Louisville. DeConcini told the audience that President Reagan and Bush are not the friends to veterans they claim to be.

LEVEL 1 - 27 OF 76 STORIES

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Chicago Tribune

September 8, 1988, Thursday, SPORTS FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 23; ZONE: C; SPORTSPEOPLE

LENGTH: 919 words

HEADLINE: HISTORY TEACHES LESSON ON NEED FOR DEFENSE, BUSH SAYS

BYLINE: By Mitchell Locin, Chicago Tribune. Tribune correspondent Dorothy Collin contributed to this report

DATELINE: LOUISVILLE

BODY:

Hitting again on one of the central themes of his presidential campaign, George Bush told the American Legion convention Wednesday that history has taught the United States the need for a strong defense.

(c) 1988 Chicago Tribune, September 8, 1988

Bush also made a strong pitch for the proposed Strategic Defense Initiative, known as Star Wars. In a recent interview he had questioned the cost of deploying the program fully.

In explaining his support for SDI, the vice president made an embarrassing mistake, but one the veterans immediately forgave.

Searching for an example for his contention that "weakness tempts aggression, and aggression leads to war," Bush momentarily stunned the Legionnaires when he stated:

"Today, you remember—I wonder how many people remember—today is Pearl Harbor Day. Forty-seven years ago to this very day we were hit and hit hard in Pearl Harbor."

The departure from his prepared text set the Legionnaires murmuring in surprise. A paragraph later, Bush realized his mistake.

"Did I say Sept. 7?" he asked the audience in the Commonwealth Convention Center. "Sorry about that. Dec. 7, 1941." The audience gave him a big hand. "I'm glad I corrected that. I saw this guy shaking me off out here. Dec. 7, 1941," he repeated.

(c) 1988 Chicago Tribune, September 8, 1988

Later in the speech, speaking of the day whose date he'd just gotten wrong, Bush said, "I will never forget that day of Dec. 7 . . . I remember it. It stands clearly in my mind." He said he was walking across his prep school campus in Andover, Mass., after attending church.

Michael Dukakis, the Democratic nominee, will speak to the convention on Thursday. Catcalls and jeers, suggesting the reception he can expect, came when Sen. Dennis DeConcini, (D., Ariz.) asked the Legionnaires to give Dukakis a hearing.

Going through the litany of his differences with Dukakis, Bush ticked off the Massachusetts governor's opposition to deploying the MX and Midgetman missiles, to building two new aircraft carrier task forces and to deploying SDI.

Without modernization of U.S. forces, the Soviets would have no incentive to negotiate reductions, Bush contended.

"After all, if my opponent doesn't want to modernize his snowblower, that's his business," he said, repeating what has become one of the Republican campaign's favorite lines. "But if he doesn't want to modernize our defenses, why, that's dangerous business for America."

(c) 1988 Chicago Tribune, September 8, 1988

Bush said he has "consistently supported" President Reagan's conviction that deploying SDI would make the world safe from a Soviet ballistic missile attack through deploying SDI, popularly known as Star Wars.

Dukakis has called the program "naive" and "impractical." Bush said he has "seen the technology first hand." He said he favors "researching, testing and evaluating the full range of promising SDI technologies" and deploying "those that work best."

In a recent New York Times interview, Bush took a cautious approach to full SDI deployment, saying it would be "very expensive." He said he would be open to exploring partial deployment of a system to repel any missiles fired by accident.

The Times published another interview Thursday in which the director of the SDI program, Lt. Gen. James A. Abrahamson, said he has prepared new proposals that would substantially cut spending for the system, but would preserve the goal of deploying such a system in the late 1990s.

Bush later flew to Baltimore where he told a convention of B'nai B'rith International, the Jewish civic organization, that a Bush administration would make it a priority "to find a way to peace" in the Middle East.

LEVEL 1 - 28 OF 76 STORIES

Copyright (c) 1988 The Times Mirror Company;
Los Angeles Times

September 8, 1988, Thursday, Home Edition

SECTION: Part 1; Page 19; Column 3; National Desk

LENGTH: 194 words

HEADLINE: BUSH DISREMEMBERS PEARL HARBOR

BYLINE: By John Balzar

DATELINE: LOUISVILLE, Ky.

BODY:

"I'll never forget that day," George Bush declared.

Well, maybe once.

On the stage in front of thousands of members of the American Legion on Wednesday, Bush indeed forgot the solemn anniversary of what America knows as

(c) 1988 Los Angeles Times, September 8, 1988

a Day of Infamy.

"Today, you remember. (But) I wonder how many Americans remember. Today is Pearl Harbor Day -- 47 years ago to this very day we were hit and hit hard at Pearl Harbor. We were not ready.

"In a Bush Administration, that lesson would not be forgotten."

Murmurs and gasps swept the huge auditorium, filled with graying veterans of World War II. They remember the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor as occurring on Dec. 7.

"Did I say Sept. 7?" a startled Bush said a half minute later when he was signaled about his flub. "No, it was Dec. 7, 1941 -- 47 years ago. I'm glad I corrected that."

The gaffe was a reminder that Bush, despite smooth public performances since his convention acceptance speech, can easily wander off track and talk himself into embarrassing corners.

"I just got messed up," he told reporters later aboard Air Force Two. "I wanted to work Pearl Harbor in and just got carried away." John Balzar

THE WHITE HOUSE

10

WASHINGTON

leverage. I intend to use it -- for good -- by strengthening America's global reach as a complement to our security presence. America must maintain a strong presence in markets across the Atlantic and the Pacific. //

The key is an agenda that fully integrates our domestic, economic and foreign policies. In our world today, these three topics have become one issue. //

You're going to ask -- you ought to ask -- alright, what are we doing to get ready for the game? //

Fair question. Here's my answer: We must build on the fundamentals of lower tax rates, limits on government spending, less red tape and regulation -- and more trade, more competition, to generate the growth that means more opportunity ... more jobs.

And I think that in the '90's, government can add to this growth program by building opportunity and hope for individuals, empowering families and communities. //

That's what it will take: The kind of American spirit that carried the day -- from the 40 years of Cold War to the 40 days of Desert Storm. The spirit that helped us wage the war -- must now help us win the peace. ///

You know me: I'm not much for eloquence. But I know each of you -- and I think I can put this new challenge in language you'll understand.

I'd like to close with the words of a President from the other party -- John F. Kennedy. On a sentry box in Gibraltar, he found scrawled these words:

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

God and the soldier all men adore

In time of trouble and no more;

For when war is over, and all things righted

God is neglected -- and the soldier slighted. //

Just as we must never forget our God, we must never forget
you -- who put your lives on the line for freedom.

It means supporting the programs, the policies, the
principles that keep us strong.

It means building an America of which you can be proud -- an
America worthy of the blood we shed and the friends we lost.

It means building an America in which every Soldier, every
Sailor, every Airman and Marine can say -- I am proud to call
this home. //

Thank you for your warm welcome -- and for your love of
country. May God bless this great nation, the United States of
America.

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