

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):

FOIA Number:

S

# FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.**

---

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

---

**OA/ID Number:** 13479  
**Folder ID Number:** 13479-009

---

**Folder Title:**  
Swearing-in of Secretary Derwinski, 3/15/89

---

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>

---

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 10, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: PATRICIA MACK BRYAN *PMB*  
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Derwinski Swearing-in

Pursuant to your staffing memorandum of March 10, 1989, Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks. We have no legal objection to the contents of these remarks.

cc: James W. Cicconi

1989 MAR -9 PM 4:05

(Davis/Simon)  
March 9, 3:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
SOUTH LAWN  
MARCH 15, 1989

Good afternoon, Ed, Bonnie, Maureen and Michael. Good to see you Tony. (Bill Mauldin -- "Willie and Joe" cartoons?)

((Ed, I want to compliment you on your fine suit. You should know that if you had worn your gold-and-black checkered jacket with your tomato red beret -- the White House camera crew would have gone on strike.))

From where we are standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. Just to the West of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead of us, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect as a bronzed giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level surface of the Mall -- much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been three calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. At the Iwo Jima memorial, just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages in bronze. No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture, or what it meant to us . . . certainly not this former pilot.


We have yet to honor the veterans of the Korean War in such a way, although I'm glad to see that planning for a memorial is moving forward. But three weeks ago I saw a living monument to these brave Americans -- the nation of South Korea itself, a new-born democracy aided by American sacrifice, protected by American strength.

Just below the horizon, to our right, are the simple lines and chiseled names of the Vietnam Memorial; a somber salute to those who fell, and all who answered the call to duty. May we never cease to honor them, in name and deed.

Finally, let us never forget those men and women in the Armed Forces who, even in peacetime, risk their lives in a hardship post or a dangerous assignment, whether it's standing on the deck of a carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an anti-terrorist unit, waiting for a call we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and stone are inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

But that doesn't free us of obligation. If you go to the front entrance of the Veteran's Affairs Department, you will see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in a plate of steel, calling on us: "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

 This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital, that there is only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America . . .

As the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the legislative and the executive branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many friends. No former colleague of Ed's can forget his unfailing good humor. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red-tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits and military honors.

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress, conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland and Pacific nations, acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs, and prevented the diversion of sensitive U.S. technology to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the U.S. Army.

This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's background and talents.

This new department must match vast resources to vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential V.A. beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors.

Ed will oversee a department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administering a budget of more than \$29 billion.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will provide compensation to service-disabled veterans, pensions for low-income veterans and survivors, educational assistance and vocational rehabilitation. It guarantees the home loans for 12 million families, and operates the fifth largest insurance industry in America.

It also runs the nation's largest medical system, with 172 hospitals, and hundreds of outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

But the best resource of the new Department is its people -- men and women who live up to the highest ideal of public service every day. They have my sincerest gratitude for a job well done.

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There is no power or glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone, and for those who grieve.

In these "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman; lost youth that can only be measured in centuries.

A President could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust. It is my duty, as Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our armed forces are so strong, and our diplomacy so wise, that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war.

A free America in a world at peace. Together, we have achieved that goal. Together, we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans . . .

Ed, congratulations, and thanks for all that you have already done. We've got a big job ahead. I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

# # #

Davis/Simon  
March 8, 5:30 p.m.

DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
2:15 P.M., MARCH 15, 1989

~~LWO JIMA MONUMENT~~ SOUTH LAWN

Good afternoon, Ed, Bonnie, Maureen and Michael. Good to see you Tony. (Bill Mauldin -- "Willie and Joe" cartoons?)

I want ~~to~~ to compliment you on your fine suit.  
(Ed, you should know that if you had worn your gold-and-black checkered jacket with your tomato red beret -- the White House camera crew would have gone on strike.)

From where we are standing, ~~we can see~~ most of the landmarks of this town. ~~(City ARE LESS THAN A FARS AWAY)~~ ALMOST A STONE'S THROW AWAY Across the river, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Thomas Jefferson commands our respect as a bronzed giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level surface of the Mall -- much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

Compliment you on  
fine suit

There have been three calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. <sup>A + the Iwo Jima Mem.</sup> Behind ~~me~~, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages in bronze. No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture, or what it meant to us . . . certainly not this former pilot. ~~of an Avenger torpedo bomber.~~

We have yet to honor the veterans of the Korean War in such a way, although I'm glad to see that planning for a memorial is moving forward. But three weeks ago I saw <sup>a living</sup> the ~~best~~ monument to these brave Americans ~~there could possibly be~~ -- the nation of South Korea itself, a new-born democracy <sup>AIDED</sup> ~~rescued~~ by American sacrifice, protected by American strength.

Across the river, <sup>TO OUR RIGHT</sup> just below the horizon, are the <sup>simple lines and</sup> chiseled names of the Vietnam Memorial; a somber salute to those who fell, and all who answered the call to duty. May we never cease to honor them, in name and deed.

Finally, let us never forget those men and women in the Armed Forces who, even in peacetime, risk their lives in a hardship post or a dangerous assignment, whether it's standing on the deck of a carrier in the Persian Gulf, or an anti-terrorist unit, waiting for a call we hope never comes.

name  
statue & local

~~45  
P. 7  
of  
the  
memorial  
(unbuilt)~~

across  
the  
river

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and stone are inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

But that doesn't free us of obligation. If you go to the front entrance of the Veteran's Affairs Department, you will see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, etched in stone, calling on us: "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital, that there is only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the ~~right hand side~~ <sup>table with</sup> of the President of the United States of America

. . .

As the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the legislative and the executive branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home <sup>with</sup> ~~inhabited by~~ many friends. No former colleague of Ed's can forget his unfailing good humor. Nor will veterans forget his good work <sup>on the</sup> -- Ed's cheerful handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red-tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits and military honors.

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress, conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland and Pacific nations, acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs, and prevented the diversion of sensitive U.S. technology to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the U.S. Army.

This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's background and talents.

This new department must match vast resources to vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential V.A. beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors.

Ed will oversee a department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administering a budget of more than \$29 billion.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will provide compensation to service-disabled veterans, pensions for low-income veterans and survivors, educational assistance and vocational rehabilitation. It guarantees the home loans for 12 million families, and operates the fifth largest insurance industry in America.

It also runs the nation's largest medical system, with 172 hospitals, and hundreds of outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

But the best resource of the new Department is its people -- men and women who live up to the highest ideal of public service every day. They have my sincerest gratitude for a job well done.

It is only appropriate, ~~given this setting,~~ to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 ~~national cemeteries~~ national cemeteries across America. There is no power or glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone, and for those who grieve.

~~Behind us is one such garden of stone, Arlington National Cemetery, the one national cemetery under the care of the U.S. Army.~~ *In these "gardens of stone"* Here sleep the heroes of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman; lost youth that can only be measured in centuries.]

A President could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust. It is my duty, as Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our armed forces are so strong, and our diplomacy so wise, that we <sup>will</sup> ~~need~~ never again <sup>need</sup> to erect another monument to the casualties of war.

A free America in a world at peace. Together, we have achieved that goal. Together, we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans . . .

Ed, congratulations, and thanks for all that you have already done. We've got a big job ahead. I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 15, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
AT SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF  
SECRETARY OF VETERAN AFFAIRS EDWARD DERWINSKI

The South Lawn

1:00 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all. Mr. Vice President and members of the President's Cabinet that are here, distinguished members of the Senate and the House, and service secretaries and I see at least one member of the Joint Chiefs, General Vuono there, and distinguished guests over here, including Bill Mauldin. I'm just delighted to be here to salute Ed Derwinski, be with his family, Bonnie, Maureen, and Michael. I heard Maureen and Michael -- I thought maybe President Reagan was back. (Laughter.) But, no, this is the Derwinski clan.

And, Ed, I want to thank you for not wearing that gold and black-checked jacket with that tomato-red beret. (Laughter.) I'm reliably informed that the White House camera crew would have gone on instant strike. We don't need another strike. (Laughter.)

From where we're standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. That's one of the beautiful things that Barbara and I have rediscovered, but discovered principally from living in the quarters above here. Just to the west of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect -- a bronze giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level of the surface of the Mall, much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been four calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. From the South Lawn of the White House, one can see a flaming sword, a tribute to the courage of the soldiers of the Army's 2nd Division who fought so bravely in World War I. At the Iwo Jima Memorial just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages in bronze. No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture or what it meant to us.

carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an antiterrorist unit, waiting for a call that we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the Battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone in the Lincoln Memorial. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and statuary are inadequate -- they're inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice. And our obligation is also for the living.

If you go to the front entrance of the Veterans Affairs Department, you'll see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in a plate of steel, calling on us -- here's the quote -- "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new Department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital that there's only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America. (Applause.)

And as the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the Legislative and the Executive Branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston, Texas. Ed, a Congressman from Illinois then, was already a veteran of some tough congressional battles. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many, many friends. No former colleagues of Ed can ever forget his unfailing good humor and his concern for people. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits, deserved military honors.

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress; conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland, the Pacific nations; acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs; and prevented the diversion of the sensitive technology that belongs to the United States to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the United States Army. This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job, this new job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's backgrounds and talents.

This new Department must manage its vast resources to meet vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential VA beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors. Ed will oversee a Department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administrating a budget of

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There's no power, no glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone and for those who grieve. In those "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes -- men and women of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman -- lost youth that can only be measured in centuries. A president could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust.

It is my duty, as the Commander-In-Chief, to see to it that our Armed Forces are so strong and our diplomacy so wise that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war. (Applause.)

A free America in a world at peace. Together we have achieved that goal. Together we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans.

Ed, congratulations. Thanks for all that you have already done. And we've got a big job ahead. And I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

Thank you all. And God bless the United States of America. (Applause.)

END

1:36 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

3/13/89

(Davis/Simon)  
March 10, 1989  
7:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
SOUTH LAWN  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1989

OK  
GB  
3-13

Good afternoon, Ed, Bonnie, Maureen and Michael. Good to see you Tony.

((Ed, I want to compliment you on your fine suit. You should know that if you had worn your gold-and-black checkered jacket with your tomato red beret -- the White House camera crew would have gone on strike.))

From where we are standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. Just to the West of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead of us, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect: a bronze giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level surface of the Mall -- much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been four calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. From the South Lawn of the White House, one can see a flaming sword, a tribute to the

where??

courage of the soldiers of the Army's 2nd Division, who fought so bravely in World War One. At the Iwo Jima memorial, just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages in bronze. No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture, or what it meant to us . . . [certainly not this former pilot.]

We have yet to honor the veterans of the Korean War in such a way, although I'm glad to see that planning for a memorial is moving forward. But three weeks ago I saw a living monument to these brave Americans -- the Republic of Korea itself, a new-born democracy aided by American sacrifice, protected by American strength.

Just below the horizon, to our right, are the simple lines and chiseled names of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; a somber salute to those who fell, and to all who answered the call to duty. May we never cease to honor them, in name and deed.

Finally, let us never forget those men and women in the Armed Forces who, even in peacetime, risk their lives in a hardship post or a dangerous assignment, whether it's standing on the deck of a carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an anti-terrorist unit, waiting for a call we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone in the Lincoln Memorial. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and

statuary are inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Our obligation is also to the living. If you go to the front entrance of the Veterans Affairs Department, you will see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in a plate of steel, calling on us: "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital, that there is only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America . . .

As the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the legislative and the executive branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston, ~~He was a veteran of the~~ And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many friends. No former colleague of Ed's can forget his unfailing good humor. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red-tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits and military honors.

*Ed, a Congressman from Illinois,  
was already a veteran of some tough Congressional battles.*

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress, conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland and Pacific nations, acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs, and prevented the diversion of sensitive U.S. technology to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the U.S. Army.

This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's background and talents.

This new department must manage its vast resources to meet vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential V.A. beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors.

Ed will oversee a department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administering a budget of more than \$29 billion.

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides compensation to service-disabled veterans, pensions for low-income, disabled veterans and survivors, educational assistance and vocational rehabilitation. It guarantees the home loans for 12 million

families, and operates the fifth largest life insurance program in America.

It also runs the nation's largest medical system, with 172 hospitals, and hundreds of outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

But the best resource of the new Department is its people -- men and women who live up to the highest ideal of public service every day. They have my sincerest gratitude for a job well done.

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There is no power or glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone, and for those who grieve.

In these "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes -- men and women -- of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman; lost youth that can only be measured in centuries.

A President could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust. It is my duty, as Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our armed forces are so strong, and our diplomacy so wise, that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war.

A free America in a world at peace. Together, we have achieved that goal. Together, we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans . . .

Ed, congratulations, and thanks for all that you have already done. We've got a big job ahead. I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

# # #

**ED DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
SOUTH LAWN  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1989**

**GOOD AFTERNOON, ED, BONNIE, MAUREEN AND MICHAEL.  
GOOD TO SEE YOU TONY.**

**- 2 -**

**((ED, I WANT TO COMPLIMENT YOU ON YOUR FINE  
SUIT. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT IF YOU HAD WORN YOUR GOLD-  
AND-BLACK CHECKERED JACKET WITH YOUR TOMATO RED BERET -  
- THE WHITE HOUSE CAMERA CREW WOULD HAVE GONE ON  
STRIKE.))**

**FROM WHERE WE ARE STANDING, MOST OF THE LANDMARKS  
OF THIS TOWN ARE ALMOST A STONE'S THROW AWAY. JUST TO  
THE WEST OF US, ABRAHAM LINCOLN REPOSES MAJESTICALLY IN  
HIS CHAIR OF STONE.**

- 3 -

**STRAIGHT AHEAD OF US, THOMAS JEFFERSON COMMANDS OUR RESPECT: A BRONZE GIANT UNDERNEATH A DOME OF MARBLE. AND THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT RISES ABOVE THE LEVEL SURFACE OF THE MALL -- MUCH AS OUR FIRST PRESIDENT DOMINATED HIS TIME.**

**WE GLORIFY OUR GREATEST LEADERS. BUT WE DO NOT BUILD THESE IVORY TEMPLES TO HONOR THEM ALONE.**

- 4 -

**WE HONOR THE ENDURING PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH THEY STOOD. AND WE HONOR THE MILLIONS OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE BEEN READY THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF OUR NATION TO DEFEND THOSE PRINCIPLES.**

**THERE HAVE BEEN FOUR CALLS TO ARMS IN THE LIVING MEMORY OF MOST AMERICANS OR THEIR PARENTS.**

FROM THE SOUTH LAWN OF THE WHITE HOUSE, ONE CAN SEE A FLAMING SWORD, A TRIBUTE TO THE COURAGE OF THE SOLDIERS OF THE ARMY'S 2ND DIVISION, WHO FOUGHT SO BRAVELY IN WORLD WAR ONE. AT THE IWO JIMA MEMORIAL, JUST ACROSS THE RIVER, A FLEETING MOMENT OF VICTORY, FIRST CAPTURED IN AN ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOGRAPH, IS NOW CAST FOR THE AGES IN BRONZE. NO ONE WHO LIVED THROUGH THAT WAR WILL EVER FORGET THAT PICTURE, OR WHAT IT MEANT TO US ... ((CERTAINLY NOT THIS FORMER PILOT.))

WE HAVE YET TO HONOR THE VETERANS OF THE KOREAN WAR IN SUCH A WAY, ALTHOUGH I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT PLANNING FOR A MEMORIAL IS MOVING FORWARD. BUT THREE WEEKS AGO I SAW A LIVING MONUMENT TO THESE BRAVE AMERICANS -- THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ITSELF, A NEW-BORN DEMOCRACY AIDED BY AMERICAN SACRIFICE, PROTECTED BY AMERICAN STRENGTH.

- 7 -

JUST BELOW THE HORIZON, TO OUR RIGHT, ARE THE SIMPLE LINES AND CHISELED NAMES OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL; A SOMBER SALUTE TO THOSE WHO FELL, AND TO ALL WHO ANSWERED THE CALL TO DUTY. MAY WE NEVER CEASE TO HONOR THEM, IN NAME AND DEED.

- 8 -

FINALLY, LET US NEVER FORGET THOSE MEN AND WOMEN IN THE ARMED FORCES WHO, EVEN IN PEACETIME, RISK THEIR LIVES IN A HARDSHIP POST OR A DANGEROUS ASSIGNMENT, WHETHER IT'S STANDING ON THE DECK OF A CARRIER OFF THE PERSIAN GULF, OR AN ANTI-TERRORIST UNIT, WAITING FOR A CALL WE HOPE NEVER COMES.

THE MEANING OF A MONUMENT, AS LINCOLN SAID OF THE BATTLEFIELD AT GETTYSBURG, IS "FAR ABOVE OUR POOR POWER TO ADD OR DETRACT."

- 9 -

THESE WORDS ARE CARVED IN STONE IN THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL. BUT LINCOLN HIMSELF ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SPEECHES AND STATUARY ARE INADEQUATE REPAYMENT FOR THOSE WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE.

OUR OBLIGATION IS ALSO TO THE LIVING.

- 10 -

IF YOU GO TO THE FRONT ENTRANCE OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, YOU WILL SEE ANOTHER QUOTE FROM ABRAHAM LINCOLN, CAST IN A PLATE OF STEEL, CALLING ON US: "TO CARE FOR HIM WHO SHALL HAVE BORNE THE BATTLE AND FOR HIS WIDOW, AND HIS ORPHAN."

THIS IS THE MISSION OF THE NEW DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, WHICH TODAY OFFICIALLY ASSUMES THE DUTIES OF THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION. I CONSIDER THE NEW DEPARTMENT TO HAVE A VITAL MISSION.

- 11 -

**IN FACT, IT IS SO VITAL, THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE PLACE FOR THE VETERANS OF AMERICA -- IN THE CABINET ROOM, AT THE TABLE WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA....**

**AS THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THIS NEW DEPARTMENT, ED DERWINSKI WILL SET A PRECEDENT. HE IS UNIQUELY SUITED FOR THIS ROLE, HAVING SERVED WITH DISTINCTION IN BOTH THE LEGISLATIVE AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT.**

- 12 -

**MY FRIENDSHIP WITH ED GOES BACK TO MY DAYS AS A FRESHMAN CONGRESSMAN FROM HOUSTON. ED, A CONGRESSMAN FROM ILLINOIS, WAS ALREADY A VETERAN OF SOME TOUGH CONGRESSIONAL BATTLES. AND I KNOW THAT FOR ED, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IS STILL A SECOND HOME WITH MANY FRIENDS. NO FORMER COLLEAGUE OF ED'S CAN FORGET HIS UNFAILING GOOD HUMOR.**

- 13 -

NOR WILL VETERANS FORGET HIS GOOD WORK -- ED'S HANDLING OF A HEAVY BURDEN OF CASEWORK, CUTTING RED-TAPE SO THAT THOUSANDS OF VETERANS COULD RECEIVE THEIR PENSIONS, MEDICAL BENEFITS AND MILITARY HONORS.

AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT, ED PACKED THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF A WHOLE CAREER INTO A FEW YEARS.

- 14 -

HE WORKED WITH CONGRESS, CONDUCTED SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADA, ICELAND AND PACIFIC NATIONS, ACTED AS A SENIOR OFFICIAL FOR REFUGEE POLICY AND PROGRAMS, AND PREVENTED THE DIVERSION OF SENSITIVE U.S. TECHNOLOGY TO UNFRIENDLY NATIONS.

**IN SHORT, ED DERWINSKI HAS THE SKILL OF A SEASONED LEGISLATOR, THE PATIENCE OF A PRACTICED ADMINISTRATOR, THE FINESSE OF A DIPLOMAT -- AND THE HEART OF A MAN WHO KNOWS WHAT IT MEANS TO START HIS GOVERNMENT CAREER AS A PRIVATE IN THE U.S. ARMY.**

**THIS IS A UNIQUE COMBINATION OF EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS. AND MAKE NO MISTAKE, THE JOB REQUIRES SOMEONE WITH ED DERWINSKI'S BACKGROUND AND TALENTS.**

**THIS NEW DEPARTMENT MUST MANAGE ITS VAST RESOURCES TO MEET VAST NEEDS. ALMOST ONE OUT OF EVERY THREE U.S. CITIZENS IS A POTENTIAL V.A. BENEFICIARY. COUNT AMONG THEM 27 MILLION VETERANS AND 53 MILLION DEPENDENTS AND SURVIVORS.**

**ED WILL OVERSEE A DEPARTMENT WITH ALMOST A QUARTER OF A MILLION EMPLOYEES -- THE SECOND LARGEST CIVILIAN TASK FORCE IN THE GOVERNMENT -- ADMINISTERING A BUDGET OF MORE THAN \$29 BILLION.**

- 17 -

**THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PROVIDES  
COMPENSATION TO SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS, PENSIONS FOR  
LOW-INCOME, DISABLED VETERANS AND SURVIVORS,  
EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION.  
IT GUARANTEES THE HOME LOANS FOR 12 MILLION FAMILIES,  
AND OPERATES THE FIFTH LARGEST LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM  
IN AMERICA.**

- 18 -

**IT ALSO RUNS THE NATION'S LARGEST MEDICAL SYSTEM,  
WITH 172 HOSPITALS, AND HUNDREDS OF OUTPATIENT CLINICS  
AND NURSING HOMES.**

**BUT THE BEST RESOURCE OF THE NEW DEPARTMENT IS ITS  
PEOPLE --MEN AND WOMEN WHO LIVE UP TO THE HIGHEST IDEAL  
OF PUBLIC SERVICE EVERY DAY. THEY HAVE MY SINCEREST  
GRATITUDE FOR A JOB WELL DONE.**

- 19 -

IT IS ONLY APPROPRIATE TO NOTE ONE OTHER TASK ASSIGNED TO THE VETERANS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT -- TO TEND AND CARE FOR 112 NATIONAL CEMETERIES ACROSS AMERICA. THERE IS NO POWER OR GLAMOUR IN SUCH A JOB. BUT THERE IS CARING AND RESPECT -- FOR THOSE WHO ARE GONE, AND FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE.

- 20 -

IN THESE "GARDENS OF STONE" SLEEP THE HEROES -- MEN AND WOMEN -- OF EVERY SERVICE, MARINE, SOLDIER, SAILOR, AIRMAN; LOST YOUTH THAT CAN ONLY BE MEASURED IN CENTURIES.

A PRESIDENT COULD HAVE NO MORE POIGNANT A REMINDER THAT HE IS CHARGED WITH A GREAT TRUST.

- 21 -

IT IS MY DUTY, AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, TO SEE TO IT THAT OUR ARMED FORCES ARE SO STRONG, AND OUR DIPLOMACY SO WISE, THAT WE WILL NEVER AGAIN NEED TO ERECT ANOTHER MONUMENT TO THE CASUALTIES OF WAR.

A FREE AMERICA IN A WORLD AT PEACE. TOGETHER, WE HAVE ACHIEVED THAT GOAL. TOGETHER, WE CAN PRESERVE IT. AND IF WE DO, THEN SURELY THAT PEACE WILL BE THE TRUEST MONUMENT TO OUR VETERANS....

- 22 -

ED, CONGRATULATIONS, AND THANKS FOR ALL THAT YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE. WE'VE GOT A BIG JOB AHEAD. I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH YOU IN THE YEARS TO COME.

# # #

MASTER I

Document No. 015333SS

### WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/9/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3/10/89 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by noon, Friday, March 10, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

1989 MAR -9 PM 4:05

(Davis/Simon)  
March 9, 3:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:       DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
                                  SOUTH LAWN  
                                  MARCH 15, 1989

Good afternoon, Ed, Bonnie, Maureen and Michael. Good to see you Tony. (Bill Mauldin -- "Willie and Joe" cartoons?)

((Ed, I want to compliment you on your fine suit. You should know that if you had worn your gold-and-black checkered jacket with your tomato red beret -- the White House camera crew would have gone on strike.))

From where we are standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. Just to the West of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead of us, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect: ~~as a~~<sup>a</sup> bronzed ~~X~~ giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level surface of the Mall -- much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been <sup>Sour</sup> ~~three~~ calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. <sup>(insert, over?)</sup> At the Iwo Jima memorial, just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages. ~~in bronze.~~ No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture, or what it meant to us . . . certainly not this former pilot.

We have yet to honor the veterans of the Korean War in such a way, although I'm glad to see that planning for a memorial is moving forward. But three weeks ago I saw a living monument to these brave Americans -- the <sup>Republic</sup> ~~nation~~ of South Korea itself, a new-born democracy aided by American sacrifice, protected by American strength. <sup>(Scow)</sup>

Just below the horizon, to our right, are the simple lines and chiseled names of the <sup>Veterans</sup> ~~Vietnam~~ Memorial; a somber salute to those who fell, and <sup>to</sup> ~~all~~ who answered the call to duty. May we never cease to honor them, in name and deed.

From the Pointe laison of the White House,  
one can see the ~~mountain~~ gleaming peaks  
to the courage of the Army and Division  
which fought so bravely in World War I.

Finally, let us never forget those men and women in the Armed Forces who, even in peacetime, risk their lives in a hardship post or a dangerous assignment, whether it's standing on the deck of a carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an anti-terrorist unit, waiting for a call we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and ~~stone~~ <sup>Statuary</sup> are inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

(Pnc) *Our obligation is also to the living.*  
~~But that doesn't free us of obligation.~~ If you go to the front entrance of the Veteran's Affairs Department, you will see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in a <sup>ALUMINUM</sup> plate of steel, <sup>?</sup> calling on us: "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital, that there is only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America . . .

As the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the legislative and the executive branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many friends. No former colleague of Ed's can forget his unfailing good humor. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red-tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits and military honors.

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress, conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland and Pacific nations, acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs, and prevented the diversion of sensitive U.S. technology to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the U.S. Army.

This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's background and talents.

This new department must ~~match~~ <sup>manage its</sup> vast resources to ~~meet~~ <sup>meet its</sup> vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential V.A. beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors.

Ed will oversee a department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administering a budget of more than \$29 billion.

The Department of Veterans Affairs ~~will~~ provides compensation to service-disabled veterans, pensions for low-income ~~veterans~~ <sup>disabled</sup> and survivors, educational assistance and vocational rehabilitation. It guarantees the home loans for 12 million families, and operates the fifth largest ~~insurance industry~~ <sup>life insurance program</sup> in America. (Vets)

It also runs the nation's largest medical system, with 172 hospitals, and hundreds of outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

But the best resource of the new Department is its people -- men and women who live up to the highest ideal of public service every day. They have my sincerest gratitude for a job well done.

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There is no power or glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone, and for those who grieve.

In these "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes ~~of every~~ <sup>measured women</sup> service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman; lost youth that can only be measured in centuries.

A President could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust. It is my duty, as Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our armed forces are so strong, and our diplomacy so wise, that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war.

A free America in a world at peace. Together, we have achieved that goal. Together, we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans . . .

Ed, congratulations, and thanks for all that you have already done. We've got a big job ahead. I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

# # #

MASTER II

Document No. 015333SS

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 3/13/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: -----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

(Davis/Simon)  
March 10 1989  
7:30 p.m. MAR 10 7:55

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
SOUTH LAWN  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1989

Good afternoon, Ed, Bonnie, Maureen and Michael. Good to see you Tony.

((Ed, I want to compliment you on your fine suit. You should know that if you had worn your gold-and-black checkered jacket with your tomato red beret -- the White House camera crew would have gone on strike.))

From where we are standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. Just to the West of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead of us, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect: a bronze giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level surface of the Mall -- much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been four calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. From the South Lawn of the White House, one can see a flaming sword, a tribute to the

courage of the soldiers of the Army's 2nd Division, who fought so bravely in World War One. At the Iwo Jima memorial, just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages in bronze. No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture, or what it meant to us . . . certainly not this former pilot.

We have yet to honor the veterans of the Korean War in such a way, although I'm glad to see that planning for a memorial is moving forward. But three weeks ago I saw a living monument to these brave Americans -- the Republic of Korea itself, a new-born democracy aided by American sacrifice, protected by American strength.

Just below the horizon, to our right, are the simple lines and chiseled names of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; a somber salute to those who fell, and to all who answered the call to duty. May we never cease to honor them, in name and deed.

Finally, let us never forget those men and women in the Armed Forces who, even in peacetime, risk their lives in a hardship post or a dangerous assignment, whether it's standing on the deck of a carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an anti-terrorist unit, waiting for a call we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone in the Lincoln Memorial. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and

statuary are inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Our obligation is also to the living. If you go to the front entrance of the Veterans Affairs Department, you will see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in a plate of steel, calling on us: "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital, that there is only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America . . .

As the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the legislative and the executive branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many friends. No former colleague of Ed's can forget his unfailing good humor. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red-tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits and military honors.

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress, conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland and Pacific nations, acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs, and prevented the diversion of sensitive U.S. technology to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the U.S. Army.

This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's background and talents.

This new department must manage its vast resources to meet vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential V.A. beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors.

Ed will oversee a department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administering a budget of more than \$29 billion.

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides compensation to service-disabled veterans, pensions for low-income, disabled veterans and survivors, educational assistance and vocational rehabilitation. It guarantees the home loans for 12 million

families, and operates the fifth largest life insurance program in America.

It also runs the nation's largest medical system, with 172 hospitals, and hundreds of outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

But the best resource of the new Department is its people -- men and women who live up to the highest ideal of public service every day. They have my sincerest gratitude for a job well done.

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There is no power or glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone, and for those who grieve.

In these "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes -- men and women -- of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman; lost youth that can only be measured in centuries.

A President could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust. It is my duty, as Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our armed forces are so strong, and our diplomacy so wise, that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war.

A free America in a world at peace. Together, we have achieved that goal. Together, we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans . . .

Ed, congratulations, and thanks for all that you have already done. We've got a big job ahead. I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

# # #



DAVIS

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 15, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
AT SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF  
SECRETARY OF VETERAN AFFAIRS EDWARD DERWINSKI

The South Lawn

1:00 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all. Mr. Vice President and members of the President's Cabinet that are here, distinguished members of the Senate and the House, and service secretaries and I see at least one member of the Joint Chiefs, General Vuono there, and distinguished guests over here, including Bill Mauldin. I'm just delighted to be here to salute Ed Derwinski, be with his family, Bonnie, Maureen, and Michael. I heard Maureen and Michael -- I thought maybe President Reagan was back. (Laughter.) But, no, this is the Derwinski clan.

And, Ed, I want to thank you for not wearing that gold and black-checked jacket with that tomato-red beret. (Laughter.) I'm reliably informed that the White House camera crew would have gone on instant strike. We don't need another strike. (Laughter.)

From where we're standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. That's one of the beautiful things that Barbara and I have rediscovered, but discovered principally from living in the quarters above here. Just to the west of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect -- a bronze giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level of the surface of the Mall, much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been four calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. From the South Lawn of the White House, one can see a flaming sword, a tribute to the courage of the soldiers of the Army's 2nd Division who fought so bravely in World War I. At the Iwo Jima Memorial just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages in bronze. No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture or what it meant to us.

carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an antiterrorist unit, waiting for a call that we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the Battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone in the Lincoln Memorial. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and statuary are inadequate -- they're inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice. And our obligation is also for the living.

If you go to the front entrance of the Veterans Affairs Department, you'll see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in a plate of steel, calling on us -- here's the quote -- "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new Department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital that there's only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America. (Applause.)

And as the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the Legislative and the Executive Branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston, Texas. Ed, a Congressman from Illinois then, was already a veteran of some tough congressional battles. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many, many friends. No former colleagues of Ed can ever forget his unfailing good humor and his concern for people. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits, deserved military honors.

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress; conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland, the Pacific nations; acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs; and prevented the diversion of the sensitive technology that belongs to the United States to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the United States Army. This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job, this new job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's backgrounds and talents.

This new Department must manage its vast resources to meet vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential VA beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors. Ed will oversee a Department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administrating a budget of

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There's no power, no glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone and for those who grieve. In those "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes -- men and women of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman -- lost youth that can only be measured in centuries. A president could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust.

It is my duty, as the Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our Armed Forces are so strong and our diplomacy so wise that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war. (Applause.)

A free America in a world at peace. Together we have achieved that goal. Together we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans.

Ed, congratulations. Thanks for all that you have already done. And we've got a big job ahead. And I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

Thank you all. And God bless the United States of America. (Applause.)

END

1:36 P.M. EST

TO PRESIDENT

(Davis/Simon)  
March 10, 1989  
7:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:       DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
                                  SOUTH LAWN  
                                  WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1989

Good afternoon, Ed, Bonnie, Maureen and Michael. Good to see you Tony.

((Ed, I want to compliment you on your fine suit. You should know that if you had worn your gold-and-black checkered jacket with your tomato red beret -- the White House camera crew would have gone on strike.))

From where we are standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. Just to the West of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead of us, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect: a bronze giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level surface of the Mall -- much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been four calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. From the South Lawn of the White House, one can see a flaming sword, a tribute to the

courage of the soldiers of the Army's 2nd Division, who fought so bravely in World War One. At the Iwo Jima memorial, just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages in bronze. No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture, or what it meant to us . . . certainly not this former pilot.

We have yet to honor the veterans of the Korean War in such a way, although I'm glad to see that planning for a memorial is moving forward. But three weeks ago I saw a living monument to these brave Americans -- the Republic of Korea itself, a new-born democracy aided by American sacrifice, protected by American strength.

Just below the horizon, to our right, are the simple lines and chiseled names of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; a somber salute to those who fell, and to all who answered the call to duty. May we never cease to honor them, in name and deed.

Finally, let us never forget those men and women in the Armed Forces who, even in peacetime, risk their lives in a hardship post or a dangerous assignment, whether it's standing on the deck of a carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an anti-terrorist unit, waiting for a call we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone in the Lincoln Memorial. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and

statuary are inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Our obligation is also to the living. If you go to the front entrance of the Veterans Affairs Department, you will see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in a plate of steel, calling on us: "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital, that there is only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America . . .

As the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the legislative and the executive branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many friends. No former colleague of Ed's can forget his unfailing good humor. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red-tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits and military honors.

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress, conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland and Pacific nations, acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs, and prevented the diversion of sensitive U.S. technology to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the U.S. Army.

This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's background and talents.

This new department must manage its vast resources to meet vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential V.A. beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors.

Ed will oversee a department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administering a budget of more than \$29 billion.

The Department of Veterans Affairs provides compensation to service-disabled veterans, pensions for low-income, disabled veterans and survivors, educational assistance and vocational rehabilitation. It guarantees the home loans for 12 million

families, and operates the fifth largest life insurance program in America.

It also runs the nation's largest medical system, with 172 hospitals, and hundreds of outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

But the best resource of the new Department is its people -- men and women who live up to the highest ideal of public service every day. They have my sincerest gratitude for a job well done.

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There is no power or glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone, and for those who grieve.

In these "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes -- men and women -- of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman; lost youth that can only be measured in centuries.

A President could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust. It is my duty, as Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our armed forces are so strong, and our diplomacy so wise, that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war.

A free America in a world at peace. Together, we have achieved that goal. Together, we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans . . .

Ed, congratulations, and thanks for all that you have already done. We've got a big job ahead. I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 10, 1989

Memorandum to Chriss Winston

From: Roger B. Porter  
James P. Pinkerton

Re: Comments on Junior Achievement, B'nai B'rith,  
Derwinski, Attorneys General, Insurance Agents  
drafts

A general comment on the drafts: If we are serious about our message of "Building a Better America," then we should state our message. We can't count on anyone else to carry our line if we won't do it ourselves. Ideally, all these speeches should include the phrase "Building A Better America."

Junior Achievement

Overall, a good speech. But the pitch for the President's program doesn't kick in until p.7. Again, there's no effort to ask these people -- renowned for their pep and enthusiasm -- for their help. We need a more imperative voice. The phrase "Building A Better America" should be included since it's our overall theme.

p.2, para. 4: Since this is the paragraph on voluntarism, we suggest including a specific reference to YES.

p.3, para. 1: "In your hands, economics is anything but as some call 'the dismal science.'" Change to: "In your creative hands, economics is anything but the 'dismal science' that some have called it."

p.8, para. 4: "...a system that gives ingenuity free reign" -- "reign" should be "rein." Obviously nobody in the audience will notice, but a reader will.

B'nai B'rith

p.2, para. 4: We must be careful about over-using the words "tolerance" and "intolerance." We used the phrase "intolerance" in the DEA speech and we have spoken repeatedly of "Zero Tolerance." We're tying many meanings and inferences around "tolerance."

When you overload a word with too many messages you sometimes wind up in trouble, as in the President's fumble over the phrase "anti-bigotry, anti-racism, and anti-semitism" in the campaign. We would draw the line right here and turn this negative-sounding sentence into a positive, e.g. "This nation must stand for tolerance, pluralism, and a healthy respect for the rights of all minorities."

### Derwinski

p.1, para. 3: Change "bronzed giant," which sounds like a cross between Nietzsche and George Hamilton, to "Jefferson commands our respect: a bronze giant..."

p.2, para. 2: "...is now cast for the ages in bronze." We'd delete "in bronze" at the end of this sentence if we use "bronze giant" above.

p.2, para. 4: "a somber salute to those who fell, and all who answered the call to duty." We would add "to" after the "and." The sentence should now read "and to all who answered the call...."

P. 3, para. 2: "speeches and stone" sounds somewhat cold. We suggest a change to "speeches and statuary," which sounds more generous.

p.3, para. 3: This graf is a non-sequitur from the previous graf: we go from talking about how speeches and stone/statuary are an inadequate repayment, to this paragraph which starts "But that doesn't free us of obligation."

You can't be freed of an obligation by an inadequate repayment. As we move from talking about past debts to current concerns we need a sentence that tracks the logic of what we're saying. I'd change to: "Our obligation is also to the living."

In the second sentence of this graf, the word "entrance" is misspelled.

p.7, para. 1: "...We will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war." Strictly speaking, we don't just erect monuments to the casualties of war.

We would change to "...erect another monument to the men and women who protect us and uphold our liberties." We need to demonstrate some sensitivity to the current composition of the armed forces. Note, for example, that the previous page uses the term "airman." This is fine, in view of the demographics of the armies of yesterday. But we need to demonstrate our understanding that times have changed. Thus, our preference for using "men and women" here.

Attorneys General

The President needs to throw a bipartisan bear-hug around these law enforcers based on a common commitment to a stern, no-nonsense struggle against drug abuse and environmental degradation. Thus, a phrase like "kindred spirits" in the third line, and a conclusion like "Let me now turn this party [emphasis added] over to Bill Reilly" evinces a lackadaisical tone unbecoming a President who is dead serious about winning the war on drugs.

p.1, para. 2: "Kindred spirits:" We prefer "fellow warriors" or "fellow soldiers" or something tougher and less convivial than "kindred spirits" in a speech on drugs and cleaning up the environment.

p.2, para. 4: Change "This government will" to the more emphatic "I will."

p.3, para. 1: Change "Bill Reilly will give you his thinking on the environment" to "Bill Reilly will outline in detail our agenda on the environment." If we agree on the need for a more martial overall tone, then we should consider a word like "strategy" in place of "agenda."

Similarly, in the following sentence of that paragraph, we'd change "You will certainly find him...to be an outstanding ally" to "You will certainly find him...to be an outstanding ally and a fellow warrior" or "and a fellow soldier in the struggle."

p.3, para. 2: This should read "turn your attention to and enlist your support for." The current "turn your attention -- and enlist your support -- on another pervasive problem" doesn't parse.

p.3, para. 5: "budget ... not ... d.o.a." -- We're asking for trouble with this complacent, back-patting phrase. We should stop citing an "achievement" that can be stripped away from us in an instant by some sharp-tongued Democrat. The whole graf should read as follows:

"The budget I presented to Congress last month is a realistic, fiscally responsible plan that identifies key priorities requiring our immediate attention. One of these priorities is combating the scourge of drugs. That's why I'm asking for an increase of \$1 billion for our anti-drug program. That's a 47 percent increase over 1988, for a total of \$6 billion."

p.4, para. 5: Instead of "Let me encourage you" etc., we would make it more imperative: "I ask you to study your drug enforcement programs. How can they help reduce demand for drugs? Less demand means more success in the war on drugs."

p.4, para. 6: We would make the first sentence more positive and ambitious: "Our financial resources may be limited but our resolve is unlimited." Then add: "With that limitless resolution, I know that we can inspire every child, teacher, and parent; every community group, religious institution, and tenant association; and every business and professional organization in this country. And then, united in common resolve, we will truly be invincible."

And then we suggest adding a Rooseveltian clincher:

"As I have said before, we have more will than wallet. However, the only limits on our will are those limits we place on ourselves."

Note that our rewrite version avoids the phrase "hearts and minds." Anyone who lived through Vietnam remembers the ironic and cynical connotation that phrase took on.

p.5, para. 4: Again, "Let me now turn this party over to Bill Reilly" is simply too light-hearted for this grim subject. In keeping with a more substantive tone, get the job done with simply "Let me now introduce."

#### Insurance Agents

p. 2, para. 4: This allusory graf contributes nothing to the President's agenda. We think it should be deleted outright.

p.3, para. 3: It seems to us that we should follow this graf with p.4, para. 1 immediately instead of detouring into job creation.

p.4, para. 3: Here we are about to launch into selling our program -- but we don't mention it by name: Building A Better America.

We need a paragraph that establishes an umbrella theme for the speech -- something reminiscent of the following, taken from the 2/9 speech: "But I am presenting to you tonight a realistic plan for tackling [the budget deficit]. My plan has four broad features: Attention to urgent priorities, investment in the future, an attack on the deficit, and no new taxes."

Before we launch into a long list of agenda items we should wrap it into an overriding theme -- Building A Better America.

p.5, para. 1: "It is for this reason that I will resist the movement toward mandated benefits." "Resist" has a footdragging quality to it. We want to communicate the idea that we will not just "resist," but will in fact block the move toward mandated benefits. Therefore we would substitute the word "oppose."

The last sentence of this graf reads: "But these programs, born of the best intentions, can have agonizing consequences." The word "agonizing" implies an unresolved dilemma. We would change to "can have unintended and counterproductive consequences."

Better yet, we could add another layer of anti-mandated benefits argument, as follows:

"We have seen what happens in other countries where mandated benefit programs create obstacles to productivity and growth. We cannot Build a Better America if we weigh down our production sector with new burdens."

p.5, para. 3: "But when local governments cannot install playgrounds, when business are bankrupted, when volunteer organization have to pull back" -- I would add "when mothers struggle to find an obstetrician," -- and "volunteer organization" should be plural.

p.5, para. 4: "All of my policies are centered around a single goal --" We'd change to "My plan for Building a Better America is centered around..."

p.7, para. 1: "So my agenda is this: to confront the emerging problems of the future today." We'd add "and to invest in the future."

p.7, para. 3: Change the word "areas" in "these are the areas that will irrevocably alter the world" to "trends" -- and in the next sentence: "Will American foreign policy be flexible enough to meet this emerging new world order?" the word "flexible" by itself looks weak. Flexibility is a virtue but it should be coupled with vision. We'd rewrite to say "wise enough, creative enough, and flexible enough...."

p.8, para. 1: Again, the term "Dead-On-Arrival" just begs for some Democrat to take it away from us. We suggest using language similar to what we suggested in the Attorneys General speech (pg. 3 of this memo).

p.8, para. 3: "Homelessness concerns a small proportion of Americans." We'd change to "Homelessness afflicts a small number of Americans but concerns all of us."

p.9, para. 1: "The environment -- once the domain of activists, it is becoming a top priority of pinstriped diplomats."

As is written here, "activists" appears to be pejorative. "Pinstriped" is also pejorative, the adjective of choice for critics of the State Department.

We would reverse the logic from pejorative to complementary and also omit "domain," which sounds both parochial and territorial. Instead, we suggest the President throw a bouquet to his fellow environmentalists: "Once the concern of a far-sighted few, it is now a top priority of my Administration, at home and abroad."

p.10, para. 3: "I've laid out my agenda for you." Change to "I've laid out my agenda for Building a Better America."

#

March 10, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR JIM CICCONI

FROM; DENISE SCHWARZ *DS*  
OFFICE OF CABINET AFFAIRS

SUBJECT; PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS; DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN

We have reviewed the attached and have noted the comments on the attached.

Attachment

cc: Chriss Winston

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/9/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3/10/89 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN

		ACTION	FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by noon, Friday, March 10, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff

1989 MAR -9 PM 4:05  
(Davis/Simon)  
March 9, 3:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
SOUTH LAWN  
MARCH 15, 1989

Good afternoon, Ed, Bonnie, Maureen and Michael. Good to see you Tony. (Bill Mauldin -- "Willie and Joe" cartoons?)

((Ed, I want to compliment you on your fine suit. You should know that if you had worn your gold-and-black checkered jacket with your tomato red beret -- the White House camera crew would have gone on strike.))

From where we are standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. Just to the West of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead of us, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect as a bronzed giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level surface of the Mall -- much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been three calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. At the Iwo Jima memorial, just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press bronze. No one picture, or what pilot.

↑ VA feels this might be a slight to WWI Vets, as there are still 14,000 living WWI Vets.

We have yet a way, although moving forward. these brave Ameri

born democracy aided by American sacrifice, protected by American strength.

Just below the horizon, to our right, are the simple lines and chiseled names of the Vietnam Memorial; a somber salute to those who fell, and all who answered the call to duty. May we never cease to honor them, in name and deed.

Finally, let us never forget those men and women in the Armed Forces who, even in peacetime, risk their lives in a hardship post or a dangerous assignment, whether it's standing on the deck of a carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an anti-terrorist unit, waiting for a call we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and stone are inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

But that doesn't free us of obligation. If you go to the front entrance of the Veteran~~s~~ Affairs Department, you will see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in <sup>aluminum</sup> ~~a plate of steel~~, calling on us: "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan." ✓  
✓

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital, that there is only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America . . .

As the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the legislative and the executive branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many friends. No former colleague of Ed's can forget his unfailing good humor. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red-tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits and military honors.

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress, conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland and Pacific nations, acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs, and prevented the diversion of sensitive U.S. technology to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the U.S. Army.

This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's background and talents.

This new department must match vast resources to vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential V.A. beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors.

Ed will oversee a department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administering a budget of more than \$29 billion.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will provide compensation to service-disabled veterans, pensions for low-income veterans and survivors, educational assistance and vocational rehabilitation. It guarantees the home loans for 12 million families, and operates the fifth largest <sup>life</sup> insurance <sup>program</sup> ~~industry~~ in America.

It also runs the nation's largest medical system, with 172 hospitals, and hundreds of outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

But the best resource of the new Department is its people -- men and women who live up to the highest ideal of public service every day. They have my sincerest gratitude for a job well done.

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There is no power or glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone, and for those who grieve.

In these "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman; lost youth that can only be measured in centuries.

A President could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust. It is my duty, as Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our armed forces are so strong, and our diplomacy so wise, that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war.

A free America in a world at peace. Together, we have achieved that goal. Together, we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans . . .

Ed, congratulations, and thanks for all that you have already done. We've got a big job ahead. I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/9/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3/10/89 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by noon, Friday, March 10, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

1989 MAR -9 PM 4:05

(Davis/Simon)  
March 9, 3:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
SOUTH LAWN  
MARCH 15, 1989

Good afternoon, Ed, Bonnie, Maureen and Michael. Good to see you Tony. (Bill Mauldin -- "Willie and Joe" cartoons?)

((Ed, I want to compliment you on your fine suit. You should know that if you had worn your gold-and-black checkered jacket with your tomato red beret -- the White House camera crew would have gone on strike.))

From where we are standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. Just to the West of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead of us, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect as a bronzed giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level surface of the Mall -- much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been three calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. At the Iwo Jima memorial, just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages in bronze. No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture, or what it meant to us . . . certainly not this former pilot.

We have yet to honor the veterans of the Korean War in such a way, although I'm glad to see that planning for a memorial is moving forward. But three weeks ago I saw a living monument to these brave Americans -- the nation of South Korea itself, a new-born democracy aided by American sacrifice, protected by American strength.

Just below the horizon, to our right, are the simple lines and chiseled names of the Vietnam Memorial; a somber salute to those who fell, and all who answered the call to duty. May we never cease to honor them, in name and deed.

Finally, let us never forget those men and women in the Armed Forces who, even in peacetime, risk their lives in a hardship post or a dangerous assignment, whether it's standing on the deck of a carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an anti-terrorist unit, waiting for a call we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and stone are inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

But that doesn't free us of obligation. If you go to the front entrance of the Veteran's Affairs Department, you will see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in a plate of steel, calling on us: "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital, that there is only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America . . .

As the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the legislative and the executive branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many friends. No former colleague of Ed's can forget his unfailing good humor. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red-tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits and ~~military honors.~~ *recognition of service.* *Holm*  
*+5178*

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress, conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland and Pacific nations, acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs, and prevented the diversion of sensitive U.S. technology to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the U.S. Army.

This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's background and talents.

This new department must <sup>manage its</sup> ~~match~~ vast resources to <sup>its</sup> ~~vast~~ needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential V.A. beneficiary. Count among them <sup>ready</sup> 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors.

Ed will oversee a department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administering a budget of more than \$29 billion.

(H/ken)  
5/78

The Department of Veterans Affairs ~~will~~ provides compensation to service-disabled veterans, pensions for low-income disabled veterans and survivors, educational assistance and vocational rehabilitation. It guarantees the home loans for 12 million families, and operates the fifth largest insurance industry in America.

Holen  
5178

It also runs the nation's largest medical system, with 172 hospitals, and hundreds of outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

But the best resource of the new Department is its people -- men and women who live up to the highest ideal of public service every day. They have my sincerest gratitude for a job well done.

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There is no power or glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone, and for those who grieve.

In these "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman; lost youth that can only be measured in centuries.

A President could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust. It is my duty, as Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our armed forces are so strong, and our diplomacy so wise, that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war.

A free America in a world at peace. Together, we have achieved that goal. Together, we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans . . .

Ed, congratulations, and thanks for all that you have already done. We've got a big job ahead. I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

#

#

#

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/9/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3/10/89 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by noon, Friday, March 10, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *okay*

James W. Cicconi  
 Assistant to the President  
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
 Ext. 2702

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/9/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3/10/89 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by noon, Friday, March 10, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

*Nice! XX*

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi  
 Assistant to the President  
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
 Ext. 2702

1989 MAR -9 PM 4:05

(Davis/Simon)  
March 9, 3:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:       DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
                                  SOUTH LAWN  
                                  MARCH 15, 1989

Good afternoon, Ed, Bonnie, Maureen and Michael. Good to see you Tony. (Bill Mauldin -- "Willie and Joe" cartoons?)

((Ed, I want to compliment you on your fine suit. You should know that if you had worn your gold-and-black checkered jacket with your tomato red beret -- the White House camera crew would have gone on strike.))

From where we are standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. Just to the West of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead of us, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect as a bronzed giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level surface of the Mall -- much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been three calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. At the Iwo Jima memorial, just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages in bronze. No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture, or what it meant to us . . . certainly not this former pilot.

We have yet to honor the veterans of the Korean War in such a way, although I'm glad to see that planning for a memorial is moving forward. But three weeks ago I saw a living monument to these brave Americans -- the nation of South Korea itself, a new-born democracy aided by American sacrifice, protected by American strength.

Just below the horizon, to our right, are the simple lines and chiseled names of the Vietnam Memorial; a somber salute to those who fell, and all who answered the call to duty. May we never cease to honor them, in name and deed.

Finally, let us never forget those men and women in the Armed Forces who, even in peacetime, risk their lives in a hardship post or a dangerous assignment, whether it's standing on the deck of a carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an anti-terrorist unit, waiting for a call we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and stone are inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

But that doesn't free us of obligation. If you go to the front entrance of the Veteran's Affairs Department, you will see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in a plate of steel, calling on us: "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital, that there is only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America . . .

As the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the legislative and the executive branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many friends. No former colleague of Ed's can forget his unfailing good humor. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red-tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits and military honors.

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress, conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland and Pacific nations, acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs, and prevented the diversion of sensitive U.S. technology to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the U.S. Army.

This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's background and talents.

This new department must match vast resources to vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential V.A. beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors.

Ed will oversee a department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administering a budget of more than \$29 billion.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will provide compensation to service-disabled veterans, pensions for low-income veterans and survivors, educational assistance and vocational rehabilitation. It guarantees the home loans for 12 million families, and operates the fifth largest insurance industry in America.

It also runs the nation's largest medical system, with 172 hospitals, and hundreds of outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

But the best resource of the new Department is its people -- men and women who live up to the highest ideal of public service every day. They have my sincerest gratitude for a job well done.

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There is no power or glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone, and for those who grieve.

In these "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman; lost youth that can only be measured in centuries.

A President could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust. It is my duty, as Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our armed forces are so strong, and our diplomacy so wise, that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war.

A free America in a world at peace. Together, we have achieved that goal. Together, we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans . . .

Ed, congratulations, and thanks for all that you have already done. We've got a big job ahead. I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

# # #

1553 ✓

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/9/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3/10/89 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by noon, Friday, March 10, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: TO: Chriss Winston

March 9, 1989

NSC clears, with suggested fixes as marked.

*Brent Scowcroft*  
Brent Scowcroft

**James W. Cicconi**  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

CC: James W. Cicconi

1989 MAR -9 PM 4:05

(Davis/Simon)  
March 9, 3:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:       DERWINSKI SWEARING-IN  
                                  SOUTH LAWN  
                                  MARCH 15, 1989

Good afternoon, Ed, Bonnie, Maureen and Michael. Good to see you Tony. (Bill Mauldin -- "Willie and Joe" cartoons?)

((Ed, I want to compliment you on your fine suit. You should know that if you had worn your gold-and-black checkered jacket with your tomato red beret -- the White House camera crew would have gone on strike.))

From where we are standing, most of the landmarks of this town are almost a stone's throw away. Just to the West of us, Abraham Lincoln reposes majestically in his chair of stone. Straight ahead of us, Thomas Jefferson commands our respect as a bronzed giant underneath a dome of marble. And the Washington Monument rises above the level surface of the Mall -- much as our first President dominated his time.

We glorify our greatest leaders. But we do not build these ivory temples to honor them alone. We honor the enduring principles for which they stood. And we honor the millions of men and women who have been ready throughout the history of our nation to defend those principles.

There have been three calls to arms in the living memory of most Americans or their parents. At the Iwo Jima memorial, just across the river, a fleeting moment of victory, first captured in an Associated Press photograph, is now cast for the ages in bronze. No one who lived through that war will ever forget that picture, or what it meant to us . . . certainly not this former pilot.

We have yet to honor the veterans of the Korean War in such a way, although I'm glad to see that planning for a memorial is moving forward. But three weeks ago I saw a living monument to these brave Americans -- the nation of <sup>the Republic of</sup> ~~South~~ Korea itself, a new-born democracy aided by American sacrifice, protected by American strength. X

Just below the horizon, to our right, are the simple lines and chiseled names of the Vietnam <sup>Veterans'</sup> Memorial; a somber salute to those who fell, and all who answered the call to duty. May we never cease to honor them, in name and deed. X

Finally, let us never forget those men and women in the Armed Forces who, even in peacetime, risk their lives in a hardship post or a dangerous assignment, whether it's standing on the deck of a carrier off the Persian Gulf, or an anti-terrorist unit, waiting for a call we hope never comes.

The meaning of a monument, as Lincoln said of the battlefield at Gettysburg, is "far above our poor power to add or detract." These words are carved in stone. But Lincoln himself acknowledged that speeches and stone are inadequate repayment for those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

But that doesn't free us of obligation. If you go to the front entrance of the Veteran's Affairs Department, you will see another quote from Abraham Lincoln, cast in a plate of steel, calling on us: "to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

This is the mission of the new Department of Veterans Affairs, which today officially assumes the duties of the Veterans Administration. I consider the new department to have a vital mission. In fact, it is so vital, that there is only one place for the veterans of America -- in the Cabinet Room, at the table with the President of the United States of America . . .

As the first Secretary of this new Department, Ed Derwinski will set a precedent. He is uniquely suited for this role, having served with distinction in both the legislative and the executive branches of government.

My friendship with Ed goes back to my days as a freshman Congressman from Houston. And I know that for Ed, the House of Representatives is still a second home with many friends. No former colleague of Ed's can forget his unfailing good humor. Nor will veterans forget his good work -- Ed's handling of a heavy burden of casework, cutting red-tape so that thousands of veterans could receive their pensions, medical benefits and military honors.

At the State Department, Ed packed the achievements of a whole career into a few years. He worked with Congress, conducted special international negotiations with Canada, Iceland and Pacific nations, acted as a senior official for refugee policy and programs, and prevented the diversion of sensitive U.S. technology to unfriendly nations.

In short, Ed Derwinski has the skill of a seasoned legislator, the patience of a practiced administrator, the finesse of a diplomat -- and the heart of a man who knows what it means to start his government career as a private in the U.S. Army.

This is a unique combination of experience and skills. And make no mistake, the job requires someone with Ed Derwinski's background and talents.

This new department must match vast resources to vast needs. Almost one out of every three U.S. citizens is a potential V.A. beneficiary. Count among them 27 million veterans and 53 million dependents and survivors.

Ed will oversee a department with almost a quarter of a million employees -- the second largest civilian task force in the government -- administering a budget of more than \$29 billion.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will provide compensation to service-disabled veterans, pensions for low-income veterans and survivors, educational assistance and vocational rehabilitation. It guarantees the home loans for 12 million families, and operates the fifth largest insurance industry in America.

It also runs the nation's largest medical system, with 172 hospitals, and hundreds of outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

But the best resource of the new Department is its people -- men and women who live up to the highest ideal of public service every day. They have my sincerest gratitude for a job well done.

It is only appropriate to note one other task assigned to the Veterans Affairs Department -- to tend and care for 112 national cemeteries across America. There is no power or glamour in such a job. But there is caring and respect -- for those who are gone, and for those who grieve.

In these "gardens of stone" sleep the heroes of every service, Marine, soldier, sailor, airman; lost youth that can only be measured in centuries.

A President could have no more poignant a reminder that he is charged with a great trust. It is my duty, as Commander-in-Chief, to see to it that our armed forces are so strong, and our diplomacy so wise, that we will never again need to erect another monument to the casualties of war.

A free America in a world at peace. Together, we have achieved that goal. Together, we can preserve it. And if we do, then surely that peace will be the truest monument to our veterans . . .

Ed, congratulations, and thanks for all that you have already done. We've got a big job ahead. I look forward to working closely with you in the years to come.

#

#

#