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# FOIA MARKER

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

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**OA/ID Number:** 13489  
**Folder ID Number:** 13489-008

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**Folder Title:**  
Rhein - Main Air Force Base 5/31/89

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>

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(Lange/Wallace)  
May 25, 1989  
7:30 p.m.  
[RHEINDEP.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1989  
5:30 P.M.

Thank you, Colonel Handy.

*ugh!*  
[[ You know, my German isn't very good. I've been trying --  
but I still make mistakes. Just last night, Secretary Baker told  
me we were coming here to see "Rhein-Main." And I said, "Didn't  
we already see it on the flight over?" ]]

It is an honor, to stand before an audience of American  
heroes and heroines. For over four decades, people like you have  
left homes -- and often families and loved ones -- to serve as  
guardians of this gateway to freedom.

Your presence here inspires a deep admiration and gratitude  
-- from me personally, and from people around the world -- for  
all you're doing to keep freedom secure.

You have been directly responsible for one of the longest  
periods of peace Europe has enjoyed in centuries. That is an  
achievement that the world now applauds -- and that history will  
honor.

People talk about the "right stuff," but the heroism -- and humanity -- of American soldiers at Rhein-Main are the stuff of legend. Your heroism is constant and enduring -- day after day. And your humanity has touched the lives of so many, so in need of a kind word, a gentle act.

Rhein-Main is a very special place. A place whose spirit of service reaches back to the tense days, forty years ago, of the Berlin airlift -- when a pilot named Gail Halverson, during his repeated runs, parachuted bags of candy to the children of Berlin. They called him "Uncle Wiggle-Wings," and "The Chocolate Bomber." He was a man who brought kindness in the cruelest times.

Standing among you today is his son, Major Brad Halverson, who organized the Armenian Airlift of children injured in the devastating earthquake. And there's Captain Dawn Oerichbauer, the medical crew director, who said "the whole mission was worth it, when I saw the hurt and hope in the children's faces."

I know that also with us today, is Major Bob Anderson, Chief of the Mental Health Clinic, a quiet hero who has helped so many on the base deal with the aftermath of terrorist threats. He has put lives back together, and warded off the chill of fear.

I single out a few <sup>only</sup> because they represent the many. Here at Rhein-Main -- with live-saving medical evacuation missions, triumphant hostage returns, and the normal day-to-day mission of flying in the crowded skies of Europe -- for you, heroism with a human touch is the meaning of your mission.

You have seen the tears of those devastated by tragedy. You have seen the tears of joy stream down the faces of those returning to freedom -- and of those who love them.

And you have performed the everyday acts of vigilance that make preparedness possible. I think of the security police officer, out guarding a C-5 all night. The supply clerk who makes calls all day, to find a part that's urgently needed. The flight line attendant, out de-icing airplanes at four a.m. in the freezing rain.

Just this year, as NATO celebrates its 40th anniversary, we begin to sense new opportunities for co-existence. We may be seeing the dawning of a new age, but the reasons why you are here have not changed.

There have been signs of progress from the Soviet Union -- and though we hope for more, the nations of the Alliance still face a Soviet Union with preponderant and awesome military power.

Your presence in West Germany -- your contribution to the security of Western Europe -- is essential.

I know that, at times, it's not easy, serving anywhere far from home -- especially when you read about those who would unilaterally limit the presence and activities of U.S. military forces stationed in Europe.

But by leading extraordinary lives, you help others lead ordinary lives. The United States and our NATO allies ask a great deal of you. So let me tell you how it's going to be: You're going to get the support you need to get the job done.

I'm here to assure you of that. I'm also here to let you know that your presence here is appreciated by your hosts, the West German people. They know, probably better than anyone, the critical role you and your predecessors have played. You are securing an environment in which democracy and a free economy can flourish in Germany. You are the Alliance.

In a letter to John Adams, Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "I have seen enough of one war never to wish to see another."

Out there today, I know, are a number of children -- some of them the third generation of Americans stationed here at Rhein-Main -- who have never seen war. I hope they never do.

The power to wage war is the power to prevent it. That is our mission here. We must remain prepared for war -- even as we strive for peace.

So carry on, strong but gentle guardians of the Gateway to Freedom. And thank you.

May God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1989

Thank you Colonel Handy. It's great to be back at Rhein-Main. I was here about three years ago as Vice President. Things have changed a little since then. There were some bruising battles. . . saw a lot of words like underdog, against the odds and counted out. Now there's a new number one: ((PAUSE)) The Rhein-Main Rockets. . .and congratulations to all of you.

We were going to fly into Ramstein but -- I know you'll find this hard to believe -- it was closed.((Pause))

I asked their wing commander about it since we'd been told Ramstein is open 24 hours. "That's true," he said. "But not in a row."((Pause))

But, it is an honor, to stand before an audience of American heroes and heroines. For over four decades, people like you have left homes -- and often families and loved ones -- to serve as guardians of this gateway to freedom.

Your presence here inspires a deep admiration and gratitude -- from me personally, and from people around the world -- for all you're doing to keep freedom secure.

You have been directly responsible for one of the longest periods of peace Europe has enjoyed in centuries. That is an achievement that the world now applauds -- and that history will honor.

(Lange/Wallace)  
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Rhein-Main is a very special place. A place whose spirit of service reaches back to the tense days, forty years ago, of the Berlin airlift -- when a pilot named Gail Halverson, during his repeated runs, parachuted bags of candy to the children of Berlin. They called him "Uncle Wiggle-Wings," and "The Chocolate Bomber." He was a man who brought kindness in the cruelest times.

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I know that also with us today, is Major Bob Anderson, Chief of the Mental Health Clinic, a quiet hero who has helped so many on the base deal with the aftermath of terrorist threats. He has put lives back together, and warded off the chill of fear.

I single out a few, because they represent the many. Here at Rhein-Main -- with live-saving medical evacuation missions, triumphant hostage returns, and the normal day-to-day mission of flying in the crowded skies of Europe -- for you, heroism with a human touch is the meaning of your mission.

You have seen the tears of those devastated by tragedy. You have seen the tears of joy stream down the faces of those returning to freedom -- and of those who love them.

And you have performed the everyday acts of vigilance that make preparedness possible. I think of the security police officer, out guarding a C-5 all night. The supply clerk who makes calls all day, to find a part that's urgently needed. The flight line attendant, out de-icing airplanes at four a.m. in the freezing rain.

Just this year, as NATO celebrates its 40th anniversary, we begin to sense new opportunities for co-existence. We may be seeing the dawning of a new age, but the reasons why you are here have not changed.

There have been signs of progress from the Soviet Union -- and though we hope for more, the nations of the Alliance still face a Soviet Union with preponderant and awesome military power.

Your presence in West Germany -- your contribution to the security of Western Europe -- is essential.

I know that, at times, it's not easy, serving anywhere far from home -- especially when you read about those who would unilaterally limit the presence and activities of U.S. military forces stationed in Europe.

But by leading extraordinary lives, you help others lead ordinary lives. The United States and our NATO allies ask a great deal of you. So let me tell you how it's going to be: You're going to get the support you need to get the job done.

I'm here to assure you of that. I'm also here to let you know that your presence here is appreciated by your hosts, the West German people. They know, probably better than anyone, the critical role you and your predecessors have played. You are securing an environment in which democracy and a free economy can flourish in Germany. You are the Alliance.

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So carry on, strong but gentle guardians of the Gateway to Freedom. And thank you.

May God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

Rhein Train

p. 4 - delete para. beginning "But by leading extraordinary lives..."

Also delete next # beginning "I'm here to assure you of that."

Per POTUS = "Just to shorten remarks."

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RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1989  
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THANK YOU, COLONEL HANDY. IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK AT RHEIN-MAIN. (( RINE - MINE)) I WAS HERE ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO AS VICE PRESIDENT. THINGS HAVE CHANGED A LITTLE SINCE THEN.

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- 2 -

THERE WERE SOME BRUISING BATTLES. . .SAW A LOT OF WORDS LIKE UNDERDOG, AGAINST THE ODDS AND COUNTED OUT. NOW THERE'S A NEW NUMBER ONE: ((PAUSE)) THE RHEIN-MAIN ROCKETS. . .AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU.

WE WERE GOING TO FLY INTO RAMSTEIN (( RAHM-STINE)) BUT ((PAUSE)) -- NOW I KNOW YOU'LL FIND THIS HARD TO BELIEVE -- IT WAS CLOSED. ((PAUSE))

- 3 -

I SAID TO THE COMMANDER, "I THOUGHT YOU WERE OPEN 24 HOURS? "WE ARE," HE SAID. "BUT NOT IN A ROW."  
(PAUSE)

BUT, IT IS AN HONOR, TO STAND BEFORE AN AUDIENCE OF AMERICAN HEROES AND HEROINES. FOR OVER FOUR DECADES, PEOPLE LIKE YOU HAVE LEFT HOMES -- AND OFTEN FAMILIES AND LOVED ONES -- TO SERVE AS GUARDIANS OF THIS GATEWAY TO FREEDOM.

---

- 4 -

YOUR PRESENCE HERE INSPIRES A DEEP ADMIRATION AND GRATITUDE -- FROM ME PERSONALLY, AND FROM PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD -- FOR ALL YOU'RE DOING TO KEEP FREEDOM SECURE.

YOU HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ONE OF THE LONGEST PERIODS OF PEACE EUROPE HAS ENJOYED IN CENTURIES. THAT IS AN ACHIEVEMENT THAT THE WORLD NOW APPLAUDS -- AND THAT HISTORY WILL HONOR.

- 5 -

PEOPLE TALK ABOUT THE "RIGHT STUFF," BUT THE HEROISM -- AND HUMANITY -- OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS AT RHEIN-MAIN ARE THE STUFF OF LEGEND. YOUR HEROISM IS CONSTANT AND ENDURING -- DAY AFTER DAY. AND YOUR HUMANITY HAS TOUCHED THE LIVES OF SO MANY, SO IN NEED OF A KIND WORD, A GENTLE ACT.

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- 6 -

RHEIN-MAIN IS A VERY SPECIAL PLACE. A PLACE WHOSE SPIRIT OF SERVICE REACHES BACK TO THE TENSE DAYS, FORTY YEARS AGO, OF THE BERLIN AIRLIFT -- WHEN A PILOT NAMED GAIL HALVERSON, DURING HIS REPEATED RUNS, PARACHUTED BAGS OF CANDY TO THE CHILDREN OF BERLIN. THEY CALLED HIM "UNCLE WIGGLE-WINGS," AND "THE CHOCOLATE BOMBER." HE WAS A MAN WHO BROUGHT KINDNESS IN THE CRUELEST TIMES.

- 7 -

STANDING AMONG YOU TODAY IS HIS SON, MAJOR BRAD HALVERSON, WHO ORGANIZED THE ARMENIAN AIRLIFT OF CHILDREN INJURED IN THE DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKE. AND THERE'S CAPTAIN DAWN OERICHBAUER, THE MEDICAL CREW DIRECTOR, WHO SAID "THE WHOLE MISSION WAS WORTH IT, WHEN I SAW THE HURT AND HOPE IN THE CHILDREN'S FACES."

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- 8 -

I KNOW THAT ALSO WITH US TODAY, IS MAJOR BOB ANDERSON, CHIEF OF THE MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC, A QUIET HERO WHO HAS HELPED SO MANY ON THE BASE DEAL WITH THE AFTERMATH OF TERRORIST THREATS. HE HAS PUT LIVES BACK TOGETHER, AND WARDED OFF THE CHILL OF FEAR.

- 9 -

I SINGLE OUT A FEW, BECAUSE THEY REPRESENT THE MANY. HERE AT RHEIN-MAIN -- WITH LIVE-SAVING MEDICAL EVACUATION MISSIONS, TRIUMPHANT HOSTAGE RETURNS, AND THE NORMAL DAY-TO-DAY MISSION OF FLYING IN THE CROWDED SKIES OF EUROPE -- FOR YOU, HEROISM WITH A HUMAN TOUCH IS THE MEANING OF YOUR MISSION.

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- 10 -

YOU HAVE SEEN THE TEARS OF THOSE DEVASTATED BY TRAGEDY. YOU HAVE SEEN THE TEARS OF JOY STREAM DOWN THE FACES OF THOSE RETURNING TO FREEDOM -- AND OF THOSE WHO LOVE THEM.

AND YOU HAVE PERFORMED THE EVERYDAY ACTS OF VIGILANCE THAT MAKE PREPAREDNESS POSSIBLE. I THINK OF THE SECURITY POLICE OFFICER, OUT GUARDING A C-5 ALL NIGHT. THE SUPPLY CLERK WHO MAKES CALLS ALL DAY, TO FIND A PART THAT'S URGENTLY NEEDED.

- 11 -

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JUST THIS YEAR, AS NATO CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY, WE BEGIN TO SENSE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR CO-EXISTENCE. WE MAY BE SEEING THE DAWNING OF A NEW AGE, BUT THE REASONS WHY YOU ARE HERE HAVE NOT CHANGED.

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- 12 -

THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNS OF PROGRESS FROM THE SOVIET UNION -- AND THOUGH WE HOPE FOR MORE, THE NATIONS OF THE ALLIANCE STILL FACE A SOVIET UNION WITH PREPONDERANT AND AWESOME MILITARY POWER. YOUR PRESENCE IN WEST GERMANY -- YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SECURITY OF WESTERN EUROPE -- IS ESSENTIAL.

- 13 -

I KNOW THAT, AT TIMES, IT'S NOT EASY, SERVING ANYWHERE FAR FROM HOME -- ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU READ ABOUT THOSE WHO WOULD UNILATERALLY LIMIT THE PRESENCE AND ACTIVITIES OF U.S. MILITARY FORCES STATIONED IN EUROPE. BUT BECAUSE OF YOU, BECAUSE OF THE SACRIFICES YOU MAKE EVERY DAY, OUR WORLD IS SAFER AND MORE SECURE.

IN A LETTER TO JOHN ADAMS, THOMAS JEFFERSON ONCE WROTE, "I HAVE SEEN ENOUGH OF ONE WAR NEVER TO WISH TO SEE ANOTHER."

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- 14 -

OUT THERE TODAY, I KNOW, ARE A NUMBER OF CHILDREN - - SOME OF THEM THE THIRD GENERATION OF AMERICANS STATIONED HERE AT RHEIN-MAIN -- WHO HAVE NEVER SEEN WAR. I HOPE THEY NEVER DO.

THE POWER TO WAGE WAR IS THE POWER TO PREVENT IT. THAT IS OUR MISSION HERE. WE MUST REMAIN PREPARED FOR WAR -- EVEN AS WE STRIVE FOR PEACE.

- 15 -

SO CARRY ON, STRONG BUT GENTLE GUARDIANS OF THE  
GATEWAY TO FREEDOM. AND THANK YOU.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU. AND GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA.

# # #

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(Lange/Wallace)  
May 25, 1989  
7:30 p.m.  
[RHEINDEP.DOC]

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So carry on, strong but gentle guardians of the Gateway to Freedom. And thank you.

May God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 25, 1989

89 MAY 25 12:42

Memorandum to Chriss Winston

From: Jim Pinkerton

Re: Rhein-Main draft

Parts of this speech are very good -- the stories of the Halversons, for example. Other parts are good and could be made better -- the description of "the everyday acts of vigilance" on page three would be dynamite if we could insert specific names, e.g. "the security police officer like \_\_\_\_\_, out guarding a C-5 all night..." Still other parts -- like the seemingly inadvertant quotation of Buddy Holly -- need to be reworked.

Pg 1, graf 2, line 3. I understand that "gateway to freedom" sounds good, but what precisely are we talking about? The base itself? Its geographic location? It seems to me that a military base -- even one with an airport -- should be thought of as a "rampart," or a "bastion." This suspect "gateway" formulation also appears on pg 5.

1,5,2 I know this change will spoil some of the poetry, but I wouldn't say "humanism" when what we really mean is "humanitarianism." The former word has too many other meanings.

2,3,1 and 2,4,1 I think we can do a little better than "out there" and "out there somewhere." How about "standing among you," or "hard at work at his post"?

2,5,2 I realize that Rhein-Main has been a destination for returning hostages, but the usage here makes it appear that this a routine operation. If we want to make this into an anecdote, e.g. "the eyes of the world were upon Rhein-Main when..." that would be fine, but let's not treat this as part of its job description!

3,3 Suggestion as noted above.

4,2,3 "...let me tell you how it's going to be" sounds a lot like the old Buddy Holly song "Not Fade Away," which includes the refrain "I'm gonna tell you how it's going to be." There may be occasions when the President will want to quote his fellow Texan, but the occasions should be light remarks, to domestic audiences, with full attribution. That'll be the day when I feel otherwise!

2-2-2

5,1,1-2 In view of the current climate, I wonder whether we don't want to tone down the phrases "power to wage war" and "prepared for war." Maybe instead emphasize "vigilance" and "resolve," and other less martial concepts.

#

4058

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 05/24/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON 05/25 - Thursday

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
 (05/24 6:10 p.m. draft)

	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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by Noon tomorrow, Thursday, 05/25, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

May 26, 1989

**RESPONSE:** TO: CHRISS WINSTON

The NSC has reviewed and concurs with the changes as indicated.

  
 Brent Scowcroft

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

cc: Cicconi

(Lange/Wallace)  
May 24, 1989  
6:10 p.m.  
[RHEINDEP.DOC]

1000 MAY 24 PM 7:00

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You have been directly responsible for ~~[one of]~~ the longest periods <sup>of</sup> of peace Europe has enjoyed in centuries. That is an achievement that the world ~~[now]~~ <sup>now</sup> applauds -- and that history will honor.

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~~[You have seen the tears of those devastated by tragedy. You have seen the tears of joy stream down the faces of those returning to freedom -- and of those who love them.]~~

~~And~~ you have performed the everyday acts of vigilance that make preparedness possible. I think of the security police officer, out guarding a C-5 all night; The supply clerk who makes calls all day, to find a part that's urgently needed; The flight line attendant, out de-icing airplanes at four a.m. in ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> freezing rain.

Just this year, as NATO celebrates its 40th anniversary, we begin to sense new opportunities for ~~co-existence~~<sup>European reconciliation</sup>. We may be seeing the dawning of a new age, but the reasons why you are here have not changed.

There have been ~~signs of progress from~~<sup>encouraging signs of change in</sup> the Soviet Union ~~and though we hope for more,~~<sup>and Eastern Europe.</sup> the nations of the Alliance still face a Soviet Union with preponderant and awesome military power. Your presence in West Germany -- your contribution to the security of Western Europe -- is essential.

We must preserve the vigilance and strength that brought us to this hopeful period in European history.

We welcome these changes and hope they will lead to an era in which cooperation, rather than confrontation, is the norm in East-west relations. But we also know that

I know that, <sup>it is</sup> ~~[at times, it's]~~ not easy, serving anywhere far from home. ~~Especially~~ especially when you read about those who would unilaterally limit the presence and activities of U.S. military forces stationed in Europe.]

But by leading extraordinary lives, you help others lead ordinary lives. The United States and our NATO allies ask a great deal of you. So let me tell you <sup>that</sup> ~~[how it's going to be;]~~ You <sup>are</sup> ~~re~~ going to get the support you need to get the job done.

I'm here to assure you of that. I'm also here to let you know that your presence here is appreciated by your hosts, the ~~[West German]~~ <sup>of the Federal Republic</sup> people. They know, probably better than anyone, the critical role you and your predecessors have played. You are securing an environment in which democracy and a free economy can flourish in Germany. You are the Alliance.

In a letter to John Adams, Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "I have seen enough of one war never to wish to see another."

Out there, I know, are a number of children -- some of them the third generation of Americans stationed here at Rhein-Main -- who have never seen war. I hope they never do.

The power to wage war is the power to prevent it. That is our mission here. We must remain prepared for war -- even as we strive for peace.

So carry on, strong but gentle guardians of the gateway to freedom. And thank you.

May God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 25, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:           CHRISS WINSTON

FROM:               MARK LANGE *ML*

SUBJECT:            DEPARTURE STATEMENT FROM RHEIN-MAIN A.F.B.

I.    SUMMARY

Attached are remarks to be given upon departure from West Germany at the Rhein-Main Air Force Base at 5:30 pm, on Wednesday, May 31. Four thousand military personnel and their dependents, a total of nearly 10,000, will be present.

II.   DISCUSSION

These remarks acknowledge the sacrifices of those stationed at Rhein-Main and the critical role they continue to play. Several individuals are singled out as examples of heroism with a human touch -- smaller stories that tell the whole story.

The statement also reinforces the concept of peace through strength, and reiterates the importance of preparedness in the face of a changing Soviet Union.

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 05/24/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 89 MAY 25 13:42 NOON 05/25 - Thursday

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
(05/24 6:10 p.m. draft)

	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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by Noon tomorrow, Thursday, 05/25, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:  
*NO. Comment JW*

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

(Lange/Wallace)  
May 24, 1989  
6:10 p.m.  
[RHEINDEP.DOC]

1989 MAY 24 PM 7:0

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1989  
5:30 P.M.

Thank you, Colonel Handy. It is an honor, to stand before an audience of American heroes and heroines.

For over four decades, people like you have left homes -- and often families and loved ones -- to serve as guardians of this gateway to freedom.

Your presence here inspires a deep admiration and gratitude -- from me personally, and from people around the world -- for all you're doing to keep the freedom of the West secure.

You have been directly responsible for one of the longest periods of peace Europe has enjoyed in centuries. That is an achievement that the world now applauds -- and that history will honor.

People talk about the "right stuff," but the heroism -- and humanism -- of American soldiers at Rhein-Main are the stuff of legend. Your heroism is constant and enduring, day after day.

And your humanism has touched the lives of so many, so in need of a kind word, a gentle act.

Rhein-Main is a very special place. A place whose spirit of service reaches back to the tense days, forty years ago, of the Berlin airlift -- when a pilot named Gail Halverson, during his repeated runs, parachuted bags of candy to the children of Berlin. They called him "Uncle Wiggle-Wings," and "The Chocolate Bomber." He was a man who brought them kindness in the cruelest times.

Out there today is his son, Major Brad Halverson, who organized the Armenian Airlift of children injured in the devastating earthquake. And there's Captain Dawn Oerichbauer, the medical crew director, who said "the whole mission was worth it, when I saw the hurt and hope in the children's faces."

I know that also out there somewhere, is Major Bob Anderson, Chief of the Mental Health Clinic, a quiet hero who has helped so many on the base deal with the aftermath of terrorist threats. He has put lives back together, and warded off the chill of fear.

I single out a few, because they represent the many. Here at Rhein-Main -- with medical evacuation missions, hostage returns, and the normal day-to-day mission of flying in the

crowded theater of Europe -- for you, heroism with a human touch is just part of doing business.

You have seen the tears of those devastated by tragedy. You have seen the tears of joy stream down the faces of those returning to freedom -- and of those who love them.

And you have performed the everyday acts of vigilance that make preparedness possible. I think of the security police officer, out guarding a C-5 all night. The supply clerk who makes calls all day, to find a part that's urgently needed. The flight line attendant, out de-icing airplanes at four a.m. in the freezing rain.

Just this year, as NATO celebrates its 40th anniversary, we begin to sense new opportunities for co-existence. We may be seeing the dawning of a new age, but the reasons why you are here have not changed.

There have been signs of progress from the Soviet Union -- and though we hope for more, the nations of the Alliance still face a Soviet Union with preponderant and awesome military power. Your presence in West Germany -- your contribution to the security of Western Europe -- is essential.

I know that, at times, it's not easy, serving anywhere far from home -- especially when you read about those who would unilaterally limit the presence and activities of U.S. military forces stationed in Europe.

But by leading extraordinary lives, you help others lead ordinary lives. The United States and our NATO allies ask a great deal of you. So let me tell you how it's going to be: You're going to get the support you need to get the job done.

I'm here to assure you of that. I'm also here to let you know that your presence here is appreciated by your hosts, the West German people. They know, probably better than anyone, the critical role you and your predecessors have played. You are securing an environment in which democracy and a free economy can flourish in Germany. You are the Alliance.

In a letter to John Adams, Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "I have seen enough of one war never to wish to see another."

Out there, I know, are a number of children -- some of them the third generation of Americans stationed here at Rhein-Main -- who have never seen war. I hope they never do.

The power to wage war is the power to prevent it. That is our mission here. We must remain prepared for war -- even as we strive for peace.

So carry on, strong but gentle guardians of the gateway to freedom. And thank you.

May God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

29 APR 25 12:00

89 MAY 25 P2:17

DATE: 05/24/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON 05/25 - Thursday

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
(05/24 6:10 p.m. draft)

	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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by Noon tomorrow, Thursday, 05/25, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

**RESPONSE:**

*See changes*

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

(Lange/Wallace)  
May 24, 1989  
6:10 p.m.  
[RHEINDEP.DOC]

1989 MAY 24 PM 7:00

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:

DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1989  
5:30 P.M.

clay  
3080  
✓  
Thank you, Colonel Handy. It is an honor, to stand before  
an audience of American heroes and heroines.

✓  
For over four decades, people like you have left homes,  
✓ ~~and often~~ families and loved ones ~~to~~ to serve as guardians of  
this gateway to freedom.

✓  
Your presence here inspires a deep admiration and gratitude  
✓ ~~--~~ from me personally, and from people around the world -- for  
all you're doing to keep <sup>our</sup> ~~the~~ freedom ~~of the West~~ secure.

You have been directly responsible for one of the longest  
periods of peace Europe has enjoyed in centuries. That is an  
achievement that the world now applauds -- and that history will  
honor.

ND!  
✓ humanism -- of American soldiers at Rhein-Main are the stuff of  
legend. Your heroism is constant and enduring, day after day.

"humanity"

BB

✓ And your ~~humanism~~ <sup>humanity</sup> has touched the lives of so many, so in need of a kind word, a gentle act.

✓ Rhein-Main is a very special place. A place whose spirit of service reaches back to the tense days, forty years ago, of the Berlin airlift -- when a pilot named Gail Halverson, during his repeated runs, parachuted bags of candy to the children of Berlin. They called him "Uncle Wiggle-Wings," and "The Chocolate Bomber." He was a man who brought ~~them~~ kindness in the cruelest times.

Out there today is his son, Major Brad Halverson, who organized the Armenian Airlift of children injured in the devastating earthquake. And there's Captain Dawn Oerichbauer, the medical crew director, who said "the whole mission was worth it, when I saw the hurt and hope in the children's faces."

I know that also out there somewhere, is Major Bob Anderson, Chief of the Mental Health Clinic, a quiet hero who has helped so many on the base deal with the aftermath of terrorist threats. He has put lives back together, and warded off the chill of fear.

I single out a few, because they represent the many. Here at Rhein-Main -- with medical evacuation missions, hostage returns, and the normal day-to-day mission of flying in the

crowded theater of Europe -- for you, heroism with a human touch is just part of doing business.

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And you have performed the everyday acts of vigilance that make preparedness possible. I think of the security police officer, out guarding a C-5 all night. The supply clerk who makes calls all day, to find a part that's urgently needed. The flight line attendant, out de-icing airplanes at four a.m. in the freezing rain.

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The power to wage war is the power to prevent it. That is our mission here. We must remain prepared for war -- even as we strive for peace.

So carry on, strong but gentle guardians of the gateway to freedom. And thank you.

May God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

89 MAY 25 P2:34

May 25, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINTSON  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

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

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Departure -- FRG RHEIN  
MAIN AFB

Pursuant to James W. Cicconi's staffing memorandum of May 24, 1989, Counsel's Office has reviewed the above referenced presidential remarks. We have no legal objection to these remarks.

Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

cc: James W. Cicconi

Rm. 122  
OE03

Document No. 039 459

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 05/24/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON 05/25 - Thursday

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
(05/24 6:10 p.m. draft)

	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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by Noon tomorrow, Thursday, 05/25, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

**RESPONSE:**

*No Comment  
5/25/89*

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

(Lange/Wallace)  
May 24, 1989  
4:30 p.m.  
[RHEINDEP.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1989  
5:30 P.M.

Thank you, Colonel Handy. It is an honor, to stand before an audience of American heroes and heroines.

For over four decades, people like you have left homes -- and often families and loved ones -- to serve as guardians of this gateway to freedom.

Your presence here inspires a deep admiration and gratitude -- from me personally, and from people around the world -- for all you're doing to keep the freedom of the West secure.

You have been directly responsible for one of the longest periods of peace Europe has enjoyed in centuries. That is an achievement that the world now applauds -- and that history will honor.

People talk about the "right stuff," but the heroism -- and humanism -- of American soldiers at Rhein-Main are the stuff of legend. Your heroism is constant and enduring, day after day.

And your humanism has touched the lives of so many, so in need of a kind word, a gentle act.

~~W~~Rein-Main is a very special place. A place whose spirit of service reaches back to the tense days, forty years ago, of the Berlin airlift -- when a pilot named Gail Halverson, during his repeated runs, parachuted bags of candy to the children ~~in~~ *of* Berlin. They called him "Uncle Wiggle-Wings," and "The Chocolate Bomber." He was a man who brought them kindness in the cruelest times.

Out there today is his son, Major Brad Halverson, who organized the Armenian Airlift of children injured in the devastating earthquake. And there's Captain Dawn Oerichbauer, the medical crew director, who said "the whole mission was worth it, when I saw the hurt and hope in the children's faces."

I know that also out there somewhere, is Major Bob Anderson, Chief of the Mental Health Clinic, a quiet hero who has helped so many on the base deal with the aftermath of terrorist threats. He has put lives back together, and warded off the chill of fear.

I single out a few, because they represent the many. Here at Rhein-Main -- with medical evacuation missions, hostage returns, and the normal day-to-day mission of flying in the

crowded theater of Europe -- for you, heroism with a human touch is just part of doing business.

You have seen the tears of those devastated by tragedy. You have seen the tears of joy stream down the faces of those returning to freedom -- and of those who love them.

And you have performed the everyday acts of vigilance that make preparedness possible. I think of the security police officer, out guarding a C-5 all night. The supply clerk who makes calls all day, to find a part that's urgently needed. The flight line attendant, out de-icing airplanes at four a.m. in the freezing rain.

Just this year, as NATO celebrates its 40th anniversary, we begin to sense new opportunities for co-existence. <sup>We may</sup> ~~But despite~~ <sup>be seeing</sup> what some ~~see as~~ the dawning of a new age, <sup>but</sup> the reasons, <sup>why</sup> you are here have not changed.

There have been signs of progress from the Soviet Union -- and though we hope for more, the nations of the Alliance still face a Soviet Union with preponderant and awesome military power. Your presence in West Germany -- your contribution to the security of Western Europe -- is essential.

I know that, at times, it <sup>is not</sup> ~~is far from~~ easy, serving anywhere far from home -- <sup>especially</sup> ~~particularly~~ when you read about those who would unilaterally limit the presence and activities of U.S. military forces stationed in Europe.

<sup>But</sup> By leading extraordinary lives, you help others lead ordinary lives. The United States and <sup>our</sup> ~~the~~ NATO allies ask a great deal of you. So let me tell you how it's going to be: You're going to get the support you need~~x~~ to get the job done.

I'm here to assure you of that. I'm also here to let you know that your presence here is appreciated by your hosts, the West German people. They know, probably better than anyone, the critical role you and your predecessors have played. You are securing an environment in which democracy and a free economy can flourish in Germany. You are the Alliance.

In a letter to John Adams, Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "I have seen enough of one war never to wish to see another."

Out there, I know, are a number of children -- some of them the third generation of Americans stationed here at Rhein-Main -- who have never seen war. I hope they never do.

The power to wage war is the power to prevent it. That is our mission here. We must remain prepared for war -- even as we ~~pray~~ <sup>STRIVE</sup> for peace.

So carry on, strong but gentle guardians of the gateway to freedom. And thank you.

May God bless you. And God bless the ~~work you do.~~

*United States of  
America*

Staffed 5/24 6:45 pm

(Lange/Wallace)  
May 24, 1989  
6:10 p.m.  
[RHEINDEP.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:

DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1989  
5:30 P.M.

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May God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 05/24/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON 05/25 - Thursday

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
 (05/24 6:10 p.m. draft)

	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 <i>000</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN <i>didn't get a copy</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BATES <i>5/25 11:15</i>	<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"/>	PINKERTON <i>12:45 5/25</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST <i>Been out of office MNC 3:30</i>	<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 <i>000</i>	<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 provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by Noon tomorrow, Thursday, 05/25, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

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

(Lange/Wallace)  
May 24, 1989  
6:10 p.m.  
[RHEINDEP.DOC]

1989 MAY 24 PM 7:00

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE -- FRG  
RHEIN-MAIN AFB  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1989  
5:30 P.M.

Thank you, Colonel Handy. It is an honor, to stand before an audience of American heroes and heroines.

For over four decades, people like you have left homes -- and often families and loved ones -- to serve as guardians of this gateway to freedom.

Your presence here inspires a deep admiration and gratitude -- from me personally, and from people around the world -- for all you're doing to keep <sup>our</sup> ~~the~~ freedom ~~of the West~~ secure.

You have been directly responsible for one of the longest periods of peace Europe has enjoyed in centuries. That is an achievement that the world now applauds -- and that history will honor.

People talk about the "right stuff," but the heroism -- and <sup>ty</sup>humanism -- of American soldiers at Rhein-Main are the stuff of legend. Your heroism is constant and enduring, day after day.

And your humanism<sup>ty</sup> has touched the lives of so many, so in need of a kind word, a gentle act.

Rhein-Main is a very special place. A place whose spirit of service reaches back to the tense days, forty years ago, of the Berlin airlift -- when a pilot named Gail Halverson, during his repeated runs, parachuted bags of candy to the children of Berlin. They called him "Uncle Wiggle-Wings," and "The Chocolate Bomber." He was a man who brought ~~them~~ kindness in the cruelest times.

*(Standing among you)*  
~~Out there~~ today is his son, Major Brad Halverson, who organized the Armenian Airlift of children injured in the devastating earthquake. And there's Captain Dawn Oerichbauer, the medical crew director, who said "the whole mission was worth it, when I saw the hurt and hope in the children's faces."

I know that also out there somewhere, is Major Bob Anderson, Chief of the Mental Health Clinic, a quiet hero who has helped so many on the base deal with the aftermath of terrorist threats. He has put lives back together, and warded off the chill of fear.

\* } I single out a few, because they represent the many. Here at Rhein-Main -- with <sup>part-worship</sup> medical evacuation missions, <sup>excellent</sup> hostage returns, and the normal day-to-day mission of flying in the

crowded theater of Europe -- for you, heroism with a human touch is just part of doing business.

*williams*

You have seen the tears of those devastated by tragedy. You have seen the tears of joy stream down the faces of those returning to freedom -- and of those who love them.

And you have performed the everyday acts of vigilance that make preparedness possible. I think of the security police officer, out guarding a C-5 all night. The supply clerk who makes calls all day, to find a part that's urgently needed. The flight line attendant, out de-icing airplanes at four a.m. in the freezing rain.

Just this year, as NATO celebrates its 40th anniversary, we begin to sense new opportunities for co-existence. We may be seeing the dawning of a new age, but the reasons why you are here have not changed.

There have been signs of progress from the Soviet Union -- and though we hope for more, the nations of the Alliance still face a Soviet Union with preponderant and awesome military power. Your presence in West Germany -- your contribution to the security of Western Europe -- is essential.

I know that, at times, it's not easy, serving anywhere far from home -- especially when you read about those who would unilaterally limit the presence and activities of U.S. military forces stationed in Europe.

But by leading extraordinary lives, you help others lead ordinary lives. The United States and our NATO allies ask a great deal of you. So let me tell you how it's going to be: You're going to get the support you need to get the job done.

I'm here to assure you of that. I'm also here to let you know that your presence here is appreciated by your hosts, the West German people. They know, probably better than anyone, the critical role you and your predecessors have played. You are securing an environment in which democracy and a free economy can flourish in Germany. You are the Alliance.

In a letter to John Adams, Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "I have seen enough of one war never to wish to see another."

Out there, I know, are a number of children -- some of them the third generation of Americans stationed here at Rhein-Main -- who have never seen war. I hope they never do.

The power to wage war is the power to prevent it. That is our mission here. We must remain prepared for war -- even as we strive for peace.

So carry on, strong but gentle guardians of the gateway to freedom. And thank you.

May God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

## THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary  
(Frankfurt, Federal Republic of Germany)

For Immediate Release

May 31, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
UPON DEPARTURE

Rhein Main Air Force Base  
Frankfurt, Federal Republic of Germany

5:43 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much for that welcome back. Some of you may have all been around here a couple years ago, and my only regret is, I won't get to go running on the track here this time. (Laughter.) But I was here about three years ago as Vice President. And things have changed since then. Now, there's a new number one -- the Rhein Main Rockets. (Applause.)

No, but Secretary Baker and I and General Scowcroft and our Chief of Staff John Sununu and Barbara and all the rest of our traveling squad are just delighted to be here, heading off to London right now and then -- eat your hearts out -- the good old U.S. of A. on Friday afternoon. (Applause.) But let me be serious for just a minute and say that it is an honor to stand before an audience of men and women who serve in the Armed Forces of the greatest country on the face of the Earth. (Applause.)

And for over four decades now, NATO, having celebrated its 40th anniversary just two or three days ago, people like you have left home -- often family and loved ones -- and you've served as guardians to this gateway to freedom.

And your presence here inspires a deep admiration and gratitude -- certainly from me personally -- that is, we saw at that NATO meeting from people all around the world. And so, thank you for all you're doing to keep freedom secure. You've been directly responsible -- each in his own way -- for the longest peace that Europe has known in centuries -- over 40 years of peace. And that's an achievement that the world now applauds -- and that history will honor.

You know, people talk often about the "right stuff," but the heroism and the humanity of American soldiers at Rhein Main and other bases are the stuff of legend. Your dedication, I believe, is constant and enduring, day after day. And I've been told about some instances where your own humanity touches the lives of so many.

This is a special place -- a place whose spirit of service reaches back to the tense days 40 years ago of the Berlin Airlift -- when a pilot named Gail Halverson, during his repeated runs, parachuted bags of candy to the children of Berlin. They called him "Uncle Wiggley-Wings," or "The Chocolate Bomber." And he was a man who brought kindness to the cruelest of times.

And standing among you today is his son, Major Brad Halverson, who organized the Armenian Airlift -- children injured in that devastating earthquake. And I was told by a high ranking Soviet official that that outreach to the people of Armenia said as much to the Soviet Union as any message that any President could possibly send. And there's Captain Dawn Oerichbauer, the medical crew director, who said, "The whole mission was worth it, when I saw the hope and the hurt in the faces of the children."

MORE

And I know that also with us today, is Major Bob Anderson, Chief of the Mental Health Clinic -- a quiet hero who, in his own way, has helped so many on this base deal with the aftermath of terrorist threats. He's put lives back together, warded off the chill of fear.

And I single out a few because they represent the many. Here at Rhein Main, with life-saving medical evacuation missions, triumphant hostage returns, the normal day-to-day mission of flying in the crowded skies of Europe -- for you, heroism with a human touch is really the meaning of this mission.

And you've seen the tears of those devastated by tragedy and you've seen the tears of joy stream down the faces of those returning to freedom -- and of those who love them.

And you've performed that everyday acts of vigilance that make preparedness possible. I think of all the security people -- some guy out guarding a C-5 all night; supply clerk makes calls all day to find a part that's needed; the flight line attendant de-icing planes at 4:00 a.m. on days something unlike this one.

And just this year, as NATO celebrates its 40th anniversary, we begin to sense new opportunities for co-existence. We may be seeing the dawning of a new age, but the reasons why you are here have not changed.

There've been signs of progress from the Soviet Union -- and though we hope for more, the nations of the Alliance still face a Soviet Union with preponderant and awesome military power. And your presence in West Germany -- your contribution to the security of Western Europe -- is absolutely essential.

And I might add that I left Germany today feeling that the relations with the Federal Republic and the United States -- our bilateral relations -- have never been better. And I want to thank each one of you for the way you interact with our German friends. It does show the best side of America to the people in the Federal Republic of Germany.

And I know that it's not easy serving away from home, but because of you and the sacrifices, our world is indeed safer and more secure.

You know, in a letter to John Adams, Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "I've seen enough of one war never to wish to see another."

And out there today, I know, are a number of children -- some of them third generation of Americans stationed here at Rhein Main -- who have never seen war and I hope they never do. The power to wage war is the power to prevent it. And that's our mission here. And we must remain prepared for war even as we work hard for peace. And, believe me, we will strive hard to achieve the lasting peace.

So carry on. Thank you all. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America. Thank you all very, very much.  
(Applause.)

END

5:53 P.M. (L)