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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:** 13500  
**Folder ID Number:** 13500-013

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**Folder Title:**  
71st American Legion Convention - Baltimore 9/7/89 [2]

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

AUGUST 29, 1989

89 AUG 30 P2:27

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *cw*

FROM: CURT SMITH *CS*

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 7 AMERICAN LEGION ADDRESS

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, September 7, at 10 A.M., at the Baltimore Convention Center, you will address 8-9,000 American Legion members at their annual convention. You last addressed this group one year ago to the day. You will be introduced by the Legion's National Commander, Justice H.F. "Sparky" Gierke.

II. DISCUSSION

The enclosed remarks (17 minutes) focus on what Franklin Roosevelt called "Freedom from fear" -- in 1989, freedom from war abroad; freedom from drugs and crime at home. They discuss the Administration's crime and drug initiatives, and the importance of approving the Administration's Defense Authorization Bill.

(Smith/Blessey)  
Draft Eight  
August 29, 1989  
LEGION

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGION  
BALTIMORE CONVENTION CENTER  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1989

Justice Gierke [GER-kee] -- as a fellow Legionnaire, let me salute the first Viet Nam veteran to be selected National Commander. And all of you who represent our Nation's largest and fastest-growing veterans organization -- more than 3 million members strong.

As always, it is a great privilege to join you. And a deep personal pleasure to renew old ties. And to greet new friends.

Today is ~~September 7th~~ -- and I'm determined not to repeat the mistake I made <sup>exactly 1 year ago</sup> ~~last year~~ when I referred to this date as Pearl Harbor Day. ~~Now that I've dispensed with that I can still~~ <sup>remember the gasp from this audience</sup> ~~announcement. I want to wish all of you a happy Thanksgiving.~~

Not surprisingly, anniversaries were on my mind as I traveled here from Washington. Events like this 71st national convention of the American Legion, or the 200th birthday of the Coast Guard. Or the very first anniversary of the Department of Veterans Affairs -- led by its Secretary and our good friend, Ed Derwinski. A Department intent on serving you -- as you have served your country.

Well, as you can imagine, these birthdays, in turn, got me to thinking about another anniversary -- the 175th this year of

the "Star-Spangled Banner." And how your convention lies so near its famous birthplace.

Tuesday, you did something that would have pleased Francis Scott Key -- and for which I thank you. For by supporting a Constitutional Amendment making it illegal to desecrate the American flag, you joined the crusade to protect the <sup>unique</sup> symbol of America's honor. What Our flag embodies is too sacred to be abused.

Woodrow Wilson once called the flag "the embodiment, not of sentiment, but of history." And then the 28th President went on to say, "It represents the experiences made by men and women, the experiences of those who ~~to~~ and live under that flag."

He meant, of course, that the flag -- like America -- represents many things. It represents self-expression and opportunity. And democracy for all.

Like America, too, Old Glory reflects the values -- moral and intellectual, economic and military -- that have made, and keep, us strong.

And like America, the flag symbolizes the gallantry of veterans who love their country -- giving themselves, and often their lives, to its protection. Storming the beaches of Okinawa. Scaling the cliffs of Normandy. Taking shell-torn hills named Hamburger and Arrowhead.

Fellow veterans, for seven decades the "experiences" of the American Legion -- its "men and women" -- have helped write the

Story of America and the story of our flag. And today -- in peacetime as in wartime -- you write their stories still.

For the flag, like America, is more than "sentiment." It lives. On the rugged <sup>island</sup> ~~hill~~ called Iwo Jima. It lifts. The tiny hand of the little girl I saw on a street corner in Gdansk, waving the Stars and Stripes. For both <sup>encapsulate</sup> ~~encapsule~~ freedom. The freedom to vote as we want, and pray when and where we choose. The freedom to go about our daily lives without tyranny or fear.

Fifty years ago this month, our allies went to war to protect this freedom. For as panzer tanks crossed the Polish frontier, and bombers savaged Warsaw, liberty confronted the evil of fascism which -- even now -- defines hell on earth.

In the end, that conflict took more than 50 million lives. And underscored, as few things have, man's inhumanity to man. Our challenge today is to prove man's humanity to man by preserving liberty without war. And thus secure what Franklin Roosevelt called the "Four Freedoms": Freedom of speech, of religion, freedom from want and fear.

Today, I want to focus on one of those freedoms -- freedom from fear. The fear of war abroad. The fear of drugs and crime at home.

To win that freedom -- to build a better, safer life -- will require the bravery, and sacrifice, that Americans have shown before. And must again. Already we have done much. Now, we must do more. And achieve real peace -- both domestic and foreign -- the kind of peace which lasts.

First, our mission at home -- to free our country from the fear of drugs and crime. When we ask what kind of society the American people deserve, our answer is -- and must be -- a Nation in which law-abiding citizens are safe and feel safe.

That is why we have sent a comprehensive battle plan to Congress to put an end to the crime and drugs which plague the United States.

First, our plan seeks to rid America of violent criminals with an attack on four fronts. New laws -- to punish them. New agents -- to arrest them. New prosecutors -- to convict them. And new prisons -- to hold them.

We propose to change the rules of the game dramatically. Mandatory time for firearms offenses. No deals when criminals use a gun. And for the most heinous crimes -- you remember my promise. For anyone who kills a law enforcement officer -- no legal penalty is too tough. We want Congress to enact the steps needed to implement the death penalty.

In short, our crime proposals are based on three principles. Criminals in this Nation must understand that if they commit a crime, they will be caught. And if caught, they will be prosecuted. And if convicted, they will do time. By taking hoods off the streets, we can -- and will -- take back the streets.

I ask you to support our crime plan. And yet it's only one part of the answer. So, two nights ago, I announced America's first comprehensive national strategy to win the war on drugs.

Our drug program aims to stop drug use before it starts. Through education and prevention -- from grade school to graduate school. And, second, through treatment, to help addicts who want to get clean. With special emphasis on expectant mothers. Then, there's the third part of our strategy -- getting drug dealers off the streets and behind bars where they belong. And for their ultimate bosses -- the drug lords -- life in prison, with no parole. And, finally, working with other governments to help crack international drug rings.

As veterans, you know how battles are often fought -- house-by-house, block-by-block. Well, we'll win this battle the same way. Winning kid-by-kid, neighborhood-by-neighborhood.

For years now, drugs have written a sad chapter in the American story. This morning, I ask you to help write an ending all of us can be proud of. Cops can't do it alone. Teachers can't do it alone. The addict weary of abuse can't do it alone. They need your help. And I know they'll get it -- just as you've helped handicapped kids, donated blood, aided the National League of Families, and spurred good government through programs like Boys State and Girls State.

Today, for instance, Post Number 65 in Rosemont, Minnesota, runs the program "Drug Talk." And in Russelville, Arkansas, I especially like Post Number 20's giveaway of thousands of rulers. Their message says it all. "You really measure up when you say 'No' to drugs."

You know -- as I do -- that we're in this together. So let us fight on any front, and every front. Supply and demand. Education and rehabilitation. Interdiction and enforcement. In the cities, and the towns. Walter Lippmann once wrote of a "Nation at the mercy of violence." America must never surrender to the violence of drugs and crime -- the future of our children depends on it.

This morning, I have talked about our mission to secure freedom from fear at home. But we also have another mission -- a global mission -- to free America from the fear of war.

Half-a-century ago, Ike, and Nimitz, and Jimmy Doolittle, and millions of unsung heroes -- like many here today -- fought to end a war. You fought at Guadalcanal and Monte Cassino. At ~~Amoy~~ <sup>Amoy</sup> Remagen and Bataan. You fought to rid the world of ~~Bastogne~~ <sup>Bastogne</sup> totalitarianism and tyranny.

Our challenge may be less dramatic, but just as vital: To secure freedom in a world at peace. Today, ours remains a global stage, and America remains its leading player. And we must use our strength to maintain peace and freedom. For this we know from World War II: The best way to protect that freedom and ensure real peace is for America to be militarily strong.

Thankfully, America today is strong. And our strength has helped democracy's tide run in -- even as tyranny's tide runs out. The new breeze of freedom, which I have spoken of before, is blowing in Poland and Hungary, in countries East and West. Yet with even hopeful change comes uncertainty. And with

uncertainty comes the need for vigilance. This is no time to declare freedom's victory before the fact.

That is why we need a national defense that ensures a strong and secure America. And why I'm pleased that the Senate largely agrees. This week, our defense authorization bill moves to House-Senate conference committee. There's just one problem: The House version is unacceptable. It continues unneeded programs costing nearly \$20 billion from 1990-94. Holding our defense budget hostage to (pork-barrel) projects that will strip money from programs crucial to strategic modernization.

?

This modernization is vital -- vital because America must base its procurement decisions not on perestroika and glasnost -- but on the future capacity -- the actual weapons -- that any Soviet leader might have available. As decades change, so do the weapons needed to deter other Nations' first-strike ability.

see other side

This President -- any President -- would (betray) his office if -- yielding to today's headlines -- he viewed America's deterrence in a vacuum. *But Our Defense policy*

make this more positive less rhetoric

I don't -- and won't. For we we must maintain America's defense by strengthening <sup>modernizing</sup> ~~its~~ <sup>out</sup> deterrent triad. And by that I mean: Submarines, missiles, and the B-2 bomber.

We have called for two Trident submarines to be funded in 1990 and 1991. Today, I renew that call. And reaffirm my commitment to the second part of our triad: strategic land-based missiles. Already, the Soviet Union is deploying two mobile systems. We have none. We need to move forward with our mobile

*mobile by utilizing our rail system in emergency*  
8

programs. Not only to modernize our forces into the 21st Century. But to gain leverage for arms control.

What we're talking about is simple logic. Or as Sam Rayburn said, "If a man has common sense, he has all the sense there is."

Accordingly, our program calls for two systems: A new single-warhead small ICBM missile and our Peacekeeper multi-warhead ICBM. The small ICBM represents the future of our ICBM force -- highly mobile with a single warhead -- the very essence of stability and deterrence. But it won't be ready until 1997. So to fill the void, I have asked Congress for funds to <sup>make our</sup> ~~shift~~ existing Peacekeepers ~~to rail cars~~ -- providing survivability, at low cost, <sup>for</sup> ~~to~~ this very effective and proven system.

*sound like it will be on Amtrak*

The third part of our deterrent triad -- the B-2 or Stealth Bomber -- employs absolutely revolutionary technology to make certain that it can penetrate defenses and assure the credibility of our deterrence. And here's how: <sup>by defeating Soviet massive</sup> ~~the B-2 makes it impossible~~ <sup>and defenses it negates the possibility that the bomber</sup> for any country to destroy a mixed force of bombers and missiles.

<sup>leg of the triad will not be able to continue to perform its</sup> Finally, there's the last part of our defense equation -- <sup>mission</sup> the Strategic Defense Initiative. SDI will begin the movement from offensive to defensive deterrence. And deter not merely existing threats but also Nations on the verge of possessing nuclear and chemical missiles. If that's not common sense, I don't like fishing.

Fellow veterans, real peace is not an accident. So, let us modernize our strategic forces. And, thus, encourage arms control. We need the Trident and the small ICBM. We need the

*no rationale  
for all this  
Defense*

Peacekeeper, B-2, and SDI. And I have proposed to the Congress an affordable budget to pay for them. It is a solid, well-thought-out and essential program. The Congress should support it and not try to substitute pet projects in place of a closely integrated strategic program. For this, above all, we know: When it comes to national defense, finishing second means finishing last.

Twenty-seven years ago, Douglas MacArthur returned to the Plain at West Point, where he gave a speech to the cadets. "The soldier," he told them, "above all other people, prays for peace -- for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war."

Each of us knows the truth of General MacArthur's words. Yes, at times, war has been inevitable -- at times, even necessary. But not here. Not now. Not if we summon the heart and will to build a more secure and peaceful world.

We can have an America free from war, free from drugs and crime. An America free from fear. What a wonderful legacy -- for this and generations of children to come.

Some might call it only a dream. I say: America is the land of dreams -- dreams that come true. God bless you all, and God bless the United States of America.

# # # #

There are hopeful signs in the Soviet Union. Mr. Gorbachev is taking some steps to reduce the threat posed by the massive military machine that is the Soviet Armed Forces. We applaud those moves. And hope there will be more -- many more.

But it is important that we encourage the Soviet Union on the path of reducing its armed forces. We cannot do that by unilaterally disarming ourselves. The changes we have seen thus far have been brought about in part because America was strong. Thus far, in strategic forces, Soviet rhetoric has not been matched by actions cutting back on deployment of modernized weapon systems. Our own strategic modernization program is designed to deal with the fact of Soviet strength and to encourage them to match their rhetoric with deeds and to work with us to reduce the threat of nuclear war.

Thus it is that we have underway a vital modernization program for all elements of our strategic triad.

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/23/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 8/25/89

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks; American Legion

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT <i>Looking</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER <i>2315</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT <i>Steve Fagan</i>	<input 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"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>	<i>Bennett</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Boskin</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY <i>Brink 2607 Lick 6257</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Francine N/C 5040</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Chris Winston's office with an info copy to my office by 2:00 Friday, August 25. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

8 AUG 23 3:24

1989 AUG 23 10 08

(Smith/Blessey)  
Draft Seven  
August 23, 1989  
LEGION

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. *Baltimore, Md.*  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1989  
*10:00 AM*  
*as a fellow legionnaire,*

Justice Gierke [GER-kee] -- ~~and~~ let me salute the first Viet Nam veteran to be selected National Commander. And all of you who represent our Nation's largest and fastest-growing veterans organization -- *more than 3 million* now ~~2.8 million~~ strong.

As always, it is a great privilege to join you. And a deep personal pleasure to renew old ties. And to greet new friends.

Today is September 7th -- and I'm determined not to repeat the mistake I made last year when I referred to this date as Pearl Harbor Day. Now that I've dispensed with that announcement, I want to wish all of you a happy Thanksgiving.

Not surprisingly, anniversaries were on my mind as I traveled here from Washington. ~~Past the Pentagon. The Congress. And then Fort McHenry.~~ And it got me to thinking how 1989 marks the 175th anniversary of the "Star-<sup>Sp</sup>Bangled Banner." And how your convention lies so near its famous birthplace.

*Tuesday.*  
Yesterday, you did something that would have pleased Francis Scott Key -- and for which I thank you. For by supporting a Constitutional Amendment making it illegal to desecrate the American flag, you joined the crusade to protect the symbol of America's honor. What our flag embodies is too sacred to be abused.

*Mention  
Vets Affairs  
Cab.  
Demomaki*

*Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page, including "American Legion", "1st sign in", "Request Vets Administration", "on 9/7/89", "at the", "10:00 AM", "1989", "Smith/Blessey", "Draft Seven", "August 23, 1989", "LEGION".*

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<sup>He</sup> What ~~Wilson~~ meant, of course, ~~was~~ that the flag -- like America -- represents many things. It represents self-expression and opportunity. And democracy for all.

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Fellow veterans, for <sup>some 71</sup> years the "experiences" of the American Legion -- its "men and women" -- have helped write the Story of America ~~X~~ and the story of our flag. And today -- in peacetime ~~X~~ as in wartime -- you write their stories still.

For the flag, like America, is more than "sentiment." It lives. On a rugged hill <sup>at</sup> ~~at~~ Iwo Jima. It lifts. The tiny hand of the little girl I saw on a street corner in Gdansk, waving the Stars and Stripes. For both encapsulate <sup>ate</sup> freedom. The freedom to vote as we want, and pray <sup>when and</sup> where we choose. The freedom to go about our daily lives without tyranny or fear.



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Our challenge may be less dramatic, but just as vital: To ~~secure freedom in a world at peace.~~ ~~make fragile peace strong, and temporary peace permanent.~~ Today, ours remains a global stage, and America remains its leading player. And we must use our strength to ~~keep~~ <sup>maintain freedom and</sup> the peace. Well, ~~this we know from World War II: The best way to~~ <sup>and the conflicts</sup> ensure peace is <sup>protect that freedom and</sup> for America to be militarily strong. <sup>real</sup>

Thankfully, America today is strong. And our strength has helped democracy's tide run in -- even as tyranny's tide runs ~~out.~~ <sup>The new breeze of freedom, I have spoken of before, is blowing the new breeze</sup> ~~out.~~ In Poland and Hungary, in countries East and West, ~~liberty~~ ~~is sweeping the globe.~~ Yet with even hopeful change comes uncertainty. And with uncertainty comes the need for vigilance. This is no time to declare freedom's victory before the fact.

That is why we need a national defense that ensures a strong and secure America. And why I'm pleased that the Senate largely agrees. This week, our defense authorization bill moves to House-Senate conference committee. There's just one problem: The House version is unacceptable. It continues unneeded programs costing nearly \$20 billion from 1990-94. Holding our

defense budget hostage to pork-barrel projects that will strip money from programs crucial to strategic modernization.

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I don't -- and won't. For we we must maintain America's defense by strengthening its deterrent triad. And by that I mean: Submarines, missiles, and the B-2 bomber.

We have called for two Trident submarines to be funded in 1990 and 1991. Today, I renew that call. And reaffirm my commitment to the second part of our triad: strategic land-based missiles. Already, the Soviet Union <sup>is deploying</sup> has two mobile systems. <sup>we have none.</sup> And ~~we need to match them.~~ <sup>we need to move forward with our mobile programs.</sup> Not only to modernize our forces into the 21st Century. But to gain leverage for arms control.

What we're talking about is simple logic. Or as Sam Rayburn said, "If a man has common sense, he has all the sense there is."

~~We want to ban all mobile missiles in the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks. But common sense tells us: We won't be in a bargaining position to ban any until the Congress makes our level comparable to the Soviets.~~

*Mount*

*Our program calls for two systems:*

Such parity can be ensured in two ways: Our new single-warhead <sup>small</sup> ICBM missile -- the Midgetman -- and our <sup>Peacekeeper</sup> MX multi-warhead ICBM. When deployed, the Midgetman will require more *force -- highly mobile with a single warhead -- the very essence of stability and deterrence.* than one enemy missile to take out a single warhead. And that

~~makes sense.~~ But the <sup>it</sup> Midgetman won't be ready until 1997. So to

fill the void, I have asked Congress for funds to shift existing <sup>Peacekeepers</sup> MXs to mobile, less vulnerable rail cars, <sup>providing survivability at low cost to this very effective and proven system.</sup>

The third part of our deterrent triad -- the B-2 or Stealth Bomber -- <sup>employs absolutely revolutionary technology to make certain that it can</sup> can avoid radar. Its range is perfect for long-range <sup>penetrate defenses and assure the credibility of our deterrence.</sup> missions. <sup>how</sup> And here's the kicker: the B-2 makes it impossible

for any country to destroy a mixed force of bombers and missiles.

Finally, there's the last part of our defense equation -- the Strategic Defense Initiative. SDI will begin the movement from offensive to defensive deterrence. And deter not merely existing threats but also Nations on the verge of possessing nuclear and chemical missiles. And in an attack, it will put ~~would-be aggressors in the dark about what targets are destroyed.~~

*stet* ~~If that's not common sense, I don't like fishing.~~

Fellow veterans, real peace is not an accident. So, let us modernize our strategic forces. And, thus, encourage arms control. We need the <sup>the small ICBM</sup> Trident and Midgetman. We need the <sup>Peacekeeper</sup> MX, B-2, and SDI. <sup>And I proposed to the Congress an affordable budget to pay for them.</sup> Yes, each involves short-term funding pain. But <sup>It is a solid, well thought-out and essential program.</sup> each is crucial to a defense posture that is responsible -- <sup>The Congress should support it and not try to substitute pet projects in place of a closely integrated strategic program.</sup> fiscally -- and cohesive -- strategically. We know that when it comes to national defense, finishing second means finishing last.

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Some might call it only a dream. I say: America is the land of dreams -- dreams that come true. God bless you all, and God bless the United States of America.

# # # #

(Smith/Blessey)  
Draft Nine  
September 5, 1989  
LEGION

89 SEP 6 P4:53

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGION  
BALTIMORE CONVENTION CENTER  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1989  
9:45 A.M.

Justice Gierke [GER-kee] -- as a fellow Legionnaire, let me salute the first Viet Nam veteran to be selected National Commander. And all of you who represent our Nation's largest and fastest-growing veterans organization -- more than 3 million members strong.

As always, it is a great privilege to join you. And a deep personal pleasure to renew old ties. And to greet new friends.

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the "Star-Spangled Banner." And how your convention lies so near its famous birthplace.

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He meant, of course, that the flag -- like America -- represents many things. It represents self-expression and opportunity. And democracy for all.

Like America, too, Old Glory reflects the values -- moral and intellectual, economic and military -- that have made, and keep, us strong.

And like America, the flag symbolizes the gallantry of veterans who love their country -- giving themselves, and often their lives, to its protection. Storming the beaches of Okinawa. Scaling the cliffs of Normandy. Taking shell-torn hills named Hamburger and Arrowhead.

Fellow veterans, for seven decades the "experiences" of the American Legion -- its "men and women" -- have helped write the Story of America and the story of our flag. And today -- in peacetime as in wartime -- you write their stories still.

For the flag, like America, is more than "sentiment." It lives. On the rugged island called Iwo Jima. It lifts. The tiny hand of the little girl I saw on a street corner in Gdansk, waving the Stars and Stripes. For both encapsulate freedom. The freedom to vote as we want, and pray when and where we choose. The freedom to go about our daily lives without tyranny or fear.

Fifty years ago this month, our allies went to war to protect this freedom. For as panzer tanks crossed the Polish frontier, and bombers savaged Warsaw, liberty confronted the evil of fascism which -- even now -- defines hell on earth.

In the end, that conflict took more than 50 million lives. And underscored, as few things have, man's inhumanity to man. Our challenge today is to prove man's humanity to man by preserving liberty without war. And thus secure what Franklin Roosevelt called the "Four Freedoms": Freedom of speech, of religion, freedom from want and fear.

Today, I want to focus on one of those freedoms -- freedom from fear. The fear of war abroad. The fear of drugs and crime at home.

To win that freedom -- to build a better, safer life -- will require the bravery, and sacrifice, that Americans have shown before. And must again. Already we have done much. Now, we must do more. And achieve real peace -- both domestic and foreign -- the kind of peace which lasts.

First, our mission at home -- to free our country from the fear of drugs and crime. When we ask what kind of society the

American people deserve, our answer is -- and must be -- a Nation in which law-abiding citizens are safe and feel safe.

That is why we have sent a comprehensive battle plan to Congress to put an end to the crime and drugs which plague the United States.

First, our plan seeks to rid America of violent criminals with an attack on four fronts. New laws -- to punish them. New agents -- to arrest them. New prosecutors -- to convict them. And new prisons -- to hold them.

We propose to change the rules of the game dramatically. Mandatory time for firearms offenses. No deals when criminals use a gun. And for the most heinous crimes -- you remember my promise. For anyone who kills a law enforcement officer -- no legal penalty is too tough. We want Congress to enact the steps needed to implement the death penalty.

In short, our crime proposals are based on three principles. Criminals in this Nation must understand that if they commit a crime, they will be caught. And if caught, they will be prosecuted. And if convicted, they will do time. By taking hoods off the streets, we can -- and will -- take back the streets.

I ask you to support our crime plan. And yet it's only one part of the answer. So, two nights ago, I announced America's first comprehensive national strategy to win the war on drugs.

Our drug program aims to stop drug use before it starts. Through education and prevention -- from grade school to graduate

school. And, second, through treatment, to help addicts who want to get clean. With special emphasis on expectant mothers. Then, there's the third part of our strategy -- getting drug dealers off the streets and behind bars where they belong. And for the ultimate drug violators -- the kingpins themselves -- they should pay the ultimate price. Finally, we're going to work with other governments to help crack international drug rings.

As veterans, you know how battles are often fought -- house-by-house, block-by-block. Well, we'll win this battle the same way. Winning kid-by-kid, neighborhood-by-neighborhood.

For years now, drugs have written a sad chapter in the American story. This morning, I ask you to help write an ending all of us can be proud of. Cops can't do it alone. Teachers can't do it alone. The addict weary of abuse can't do it alone. They need your help. And I know they'll get it -- just as you've helped handicapped kids, donated blood, aided the National League of Families, and spurred good government through programs like Boys State and Girls State.

Today, for instance, Post Number 65 in Rosemont, Minnesota, runs the program "Drug Talk." And in Russelville, Arkansas, I especially like Post Number 20's giveaway of thousands of rulers. Their message says it all. "You really measure up when you say 'No' to drugs."

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the cities, and the towns. Walter Lippmann once wrote of a "Nation at the mercy of violence." America must never surrender to the violence of drugs and crime -- the future of our children depends on it.

This morning, I have talked about our mission to secure freedom from fear at home. But we also have another mission -- a global mission -- to free America from the fear of war.

Half-a-century ago, Ike, and Nimitz, and Jimmy Doolittle, and millions of unsung heroes -- like many here today -- fought to end a war. You fought at Guadalcanal and Monte Cassino. At Bastogne and Bataan. You fought to rid the world of totalitarianism and tyranny.

Our challenge may be less dramatic, but just as vital: To secure freedom in a world at peace. Today, ours remains a global stage, and America remains its leading player. And we must use our strength to maintain peace and freedom. For this we know from World War II: The best way to protect that freedom and ensure real peace is for America to be militarily strong.

Thankfully, America today is strong. And our strength has helped democracy's tide run in -- even as tyranny's tide runs out. The new breeze of freedom, which I have spoken of before, is blowing in Poland and Hungary, in countries East and West. Yet with even hopeful change comes uncertainty. And with uncertainty comes the need for vigilance. This is no time to declare freedom's victory before the fact.

That is why we need a national defense that ensures a strong and secure America. And why I'm pleased that the Senate largely agrees. This week, our defense authorization bill moves to House-Senate conference committee. There's just one problem: The House version is unacceptable. It continues unneeded programs costing nearly \$20 billion from 1990-94. Holding our defense budget hostage to pork-barrel projects that will strip money from programs crucial to strategic modernization.

This modernization is vital -- vital because America must base its procurement decisions ~~not on perestroika and glasnost~~ -- but on the future capacity -- the actual weapons -- that any Soviet leader might have available.

Here, there are hopeful signs. For Mr. Gorbachev is taking some steps to reduce the threat posed by the massive military machine that is the Soviet Armed Forces. We applaud those moves. And we hope there will be more -- many more.

But at the same time, we cannot cause the Soviet Union to reduce its forces by our unilaterally disarming. ~~For~~ <sup>2</sup> progress has been made precisely because we have been strong. So far, in terms of cutting <sup>strategic</sup> ~~modernized~~ weapon systems, Soviet words have not been matched by deeds. Our own strategic modernization program must deal with deeds. And encourage the Soviet Union to work with us in reducing the threat of nuclear war.

That is why we have begun a vital ~~modernization~~ program ~~to modernize~~ <sup>modernize</sup> involving all ~~elements~~ of our strategic ~~traid~~ <sup>traid</sup>. And by that I mean: Submarines, missiles, and ~~the B-2 bomber~~.

I have called for two Trident submarines to be funded in 1990 and 1991. Today, I renew that call. And reaffirm my commitment to the second part of our triad: strategic land-based missiles. Already, the Soviet Union is deploying two mobile systems. We have none. We need to move forward with our mobile programs. Not only to modernize our forces into the 21st Century. But to gain leverage for arms control.

What we're talking about is simple logic. Or as Sam Rayburn said, "If a man has common sense, he has all the sense there is."

Accordingly, our <sup>ICBM</sup> program calls for ~~two systems~~. A new single-warhead small ICBM missile and our Peacekeeper multi-warhead ICBM. The small ICBM represents the future of our ICBM force -- highly mobile with a single warhead -- the very essence of stability and deterrence. But it won't be ready until 1997. So ~~to fill the void~~, I have asked Congress for funds to make our existing Peacekeepers mobile by utilizing our rail system in an emergency -- providing survivability, at low cost, for this very effective and proven system.

The third part of our deterrent triad -- the B-2 or Stealth Bomber -- employs absolutely revolutionary technology to make certain that it can penetrate defenses and assure the credibility of our deterrence. ~~And here's how: By deflecting Soviet massive air defenses, it negates the possibility that the bomber leg of the triad will be unable to continue to perform its mission.~~

Finally, there's the last part of our defense equation -- the Strategic Defense Initiative. SDI will begin the movement

from offensive to defensive deterrence. And deter not merely existing threats but also Nations on the verge of possessing nuclear and chemical missiles. If that's not common sense, I don't like fishing.

Fellow veterans, real peace is not an accident. So, let us modernize our strategic forces. And, thus, encourage arms control. We need the Trident and the small ICBM. We need the Peacekeeper, B-2, and SDI. And I have proposed to the Congress an affordable budget to pay for them. It is a solid, well-thought-out and essential program. The Congress should support it and not try to substitute pet projects in place of a closely integrated strategic program. For this, above all, we know: When it comes to national defense, finishing second means finishing last.

Twenty-seven years ago, Douglas MacArthur returned to the Plain at West Point, where he gave a speech to the cadets. "The soldier," he told them, "above all other people, prays for peace -- for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war."

Each of us knows the truth of General MacArthur's words. Yes, at times, war has been inevitable -- at times, even necessary. But not here. Not now. Not if we summon the heart and will to build a more secure and peaceful world.

We can have an America free from war, free from drugs and crime. An America free from fear. What a wonderful legacy -- for this and generations of children to come.

Some might call it only a dream. I say: America is the land of dreams -- dreams that come true. God bless you all, and God bless the United States of America.

# # # #

(Smith/Blessey)  
Draft Nine  
September 6, 1989  
LEGION

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGION  
BALTIMORE CONVENTION CENTER  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1989  
9:45 A.M.

Justice Gierke [GER-kee] -- as a fellow Legionnaire, let me salute the first Viet Nam veteran to be selected National Commander. And all of you who represent our Nation's largest and fastest-growing veterans organization -- more than 3 million members strong.

As always, it is a great privilege to join you. And a deep personal pleasure to renew old ties. And to greet new friends.

Today is September 7th -- and I'm determined not to repeat the mistake I made exactly one year ago when I referred to this date as Pearl Harbor Day. I can still remember the gasp from this audience.

Not surprisingly, anniversaries were on my mind as I traveled here from Washington. Events like this 71st national convention of the American Legion, or the 200th birthday of the Coast Guard. Or the very first anniversary of the Department of Veterans Affairs -- led by its Secretary and our good friend, Ed Derwinski. A Department intent on serving you -- as you have served your country.

Well, as you can imagine, these birthdays, in turn, got me to thinking about another anniversary -- the 175th this year of

the "Star-Spangled Banner." And how your convention lies so near its famous birthplace.

Tuesday, you did something that would have pleased Francis Scott Key -- and for which I thank you. For by supporting a Constitutional Amendment making it illegal to desecrate the American flag, you joined the crusade to protect the unique symbol of America's honor. Our flag is too sacred to be abused.

The flag -- like America -- represents many things. It represents self-expression and opportunity. And democracy for all.

Like America, too, Old Glory reflects the values -- moral and intellectual, economic and military -- that have made, and keep, us strong.

And like America, the flag symbolizes the gallantry of veterans who love their country -- giving themselves, and often their lives, to its protection. Storming the beaches of Okinawa. Scaling the cliffs of Normandy. Taking shell-torn hills named Hamburger and Arrowhead.

Fellow veterans, for seven decades the American Legion --  
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X For the flag, like America, is more than "sentiment." It lives on the rugged island called Iwo Jima. It lifts the tiny hand of the little girl I saw on a street corner in Gdansk, waving the Stars and Stripes. For both encapsulate freedom. The

freedom to vote as we want, and pray when and where we choose. The freedom to go about our daily lives without tyranny or fear.

Fifty years ago this month, our allies went to war to protect this freedom. For as panzer tanks crossed the Polish frontier, and bombers savaged Warsaw, liberty confronted the evil of fascism which -- even now -- defines hell on earth.

In the end, that conflict took more than 50 million lives. And underscored, as few things have, man's inhumanity to man. Our challenge today is to prove man's humanity to man by preserving liberty without war. And thus secure what Franklin Roosevelt called the "Four Freedoms": Freedom of speech, of religion, freedom from want and fear.

Today, I want to focus on one of those freedoms -- freedom from fear. The fear of war abroad. The fear of drugs and crime at home.

To win that freedom -- to build a better, safer life -- will require the bravery, and sacrifice, that Americans have shown before. And must again. Already we have done much. Now, we must do more. And achieve real peace -- both domestic and foreign -- the kind of peace which lasts.

First, our mission at home -- to free our country from the fear of drugs and crime. When we ask what kind of society the American people deserve, our answer is -- and must be -- a Nation in which law-abiding citizens are safe and feel safe.

That is why two nights ago, I announced America's first comprehensive national strategy to win the war on drugs and crime which plague the United States.

First, our plan seeks to rid America of violent criminals with an attack on four fronts. New laws -- to punish them. New agents -- to arrest them. New prosecutors -- to convict them. And new prisons -- to hold them.

Our crime proposals are based on these principles. Criminals in this Nation must understand that if they commit a crime, they will be caught. And if caught, they will be prosecuted. And if convicted, they will do time. By taking hoods off the streets, we can -- and will -- take back the streets.

In short, we propose to change the rules of the game dramatically. Mandatory time for firearms offenses. No deals when criminals use a gun. And for the most heinous crimes -- you remember my promise. For anyone who kills a law enforcement officer -- no legal penalty is too tough. We want Congress to enact the steps needed to implement the death penalty.

Now, over the last few days there's been a lot of talk about our strategy. Some, incredibly, say it's not tough enough -- this from the very people who oppose the death penalty. Well, it's that kind of thinking that's lost too many battles already. Let's not let these critics lose the war. So I ask you to support our crime plan. And also the other parts of our national strategy.

This strategy aims to stop drug use before it starts. Through education and prevention -- from grade school to graduate school. And, third, through treatment, to help addicts who want to get clean. With special emphasis on expectant mothers. Finally, we're going to work with other governments to help crack international drug rings.

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Thankfully, America today is strong. And our strength has helped democracy's tide run in -- even as tyranny's tide runs out. The new breeze of freedom, which I have spoken of before, is blowing in Poland and Hungary, in countries East and West. Yet with even hopeful change comes uncertainty. And with uncertainty comes the need for vigilance. This is no time to declare freedom's victory before the fact.

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This modernization is vital -- vital because America must base its procurement decisions on the future capacity -- the actual weapons -- that any Soviet leader might have available.

Here, there are hopeful signs. For Mr. Gorbachev is taking some steps to reduce the threat posed by the massive military machine that is the Soviet Armed Forces. We applaud those moves. And we hope there will be more -- many more.

But at the same time, we cannot cause the Soviet Union to reduce its forces by unilaterally disarming ourselves. Progress has been made precisely because we have been strong. So far, in terms of cutting strategic weapon systems, Soviet words have not been matched by deeds. Our own strategic modernization program must deal with deeds. And encourage the Soviet Union to work with us in reducing the threat of nuclear war.

That is why we have begun a vital program to modernize our strategic triad. And by that I mean: Submarines, missiles, and ~~the~~ bombers.

We have called for two Trident submarines to be funded in 1990 and 1991. Today, I renew that call. And reaffirm my commitment to the second part of our triad: strategic land-based

missiles. Already, the Soviet Union is deploying two mobile systems. We have none. We need to move forward with our mobile programs. Not only to modernize our forces into the 21st Century. But to gain leverage for arms control.

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# # # #

(Smith/Blessey)  
Draft Nine  
September 5, 1989  
LEGION

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGION  
BALTIMORE CONVENTION CENTER  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1989  
9:45 A.M.

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As always, it is a great privilege to join you. And a deep personal pleasure to renew old ties. And to greet new friends.

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We have called for two Trident submarines to be funded in 1990 and 1991. Today, I renew that call. And reaffirm my commitment to the second part of our triad: strategic land-based missiles. Already, the Soviet Union is deploying two mobile systems. We have none. We need to move forward with our mobile programs. Not only to modernize our forces into the 21st Century. But to gain leverage for arms control.

What we're talking about is simple logic. Or as Sam Rayburn said, "If a man has common sense, he has all the sense there is."

Accordingly, our <sup>ICBM</sup> program calls for ~~two systems~~. A new single-warhead small ICBM missile and our Peacekeeper multi-warhead ICBM. The small ICBM represents the future of our ICBM force -- highly mobile with a single warhead -- the very essence of stability and deterrence. But it won't be ready until 1997. So ~~to fill the void~~, I have asked Congress for funds to make our existing Peacekeepers mobile by utilizing our rail system in an emergency -- providing survivability, at low cost, for this very effective and proven system.

The third part of our deterrent triad -- the B-2 or Stealth Bomber -- employs absolutely revolutionary technology to make certain that it can penetrate defenses and assure the credibility of our deterrence. ~~And here's how: By deflecting Soviet massive air defenses, it negates the possibility that the bomber leg of the triad will be unable to continue to perform its mission.~~

Finally, there's the last part of our defense equation -- the Strategic Defense Initiative. SDI will begin the movement

from offensive to defensive deterrence. And deter not merely existing threats but also Nations on the verge of possessing nuclear and chemical missiles. If that's not common sense, I don't like fishing.

Fellow veterans, real peace is not an accident. So, let us modernize our strategic forces. And, thus, encourage arms control. We need the Trident and the small ICBM. We need the Peacekeeper, B-2, and SDI. And I have proposed to the Congress an affordable budget to pay for them. It is a solid, well-thought-out and essential program. The Congress should support it and not try to substitute pet projects in place of a closely integrated strategic program. For this, above all, we know: When it comes to national defense, finishing second means finishing last.

~~Twenty-seven years ago, Douglas MacArthur returned to the Plain at West Point, where he gave a speech to the cadets. "The soldier," he told them, "above all other people, prays for peace -- for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war."~~

~~Each of us knows the truth of General MacArthur's words. Yes, at times, war has been inevitable -- at times, even necessary. But not here. Not now. Not if we summon the heart and will to build a more secure and peaceful world.~~

We can have an America free from war, free from drugs and crime. An America free from fear. What a wonderful legacy -- for this and generations of children to come.

Some might call it only a dream. I say: America is the  
land of dreams -- dreams that come true. God bless you all, and  
God bless the United States of America.

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