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**OA/ID Number:** 13501  
**Folder ID Number:** 13501-001

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**Folder Title:**  
175th Anniversary of the Star Spangled Banner Ceremony 9/7/89

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>

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**REMARKS: FORT McHENRY  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1989**

**CONGRESSWOMAN BENTLEY, MR. CLANCY, LADIES AND  
GENTLEMEN, FRIENDS AND FELLOW ORIOLES FANS.**

**I AM TRULY DELIGHTED TO BE WITH YOU. AND TO VISIT  
ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST HALLOWED SHRINES. AND I WANT TO  
THANK YOU FOR THE WARMTH OF YOUR RECEPTION.**

**- 2 -**

**ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, TWO  
EVENTS -- THE BATTLE OF BALTIMORE, AND THE "STAR-  
SPANGLED BANNER" -- WROTE ONE OF THE GREATEST CHAPTERS  
IN THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. EVEN NOW, THEY TEACH US.  
INSPIRE US. REMIND US OF WHAT FRANCIS SCOTT KEY SAW  
"BY THE DAWN'S EARLY LIGHT."**

**HE SAW THIS FLAG -- THIS AMERICAN FLAG. A FLAG  
THAT HONORED SACRIFICE, AND HEROISM. AND EMBODIED ALL  
THAT MATTERS TO THE HUMAN SPIRIT.**

A FLAG THAT AMERICANS HAVE CHERISHED FROM BUNKER HILL TO KHE SANH . FIGHTING -- ON THE FRONT LINES, AND ON THE HOME FRONT -- SO THAT FREEDOM COULD PREVAIL.

THINK OF IT -- THAT NIGHT'S HISTORIC BATTLE OF BALTIMORE. REMEMBER THE BIRTH OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM. MARVEL AT HOW 1,000 CITIZEN SOLDIERS DEFENDED FORT MCHENRY AGAINST A MIGHTY ENEMY.

TODAY, WE REMEMBER THOSE VOLUNTEERS. FOR BECAUSE OF THEM, BALTIMORE STOPPED THE BRITISH INVASION -- AND PRESERVED OUR INDEPENDENCE. AND TODAY, ALSO, WE PRAISE THEIR SUCCESSORS -- VOLUNTEERS LIKE YOU.

I THINK OF THE FORT MCHENRY GUARD, OR VISITORS WHO DONATE TO HELP PRESERVE THIS SITE. OR THE THE PATRIOTS OF FORT MCHENRY, AND MEMBERS OF THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY COMMISSION. VOLUNTEERS HELPING TO RESTORE THE FORT MCHENRY NATIONAL MONUMENT AND HISTORIC SHRINE.

**VOLUNTEERS WHO SHOW HOW COMMUNITY SERVICE IS  
TIMELESS -- LIKE AMERICAN IDEALS.**

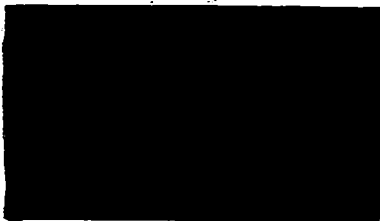
**AS AN OLD NAVY MAN, I SALUTE YOUR MISSION. FOR  
YOU'RE ENSURING, AS FRANCIS KEY SAID, THAT OUR "FLAG  
WILL YET WAVE." AND AS AN AMERICAN, I ASK YOU: HELP  
SALUTE THAT FLAG BY SUPPORTING A CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENT MAKING IT ILLEGAL TO DESECREATE THIS UNIQUE  
SYMBOL OF OUR LIBERTY.**



**KEY WROTE HIS ODE TO THE COURAGE OF AMERICAN  
PATRIOTS AND THE LIBERTY THEY FOUGHT TO PROTECT.**

**ALL AMERICANS BELIEVE IN LIBERTY. FOR THE EVIDENCE  
OF ITS POWER LIGHTS THE WORLD. THE VOLUNTEERS OF 1814  
SHOWED THAT. THE VOLUNTEERS OF 1989 PROVE IT ANEW.**

**I WANT TO THANK THEM, AND YOU, FOR THIS WONDERFUL  
OCCASION. GOD BLESS YOU. GOD BLESS AMERICA.**



- 7 -

TOGETHER, LET US ENSURE THE TRUE DESTINY OF AMERICA:  
THAT "WHAT SO PROUDLY WE HAIL WILL [ALWAYS] BLESS THE  
TWILIGHT'S LAST GLEAMING."

# # # #



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 6, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:           CHRISS WINSTON *W*  
FROM:               CURT SMITH *CS*  
SUBJECT:            FORT MCHENRY REMARKS

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, September 7, at 10:40 a.m., you will address the Ceremony Commemorating the 175th Anniversary of the Star-Spangled Banner. Tom Clancy, the National Chairman of the Star-Spangled Banner/Fort McHenry Preservation Commission and noted author, and Congresswoman Helen Bentley will attend.

II. DISCUSSION

The enclosed remarks focus on the history of the Battle of Baltimore and the Star-Spangled Banner. They discuss how volunteers have made a difference in Fort McHenry then and now.

(Smith/Blessey)  
September 6, 1989  
Draft One  
MCHENRY

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FORT MCHENRY  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1989

Congresswoman Bentley, Mr. Clancy, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Friends and Fellow Orioles fans.

I am truly delighted to be with you. And to visit one of  
America's most hallowed shrines. And I want to thank you for the  
warmth of your reception.

One hundred and seventy-five years ago, two events -- the  
Battle of Baltimore, and the "Star-Spangled Banner" -- wrote one  
of the greatest chapters in the American Experience. Even now,  
they teach us. Inspire us. Remind us of what Francis Scott Key  
saw "by the dawn's early light."

He saw this flag -- this American flag. A flag that honored  
sacrifice, and heroism. And embodied all that matters to the  
human spirit. A flag that Americans have cherished from Bunker  
Hill to the U.S.S. Iowa. <sup>Khe Sahn - JC</sup> Fighting -- on the front lines, and on  
the home front -- so that freedom could prevail.

Think of it -- that night's historic Battle of Baltimore.  
Remember the birth of the National Anthem. Marvel at how 1,000  
citizen soldiers defended Fort McHenry against a mighty enemy.

Today, we remember those volunteers. For because of them,  
Baltimore stopped the British invasion -- and preserved our

independence. And today, also, we praise their successors -- volunteers like you.

I think of the Fort McHenry Guard, or visitors who donate to help preserve this site. Or the the Patriots of Fort McHenry, and members of the 175th Anniversary Commission. Volunteers helping to restore the Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine. Volunteers who show how community service is timeless -- like American ideals.

As an old Navy man, I salute your mission. For you're ensuring, as Francis Key said, that our "flag will yet wave." And as an American, I ask you: Help salute that flag by supporting a Constitutional Amendment making it illegal to desecrate this <sup>unique</sup> symbol of our liberty.

Key wrote his ode to the courage of American patriots and the liberty they fought to protect.

*Prez* { <sup>To all</sup> ~~Fellow~~ <sup>believe in liberty.</sup> Americans, we ~~too~~ believe in liberty. For the evidence of its power lights the world. The volunteers of 1814 showed that. The volunteers of 1989 prove it anew.

I want to thank them, and you, for this wonderful occasion. God bless you. God bless America. Together, let us ensure the true destiny of America: that "what so proudly we hail will [always] bless the twilight's last gleaming."

# # # #

~~9/11/11~~

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~~AMERICAN~~

~~AMERICAN~~

KRE SAH  
8:30 AM  
CMM

A FLAG THAT AMERICANS HAVE CHERISHED FROM BUNKER HILL TO THE U.S.S. IOWA. FIGHTING -- ON THE FRONT LINES, AND ON THE HOME FRONT -- SO THAT FREEDOM COULD PREVAIL.

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- 4 -

TODAY, WE REMEMBER THOSE VOLUNTEERS. FOR BECAUSE OF THEM, BALTIMORE STOPPED THE BRITISH INVASION -- AND PRESERVED OUR INDEPENDENCE. AND TODAY, ALSO, WE PRAISE THEIR SUCCESSORS -- VOLUNTEERS LIKE YOU.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary  
(Baltimore, Maryland)

For Immediate Release

September 7, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
AT THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF  
THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER CEREMONY

Fort McHenry  
Baltimore, Maryland

10:50 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: What a lovely day. And thank you, Congresswoman Bentley, my friend, Helen Bentley, for, one, inviting me here, and for joining in the invitation for me to be here. I have a very high regard for Maryland's great Helen Bentley. I'm very pleased that you have Tom Clancy, the esteemed author, my friend, involved in this project. What a marvelous contribution he's made to our literary world and, I also would like to think, to the national security interests of the United States by his writings.

Superintendent Tyler, I'm pleased to be with you, sir, having heard of your tender loving care for this and other of our great monuments. I'm pleased that Congressman Montgomery, a great leader in the veterans' movement, was with me at the Legion and here with us today -- Mississippi's son.

I'm proud to share this platform with Mayor Schmoke. And, of course, I have a few differences with your Governor. (Laughter.) We went to the ball game when the Rangers were in town, and I understand that the Orioles are playing the Rangers tonight. And I hope you'll excuse me if, for the first time, I visibly differ with Don on this one -- I want my kid, who runs the Rangers, to keep his job. (Laughter.) So you'll have to forgive me, Governor, for this one evening.

But as for Don Schaefer, we may be in opposite parties, but I am grateful to him for his leadership in this state, and I am grateful to him for his standing up with us as we formulate it, and now are trying to advocate a national strategy to combat narcotics in this country. Your Governor is out front, and I am very, very grateful to him. (Applause.)

And what a lovely day to visit one of America's most hallowed shrines. I'm grateful to all of you for the warmth of the reception. One hundred and seventy-five years ago, three events -- the Battle of North Point, the Battle of Baltimore, and The Star-Spangled Banner, wrote one of the greatest chapters in the American experience. And even now, they teach us and they inspire us, and they remind us of what Francis Scott Key saw "by the dawn's early light." He saw this flag, the American Flag, a flag that honored sacrifice and heroism, and embodied all that matters to the human spirit -- a flag that Americans have cherished from Bunker Hill to Khe Sanh -- fighting on the front lines and on the home front so that freedom could prevail.

Think of it -- that night's historic Battle of Baltimore. Remember the birth of The National Anthem. Marvel at how 1,000 citizen soldiers defended Fort McHenry against the mighty enemy. And today, we remember those volunteers -- for, because of them, Baltimore stopped the British invasion and preserved our

MORE

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I think of the Fort McHenry Guard, or visitors who donate to help to preserve this site, or the patriots of Fort McHenry and members of the 175th Anniversary Commission. Volunteers helping to restore the Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine. Volunteers who show how community service is timeless like the American ideal. As an old Navy person, I salute your mission. For you're insuring, as Frances Key said, that our flag will yet wave. And as an American, I ask you -- help salute that flag by supporting a constitutional amendment making it illegal to desecrate that unique symbol of our liberty. (Applause.)

Key wrote his "Ode to the Courage of American Patriots and the Liberty They Fought to Protect." All Americans believe in liberty, for the evidence of its power lights the world. The volunteers of 1814 showed that, and the volunteers of 1989 -- it's an enormous force across our country -- prove it anew.

I want to thank them and you for this wonderful occasion. I came by to say thanks, God bless you, and God bless the United States of America. And let's together insure the true destiny of America, that "what's so proudly we hail" will always bless "the twilight's last gleaming."

Thank you all very, very much. (Applause.)

END

10:56 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary  
(Baltimore, Maryland)

For Immediate Release

September 7, 1989

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