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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 17, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *cw*
FROM: CURT SMITH *CS*
SUBJECT: REMARKS TO VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION

I. SUMMARY

On Monday, August 20, 1990, at 10:05 AM, you will address approximately 10,000 delegates to the 91st national convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, including 36 guests seated on the dais. Among those attending will be: Secretary of Veterans Affairs Edwin Derwinski, Secretary of the Army Michael Stone, VFW Commander in Chief Walter Hogan, who will introduce you; Executive Director of VFW Washington, D.C., Larry Rivers, and 1990 VFW award recipients A.F. Dudley, Major General James Fretland, and Mrs Bush.

II. DISCUSSION

The attached remarks (15 minutes, teleprompter) emphasize your commitment to a strong national defense. Within this framework, the remarks focus on recent events in the Middle East, highlighting 1: the necessity of standing up to those dictators who attempt to deny the freedom of others around the world; 2: the increased power of allied cooperation; 3: the steadfast nature of American will; and 4: the importance of a national defense policy that responds to the security demands of a complex and still precarious world.

(Smith/Garmey)
9 P.M.
August 17, 1990
A: VFW

SUGGESTED REMARKS: VFW ADDRESS
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990
10 A.M.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is a privilege to join you. And a deep personal pleasure to renew old ties -- and to greet new friends. // My thanks to all of you -- but especially to Walter Hogan, doing a great job as your Commander in Chief. Following the likes of Larry Rivers isn't easy -- but Walter's done the VFW proud. I also know we're looking forward to the same kind of strong leadership from James Kimery. And let me offer my thanks again to Cooper Holt, a real legend, who has given so many years of service to the VFW. Cooper -- we miss you. //

Next, I want to thank my Veterans' Secretary and fellow VFW member Ed Derwinski. // Ed's got so much going on -- but I'm especially happy to see the work he's doing to improve our veterans' hospitals. His Department is intent on serving you -- much as you have served America. // And, let us remember those who could not be with us. Our Administration will not forget our POWs/MIAs who gave what Lincoln termed "that last full measure of devotion." //

Let me acknowledge, too, Secretary of the Army, Michael Stone, and Baltimore Mayor, Kurt Schomoke. Finally, I want to mention today's honorees. Bud Dudley, my United Nations Ambassador Tom Pickering, who's being honored this evening. And also somebody I've spent some time with over the years. // Any

of our kids will tell you she's the five-star general in our family. Believe me, when she gives the orders, an entire division clears out. // My wife, Barbara. //

As a Veteran, I want to salute the VFW on its 91st year. And to note how we meet amid great challenges -- foreign and domestic. ((First, domestic. I have been deluged by a flood of recent inquiries. In response, I want you to know that Millie is fully recovered from a brief brush with lead poisoning. //

((Barbara was pretty concerned -- but as all who work with John Sununu know, it wasn't the first time the words "get the lead out" have been heard around the White House.)) //

((Second, on the foreign scene, it takes something like the Middle East to put things into perspective. When an aide burst into my office in early August and said, "There's a dictator on the rampage," I replied, "I thought the Yankees already solved the Steinbrenner problem.")) //

I am grateful to have the opportunity to discuss a far greater and more serious problem: the crisis in the Persian Gulf. // A crisis that will require American planning, patience, and personal sacrifice. But a crisis that we must and will meet if we're to stop aggression and protect our own interest and the peace and stability of countries around the globe. //

Eighteen days ago, these beliefs prompted me to take action in the Middle East to restore the sovereignty of Kuwait and deter those who threaten friendly countries and the vital interests of America. I acted knowing that our cause would not be easy --but

that our cause is right. // And that while one should not underestimate those who endanger peace -- an even greater mistake would be to underestimate America's commitment to our friends when our friends are imperiled. //

Today, the outcome is not yet decided. Hard choices remain. But of this we are certain. America will not be deterred. // Instead, we will act to promote a common code and rule of law that promotes cooperation instead of conflict. // We will preserve our economic vitality. // Above all, when some ask: Where does America stand? Our answer is: We stand against those who would use force to replace the rule of law. // And we are proud that so many friends and allies from all over the world are standing shoulder to shoulder with us.

Throughout history, we have learned that we must stand up to evil. It is a truth which the past eighteen days have reaffirmed. Its lessons speak to America, and to the world. //

The first lesson is as vivid as the memories of Verdun, Normandy, Pork Chop Hill, Khesahn. We have been reminded again that aggression must -- and will -- be checked. // So we have sent U.S. forces to the Middle East -- reluctantly, but decisively. Knowing, as Teddy Roosevelt said, that America "means many things. [Among them], equality of rights and, therefore, equality of duty and of obligation." //

Yet we are not acting alone -- but in concert -- helping to protect our own national security interests as well as those of the broader community of nations. Which brings me a second

lesson reaffirmed by the past eighteen days. By itself, America can do much. Together, with its allies and friends, America can do much more -- for justice and for peace. //

Think back to World War II, where together allies confronted a horror which embodied hell on earth. Or Korea, where United Nations forces opposed totalitarianism. Today, even more, Nations have joined to become protectors of peace. //

Our Saudi friends, under the brave leadership of King Fahd, asked for our help in defending against unprovoked aggression. I salute Egypt, Morocco, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Syria for sending troops in response to Saudi Arabia's request. And I salute Great Britain for dispatching fighter planes and the destroyer HMS York to the Persian Gulf. // Look to nations from Canada to Turkey to Australia. The cause of human dignity is indebted to all of them. // Think of the Soviet Union -- whose cooperation in the U.N. shows how fists once clenched in animosity can become hands joined in partnership.

A third lesson was also reaffirmed by the last eighteen days -- as veterans, it won't surprise you: The steadfast character of the American will. // Look to the sands of Saudi Arabia and the waters offshore -- where brave Americans are doing their duty. Just as you did at Inchon, Remagen, and Hamburger Hill. Think of the men and women aboard our planes and ships -- young, alone, and so very far from home. // Are they frightened? Probably. Yet they've overcome their fear -- which, after all, is the very definition of courage. They make us proud, and

humble -- and I salute the finest heroes any Nation could ever have. // Moreover, I pledge to you: We will do whatever it takes to help them complete their mission. // [Possible insert: announcement of selected reserve call-up.]

This means realizing the fourth lesson reaffirmed by the past eighteen days. Although the size of America's armed forces in the years ahead will be smaller because the threat to our security is changing, future American defense capacity must be even more -- "a lean, mean fighting machine."// By 1995, we estimate that our security needs can be met by an active force 25 percent smaller than today's -- the lowest level since 1950. Yet, we must ensure that a reduction of numbers does not mean a reduction in force. // Operation Desert Shield proves vividly that instead of reliving past contingencies, we must prepare for the challenges of the 1990s and beyond. By ensuring that our troops are ready, and trained, we can exert our presence in key areas -- and respond effectively to crisis. This is readiness measured in days and hours, not weeks and months. // Operation Desert Shield has underscored the need to be able to get our soldiers where they are needed, when they were needed. This kind of responsiveness will be critical in the crises of the future.

Last week, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, General Colin Powell, spoke to this when he praised "the finest peacetime military in the history of America." We will be smaller in troop strength, and restructured, but we will remain purposeful, proud and effective. // For evidence, look at the last eighteen days:

Desert Shield has been a classic case of America's military at its best. [[PERSONAL EXAMPLES TO COME]].

But the past eighteen days have also shown us the need for a continued strong defense budget to support our troops. // Or as George Washington said in his first inaugural address, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace." History has shown that the way to ensure war is for America to be militarily weak. What Desert Shield has shown is that America can ensure the peace that comes from being militarily strong. //

Now, I know we're operating in a time of budget restraint: We have limited resources -- we must use them wisely. The budget deficit is a threat to our vital interests at home, and won't be made easier by today's threat abroad. But we cannot attack the deficit by attacking the very heart of our armed forces -- committed men and women who are motivated and ready. // Last week, I asked Congress to do what we have done -- produce a budget proposal, including defense, that is both responsive and responsible and most of all. . .fair. When they do, I will listen -- listen, but not break faith with the troops I command. // Make no mistake: To stop aggression -- to keep America militarily prepared -- I will oppose the big Pentagon cutters who are out of tune with what our military needs to keep America secure and safe. //

Most Americans know that when it comes to national defense, finishing second means finishing last. So they reject what the

House Armed Services Committee recently suggested unacceptable cuts from our defense budget for Fiscal Year 1991. // They know that giving peace a chance does not mean taking a chance on peace. So they endorse what some have tried to kill: Peacekeeper, Midgetman, B-2 bomber, and Strategic Defense Initiative. // Americans want arms negotiations to succeed -- but they know that even a START treaty will not help our security if we disarm unilaterally. Let us never forget that our strong national defense policies have helped us gain the peace. We need a strong defense today to maintain that peace. // I will fight for that defense -- and I need your help. //

((Let me tell you a story about why I feel so strongly. I was talking to some of the young soldiers who liberated Panama -- and I asked one of them -- a medic -- about the operation. Corporal Roderick Ringstaff spoke of combat and the heroics of others -- but not of his own. So his commanding officer filled in the rest. This medic had been wounded, but repeatedly braved fire to rescue other wounded -- and was awarded the Silver Star for Bravery. Listening, I thought to myself: I will never send them into battle with less than the very best this nation can provide them. I will never -- ever -- let Americans like this down.)) //

August 1990 has witnessed what history will judge one of the most crucial deployments of allied power since World War II. Two weeks ago, I called for the complete, immediate, and unconditional withdrawal of all Iraqi forces from Kuwait; second,

the restoration of Kuwait's legitimate government; third, the security and stability of the Persian Gulf; and fourth, the safety and protection of American citizens abroad. Today, I say: Those objectives are, and will remain, unchanged. //

Will it take time? Of course. For we are engaged in a cause larger than ourselves. A cause perhaps best shown by a moment many of you remember -- and that I'd like to close with: D-Day -- June 6, 1944. As Dwight Eisenhower addressed the sailors, soldiers, and airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force. //

"You are about to embark," he told them, "upon a great crusade -- the eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you." And then Ike spoke this moving prayer: "Let us all beseech the blessing of almighty God, upon this great and noble undertaking."

Fellow veterans, more than half of all VFW members fought in World War II. Many of you serving under Dwight David Eisenhower. // You know how America remains the hope of "liberty-loving people everywhere." Half-a-century ago, the world had the chance to stop an aggressor, and missed it. I pledge to you: We will not make that mistake again. //

Together we can defeat tyranny -- and help those Nations who look to us for leadership and vision. Thank you for your support and your prayers. And may God bless the land we so deeply love - - these United States of America.

#

VFW ADDRESS
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990
10 A.M.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO JOIN YOU. AND A DEEP PERSONAL PLEASURE TO RENEW OLD TIES -- AND TO GREET NEW FRIENDS. // MY THANKS TO ALL OF YOU -- BUT ESPECIALLY TO WALTER HOGAN, DOING A GREAT JOB AS YOUR COMMANDER IN CHIEF. FOLLOWING THE LIKES OF LARRY RIVERS ISN'T EASY -- BUT WALTER'S DONE THE VFW PROUD. I ALSO KNOW WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE SAME KIND OF STRONG LEADERSHIP FROM JAMES KIMERY. AND LET ME OFFER MY THANKS AGAIN TO COOPER HOLT, A REAL LEGEND, WHO HAS GIVEN SO MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE VFW. COOPER -- WE MISS YOU. //

NEXT, I WANT TO THANK MY VETERANS' SECRETARY AND FELLOW VFW MEMBER ED DERWINSKI. // ED'S GOT SO MUCH GOING ON -- BUT I'M ESPECIALLY HAPPY TO SEE THE WORK HE'S DOING TO IMPROVE OUR VETERANS' HOSPITALS. HIS DEPARTMENT IS INTENT ON SERVING YOU -- MUCH AS YOU HAVE SERVED AMERICA. // AND, LET US REMEMBER THOSE WHO COULD NOT BE WITH US. OUR ADMINISTRATION WILL NOT FORGET OUR POWS/MIAS AS WELL AS THOSE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN ~~STILL ALIVE OR~~ WHO GAVE WHAT LINCOLN TERMED "THE LAST FULL MEASURE OF DEVOTION." //

LET ME ACKNOWLEDGE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, MICHAEL STONE, AND BALTIMORE MAYOR, KURT SCHMOKE. AND, YES, FINALLY, TODAY'S HONOREES, BUD DUDLEY, AND MY UNITED NATIONS AMBASSADOR TOM PICKERING, WHO'S BEING HONORED THIS EVENING. //

AS A VETERAN, I WANT TO SALUTE THIS ORGANIZATION ON ITS 91ST YEAR: BY SUPPORTING OUR NATION'S VETERANS, THE VFW HAS ENRICHED AMERICA. WELL, I'D LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT TO ASK YOUR SUPPORT FOR A MAN WHO, I'M CONVINCED, WILL ALSO ENRICH AMERICA. JUDGE DAVID SOUTER, MY NOMINEE FOR THE SUPREME COURT, IS AN EXCEPTIONAL JURIST -- AND A BRILLIANT LEGAL MIND. HE WILL BE A VOICE OF EXCELLENCE ON THE NATION'S HIGHEST COURT, AND I CALL ON THE SENATE TO CONFIRM HIM WITHOUT DELAY. //

THIS MORNING, I AM ALSO GRATEFUL TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS AN ISSUE OF GREAT CONCERN TO ALL AMERICANS: THE CRISIS IN THE PERSIAN GULF. // A CRISIS THAT WILL REQUIRE AMERICAN PLANNING, PATIENCE, AND PERSONAL SACRIFICE. BUT A CRISIS THAT WE MUST AND WILL MEET IF WE'RE TO STOP AGGRESSION, HELP OUR FRIENDS, AND PROTECT OUR OWN INTERESTS AND THE PEACE AND STABILITY OF COUNTRIES AROUND THE GLOBE. //

EIGHTEEN DAYS AGO, THESE BELIEFS PROMPTED ME TO TAKE ACTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST TO RESTORE THE SOVEREIGNTY OF KUWAIT AND DETER THOSE WHO THREATEN FRIENDLY COUNTRIES AND THE VITAL INTERESTS OF AMERICA. I ACTED KNOWING THAT OUR CAUSE WOULD NOT BE EASY --BUT THAT OUR CAUSE IS RIGHT. // AND THAT WHILE ONE SHOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE THOSE WHO ENDANGER PEACE -- AN EVEN GREATER MISTAKE WOULD BE TO UNDERESTIMATE AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO OUR FRIENDS WHEN OUR FRIENDS ARE IMPERILED. // OR OUR COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL ORDER WHEN THAT, TOO, IS IMPERILED.

TODAY, THE OUTCOME IS NOT YET DECIDED. HARD CHOICES REMAIN. BUT OF THIS WE ARE CERTAIN: AMERICA WILL NOT BE INTIMIDATED. // WHEN SOME ASK: WHERE DOES AMERICA STAND? OUR ANSWER IS: AMERICA STANDS WHERE IT ALWAYS HAS -- AGAINST AGGRESSION -- AGAINST THOSE WHO WOULD USE FORCE TO REPLACE THE RULE OF LAW. //

THROUGHOUT HISTORY, WE HAVE LEARNED THAT WE MUST STAND UP TO EVIL. IT IS A TRUTH WHICH THE PAST EIGHTEEN DAYS HAVE REAFFIRMED. ITS LESSONS SPEAK TO AMERICA, AND TO THE WORLD. //

THE FIRST LESSON IS AS VIVID AS THE MEMORIES OF NORMANDY, KHE SANH, AND PORK CHOP HILL. WE HAVE BEEN REMINDED AGAIN THAT AGGRESSION MUST -- AND WILL -- BE CHECKED. // SO, AT THE REQUEST OF OUR FRIENDS, WE HAVE SENT U.S. FORCES TO THE MIDDLE EAST -- RELUCTANTLY, BUT DECISIVELY. KNOWING, AS TEDDY ROOSEVELT SAID, THAT AMERICA "MEANS MANY THINGS. [AMONG THEM], EQUALITY OF RIGHTS AND, THEREFORE, EQUALITY OF DUTY AND OF OBLIGATION." //

YET WE ARE NOT ACTING ALONE -- BUT IN CONCERT --
HELPING TO PROTECT OUR OWN NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS
AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE BROADER COMMUNITY OF NATIONS.
WHICH BRINGS ME TO A SECOND LESSON REAFFIRMED BY THE
PAST EIGHTEEN DAYS. BY ITSELF, AMERICA CAN DO MUCH.
TOGETHER, WITH ITS FRIENDS AND ALLIES, AMERICA CAN DO
MUCH MORE -- FOR PEACE AND FOR JUSTICE. //

THINK BACK TO WORLD WAR II, WHEN TOGETHER ALLIES
CONFRONTED A HORROR WHICH EMBODIED HELL ON EARTH. OR
KOREA, WHERE UNITED NATIONS FORCES OPPOSED
TOTALITARIANISM. TODAY, ONCE AGAIN, NATIONS -- MANY OF
THEM MOSLEM -- HAVE JOINED TO COUNTER AGGRESSION AND,
THUS, RESTORE THE PEACE. //

OUR SAUDI FRIENDS, UNDER THE WISE LEADERSHIP OF KING FAHD, ASKED FOR OUR HELP IN DETERRING FURTHER AGGRESSION BY IRAQ. I SALUTE THE MANY COUNTRIES WHO HAVE COURAGEOUSLY RESPONDED TO SAUDI ARABIA'S REQUEST. I ALSO SALUTE THOSE GOVERNMENTS WHO ARE RESPONDING TO THE AMIR OF KUWAIT'S CALL FOR THE FULL ENFORCEMENT OF UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS. // WE MUST NOT DELUDE OURSELVES. IRAQ'S INVASION WAS MORE THAN A MILITARY ATTACK ON TINY KUWAIT. IT WAS A RUTHLESS ASSAULT ON THE VERY ESSENCE OF INTERNATIONAL ORDER AND CIVILIZED IDEALS. //

NOW, IN A FURTHER OFFENSE AGAINST ALL NORMS OF INTERNATIONAL BEHAVIOR, IRAQ HAS IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS ON INNOCENT CIVILIANS FROM MANY COUNTRIES. THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE. // THAT'S WHY THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL VOTED UNANIMOUSLY SATURDAY NIGHT TO CONDEMN IRAQ'S ACTION -- JUST AS IT EARLIER VOTED TO CONDEMN THE INVASION ITSELF. THEY KNOW -- AS WE DO -- - THAT LEADERS WHO USE CITIZENS AS PAWNS DESERVE -- AND WILL RECEIVE -- THE SCORN AND CONDEMNATION OF THE ENTIRE WORLD. //

TO THE LEADERS OF IRAQ I WILL NOW MAKE TWO CLEAR POINTS.

IN MOVING FOREIGN CITIZENS AGAINST THEIR WILL YOU ARE VIOLATING THE NORMS OF YOUR OWN RELIGION. YOU ARE GOING AGAINST THE AGE-OLD ARAB TRADITION OF SHOWING KINDNESS AND HOSPITALITY TO VISITORS. AND SO MY MESSAGE IS: RELEASE ALL FOREIGNERS NOW. GIVE THEM THE RIGHT TO COME AND GO AS THEY WISH. ADHERE TO INTERNATIONAL LAW AND U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 664.

WE HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO USE THE TERM "HOSTAGE." BUT WHEN SADDAM HUSSEIN SPECIFICALLY OFFERS TO TRADE THE FREEDOM OF THOSE CITIZENS OF MANY NATIONS HE HOLDS AGAINST THEIR WILL IN RETURN FOR CONCESSIONS, THERE CAN BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT, WHATEVER THESE INNOCENT PEOPLE ARE CALLED, THEY ARE IN FACT HOSTAGES.

I WANT THERE TO BE NO MISUNDERSTANDING. I WILL HOLD THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF AMERICAN CITIZENS HELD AGAINST THEIR WILL.

LET ME ALSO TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK PRESIDENT GORBACHEV FOR HIS RECENT WORDS CONDEMNING THE IRAQI INVASION. HE HAS SHOWN -- IF ANYONE DOUBTED IT -- THAT NATIONS WHICH JOINED TO FIGHT AGGRESSION IN WORLD WAR II CAN WORK TOGETHER TO STOP THE AGGRESSORS OF TODAY.

//

A THIRD LESSON HAS ALSO BEEN REAFFIRMED BY THE LAST EIGHTEEN DAYS -- AS VETERANS, IT WON'T SURPRISE YOU: THE STEADFAST CHARACTER OF THE AMERICAN WILL. // LOOK TO THE SANDS OF SAUDI ARABIA AND THE WATERS OFFSHORE -- WHERE BRAVE AMERICANS ARE DOING THEIR DUTY. JUST AS YOU DID AT ANZIO, INCHON, AND HAMBURGER HILL. THINK OF THE MEN AND WOMEN ABOARD OUR PLANES AND SHIPS -- YOUNG, ALONE, AND SO VERY FAR FROM HOME. // THEY MAKE US PROUD, AND HUMBLE -- AND I SALUTE THE FINEST SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AIRMEN, AND MARINES ANY NATION COULD EVER HAVE. // MOREOVER, I PLEDGE TO YOU: WE WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO HELP THEM COMPLETE THEIR MISSION.

//

THIS MEANS REALIZING THE FOURTH LESSON REAFFIRMED BY THE PAST EIGHTEEN DAYS. ALTHOUGH THE SIZE OF AMERICA'S ARMED FORCES IN THE YEARS AHEAD WILL BE SMALLER BECAUSE THE THREAT TO OUR SECURITY IS CHANGING, FUTURE AMERICAN DEFENSE CAPACITY MUST BE EVEN MORE "A LEAN, MEAN FIGHTING MACHINE."// BY 1995, WE ESTIMATE THAT OUR SECURITY NEEDS CAN BE MET BY AN ACTIVE FORCE 25 PERCENT SMALLER THAN TODAY'S -- THE LOWEST LEVEL SINCE 1950. YET, WE MUST ENSURE THAT A REDUCTION OF NUMBERS DOES NOT MEAN A REDUCTION IN AMERICAN STRENGTH.
//

OPERATION DESERT SHIELD PROVES VIVIDLY THAT INSTEAD OF RELIVING PAST CONTINGENCIES, WE MUST PREPARE FOR THE CHALLENGES OF THE 1990S AND BEYOND. BY ENSURING THAT OUR TROOPS ARE READY, AND TRAINED, WE CAN EXERT OUR PRESENCE IN KEY AREAS -- AND RESPOND EFFECTIVELY TO CRISIS. THIS IS READINESS MEASURED IN DAYS AND HOURS, NOT WEEKS AND MONTHS. // OPERATION DESERT SHIELD HAS UNDERSCORED THE NEED TO BE ABLE TO GET OUR SOLDIERS WHERE THEY ARE NEEDED, WHEN THEY ARE NEEDED. THIS KIND OF RESPONSIVENESS WILL BE CRITICAL IN THE CRISES OF THE FUTURE.

RECENTLY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS, GENERAL COLIN POWELL, SPOKE TO THIS WHEN HE PRAISED "THE FINEST PEACETIME MILITARY IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICA." WE WILL BE SMALLER IN TROOP STRENGTH, AND RESTRUCTURED, BUT WE WILL REMAIN PURPOSEFUL, PROUD AND EFFECTIVE. // JUST LOOK AT THE LAST EIGHTEEN DAYS: DESERT SHIELD HAS BEEN A CLASSIC CASE OF AMERICA'S MILITARY AT ITS BEST.

I THINK, FOR INSTANCE, OF AIRMAN FIRST CLASS WADE WEST, HOME ON LEAVE TO BE MARRIED. ON AUGUST 7, HE WAS CALLED UP. WITHIN AN HOUR HE HAD THE CEREMONY PERFORMED, LEFT FOR THE MIDDLE EAST, AND IS STATIONED NOW IN SAUDI ARABIA. TALK ABOUT A GUY WHO GETS THINGS DONE. // BUT I WOULD LIKE TO EMPATHIZE WITH THE BRIDE. // ANOTHER EXAMPLE: SEVEN YEARS AGO, DIANA KROPTAVICH [CROP-TA-VICH] WORRIED AT HOME WHILE HER HUSBAND, WALTER, STEAMED OFF THE LEBANON COAST ON THE USS NEW JERSEY DEFENDING THE MARINES. TODAY, THEIR ROLES ARE REVERSED. RETIRED, WALTER IS AT HOME WITH THEIR 6-YEAR-OLD SON; DIANA SERVES ABOARD THE DESTROYER USS YELLOWSTONE. // HERE'S AN ARMY COUPLE. TODAY, PARATROOPER JOSEPH HUDERT [WHO-DERT] OF THE 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION IS SERVING IN SAUDI ARABIA -- AND HIS WIFE, NURSE DOMINIQUE ALLEN OF THE 44TH MEDICAL BRIGADE, WILL BE DEPLOYED THERE WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. FINALLY, RECALL THE EIGHT-YEAR OLD WHO, WATCHING HER DAD LEAVE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN, SPOKE TRUTH FROM THE MOUTHS OF BABES. "I JUST THINK," SHE SAID, "THAT [THEY] SHOULDN'T LET DADDIES GO AWAY THIS LONG. BUT THEY STILL HAVE TO, TO KEEP THE WORLD SAFE." //

THESE PROFILES SHOW THE TRUE CALIBER OF AMERICA -- AND THE VITAL ESSENCE OF OUR MISSION. WHAT'S MORE, THEY REMIND US OF THE FIFTH AND FINAL LESSON REAFFIRMED BY THE PAST EIGHTEEN DAYS: THE NEED FOR A CONTINUED STRONG DEFENSE BUDGET TO SUPPORT AMERICAN TROOPS. OR AS GEORGE WASHINGTON SAID IN HIS FIRST INAUGURAL ADDRESS, "TO BE PREPARED FOR WAR IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTUAL MEANS OF PRESERVING PEACE." // HISTORY HAS SHOWN THE WISDOM OF HIS WORDS -- ESPECIALLY IN OUR CENTURY. WHAT DESERT SHIELD HAS SHOWN IS THAT AMERICA CAN ENSURE THE PEACE BY REMAINING MILITARILY STRONG. //

NOW, I KNOW WE'RE OPERATING IN A TIME OF BUDGET RESTRAINT: WE HAVE LIMITED RESOURCES -- WE MUST USE THEM WISELY. THE BUDGET DEFICIT IS A THREAT TO OUR VITAL INTERESTS AT HOME, AND WON'T BE MADE EASIER BY TODAY'S THREAT ABROAD. EVERYONE REALIZES THAT THE DEFICIT IS TOO LARGE -- THAT IT MUST BE BROUGHT DOWN -- AND THAT CONGRESS MUST ACT, COURAGEOUSLY AND IMMEDIATELY, WHEN IT RETURNS FROM RECESS.

BUT WE CANNOT ATTACK THE DEFICIT BY ATTACKING THE
VERY HEART OF OUR ARMED FORCES -- COMMITTED MEN AND
WOMEN WHO ARE MOTIVATED AND READY. // LAST WEEK, I
ASKED CONGRESS TO DO WHAT WE HAVE DONE -- PRODUCE A
BUDGET PROPOSAL, INCLUDING DEFENSE, THAT IS BOTH
RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE AND MOST OF ALL. . .FAIR.
WHEN THEY DO, I WILL LISTEN -- LISTEN, BUT NOT BREAK
FAITH WITH THE TROOPS WHO ARE DEFENDING OUR NATION. //
MAKE NO MISTAKE: TO PREVENT AGGRESSION -- TO KEEP
AMERICA MILITARILY PREPARED -- I WILL OPPOSE THE
DEFENSE-BUDGET SLASHERS WHO ARE OUT OF TUNE WITH WHAT
AMERICA NEEDS TO KEEP FREEDOM SECURE AND SAFE. //

MOST AMERICANS KNOW THAT WHEN IT COMES TO NATIONAL DEFENSE, FINISHING SECOND MEANS FINISHING LAST. SO THEY REJECT WHAT THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE RECENTLY SUGGESTED: UNACCEPTABLE CUTS FROM OUR DEFENSE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1991. // MOST AMERICANS KNOW, TOO, THAT GIVING PEACE A CHANCE DOES NOT MEAN TAKING A CHANCE ON PEACE. SO THEY ENDORSE GIVING THE MILITARY THE TOOLS TO DO ITS JOB: THE PEACEKEEPER, MIDGETMAN, B-2 BOMBER, AND THE STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE. // AMERICANS WANT ARMS NEGOTIATIONS TO SUCCEED -- BUT THEY KNOW THAT EVEN A START TREATY WILL NOT HELP OUR SECURITY IF WE DISARM UNILATERALLY. LET US NEVER FORGET THAT OUR STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE POLICIES HAVE HELPED US GAIN THE PEACE. WE NEED A STRONG DEFENSE TODAY TO MAINTAIN THAT PEACE. // I WILL FIGHT FOR THAT DEFENSE -- AND I NEED YOUR HELP. // HELP ME TO CONVINCING THE CONGRESS, GIVEN RECENT EVENTS, TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AND TO ADEQUATELY FUND OUR DEFENSE BUDGET.

((LET ME TELL YOU A STORY ABOUT WHY I FEEL SO STRONGLY. I WAS TALKING TO SOME OF THE YOUNG SOLDIERS WHO LIBERATED PANAMA -- AND I ASKED ONE OF THEM -- A MEDIC -- ABOUT THE OPERATION. CORPORAL RODERICK RINGSTAFF SPOKE OF COMBAT AND THE HEROICS OF OTHERS -- BUT NOT OF HIS OWN. SO HIS COMMANDING OFFICER FILLED IN THE REST. THIS MEDIC HAD BEEN WOUNDED, BUT REPEATEDLY BRAVED FIRE TO RESCUE OTHER WOUNDED -- AND WAS AWARDED THE SILVER STAR FOR BRAVERY. LISTENING, I THOUGHT TO MYSELF: I WILL NEVER SEND YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN INTO BATTLE WITH LESS THAN THE VERY BEST THIS NATION CAN PROVIDE THEM. // I WILL NEVER -- EVER -- LET AMERICANS LIKE THIS DOWN.)) //

AUGUST 1990 HAS WITNESSED WHAT HISTORY WILL JUDGE ONE OF THE MOST CRUCIAL DEPLOYMENTS OF ALLIED POWER SINCE WORLD WAR II. TWO WEEKS AGO, I CALLED FOR THE COMPLETE, IMMEDIATE, AND UNCONDITIONAL WITHDRAWAL OF ALL IRAQI FORCES FROM KUWAIT; SECOND, THE RESTORATION OF KUWAIT'S LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT; THIRD, THE SECURITY AND STABILITY OF SAUDI ARABIA, AND THE PERSIAN GULF; AND FOURTH, THE SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD. TODAY, I SAY: THOSE OBJECTIVES ARE, AND WILL REMAIN, UNCHANGED.//

WILL IT TAKE TIME? OF COURSE. FOR WE ARE ENGAGED IN A CAUSE LARGER THAN OURSELVES. A CAUSE PERHAPS BEST SHOWN BY WORDS MANY OF YOU REMEMBER -- WORDS SPOKEN BY ONE OF THE GREATEST AMERICANS OF OUR TIME TO ALLIED SAILORS, SOLDIERS, AND AIRMEN.

"THE EYES OF THE WORLD ARE UPON YOU," HE TOLD THEM. "THE HOPES AND PRAYERS OF LIBERTY-LOVING PEOPLE EVERYWHERE MARCH WITH YOU." AND THEN HE CONCLUDED WITH THIS MOVING PRAYER: "LET US ALL BESEECH THE BLESSING OF ALMIGHTY GOD, UPON THIS GREAT AND NOBLE UNDERTAKING."

FELLOW VETERANS, MORE THAN HALF OF ALL VFW MEMBERS FOUGHT IN WORLD WAR II -- MANY OF YOU SERVING UNDER THE MAN WHO SPOKE THOSE WORDS, DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER. // YOU KNOW HOW AMERICA REMAINS THE HOPE OF "LIBERTY-LOVING PEOPLE EVERYWHERE." HALF-A-CENTURY AGO, THE WORLD HAD THE CHANCE TO STOP AN AGGRESSOR, AND MISSED IT. I PLEDGE TO YOU: WE WILL NOT MAKE THAT MISTAKE AGAIN. //

TOGETHER, WE CAN SUCCESSFULLY OPPOSE TYRANNY --
AND HELP THOSE NATIONS WHO LOOK TO US FOR LEADERSHIP
AND VISION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND YOUR
PRAYERS. AND MAY GOD BLESS THE LAND WE SO DEEPLY LOVE
-- THESE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/16/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, FRIDAY, AUG. 17

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VFW ADDRESS
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990, 10 AM
(8/16 - 12:15 pm draft)

SUBJECT: _____

	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"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ANDERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CARNEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments/edits on the attached directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to my office no later than NOON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.
Thank you.

RESPONSE:

No comments

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

JC

(Smith/Garmey)
10 P.M.
August 19, 1990
A: VFW

SUGGESTED REMARKS: VFW ADDRESS
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990
10 A.M.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is a privilege to join you. And a deep personal pleasure to renew old ties -- and to greet new friends. // My thanks to all of you -- but especially to Walter Hogan, doing a great job as your Commander in Chief. Following the likes of Larry Rivers isn't easy -- but Walter's done the VFW proud. I also know we're looking forward to the same kind of strong leadership from James Kimery. And let me offer my thanks again to Cooper Holt, a real legend, who has given so many years of service to the VFW. Cooper -- we miss you. //

Next, I want to thank my Veterans' Secretary and fellow VFW member Ed Derwinski. // Ed's got so much going on -- but I'm especially happy to see the work he's doing to improve our veterans' hospitals. His Department is intent on serving you -- much as you have served America. // And, let us remember those who could not be with us. Our Administration will not forget our POWs/MIAs ~~still alive or~~ ^{as well as those brave men and women} who gave what Lincoln termed "^{the} ~~that~~ last full measure of devotion." //

Let me acknowledge Secretary of the Army, Michael Stone, and Baltimore Mayor, Kurt Schmoke. And, yes, finally, today's honorees, ¹ Bud Dudley, and my United Nations Ambassador Tom Pickering, who's being honored this evening. //

As a Veteran, I want to salute this organization on its 91st year: By supporting our Nation's veterans, the VFW has enriched America. Well, I'd like to take a moment to ask your support for a man who, *I'm convinced, will also* ~~can~~ enrich America. Judge David Souter, my nominee for the Supreme Court, is an exceptional jurist -- and ~~he has~~ a brilliant legal mind. He will be a voice of excellence on the *Nation's highest* Supreme Court, *and* I call on the ~~United States~~ Senate to confirm him *without delay.* ~~to the Nation's highest court.~~ //

This morning, I am also grateful to have the opportunity to discuss an issue of great concern to all Americans: the crisis in the Persian Gulf. // A crisis that will require American planning, patience, and personal sacrifice. But a crisis that we must and will meet if we're to stop aggression, help our friends, and protect our own interests and the peace and stability of countries around the globe. //

Eighteen days ago, these beliefs prompted me to take action in the Middle East to restore the sovereignty of Kuwait and deter those who threaten friendly countries and the vital interests of America. I acted knowing that our cause **would not be easy** --but **that our cause is right**. // And that while one should not underestimate those who endanger peace -- an even **greater mistake** would be to underestimate America's commitment to **our friends** when **our friends are imperiled**. // *Or our commitment to international order when that, too, is imperiled.*

Today, the outcome is not yet decided. Hard choices remain. But of this we are certain: **America will not be intimidated**. // When some ask: **Where does America stand?** Our answer is: **America**

stands where it always has -- against aggression -- against those who would use force to replace the rule of law. //

Throughout history, we have learned that we must stand up to evil. It is a truth which the past eighteen days have reaffirmed. Its lessons speak to America, and to the world. //

The first lesson is as vivid as the memories of Normandy, Khe Sanh, and Pork Chop Hill. We have been reminded again that aggression must -- and will -- be checked. // So, at the request of our friends, we have sent U.S. forces to the Middle East -- reluctantly, but decisively. Knowing, as Teddy Roosevelt said, that America "means many things. [Among them], equality of rights and, therefore, equality of duty and of obligation." //

Yet we are not acting alone -- but in concert -- helping to protect our own national security interests as well as those of the broader community of nations. Which brings me to a second lesson reaffirmed by the past eighteen days. By itself, America can do much. Together, with its friends and allies, America can do much more -- for peace and for justice. //

Think back to World War II, when together allies confronted a horror which embodied hell on earth. Or Korea, where United Nations forces opposed totalitarianism. Today, once again, Nations -- many of them Moslem -- have joined to counter aggression and, thus, restore the peace. //

Our Saudi friends, under the wise leadership of King Fahd, asked for our help in deterring further aggression by Iraq. I salute the many countries who have courageously responded to

Saudi Arabia's request. I also salute those governments who are responding to the Amir of Kuwait's call for the full enforcement of United Nations sanctions. // ~~Let's not kid ourselves.~~ ^{We must not delude} Iraq's invasion was more than a military attack on tiny Kuwait. It was a ruthless assault on the very essence of international order and civilized ideals. //

Now, in a further offense against all norms of international behavior, Iraq has imposed restrictions on innocent civilians from many countries. This is unacceptable. // That's why the United Nations Security Council voted unanimously Saturday night to condemn Iraq's action -- just as it earlier voted to condemn the invasion itself. ~~Nations including China and the Soviet Union, Cuba and Yemen, supported this most recent vote. They're demanding that Iraq change its behavior -- now.~~ They know -- as we do -- that leaders who use citizens as pawns deserve -- and will receive -- the scorn and condemnation of the entire world.

IF INSERT // ~~Incidentally, in that spirit,~~ let me thank President Gorbachev for his recent words condemning the Iraqi invasion. He has shown -- if anyone doubted it -- that Nations which joined to fight aggression in World War II can work together to stop the aggressors of today. //

A third lesson has also been reaffirmed by the last eighteen days -- as veterans, it won't surprise you: The steadfast character of the American will. // Look to the sands of Saudi Arabia and the waters offshore -- where brave Americans are doing their duty. Just as you did at Anzio, Inchon, and Hamburger

Me also take a moment to

Hill. Think of the men and women aboard our planes and ships -- young, alone, and so very far from home. // They make us proud, and humble -- and I salute the finest soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines any Nation could ever have. // Moreover, I pledge to you: We will do whatever it takes to help them complete their mission. //

This means realizing the fourth lesson reaffirmed by the past eighteen days. Although the size of America's armed forces in the years ahead will be smaller because the threat to our security is changing, future American defense capacity must be even more "a lean, mean fighting machine."// By 1995, we estimate that our security needs can be met by an active force 25 percent smaller than today's -- the lowest level since 1950. Yet, we must ensure that a reduction of numbers does not mean a reduction in American strength. //

Operation Desert Shield proves vividly that instead of reliving past contingencies, we must prepare for the challenges of the 1990s and beyond. By ensuring that our troops are ready, and trained, we can exert our presence in key areas -- and respond effectively to crisis. This is readiness measured in days and hours, not weeks and months. // Operation Desert Shield has underscored the need to be able to get our soldiers where they are needed, when they are needed. This kind of responsiveness will be critical in the crises of the future.

Recently, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, General Colin Powell, spoke to this when he praised "the finest peacetime

military in the history of America." We will be smaller in troop strength, and restructured, but we will remain purposeful, proud and effective. // Just look at the last eighteen days: Desert Shield has been a classic case of America's military at its best.

I think, for instance, of Airman First Class Wade West, home on leave to be married. On August 7, he was called up. Within an hour he had the ceremony performed, left for the Middle East, and is stationed now in Saudi Arabia. Talk about a guy who gets things done. // But I would like to ~~apologize to~~ ^{empathize with} the bride. // Another example: Seven years ago, Diana Kroptavich [CROP-ta-vich] worried at home while her husband, Walter, steamed off the Lebanon coast on the USS New Jersey defending the Marines. Today, their roles are reversed. Retired, Walter is at home with their 6-year-old son; Diana serves aboard the Destroyer USS Yellowstone. // Here's an Army couple. Today, Paratrooper Joseph Hudert [WHO-dert] of the 82nd Airborne Division is serving in Saudi Arabia -- and his wife, Nurse Dominique Allen of the 44th Medical Brigade, will be deployed there within the next two weeks. Finally, recall the eight-year old who, watching her dad leave for the Mediterranean, spoke truth from the mouths of babes. "I just think," she said, "that [they] shouldn't let daddies go away this long. But they still have to, to keep the world safe." //

These profiles show the true caliber of America -- and the vital essence of our mission. What's more, they remind us of the fifth and final lesson reaffirmed by the past eighteen days: The

need for a continued strong defense budget to support American troops. Or as George Washington said in his first inaugural address, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace." // History has shown the wisdom of his words -- especially in our century. What Desert Shield has shown is that America can ensure the peace by remaining militarily strong. //

Now, I know we're operating in a time of budget restraint: We have limited resources -- we must use them wisely. The budget deficit is a threat to our vital interests at home, and won't be made easier by today's threat abroad. Everyone realizes that the deficit is too large -- that it must be brought down -- and that Congress must act, courageously and immediately, when it returns from recess.

But we cannot attack the deficit by attacking the very heart of our armed forces -- committed men and women who are motivated and ready. // Last week, I asked Congress to do what we have done -- produce a budget proposal, including defense, that is both responsive and responsible and most of all. . .fair. When they do, I will listen -- listen, but not break faith with the troops ^{who are defending our nation.} ~~I command.~~ // Make no mistake: To ^{prevent} ~~stop~~ aggression - - to keep America militarily prepared -- I will oppose the defense-budget slashers who are out of tune with what America needs to keep ^{freedom} ~~democracy~~ secure and safe. //

Most Americans know that when it comes to national defense, finishing second means finishing last. So they reject what the

Help me to convince the Congress, given recent events, to take another look and to adequately fund our defense budget.

8

House Armed Services Committee recently suggested: unacceptable cuts from our defense budget for Fiscal Year 1991. // Most Americans know, too, that giving peace a chance does not mean taking a chance on peace. So they endorse giving the military the tools to do its job: The Peacekeeper, Midgetman, B-2 bomber, and the Strategic Defense Initiative. // Americans want arms negotiations to succeed -- but they know that even a START treaty will not help our security if we disarm unilaterally. Let us never forget that our strong national defense policies have helped us gain the peace. We need a strong defense today to maintain that peace. // I will fight for that defense -- and I need your help. //

((Let me tell you a story about why I feel so strongly. I was talking to some of the young soldiers who liberated Panama -- and I asked one of them -- a medic -- about the operation. Corporal Roderick Ringstaff spoke of combat and the heroics of others -- but not of his own. So his commanding officer filled in the rest. This medic had been wounded, but repeatedly braved fire to rescue other wounded -- and was awarded the Silver Star for Bravery. Listening, I thought to myself: I will never send young men and women into battle with less than the very best this nation can provide them. // I will never -- ever -- let Americans like this down.)) //

August 1990 has witnessed what history will judge one of the most crucial deployments of allied power since World War II. Two weeks ago, I called for the complete, immediate, and

unconditional withdrawal of all Iraqi forces from Kuwait; second, the restoration of Kuwait's legitimate government; third, the security and stability of Saudi Arabia, and the Persian Gulf; and fourth, the safety and protection of American citizens abroad.

Today, I say: Those objectives are, and will remain, unchanged.//

Will it take time? Of course. For we are engaged in a cause larger than ourselves. A cause perhaps best shown by words many of you remember -- words spoken by one of the greatest Americans of our time to Allied sailors, soldiers, and airmen.

"The eyes of the world are upon you," he told them. "The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you." And then he concluded with this moving prayer: "Let us all beseech the blessing of almighty God, upon this great and noble undertaking."

Fellow veterans, more than half of all VFW members fought in World War II -- many of you serving under the man who spoke those words, Dwight David Eisenhower. // You know how America remains the hope of "liberty-loving people everywhere." Half-a-century ago, the world had the chance to stop an aggressor, and missed it. I pledge to you: We will not make that mistake again. //

Together, we can ^{successfully oppose} ~~defeat~~ tyranny -- and help those Nations who look to us for leadership and vision. Thank you for your support and your prayers. And may God bless the land we so deeply love -- these United States of America.

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INSERT

To the leaders of Iraq I will now make two clear points.

In moving ^{foreign} citizens against their will you are violating the norms of your own religion. You are going against the age old Arab tradition of showing kindness and hospitality to visitors. And so my message is: "Release all foreigners now. Give them the right to come and go as they wish, ^{Adhere to} and ~~as~~ international law and UN Security Council Resolution 664 ~~demands~~."

~~Second,~~ I want there to be no misunderstanding. I will hold the Government of Iraq responsible for the safety and well-being of ~~every~~ American citizen ^S held against ^{their} ~~his or her~~ will.

5
(Smith/Garmey)
P.M.
August 18, 1990
A: VFW

SUGGESTED REMARKS: VFW ADDRESS
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990
10 A.M.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is a privilege to join you. And a deep personal pleasure to renew old ties -- and to greet new friends. // My thanks to all of you -- but especially to Walter Hogan, doing a great job as your Commander in Chief. Following the likes of Larry Rivers isn't easy -- but Walter's done the VFW proud. I also know we're looking forward to the same kind of strong leadership from James Kimery. And let me offer my thanks again to Cooper Holt, a real legend, who has given so many years of service to the VFW. Cooper -- we miss you. //

Next, I want to thank my Veterans' Secretary and fellow VFW member Ed Derwinski. // Ed's got so much going on -- but I'm especially happy to see the work he's doing to improve our veterans' hospitals. His Department is intent on serving you -- much as you have served America. // And, let us remember those who could not be with us. Our Administration will not forget our POWs/MIAs who gave what Lincoln termed "that last full measure of devotion." //

Let me acknowledge, too, Secretary of the Army, Michael Stone, and Baltimore Mayor, Kurt Schomoke. And, yes, finally, today's honorees. // Bud Dudley, and my United Nations Ambassador Tom Pickering, who's being honored this evening. And also somebody who's holding down our family fort -- and whom I've

spent some time with over the years. // Any of our kids will tell you she's the five-star general in our family. Believe me, when she gives the orders, an entire division clears out. // My wife, Barbara, thanks you for your extraordinary kindness. //

As a Veteran, I want to salute the VFW on its 91st year. And to note how we meet amid great challenges -- foreign and domestic. ((First, domestic. The United States Senate will soon consider the nomination as Supreme Court Justice of our superb candidate, David Souter. I call on the Senate to do its duty by confirming Judge Souter to the Nation's highest court.)) //

((Second, on the foreign scene, here's another challenge which only something like the Middle East can put into perspective. When an aide burst into my office in early August and said, "There's a dictator on the rampage," I replied, "I thought the Yankees already solved the Steinbrenner problem.")) //

This morning, I am grateful to have the opportunity to discuss a far greater and more serious problem: the crisis in the Persian Gulf. // A crisis that will require American planning, patience, and personal sacrifice. But a crisis that we must and will meet if we're to stop aggression, help our friends, and protect our own interest and the peace and stability of countries around the globe. //

Eighteen days ago, these beliefs prompted me to take action in the Middle East to restore the sovereignty of Kuwait and deter those who threaten friendly countries and the vital interests of

America. I acted knowing that our cause would not be easy --but that our cause is right. // And that while one should not underestimate those who endanger peace -- an even greater mistake would be to underestimate America's commitment to our friends when our friends are imperiled. //

Today, the outcome is not yet decided. Hard choices remain. But of this we are certain. America will not be deterred. // Instead, we will act to support the common code and rule of law that promotes cooperation instead of conflict. // We will preserve our economic vitality. // Above all, when some ask: Where does America stand? Our answer is: America stands where it always has -- against aggression -- against those who would use force to replace the rule of law. // And we are proud that so many friends and allies from all over the world are standing shoulder to shoulder with us. //

Throughout history, we have learned that we must stand up to evil. It is a truth which the past eighteen days have reaffirmed. Its lessons speak to America, and to the world. //

The first lesson is as vivid as the memories of Verdun, Normandy, Pork Chop Hill, Khe Sanh. We have been reminded again that aggression must -- and will -- be checked. // So we have sent U.S. forces to the Middle East -- reluctantly, but decisively. Knowing, as Teddy Roosevelt said, that America "means many things. [Among them], equality of rights and, therefore, equality of duty and of obligation." //

Yet we are not acting alone -- but in concert -- helping to protect our own national security interests as well as those of the broader community of nations. Which brings me to a second lesson reaffirmed by the past eighteen days. By itself, America can do much. Together, with its allies and friends, America can do much more -- for justice and for peace. //

Think back to World War II, where together allies confronted a horror which embodied hell on earth. Or Korea, where United Nations forces opposed totalitarianism. Today, even more, Nations -- many of them Moslem -- have joined to become protectors of peace. //

Our Saudi friends, under the brave leadership of King Fahd, asked for our help in defending against unprovoked aggression. I salute Egypt, Morocco, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Syria for sending troops in response to Saudi Arabia's request. And I salute Great Britain for dispatching fighter planes and the destroyer HMS York to the Persian Gulf. // Look to nations from Canada to Turkey to Australia. The cause of human dignity is indebted to all of them. // Think of the Soviet Union -- whose cooperation in the U.N. shows how fists once clenched in animosity can become hands joined in partnership. //

A third lesson was also reaffirmed by the last eighteen days -- as veterans, it won't surprise you: The steadfast character of the American will. // Look to the sands of Saudi Arabia and the waters offshore -- where brave Americans are doing their duty. Just as you did at Anzio, Inchon, and Hamburger Hill.

Sah Chde
2224

6

Shield has been a classic case of America's military at its best.

I think, for instance, of Airman First Class Wade West, home on leave to be married. On August 7, he was called up. Within an hour he had the ceremony performed, and left for the Middle East. Talk about a guy who get things done. // Or of an eight-year-old who, watching her dad's ship leave for the Mediterranean, spoke truth from the mouths of babes. "I just think," she said, "that the Navy shouldn't let daddies go away this long. But they still have to, to keep the world safe." //

Seven years ago, Diana Kroptavich [CROP-ta-vich] worried at home while her husband, Walter, steamed off the Lebanon coast on the USS New Jersey defending the Marines. Today, their roles are reversed. Retired, Walter is at home with their 6--year-old son; Diana serves abroad the Destroyer Tender USS Yellowstone. // Then, there's Don Fowler in the Saudi Arabian Control Center. Lieutenant Colonel Fowler was hard at work -- staying abreast of changes in his flying operation -- when he received a little note from a Kuwaiti refuge. The refuge didn't speak English well, but his note reached lyric eloquence. Know what it consisted of? A capital "I", a little heart, and the letters "USA." //

These profiles show the caliber of our troops and their families -- and the vital essence of our mission. And they remind us of the fifth and final lesson: The need for a continued strong defense budget to support these troops. // George Washington said in his first inaugural address, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace."

New info incorporated in this paragraph.

40 pm

Document No. 167327SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/16/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, FRIDAY, AUG. 17

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VFW ADDRESS BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

SUBJECT: MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990, 10 AM (8/16 - 12:15 pm draft)

Table with columns for names and checkboxes for ACTION and FYI. Includes names like VICE PRESIDENT, SUNUNU, SCOWCROFT, DARMAN, CARD, CICCONI, DEMAREST, FITZWATER, GRAY, HAGIN, HOLIDAY, MCCLURE, NEWMAN, PORTER, ROGICH, UNTERMAYER, ROGERS, PINKERTON, WINSTON, ANDERSON, CARNEY, PORTER ROSE.

REMARKS: Please provide comments/edits on the attached directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to my office no later than NOON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 17. Thank you.

RESPONSE: See Comments. Thank, Holly Williamson 8-17-90

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

(Smith/Garmey)
12:15 P.M.
August 16, 1990
A: VFW

90 AUG 16 P 1:14

SUGGESTED REMARKS: VFW ADDRESS
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990
10 A.M.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is a privilege to join you. And a deep personal pleasure to renew old ties -- and to greet new friends. // My thanks to all of you -- but especially to Walter Hogan, ^{who has done} ~~doing~~ a great job as your Commander in Chief. Following a legend like Cooper Holt isn't easy -- but you've picked a superb replacement. To both Walter and Cooper, a heart-felt salute. //

I also want to mention today's honorees. Major General James Fretland, Bud Dudley, and also somebody I've spent some time with over the years. // Any of our kids will tell you she's the five-star general in our family. Believe me, when she gives the orders, an entire division clears out. // My wife, Barbara.

Finally, I want to thank my ^{Veterans} ~~V.A.~~ Secretary and fellow VFW member Ed Derwinski. // Ed's got so much going on -- but I'm especially happy to see the work he's doing to improve our veterans' hospitals. His Department is intent on serving you -- much as you have served America. //

As a Veteran, I want to salute the VFW on its 91st year. And to note how we meet amid great challenges -- foreign and domestic. ((First, domestic. I have been deluged by a flood of recent inquiries. In response, I want you to know that Millie is fully recovered from a brief brush with lead poisoning. //

✓ (VA) Courtesy Commander

✓ (VA) recommend deleting these 2 sentences

Holt was an Exec. Director, not a Commander & has been gone for a year. James L. (Jim) Kimery is the new incoming commander.

✓ move away from saying "V.A."

((Barbara was pretty concerned -- but as all who work with John Sununu know, it wasn't the first time the words "get the lead out" have been heard around the White House.)) //

(HHS) has no strong objection against this, but notes it can be perceived as insensitive.

((Second, on the foreign scene, it takes something like the Middle East to put things into perspective. When an aide burst into my office in early August and said, "There's a dictator on the rampage," I replied, "I thought the Yankees already solved the Steinbrenner problem.")) //

I am grateful to have the opportunity to discuss a far greater and more serious problem: the crisis in the Persian Gulf. // A crisis that will require American planning, patience, and at times, personal sacrifice. But a crisis that we must meet if we're to stop aggression and protect our own freedom, and the peace and stability of countries around the globe. //

(OEA) not sure this is a threat to our (U.S.) freedom.

Twelve days ago, these beliefs prompted me to take action in the Middle East to preserve the sovereignty of Kuwait and deter the raw ambition of a renegade regime threatening the vital interests of America. I acted knowing that our cause might not be easy -- but that our cause is right. // And that while one should not underestimate the fanatical determination of extremists -- an even greater mistake would be to underestimate America's commitment to our friends whenever our friends are imperiled. //

Today, the outcome is not yet decided. Hard choices remain. But of this we are certain. America will not be deterred. // We

will not be bullied. // We will act to promote a common code and rule of law that promotes cooperation instead of conflict. // We will preserve our economic independence. // Above all, when some ask: **Where does America stand?** Our answer is: **We stand against those who would use force to replace the rule of law with the rule of the jungle.** //

Fifty years ago, of course, another oppressor tried to brutalize the family of Nations. In 1939, he could have been stopped. In 1945, he finally was, but at a terrible cost. // We learned -- you know your history -- that we must stand up to evil. It is a lesson which over the past twelve days has reaffirmed truths that speak to America, and to the world. //

The first truth is as vivid as the memories of Verdun, Normandy, Pork Chop ^{Hill, Khesan.} ~~Bataan~~. Put simply: Aggression, unchecked, leads to more aggression. **No one walks away from appeasing a bully. He only crawls.** // **We know if we don't stand up to our enemies, our enemies will be standing over us. And that if we betray our allies, we won't have any allies to betray.** // So we have sent U.S. forces to the Middle East -- reluctantly, but decisively. Knowing, as Teddy Roosevelt said, that "American means many things. [Among them], equality of rights and, therefore, equality ^{and} of obligation." //

Fifty years ago, an aggressor sought Austria and Czechoslovakia. Today, it's Kuwait -- tomorrow, who knows, Saudi Arabia and what else? We must stop such tyranny, and will. Acting not alone, but in concert, to protect our own national

✓
(Both VA)
It is
Pork Chop
Hill +
Khesan thought
a Vietnam
Reference
ie. Khesan
was where
you were
heading
on 4/15.

✓
(VA)
✓
(CAC)

security interests and global stability. Which brings me a second truth reaffirmed by the past twelve days. By itself, America can do much. With other allies, America can help freedom do more. //

Think back to World War II, where together allies confronted a horror which embodied hell on earth. Or Korea, where United Nations forces opposed totalitarianism. Today, even more, Nations have joined to become ambassadors of peace -- a cooperative force that will not stand by while one country mugs another. //

Look, for instance, at a bulwark of Operation Desert Shield. I salute Egypt, Morocco, and Great Britain for dispatching fighter planes and the destroyer HMS York to the Persian Gulf. // Look to nations from Canada to Turkey from Australia to Egypt. The cause of human dignity is in all of their debt. // Think even of the Soviet Union -- where Desert Shield shows how fists once clenched in animosity can become hands joined in partnership.

Next, we come to the ^{en A} third ^{is} truth reaffirmed by the last twelve days -- as veterans, it won't surprise you: The steadfast character of the American will. // Look to the sands of Saudi Arabia -- where brave Americans are doing their duty. Just as you did at ^{Normandy Incheon} ~~Okinawa, Remagen,~~ and Hamburger Hill. Think of the men and women aboard our planes and battleships -- young, alone, and so very far from home. // Are they frightened? Probably. Yet they've overcome their fear -- which, after all, is the very definition of courage. They make us proud, and humble -- and I

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SECRET

VFW ADDRESS
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990
10 A.M.

PG 4, NEW 2ND FULL GRAF

Look, for instance, at the bulwark of freedom exemplified in Operation Desert Shield. Our Saudi friends, under the brave leadership of King Fahd, asked for help in defending against Saddam's aggression. The United States, together with many of our NATO Allies and other friends, responded to the call. I salute Egypt, Morocco, France, and Great Britain for dispatching planes and ships and men to the Persian Gulf. Look to countries from Canada to Argentina, from Australia to Pakistan, to heed the call. The cause of human dignity is in all of their debt.// It is even possible the Soviet Union will join the ~~forces of freedom -- think how fists once clenched in animosity~~
~~can become hands joined in partnership.~~

*This remarkable display of international ~~solidarity~~
~~to oppose aggression~~ partnership to build a new
peaceful world order.*

salute the finest heroes any Nation could ever have. // Moreover, I pledge to you: We will do whatever it takes to help them complete their mission. //

This means realizing the fourth truth reaffirmed by the past twelve days. Although the size of America's armed forces in the years ahead will be smaller because the threat to our security is changing, America's defense capacity is, and must continue to be, "a lean, mean fighting machine."// By 1995, we estimate that our security needs can be met by an active force ^{Significantly} 25 percent smaller than today's -- the lowest level since 1950. Yet, ~~reduction in numbers must not mean reduction in force.~~ // That is what

(OOD) won't sell -- no free lunch.

(OOD)

Operation Desert Shield proves so vividly: Instead of reliving past contingencies, we're preparing for the challenges of the 1990s and beyond. By ensuring that our troops are ready, and trained, we can exert our presence in key areas -- and respond effectively to crisis. //

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Just look at how Operation Desert Shield has linked manpower with need -- we got our soldiers where and when they were needed -- not in weeks, but in days and hours.

release any use troops instal

//

Chairman of

of Staff

Last week, the ~~Commander~~ of the Joint Chiefs, General Colin Powell, spoke to this when he praised "the finest peacetime military in the history of America." Fewer in troop strength, but restructured, purposeful, and proud. //

(OOD) Colin

(OOD) inaccurate

But the past twelve days have also shown us the need for a strong defense budget to support our troops. // As George Washington said in his first inaugural address, "To be prepared

for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace." Well, as Desert Shield has shown: If the way to ensure war is for America to be militarily weak, today's defense "resources" can help America ensure the peace that comes from being militarily strong. //

Now, I know we're operating in a time of budget restraint: We have limited resources -- we must utilize them wisely. The budget deficit is a threat to our vital interests at home, and won't be made easier by today's threat abroad. But we cannot attack the deficit by attacking the very heart of our armed forces. // Last week, I asked Congress to do what we have done -- produce a budget proposal, including defense, that is both responsive and responsible. When they do, I will listen -- listen, but not break faith with the troops I command. // Make no mistake: To stop aggression -- to keep America militarily prepared -- I will oppose the big Pentagon cutters who are as much in tune with our defense needs as Roseanne Barr is with the National Anthem.//

Most Americans know that when it comes to national defense, finishing second means finishing last. So they reject what the House Armed Services Committee recently suggested -- a \$24 billion cut from our defense budget for Fiscal Year 1991. // They know that giving peace a chance does not mean taking a chance on peace. So they endorse ^{the actions proposed by the} ~~what~~ ultra-liberals; ^{the killing} ~~have tried~~ ^(CCA) ~~to kill:~~ The M-X, Midgetman, B-2, and Strategic Defense Initiative. // Americans want arms negotiations to succeed --

knowing an historic START treaty isn't feasible without these weapons systems. So recalling the adage, "Dance with the one who brung you," ^{the American people} they know that as our national defense policies have helped us gain the peace -- we need a strong defense today to maintain that peace. // I will fight for that defense -- and I need your help. //

((Let me tell you a story about why I feel so strongly. I was talking to some of the young soldiers who liberated Panama -- and I asked one of them -- a medic -- about the operation. He spoke of combat and the heroics of others -- but not of his own. So his commanding officer filled in the rest. This medic had been wounded, but repeatedly braved fire to pull out other wounded -- and was awarded the Silver Star for Bravery. Listening, I thought to myself: I will never -- ever -- let Americans like this down.)) //

August 1990 has witnessed what history will judge one of the most crucial deployments of allied power since World War II. In my speech of two weeks ago, I demanded the complete and unconditional withdrawal of all Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of Kuwait's legitimate government. Today, I say: Those objectives are, and will remain, unchanged.

Will it take time? Of course. For we are engaged in a cause larger than ourselves. A cause perhaps best shown by a moment many of you remember -- and that I'd like to close with: D-Day -- June 6, 1944. As Dwight Eisenhower addressed the

sailors, soldiers, and airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force.

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"You are about to embark," he told them, "upon a great crusade -- the eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you." And then Ike spoke this moving prayer: "Let us all beseech the blessing of almighty God, upon this great and noble undertaking."

Fellow veterans, more than half of all VFW members fought in World War II. Many of you serving -- as I did -- under Dwight David Eisenhower. // You know how America remains the hope of "liberty-loving people everywhere." Half-a-century ago, the world had the chance to stop an aggressor, and missed it. I pledge to you: We will not make that mistake again. //

✓ (Robert VA)
The President never served under Eisenhower

Together we can combat tyranny -- and help those Nations who look to us for leadership and vision. Thank you for your support and your prayers. And may God bless the land we so deeply love - - these United States of America.

#

Chriss -
These are
from Holly.
They are ^{additional} DOD's
Comments. The
ones that are
highlighted are
~~not included in~~
not included in
Cabinet Affairs Comments
Call Holly at
x6630 w/any questions

Aug
Bones on 6 Aug
but we on 2nd. Con't add
things 30 AUG 16 P1:14
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(Smith/Garney)
12:15 P.M.
August 16, 1990
A: VFW

SUGGESTED REMARKS: VFW ADDRESS
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990
10 A.M.

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pleasure to renew old ties -- and to greet new
thanks to all of you -- but especially to Walter
great job as your Commander in Chief. Following a
er Holt isn't easy -- but you've picked a superb
both Walter and Cooper, a heart-felt salute. //
to mention today's honorees. Major General
James Fretland, Bud Dudley, and also somebody I've spent some
time with over the years. // Any of our kids will tell you she's
the five-star general in our family. Believe me, when she gives
the orders, an entire division clears out. // My wife, Barbara.

Finally, I want to thank my V.A. Secretary and fellow VFW
member Ed Derwinski. // Ed's got so much going on -- but I'm
especially happy to see the work he's doing to improve our
veterans' hospitals. His Department is intent on serving you --
much as you have served America. //

As a Veteran, I want to salute the VFW on its 91st year.
And to note how we meet amid great challenges -- foreign and
domestic. ((First, domestic. I have been deluged by a flood of
recent inquiries. In response, I want you to know that Millie is
fully recovered from a brief brush with lead poisoning. //

((Barbara was pretty concerned -- but as all who work with John Sununu know, it wasn't the first time the words "get the lead out" have been heard around the White House.)) //

((Second, on the foreign scene, it takes something like the Middle East to put things into perspective. When an aide burst into my office in early August and said, "There's a dictator on the rampage," I replied, "I thought the Yankees already solved the Steinbrenner problem.") //

I am grateful to have the opportunity to discuss a far greater and more serious problem: the crisis in the Persian Gulf. // A crisis that will require ^g American planning, patience, and at times, personal sacrifice. But a crisis that we must meet if we're to stop aggression and protect ^{ok} our own ^{well being} freedom, and the peace and stability of countries around the globe.

The invasion occurred August 2

Twelve days ago

Twelve days ago, these beliefs prompted me to take action in the Middle East to preserve the sovereignty of Kuwait and deter the raw ambition of a renegade regime threatening the vital interests of America. I acted knowing that our cause might not be easy -- but that our cause is right. // And that while one should not underestimate the fanatical determination of extremists -- an even greater mistake would be to underestimate America's commitment to our friends whenever our friends are imperiled. //

with a friendly country and

Today, the outcome is not yet decided. Hard choices remain.

But of this we are certain. America will not be deterred. // We

Need more handwriting

Working with its many friends and allies,

will not be bullied. // We will act to promote a common code and rule of law that promotes separation instead of conflict. // We will preserve our economic independence. // Above all, when some ask: Where does America stand? Our answer is: We stand against those who would use force to replace the rule of law with

the rule of the jungle. // *And we are proud that so many friends and allies from all over the world are standing shoulder to shoulder with us.*
Fifty years ago, of course, another oppressor tried to

brutalize the family of Nations. In 1939, he could have been stopped. In 1945, he finally was, but at a terrible cost. // We learned -- you know your history -- that we must stand up to evil. It is a lesson which over the past twelve days has reaffirmed truths that speak to America, and to the world. //

The first truth is as vivid as the memories of Verdun, Normandy, Pork Chop, Bataan. Put simply: Aggression, unchecked, leads to more aggression. No one yalks away from appeasing a bully. He only crawls. // We know if we don't stand up to our

enemies, our enemies will be standing over us. And that if we betray our allies, we won't have any allies to betray. //

So we have sent U.S. forces to the Middle East -- reluctantly, but decisively. Knowing, as Teddy Roosevelt said, that "American means many things. [Among them], equality of rights and, therefore, equality and of obligation." //

Fifty years ago, an aggressor sought Austria and Czechoslovakia. Today, it's Kuwait -- tomorrow, who knows, Saudi Arabia and that side. *The security and independence of the Gulf States.* We must stop such tyranny, and will.

Acting not alone, but in concert, to protect our own national

King Fahd

stand up to bully to a line with that for good do over 40 years and transfer help

for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace." Well, as Desert Shield has shown: If the way to ensure war is for America to be militarily weak, today's defense "resources" can help America ensure the peace that comes from being militarily strong. //

Now, I know we're operating in a time of budget restraint: We have limited resources -- we must utilize them wisely. The budget deficit is a threat to our vital interests at home, and won't be made easier by today's threat abroad. But we cannot attack the deficit by attacking the very heart of our armed forces. // Last week, I asked Congress to do what we have done -- produce a budget proposal, including defense, that is both responsive and responsible. When they do, I will listen -- listen, but not break faith with the troops I command. // Make no mistake: To stop aggression -- to keep America militarily prepared -- I will oppose the big Pentagon cutters who are as much in tune with our defense needs as Roseanne Barr is with the National Anthem.//

Most Americans know that when it comes to national defense, finishing second means finishing last. So they reject what the House Armed Services Committee recently suggested -- a \$24 billion cut from our defense budget for Fiscal Year 1991. // They know that giving peace a chance does not mean taking a chance on peace. So they endorse what ultra-liberals have tried to kill: The ~~M-X~~, Midgetman, B-3^{bon/par}, ~~and~~ Strategic Defense Initiative^{the}. // Americans want arms negotiations to succeed --

and (the option) for ICBM modernization.

Approved by C.S.

VFW Update: August 16, 1990

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

add
Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a privilege to join you. And a deep personal pleasure to renew old ties-- and to greet new friends. // My thanks to all of you -- but especially to Walter Hogan, doing a great job as your Commander in Chief. Following the likes of Larry Rivers isn't easy -- but Walter's done the VFW proud. I also know we're looking forward to the same kind of strong leadership from James Kimery. And let me offer my thanks again to Cooper Holt, a real legend, who has given so many years of service to the VFW. Cooper -- we miss you. //

PAGE 1--2ND PARAGRAPH: after Bud Dudley, add: "my United Nations Ambassador Tom Pickering, who's being honored this evening. And also..."

PAGE 6--BOTTOM OF END GRAPH. "I will **oppose** the big Pentagon cutters in the Congress -- the same people, incidentally, who killed our Constitutional Amendment to protect the American flag. // Let me tell you: These folks are as much in tune with our defense needs as Roseanne Barr is with the National Anthem. //

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

2:52 pm ✓

August 17, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP* *1B/v*
SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: VFW Address Baltimore,
Maryland

We have two minor comments on pages two and six, as noted.
If you have any questions, please let me know.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/16/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, FRIDAY, AUG. 17

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VFW ADDRESS

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

SUBJECT: MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990, 10 AM
(8/16 - 12:15 pm 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"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ANDERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CARNEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments/edits on the attached directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to my office no later than NOON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 17.
 Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

(Smith/Garmey)
12:15 P.M.
August 16, 1990
A: VFW

90 AUG 16 P 1 : 14

SUGGESTED REMARKS: VFW ADDRESS
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1990
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what it takes to keep our

unparalleled in the world

What our military needs to keep America secure and safe.

out of

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- these United States of America.

#