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Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13551
Folder ID Number: 13551-013

Folder Title:
Christmas Message to the Armed Forces, 12/11/90

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 10, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *cw*
FROM: EDWARD E. McNALLY *EMM*
SUBJECT: CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE ARMED FORCES

I. SUMMARY

On Tuesday, December 11, at 2:15 p.m., you will videotape a message to U.S. Armed Forces stationed around the world. The taping will occur in the OEOB studio, Room 457.

II. DISCUSSION

The address (5 minutes, on teleprompter) pays tribute to our military for their part in the expansion of freedom and democracy around the world this year. To those serving in the Persian Gulf, there is a strong reminder of why they are there, and how America continues to firmly support their mission.

McNally/Simon
December 10, 1990
Draft 4 (B:TROOPS)

**PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETING TO THE TROOPS
ROOM 457, O.E.O.B.
TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 1990, 2:15 P.M.**

Merry Christmas, and Happy Holidays, to you who are standing watch around the world. Never have I been prouder of our troops. Never have I been prouder to be your Commander-in-Chief. Because in this season of peace, it is your commitment and your courage that makes peace possible.

We think of you on the snowy fields and runways of Europe where, thanks to you, millions are celebrating Christmas and Hanukkah openly for the first time in 45 years. We think of you off the coast of the Philippines, in Japan, and on the DMZ in Korea. Thanks to you, the seeds of democracy saw shelter from the winds of war, took root, and now promise a new day in the Pacific. We think of you in Panama, where lightning success last Christmas ended the reign of a despot and brought peace to a people. We think of you in the air, on the high seas, and at bases and embassies around the world, who kept our country untouched and at peace throughout the long winter darkness of the Cold War. Back home, some talk of the cost of war. But it is you who understand the price of peace.

Each Christmas Day, we close our eyes in prayer and think of what Harry Truman called "the humble surroundings of the nativity and how from a straw-littered stable, shone a light which for nearly 20 centuries has given men strength, comfort, and peace." It is distant in time but close within our hearts. Because on

this Christmas Day, hour by hour, hand in hand, Americans will send their prayers eastward across the ocean and halfway across the world -- not only to the town of Bethlehem -- but to the sands and shores where you stand in harm's way.

We're in the Gulf because the world must not reward aggression, because our vital interests are at stake, and because of the brutality and danger of Saddam Hussein. We're there backed by 12 U.N. resolutions -- and the forces of 25 other nations.

Barbara and I spent Thanksgiving with our men and women over there. When we got back, I spoke to the American people, told them of your bravery, and reminded them why we're there. First, I put the immorality of the invasion of Kuwait itself. I said I was deeply concerned about what has happened and is happening there: concerned about a ruthless despot's attempt to dominate a volatile and critical region; concerned about his efforts to acquire nuclear arms; and concerned that a promising era is threatened by an international outlaw.

And I told the American people something else: That we want peace -- not war -- and that I will do my level best to bring you home without a single shot fired. And let me say one other thing: The sacrifices you make will never be forgotten. America is behind you. The world is behind you. And history is behind you. When you come home -- and we hope it's soon -- you will be welcomed as what you are -- all-American heroes.

Today at the White House -- and all across America -- candles burn in remembrance of you and all our troops, across the

country, and around the world. There is no way Americans can forget the contribution you are making to world peace and to our country. Whenever we see "Old Glory" snapping in the breeze, we think of you. Whenever we hear the inspirational words of "The Star-Spangled Banner," we think of you. Whenever we enjoy the boundless opportunities of a free country, we think of you.

**History may make men. But you are making history. **

I think of Lt. Mary Danko, a flight nurse who volunteered for Saudi Arabia. Her husband, a C-130 navigator, was already flying in support of Desert Shield. When asked if leaving their baby with relatives was a hard thing to do, Mary said: "It's the right thing to do. We're needed." When asked: "But what about the kid?" Mary explained: "We're doing it for the kid." \\\

Mary's right. She knows that when peace and freedom triumph, it's not a triumph for one particular country or one particular people -- but a triumph for our children -- a triumph for all humankind. \\\

And so it is with the holidays. For tonight the star of Bethlehem and the candles of the Menorah will cast their light in American outposts around the world, with a timeless message of hope and renewal that radiates to people of all faiths. \\\ Each of you is precious. Each life is important because it touches so many other lives. And while you may be out of America's sight -- rest assured no matter where you serve you will never be out of America's heart. \\\

Merry Christmas -- Happy Hanukkah -- happy holidays to you
all. God keep you and watch over you. And God bless America.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/7/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 12/10/90 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO THE TROOPS

| | ACTION | FYI | | ACTION | FYI |
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| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SUNUNU | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input 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"/> | <u>ROGERS</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| DEMAREST | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>WINSTON</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>PINKERTON</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GRAY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>TREFRY</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HAGIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HOLIDAY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, December 10, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

90 DEC -7 PM 2:02

McNally/Simon
December 7, 1990
Draft Three (B:TROOPS)

**PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETING TO THE TROOPS
ROOM 457, O.E.O.B.
TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 1990**

Merry Christmas, and Happy Holidays, to you who are standing watch around the world. Never have I been prouder of our troops. Never have I been prouder to be your Commander-in-Chief. Because in this season of peace -- the world is at peace -- thanks in large part to your commitment and your courage.

We think of you on the snowy fields and runways of a Europe soon to be whole and free -- and where, thanks to you, millions are celebrating Christmas and Hanukkah openly for the first time in 45 years. We think of you off the coast of the Philippines, in Japan, and in the DMZ in Korea. Thanks to you, the seeds of democracy saw shelter from the winds of war, took root, and now promise of a new day in the Pacific. We think of you in Panama, where lightning success last Christmas ended the reign of a despot and brought peace to a people. We think of you in the air, on the high seas, and at bases and embassies around the world, who kept our country untouched and at peace throughout the long winter darkness of the Cold War. Back home, some talk of the cost of war. But it is you who understand the price of peace.

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We're in the Gulf because the world must not reward aggression, because our vital interests are at stake, and because of the brutality and danger of Saddam Hussein. We're there backed by 13 U.N. resolutions -- and the forces of 25 other nations.

Barbara and I spent Thanksgiving with our men and women over there. When we got back, I spoke to the American people, told them of your bravery, and reminded them why we're there. First, I put the immorality of the invasion of Kuwait itself. I said I was deeply concerned about all the hostages -- and especially our own beleaguered Embassy in Kuwait. The flag still flies there. But they are not the only Americans at risk. I'm also deeply concerned about Saddam's efforts to acquire nuclear arms.

And I told them something else: That we want peace -- not war -- and that I will do my level best to bring you home without a single shot fired. And let me say one other thing: As long as I am President, the sacrifices you make will never be forgotten. America is behind you. The world is behind you. And history is behind you. When you come home -- and we hope it's soon -- you will be welcomed as what you are -- all-American heroes.

Today at the White House -- and all across America -- candles burn in remembrance of you and all our troops, across the country, and around the world. There is no way Americans can

forget the contribution you are making to world peace and to our country. Whenever we see "Old Glory" snapping in the breeze, we think of you. Whenever we hear the inspirational words of "The Star-Spangled Banner," we think of you. Whenever we enjoy the boundless opportunities of a free country, we think of you.

**History may make men. But you are making history. **

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Mary's right. She knows that when peace and freedom triumph, it's not a triumph for one particular country or one particular people -- but a triumph for our children -- a triumph for all humankind. \\

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Merry Christmas -- Happy Hanukkah -- happy holidays to you all. God keep you and watch over you. And God bless America.

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DATE: 12/7/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 12/10/90 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO THE TROOPS

| | | 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 type="checkbox"/> | | NEWMAN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SCOWCROFT <i>boot leg</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | PORTER | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DARMAN <i>N/C</i> | <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"/> | | WINSTON | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | PINKERTON | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| HOLIDAY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, December 10, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

90 DEC -7 PM 2:02

McNally/Simon
December 7, 1990
Draft Three (B:TROOPS)

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TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 1990

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ADD NEW REWRITE OF PARAS 2&3:

Barbara and I spent Thanksgiving with our men and women in the Gulf. When we got back, I spoke to the American people, told them of your bravery, and reminded them why we're there. We are in the Gulf because the world must not reward the aggression of a brutal dictator, who -- armed to the teeth -- is threatening a critical region at a defining moment in history. We're there backed by 12 U.N. resolutions -- and the forces of 25 other nations.

END OF REWRITE

And I told them.....

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

90 OCT 9 P1:32

DATE: 12/7/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 12/10/90 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO THE TROOPS

| | ACTION | FYI | | ACTION | FYI |
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| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SUNUNU | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input 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"/> | <u>ROGERS</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| DEMAREST | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>WINSTON</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>PINKERTON</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GRAY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>TREFRY</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HAGIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HOLIDAY ✂ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

See comments. Thanks.
Holly Williamson
12-10-90

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

12/07/90
TODAY

McNally/Simon
December 7, 1990
90 DEC -7 PM 2:02 Draft Three (B:TROOPS)

PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETING TO THE TROOPS
ROOM 457, O.E.O.B.
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DATE: 12/7/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 12/10/90 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO THE TROOPS

| | ACTION FYI | | | ACTION FYI | |
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| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SUNUNU | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input 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"/> | UNTERMEYER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| DEMAREST | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | WINSTON | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | PINKERTON | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GRAY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | TREFRY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HAGIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

TO: JAMES W. CICCONI

The NSC staff has reviewed and recommend the attached changes on Presidential Video: Christmas Greetings to the Troops.

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

Brent Scowcroft

90 DEC -7 PM 2:02

McNally/Simon
December 7, 1990
Draft Three (B:TROOPS)

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TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 1990

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We think of you on the snowy fields and runways of a Europe ~~soon to be whole and free~~ and where, thanks to you, millions are celebrating Christmas and Hanukkah openly for the first time in 45 years. We think of you off the coast of the Philippines, in Japan, and ^{on} ~~in~~ the DMZ in Korea. Thanks to you, the seeds of democracy saw shelter from the winds of war, took root, and now promise ~~of~~ a new day in the Pacific. We think of you in Panama, where lightning success last Christmas ended the reign of a despot and brought peace to a people. We think of you in the air, on the high seas, and at bases and embassies around the world, who kept our country untouched and at peace throughout the long winter darkness of the Cold War. Back home, some talk of the cost of war. But it is you who understand the price of peace.

Each Christmas Day, we close our eyes in prayer and think of what Harry Truman called "the humble surroundings of the nativity" and how "from a straw-littered stable, shone a light which for nearly 20 centuries has given men strength, comfort, and peace." It is distant in time but close within our hearts.

Because on this Christmas Day, hour by hour, hand in hand, Americans will send their prayers eastward across the ocean and halfway across the world -- not only to the town of Bethlehem -- but to the sands and shores where you stand in harm's way.

We're in the Gulf because the world must not reward aggression, because our vital interests are at stake, and because of the brutality and danger of Saddam Hussein. We're there backed by 13 U.N. resolutions -- and the forces of 25 other nations.

Barbara and I spent Thanksgiving with our men and women over there. When we got back, I spoke to the American people, told them of your bravery, and reminded them why we're there. ~~First,~~ I put the immorality of the invasion of Kuwait itself. I said I was deeply concerned about ~~all the hostages -- and especially our own beleaguered Embassy in Kuwait. The flag still flies there. and critical region~~ ^{what has happened and is happening} ~~But they are not the only Americans at risk. I'm also deeply~~ ^{concerned that a promising new era is threatened by an international outlaw} concerned about ~~Saddam's~~ ^{his} efforts to acquire nuclear arms. And I told ~~them~~ ^{the American people} something else: That we want peace -- not war -- and that I will do my level best to bring you home without a single shot fired. And let me say one other thing: ~~As long as I am President,~~ the sacrifices you make will never be forgotten. America is behind you. The world is behind you. And history is behind you. When you come home -- and we hope it's soon -- you will be welcomed ~~as~~ ^{for} what you are -- all-American heroes.

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History may make men. But you are making history. \\\

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of you is precious. Each life is important because it touches many other lives. And ^{rest assured no matter where you serve,} while you ~~may be~~ ^{are never} out of America's ~~thoughts~~ ^{thoughts} -- ~~you will never be~~ ^{or} out of America's heart. \\\

Merry Christmas -- Happy Hanukkah -- happy holidays to all. God keep you and watch over you. And God bless America.

#

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT STAFFING DOCUMENT**

TIME STAMP

17 84. 06

SYSTEM LOG NUMBER: 9614

ACTION OFFICER: HAYDEN DUE: 10:00 AM 10 DEC 50

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Memo For Scowcroft/Gates | <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Memo For Cicconi | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Memo for Sittmann |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare Memo <u>Scowcroft</u> | to <u>Winston w/iso Cicconi</u> |

CONCURRENCES/COMMENTS* PHONE* to action officer at ext. 4970

| Concur | FYI | | Concur | FYI | | Concur | FYI | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Barth | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hutchings | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Poneman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Basora | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jackson | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Popadiuk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Beers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Johnson | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pryce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Broome | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Kanter | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rademaker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Burns | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Kitchen | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Rice |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Coulson | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lundsager | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tobey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Davis | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Melby | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Van Eron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Deal | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Menan | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Watson |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Frasure | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Needles | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Wilson |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Gordon | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Paal | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Zelikow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Gompert | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pacelli | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Haass | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pavitt | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hayden | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pilling | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |

- INFORMATION Sittmann Hill Exec Sec Desk
 Scowcroft (advance) Gates (advance) Secretariat

COMMENTS

Logged By [Signature]

Return to Secretariat
379 OEOB

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

90 OCT 9 12:02

DATE: 12/7/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 12/10/90 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO THE TROOPS

| | 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 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"/> | <u>ROGERS</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| DEMAREST | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>WINSTON</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>PINKERTON</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GRAY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>TREFRY</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HAGIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HOLIDAY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, December 10, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *No comment*

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

90 DEC -7 PM 2:02

McNally/Simon
December 7, 1990
Draft Three (B:TROOPS)

**PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETING TO THE TROOPS
ROOM 457, O.E.O.B.
TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 1990**

Merry Christmas, and Happy Holidays, to you who are standing watch around the world. Never have I been prouder of our troops. Never have I been prouder to be your Commander-in-Chief. Because in this season of peace -- the world is at peace -- thanks in large part to your commitment and your courage.

We think of you on the snowy fields and runways of a Europe soon to be whole and free -- and where, thanks to you, millions are celebrating Christmas and Hanukkah openly for the first time in 45 years. We think of you off the coast of the Philippines, in Japan, and in the DMZ in Korea. Thanks to you, the seeds of democracy saw shelter from the winds of war, took root, and now promise of a new day in the Pacific. We think of you in Panama, where lightning success last Christmas ended the reign of a despot and brought peace to a people. We think of you in the air, on the high seas, and at bases and embassies around the world, who kept our country untouched and at peace throughout the long winter darkness of the Cold War. Back home, some talk of the cost of war. But it is you who understand the price of peace.

Each Christmas Day, we close our eyes in prayer and think of what Harry Truman called "the humble surroundings of the nativity" and how "from a straw-littered stable, shone a light which for nearly 20 centuries has given men strength, comfort, and peace." It is distant in time but close within our hearts.

Because on this Christmas Day, hour by hour, hand in hand, Americans will send their prayers eastward across the ocean and halfway across the world -- not only to the town of Bethlehem -- but to the sands and shores where you stand in harm's way.

We're in the Gulf because the world must not reward aggression, because our vital interests are at stake, and because of the brutality and danger of Saddam Hussein. We're there backed by 13 U.N. resolutions -- and the forces of 25 other nations.

Barbara and I spent Thanksgiving with our men and women over there. When we got back, I spoke to the American people, told them of your bravery, and reminded them why we're there. First, I put the immorality of the invasion of Kuwait itself. I said I was deeply concerned about all the hostages -- and especially our own beleaguered Embassy in Kuwait. The flag still flies there. But they are not the only Americans at risk. I'm also deeply concerned about Saddam's efforts to acquire nuclear arms.

And I told them something else: That we want peace -- not war -- and that I will do my level best to bring you home without a single shot fired. And let me say one other thing: As long as I am President, the sacrifices you make will never be forgotten. America is behind you. The world is behind you. And history is behind you. When you come home -- and we hope it's soon -- you will be welcomed as what you are -- all-American heroes.

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**History may make men. But you are making history. **

I think of Lt. Mary Danko, a flight nurse who volunteered for Saudi Arabia. Her husband, a C-130 navigator, was already flying in support of Desert Shield. When asked if leaving their baby with relatives was a hard thing to do, Mary said: "It's the right thing to do. We're needed." When asked: "But what about the kid?" Mary explained: "We're doing it for the kid." \\\

Mary's right. She knows that when peace and freedom triumph, it's not a triumph for one particular country or one particular people -- but a triumph for our children -- a triumph for all humankind. \\\

And so it is with the holidays. For tonight the star of Bethlehem and the candles of the Menorah will cast their light in American outposts around the world, with a timeless message of hope and renewal that radiates to people of all faiths. \\\ Each of you is precious. Each life is important because it touches so many other lives. And while you may be out of America's sight -- you will never be out of America's heart. \\\

Merry Christmas -- Happy Hanukkah -- happy holidays to you all. God keep you and watch over you. And God bless America.

#

McNally edits

McNally/Simon
December 7, 1990
Draft Three (B:TROOPS)

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What does NSC say about hostage status? Are all our people really clear?

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DATE: 12/7/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 12/10/90 NOON

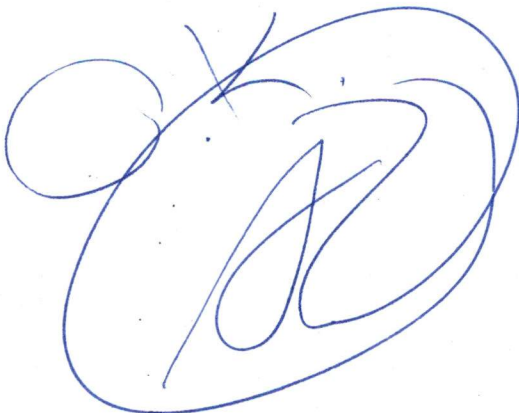
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO THE TROOPS

| | 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 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"/> |
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| DEMAREST | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | WINSTON | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | PINKERTON | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GRAY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | TREFRY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| HOLIDAY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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RESPONSE:



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

90 DEC -7 PM 2:02

McNally/Simon
December 7, 1990
Draft Three (B:TROOPS)

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

90 OCT 9 9:45

DATE: 12/7/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 12/10/90 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO THE TROOPS

| | 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 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"/> | WINSTON | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | PINKERTON | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GRAY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | TREFRY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HAGIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HOLIDAY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

Concur as written
Richard G. Trefry
LTG USA Ret
mil asst to the Pres.

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

90 DEC -7 PM 2:02

McNally/Simon
December 7, 1990
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TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 1990**

Merry Christmas, and Happy Holidays, to you who are standing watch around the world. Never have I been prouder of our troops. Never have I been prouder to be your Commander-in-Chief. Because in this season of peace -- the world is at peace -- thanks in large part to your commitment and your courage.

We think of you on the snowy fields and runways of a Europe soon to be whole and free -- and where, thanks to you, millions are celebrating Christmas and Hanukkah openly for the first time in 45 years. We think of you off the coast of the Philippines, in Japan, and in the DMZ in Korea. Thanks to you, the seeds of democracy saw shelter from the winds of war, took root, and now promise of a new day in the Pacific. We think of you in Panama, where lightning success last Christmas ended the reign of a despot and brought peace to a people. We think of you in the air, on the high seas, and at bases and embassies around the world, who kept our country untouched and at peace throughout the long winter darkness of the Cold War. Back home, some talk of the cost of war. But it is you who understand the price of peace.

Each Christmas Day, we close our eyes in prayer and think of what Harry Truman called "the humble surroundings of the nativity" and how "from a straw-littered stable, shone a light which for nearly 20 centuries has given men strength, comfort, and peace." It is distant in time but close within our hearts.

Because on this Christmas Day, hour by hour, hand in hand, Americans will send their prayers eastward across the ocean and halfway across the world -- not only to the town of Bethlehem -- but to the sands and shores where you stand in harm's way.

We're in the Gulf because the world must not reward aggression, because our vital interests are at stake, and because of the brutality and danger of Saddam Hussein. We're there backed by 13 U.N. resolutions -- and the forces of 25 other nations.

Barbara and I spent Thanksgiving with our men and women over there. When we got back, I spoke to the American people, told them of your bravery, and reminded them why we're there. First, I put the immorality of the invasion of Kuwait itself. I said I was deeply concerned about all the hostages -- and especially our own beleaguered Embassy in Kuwait. The flag still flies there. But they are not the only Americans at risk. I'm also deeply concerned about Saddam's efforts to acquire nuclear arms.

And I told them something else: That we want peace -- not war -- and that I will do my level best to bring you home without a single shot fired. And let me say one other thing: As long as I am President, the sacrifices you make will never be forgotten. America is behind you. The world is behind you. And history is behind you. When you come home -- and we hope it's soon -- you will be welcomed as what you are -- all-American heroes.

Today at the White House -- and all across America -- candles burn in remembrance of you and all our troops, across the country, and around the world. There is no way Americans can

forget the contribution you are making to world peace and to our country. Whenever we see "Old Glory" snapping in the breeze, we think of you. Whenever we hear the inspirational words of "The Star-Spangled Banner," we think of you. Whenever we enjoy the boundless opportunities of a free country, we think of you. History may make men. But you are making history. \\\

I think of Lt. Mary Danko, a flight nurse who volunteered for Saudi Arabia. Her husband, a C-130 navigator, was already flying in support of Desert Shield. When asked if leaving their baby with relatives was a hard thing to do, Mary said: "It's the right thing to do. We're needed." When asked: "But what about the kid?" Mary explained: "We're doing it for the kid." \\\

Mary's right. She knows that when peace and freedom triumph, it's not a triumph for one particular country or one particular people -- but a triumph for our children -- a triumph for all humankind. \\
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And so it is with the holidays. For tonight the star of Bethlehem and the candles of the Menorah will cast their light in American outposts around the world, with a timeless message of hope and renewal that radiates to people of all faiths. \\
 \ Each of you is precious. Each life is important because it touches so many other lives. And while you may be out of America's sight -- you will never be out of America's heart. \\\

Merry Christmas -- Happy Hanukkah -- happy holidays to you all. God keep you and watch over you. And God bless America.

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McNally/Simon
December 7, 1990
Draft Three (B:TROOPS)

**PRESIDENTIAL VIDEO: CHRISTMAS GREETING TO THE TROOPS
ROOM 457, O.E.O.B.
TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 1990**

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