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Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13555
Folder ID Number: 13555-007

Folder Title:
Veterans Bills Signing 2/6/91 [OA 6029]

Stack:

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Row:

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Section:

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Shelf:

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Position:

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**VETERANS BILLS SIGNING \ THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991 \ 11:15 A.M.**

**GOOD MORNING. IT'S A PLEASURE -- ONCE AGAIN -- TO
HAVE SO MANY FAMILIAR FACES HERE TODAY REPRESENTING
AMERICA'S VETERANS. IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO SEE
SECRETARY DERWINSKI; AS WELL AS THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
WHO WERE SO INSTRUMENTAL IN THE PASSAGE OF THIS
LEGISLATION: CONGRESSMEN SONNY MONTGOMERY AND BOB
STUMP; AND SENATORS ARLEN SPECTOR AND BOB GRAHAM.**

*Jen. Murkowski
Frank*

- 2 -

**FROM MIDWAY TO NORMANDY; FROM INCHON TO KHE SANH;
TO LAST WEEK'S BATTLE OF KHAFJI, AMERICAN MARINES,
SOLDIERS, AIRMEN, SAILORS AND COASTGUARDSMEN HAVE GIVEN
"THEIR LIVES, THEIR FORTUNES AND THEIR SACRED HONOR" TO
KEEP FREEDOM SAFE. AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN ARE FIGHTING
FOR PEACE TODAY AS WE DID THEN, BECAUSE AMERICA MUST
LEAD IN DETERRING AND DEFEATING AGGRESSION.**

WE ARE HERE TODAY TO ENSURE THAT OUR NATION WILL EVER REMEMBER THOSE WHO DEFENDED HER -- THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO STOOD WHERE DUTY REQUIRED THEM TO STAND.

IT IS MY HONOR TODAY TO SIGN INTO LAW TWO BILLS WHICH GIVE VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES THE COMPENSATION THEY DESERVE. THE FIRST, HR 3, PROVIDES FOR A 1991 COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT; THE SECOND, HR 556, CODIFIES OUR ADMINISTRATION'S REGULATIONS FOR COMPENSATION FOR THREE DISEASES.

IT ALSO RELIES ON INDEPENDENT SCIENCE, WITH THE HELP OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, TO SETTLE THE TROUBLING QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE EFFECT ON VETERANS OF EXPOSURE TO HERBICIDES USED DURING THE VIETNAM WAR. THIS IS A CONTINUATION OF OUR POLICY OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS TO DEAL WITH THIS COMPLEX ISSUE IN A FAIR AND COMPASSIONATE WAY.

AND I WANT TO SALUTE THOSE WHO ENSURED THAT IN THE
END, A BIPARTISAN SPIRIT PREVAILED TO PASS THESE
IMPORTANT PIECES OF LEGISLATION. THESE TWO BILLS MEET
THE CRITICAL NEEDS OF OUR VETERANS -- AND WILL BUILD
THE CONFIDENCE OF TOMORROW'S VETERANS THAT THEY AND
THEIR LOVED ONES WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN.

A GRATEFUL NATION SALUTES ALL OUR VETERANS FOR THE
DIFFERENCE THEY HAVE MADE IN THE HISTORY OF THIS
COUNTRY, AND OF THE WORLD.



OUR ALLIED FORCES ARE SACRIFICING MUCH TODAY IN PURSUIT
OF PEACE TOMORROW, AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE BEHIND
THEM FOURSQUARE. I THINK EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM IS AS
PROUD OF THEM AS I AM. //

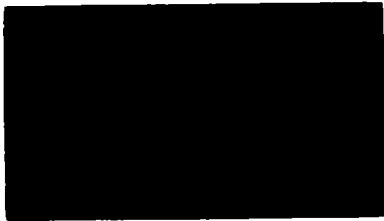
EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM HAS VOLUNTEERED TO
SERVE. THEY ARE STANDING AGAINST A DICTATOR WHO MUST
BE STOPPED. THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN OF DESERT STORM
KNOW -- WHEN THE FORCES OF AGGRESSION ARISE, AMERICA
STANDS READY TO DO THE HARD WORK OF FREEDOM.

THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.

* * * *

NOW I WILL SIGN THESE BILLS INTO LAW.

#



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Tina
91 FEB -5 PM 6:37

February 5, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *lw*
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *mcg*
SUBJECT: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING CEREMONY

OK with changes

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your review are brief remarks for the Veterans bills signing ceremony, to be held tomorrow, February 6, in the Roosevelt Room at 11:15 a.m. Secretary Derwinski, several Members of Congress, and representatives from two dozen veterans groups will be present.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (5 minutes/speechcards) discuss the bills: the first is HR 3, the 1991 cost-of-living adjustment for veterans and their families; the second is HR 556, which compensates veterans who suffer from diseases linked to Agent Orange. You also discuss the soon-to-be veterans who are fighting in the Persian Gulf.

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
6:00 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today representing America's veterans. It's always a pleasure to see Secretary Derwinski; as well as the Members of Congress who were so instrumental in the passage of this legislation: Congressmen Sonny Montgomery and Bob Stump; and Senators Arlen Specter [and Bob Graham].

From Midway to Normandy; from Inchon to Khe Sanh; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coastguardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

~~So many of you have seen combat, that most gut wrenching of~~
~~all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it.~~
But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their families the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living adjustment; the second, HR 556, is a compromise which relies on independent science to settle the troubling questions concerning the effect

on veterans of exposure to herbicides used during the Vietnam War. This is a continuation of our policy over the past two years to deal with this complex issue in a fair and compassionate way. The bill moves to codify the decisions of Secretary Derwinski and use the expertise of the National Academy of Sciences.

And I want to salute those who ensured that in the end, a bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass these important pieces of legislation. These two bills meet the critical needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just and noble, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, not one man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to ~~stand~~ ^{serve} against a dictator who must be stopped, ~~each has gone to stand up for~~ ^{This one standing} ~~what is moral and right in the world~~. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- ~~as we knew when we faced similar evils in~~

~~our time~~ -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

0895

Document No. 210446SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 FEB 6 A6:54

DATE: 2/5/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

SUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☒
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☒
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	TREFRY	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	FIRESTONE	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide comments and edits directly to
Chriss Winston, Room 122, x2930, with a copy
to this office, by 5:00P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

February 5, 1991

RESPONSE: The National Security Council staff has reviewed and has recommended changes to the Presidential remarks as noted.

Brent Scowcroft
Brent Scowcroft

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

RECEIVED

91 FEB 5 P 2: 34

01 FEB 8 10: 24

91 FEB -5 PM 12:58

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today, [acknowledgements/joke].

From Normandy to Midway; from Inchon to Khe Sahn; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coast Guardsmen have given "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor" to keep freedom safe. *American men and women are* ~~We are~~ fighting for peace today as *we* ~~they~~ did then, because America must lead, *in deterring and defeating aggression.* ~~as we always have.~~

Question: will they all be combat veterans? If not, then perhaps it's better to begin: "We have seen combat."
(~~All of you --~~) all of us ~~we~~ have seen combat, that most gut-wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. ~~But we~~ are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their widows the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living allowance; the second, HR 556, gives monies for compensation and research for veterans suffering from diseases associated with agent orange exposure.

I want to acknowledge the hard work of both the House and the Senate in the tough negotiations over this legislation. And I want to salute the Members who ensured that in the end, a

bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass this important legislation. These two bills meet the urgent needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just, ^{moral and right,} ~~and noble,~~ and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. // ^{we are fighting ~~WWWW~~ on our ~~own~~ ^{timetable.}}

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, ^{our campaign is on track and we will prevail. ✓ And let me emphasize that} not ^{a single} ~~one~~ man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will ~~not~~ have to fight with one hand tied ~~behind~~ ^{on} their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against an aggressor who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as ^{you} ~~we~~ knew when ^{you} ~~we~~ faced similar evils in ^{your} time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 02/05/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING CEREMONY
(02/05 6:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☐	☒
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☐	☒	PORTER	☐	☒
DARMAN	☐	☒	ROGICH	☐	☒
BRADY	☐	☒	UNTERMEYER	☐	☐
CARD	☐	☒	<u>ROGERS</u>	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☐	☒	<u>TREFRY</u>	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	<u>FIRESTONE</u>	☐	☒
GRAY	☐	☒	<u>WINSTON</u>	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☐	☒	_____	☐	☐

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

91 FEB -5 PM 6:37

February 5, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *lw*
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MLG*
SUBJECT: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your review are brief remarks for the Veterans bills signing ceremony, to be held tomorrow, February 6, in the Roosevelt Room at 11:15 a.m. Secretary Derwinski, several Members of Congress, and representatives from two dozen veterans groups will be present.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (5 minutes/speechcards) discuss the bills: the first is HR 3, the 1991 cost-of-living adjustment for veterans and their families; the second is HR 556, which compensates veterans who suffer from diseases linked to Agent Orange. You also discuss the soon-to-be veterans who are fighting in the Persian Gulf.

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
6:00 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today representing America's veterans. It's always a pleasure to see Secretary Derwinski; as well as the Members of Congress who were so instrumental in the passage of this legislation: Congressmen Sonny Montgomery and Bob Stump; and Senators Arlen Specter [and Bob Graham].

From Midway to Normandy; from Inchon to Khe Sanh; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coastguardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

So many of you have seen combat, that most gut wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their families the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living adjustment; the second, HR 556, is a compromise which relies on independent science to settle the troubling questions concerning the effect

on veterans of exposure to herbicides used during the Vietnam War. This is a continuation of our policy over the past two years to deal with this complex issue in a fair and compassionate way. The bill moves to codify the decisions of Secretary Derwinski and use the expertise of the National Academy of Sciences.

And I want to salute those who ensured that in the end, a bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass these important pieces of legislation. These two bills meet the critical needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just and noble, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, not one man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against a dictator who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as we knew when we faced similar evils in

our time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

Tina

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 5, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *lw*
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *mkg*
SUBJECT: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your review are brief remarks for the Veterans bills signing ceremony, to be held tomorrow, February 6, in the Roosevelt Room at 11:15 a.m. Secretary Derwinski, several Members of Congress, and representatives from two dozen veterans groups will be present.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (5 minutes/speechcards) discuss the bills: the first is HR 3, the 1991 cost-of-living adjustment for veterans and their families; the second is HR 556, which compensates veterans who suffer from diseases linked to Agent Orange. You also discuss the soon-to-be veterans who are fighting in the Persian Gulf.

DZ-

7:15 PM
I think LW is coming in late because there is no 9:30 mtg. Here's the dilemma: NSC + Darman's comments came in last night. NSC's are not a problem. On Darman's - do you want to use replacement IP. (No POTUS comments vet.) T.

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
6:00 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

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From Midway to Normandy; from Inchon to Khe Sanh; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coastguardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

So many of you have seen combat, that most gut wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their families the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living adjustment; the second, HR 556, is a compromise which relies on independent science to settle the troubling questions concerning the effect

on veterans of exposure to herbicides used during the Vietnam War. This is a continuation of our policy over the past two years to deal with this complex issue in a fair and compassionate way. The bill moves to codify the decisions of Secretary Derwinski and use the expertise of the National Academy of Sciences.

And I want to salute those who ensured that in the end, a bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass these important pieces of legislation. These two bills meet the critical needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just and noble, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, not one man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against a dictator who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as we knew when we faced similar evils in

our time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

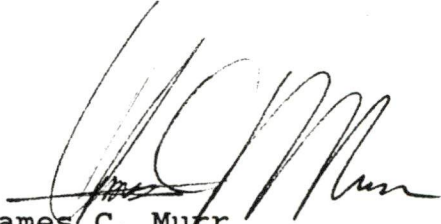


EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

91 FEB 6 A6:54

NOTICE:

Enclosed are comments from staff members of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Such comments do not necessarily represent the official position of the Director of OMB or of the Office of Management and Budget. If you wish to have the Director's personal comments, please let me know -- and contact me if you have any questions.



James C. Murr
Associate Director for
Legislative Reference
and Administration

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/5/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

SUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☒
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
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FITZWATER	☐	☒	FIRESTONE	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide comments and edits directly to
Chriss Winston, Room 122, x2930, with a copy
to this office, by 5:00P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

RESPONSE: See comments

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

91 FEB -5 PM 12:58

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today, [acknowledgements/joke].

From Normandy to Midway; from Inchon to Khe Sahn; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coast Guardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

* ^{Many} All of you ~~all of us~~ ^{**} -- have seen combat, that most gut-wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of ~~us~~ ^{** you} will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

Insert attached page →

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their widows the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living allowance; the second, HR 556, gives monies for compensation and research for veterans suffering from diseases associated with agent orange exposure.

I want to acknowledge the hard work of both the House and the Senate in the tough negotiations over this legislation. And I want to salute the Members who ensured that in the end, a

* There may be some there who are not combat veterans.

(Sec. Derwinski: I do believe is not.) (Scullu x5178)

** Since the President is praising those who fought, would it be better for him not to compliment himself? (Mullin...)

17 Sent on p. 1, as shown

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills that provide benefits for veterans and their survivors. The first, H.R. 3, authorizes a 1991 cost-of-living allowance. The second, H.R. 556, codifies our Administration's regulations for compensation for three diseases. It also provides for an independent review of research about diseases potentially associated with Agent Orange exposure. (Martin X4864)

bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass this important legislation. These two bills meet the urgent needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just and noble, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

*Mollin
x3060)*
And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, ~~the men and women~~ ~~not one man or woman~~ serving in the Persian Gulf will not have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

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Now I will sign these bills into law.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

91 FEB -5 PM 6:37

February 5, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *lw*
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *mcg*
SUBJECT: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING CEREMONY

OK with changes

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Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
6:00 p.m. / A:VETS

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And I want to salute those who ensured that in the end, a bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass these important pieces of legislation. These two bills meet the critical needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just and noble, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, not one man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to ~~stand~~ ^{serve. They are standing} against a dictator who must be stopped, ~~each has gone to stand up for~~ ~~what is moral and right in the world~~. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- ~~as we knew when we faced similar evils in~~

~~our time~~ -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

**VETERANS BILLS SIGNING \ THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991 \ 11:15 A.M.**

**GOOD MORNING. IT'S A PLEASURE -- ONCE AGAIN -- TO
HAVE SO MANY FAMILIAR FACES HERE TODAY REPRESENTING
AMERICA'S VETERANS. IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO SEE
SECRETARY DERWINSKI; AS WELL AS THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
WHO WERE SO INSTRUMENTAL IN THE PASSAGE OF THIS
LEGISLATION: CONGRESSMEN SONNY MONTGOMERY AND BOB
STUMP; AND SENATORS ARLEN SPECTOR AND BOB GRAHAM.**

- 2 -

**FROM MIDWAY TO NORMANDY; FROM INCHON TO KHE SANH;
TO LAST WEEK'S BATTLE OF KHAFJI, AMERICAN MARINES,
SOLDIERS, AIRMEN, SAILORS AND COASTGUARDSMEN HAVE GIVEN
"THEIR LIVES, THEIR FORTUNES AND THEIR SACRED HONOR" TO
KEEP FREEDOM SAFE. AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN ARE FIGHTING
FOR PEACE TODAY AS WE DID THEN, BECAUSE AMERICA MUST
LEAD IN DETERRING AND DEFEATING AGGRESSION.**

WE ARE HERE TODAY TO ENSURE THAT OUR NATION WILL EVER REMEMBER THOSE WHO DEFENDED HER -- THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO STOOD WHERE DUTY REQUIRED THEM TO STAND.

IT IS MY HONOR TODAY TO SIGN INTO LAW TWO BILLS WHICH GIVE VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES THE COMPENSATION THEY DESERVE. THE FIRST, HR 3, PROVIDES FOR A 1991 COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT; THE SECOND, HR 556, CODIFIES OUR ADMINISTRATION'S REGULATIONS FOR COMPENSATION FOR THREE DISEASES.

IT ALSO RELIES ON INDEPENDENT SCIENCE, WITH THE HELP OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, TO SETTLE THE TROUBLING QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE EFFECT ON VETERANS OF EXPOSURE TO HERBICIDES USED DURING THE VIETNAM WAR. THIS IS A CONTINUATION OF OUR POLICY OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS TO DEAL WITH THIS COMPLEX ISSUE IN A FAIR AND COMPASSIONATE WAY.

AND I WANT TO SALUTE THOSE WHO ENSURED THAT IN THE
END, A BIPARTISAN SPIRIT PREVAILED TO PASS THESE
IMPORTANT PIECES OF LEGISLATION. THESE TWO BILLS MEET
THE CRITICAL NEEDS OF OUR VETERANS -- AND WILL BUILD
THE CONFIDENCE OF TOMORROW'S VETERANS THAT THEY AND
THEIR LOVED ONES WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN.

A GRATEFUL NATION SALUTES ALL OUR VETERANS FOR THE
DIFFERENCE THEY HAVE MADE IN THE HISTORY OF THIS
COUNTRY, AND OF THE WORLD.



OUR ALLIED FORCES ARE SACRIFICING MUCH TODAY IN PURSUIT
OF PEACE TOMORROW, AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE BEHIND
THEM FOURSQUARE. I THINK EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM IS AS
PROUD OF THEM AS I AM. //

EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM HAS VOLUNTEERED TO
SERVE. THEY ARE STANDING AGAINST A DICTATOR WHO MUST
BE STOPPED. THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN OF DESERT STORM
KNOW -- WHEN THE FORCES OF AGGRESSION ARISE, AMERICA
STANDS READY TO DO THE HARD WORK OF FREEDOM.

THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.

* * * *

NOW I WILL SIGN THESE BILLS INTO LAW.

#



Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
6:00 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today representing America's veterans. It's always a pleasure to see Secretary Derwinski; as well as the Members of Congress who were so instrumental in the passage of this legislation: Congressmen Sonny Montgomery and Bob Stump; and Senators Arlen Specter [and Bob Graham]. *it might be nice to acknowledge*

From Midway to Normandy; from Inchon to Khe Sanh; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coastguardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. American men and women are fighting for peace today as we did then, because America must lead in deterring and defeating aggression.

So many of you have seen combat, that most gut wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. We are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their families the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living adjustment; the second, HR 556, codifies our Administration's regulations for compensation for three diseases. It also relies on independent

① Ed Timberlake
signed 5/5/66

if Seeg is unable,
hall - we shall
seek -

2

science, with the help of the National Academy of Sciences, to settle the troubling questions concerning the effect on veterans of exposure to herbicides used during the Vietnam War. This is a continuation of our policy over the past two years to deal with this complex issue in a fair and compassionate way.

And I want to salute those who ensured that in the end, a bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass these important pieces of legislation. These two bills meet the critical needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, our campaign is on track and we will prevail. We are fighting on our timetable. And let me explain that not a single man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will have to fight with one hand tied -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against a dictator who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as you knew when you faced similar evils in

your time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/5/91ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOMSUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☒
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☒
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	TREFRY	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	FIRESTONE	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide comments and edits directly to
Chriss Winston, Room 122, x2930, with a copy
to this office, by 5:00P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

RESPONSE: *See comments*

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

91 FEB -5 PM 12:58

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today, [acknowledgements/joke].

From Normandy to Midway; from Inchon to Khe Sahn; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coast Guardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

* ^{Many} All of you ^{**} ~~all of us~~ -- have seen combat, that most gut-wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of ^{** you} ~~us~~ will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

insert attached page →

~~It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their widows the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living allowance; the second, HR 556, gives monies for compensation and research for veterans suffering from diseases associated with agent orange exposure.~~

I want to acknowledge the hard work of both the House and the Senate in the tough negotiations over this legislation. And I want to salute the Members who ensured that in the end, a

There may be some there who are not combat Veterans.

*** Since the President is praising those who fought, would it be better for him not to mention himself? (M. Allen)*

OMB

17 Sent on p. 1, as shown

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills that provide benefits for veterans and their survivors. The first, H.R. 3, authorizes a 1991 cost-of-living allowance. The second, H.R. 556, Codifies our Administration's regulations for compensation for three diseases. It also provides for an independent review of research about diseases potentially associated with Agent Orange exposure. (Martin X4864)

Bernie
also
I + relies

~~Compromise-drop~~

~~See Derwinski-drop~~

→ Susan Jacobs

7362

Bob
Telicci

or Jack
Forestman

bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass this important legislation. These two bills meet the urgent needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just and noble, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

collin
(3060)
And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, ^{the men and women} ~~not one man or woman~~ serving in the Persian Gulf will not have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against an aggressor who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as we knew when we faced similar evils in our time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 02/05/91

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING CEREMONY
(02/05 6:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☐	☒
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☐	☒	PORTER	☐	☒
DARMAN	☐	☒	ROGICH	☐	☒
BRADY	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CARD	☐	☒	<u>ROGERS</u>	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☐	☒	<u>TREFRY</u>	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	<u>FIRESTONE</u>	☐	☒
GRAY	☐	☒	<u>WINSTON</u>	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☐	☒	_____	☐	☐

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

91 FEB -5 PM 6:37

February 5, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *lc*
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *mcg*
SUBJECT: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your review are brief remarks for the Veterans bills signing ceremony, to be held tomorrow, February 6, in the Roosevelt Room at 11:15 a.m. Secretary Derwinski, several Members of Congress, and representatives from two dozen veterans groups will be present.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (5 minutes/speechcards) discuss the bills: the first is HR 3, the 1991 cost-of-living adjustment for veterans and their families; the second is HR 556, which compensates veterans who suffer from diseases linked to Agent Orange. You also discuss the soon-to-be veterans who are fighting in the Persian Gulf.

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
6:00 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today representing America's veterans. It's always a pleasure to see Secretary Derwinski; as well as the Members of Congress who were so instrumental in the passage of this legislation: Congressmen Sonny Montgomery and Bob Stump; and Senators Arlen Specter [and Bob Graham].

From Midway to Normandy; from Inchon to Khe Sanh; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coastguardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

So many of you have seen combat, that most gut wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their families the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living adjustment; the second, HR 556, is a compromise which relies on independent science to settle the troubling questions concerning the effect

on veterans of exposure to herbicides used during the Vietnam War. This is a continuation of our policy over the past two years to deal with this complex issue in a fair and compassionate way. The bill moves to codify the decisions of Secretary Derwinski and use the expertise of the National Academy of Sciences.

And I want to salute those who ensured that in the end, a bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass these important pieces of legislation. These two bills meet the critical needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just and noble, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, not one man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against a dictator who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as we knew when we faced similar evils in

our time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 5, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *dw*
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *mkg*
SUBJECT: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your review are brief remarks for the Veterans bills signing ceremony, to be held tomorrow, February 6, in the Roosevelt Room at 11:15 a.m. Secretary Derwinski, several Members of Congress, and representatives from two dozen veterans groups will be present.

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Your remarks (5 minutes/speechcards) discuss the bills: the first is HR 3, the 1991 cost-of-living adjustment for veterans and their families; the second is HR 556, which compensates veterans who suffer from diseases linked to Agent Orange. You also discuss the soon-to-be veterans who are fighting in the Persian Gulf.

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
6:00 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

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From Midway to Normandy; from Inchon to Khe Sanh; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coastguardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

So many of you have seen combat, that most gut wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their families the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living adjustment; the second, HR 556, ^{OMB insert} ~~is a compromise which~~ ^{It also} relies on independent science to settle the troubling questions concerning the effect

with the help of
the National Academy
of Sciences.

DD's
reconciling
of OMB
& NSC

on veterans of exposure to herbicides used during the Vietnam War. This is a continuation of our policy over the past two years to deal with this complex issue in a fair and compassionate way. [The bill moves to codify the decisions of Secretary Derwinski and use the expertise of the National Academy of Sciences.]

And I want to salute those who ensured that in the end, a bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass these important pieces of legislation. These two bills meet the critical needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just and noble, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, not one man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against a dictator who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as we knew when we faced similar evils in

our time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

0895

Document No. 210446SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/5/91

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

SUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☒
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	TREFRY	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	FIRESTONE	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide comments and edits directly to
Chriss Winston, Room 122, x2930, with a copy
to this office, by 5:00P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

February 5, 1991

RESPONSE: The National Security Council staff has reviewed and has recommended changes to the Presidential remarks as noted.

Brent Scowcroft
Brent Scowcroft

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

NSC

91 FEB -5 PM 12:58

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today, [acknowledgements/joke].

From Normandy to Midway; from Inchon to Khe Sahn; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coast Guardsmen have given "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor" to keep freedom safe. ^{American men and} ~~we are~~ ^{women are} fighting for peace today as ^{we} ~~they~~ did then, because America must lead, ~~as we always have~~ ^{in deterring and defeating aggression.}

(All of you --) all of us ~~we~~ have seen combat, that most gut-wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. ~~But~~ ^{we} are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their widows the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living allowance; the second, HR 556, gives monies for compensation and research for veterans suffering from diseases associated with agent orange exposure.

I want to acknowledge the hard work of both the House and the Senate in the tough negotiations over this legislation. And I want to salute the Members who ensured that in the end, a

Question: will they all be combat veterans? If not, then perhaps it's better to begin: 'We have seen combat...'

bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass this important legislation. These two bills meet the urgent needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just, ^{moral and right,} ~~and noble,~~ and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. // *We are fighting ~~hard~~ on our ^{unshakable} ~~unshakable~~.*

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, *our campaign is on track and we will prevail. And let me emphasize that* not ~~one~~ ^{a single} man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will ~~not~~ have to fight with one hand tied ~~behind~~ ^{behind} their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against an aggressor who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as ^{you} ~~we~~ knew when ^{you} ~~we~~ faced similar evils in your time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

91 FEB 5 1991
February 5, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Veterans Bills Signing

We have reviewed the Presidential remarks and have noted our comments on the attached draft. If you have any questions, please let us know.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/5/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

SUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	TREFRY	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	FIRESTONE	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide comments and edits directly to
Chriss Winston, Room 122, x2930, with a copy
to this office, by 5:00P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

91 FEB -5 PM 12:58

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today, [acknowledgements/joke].

From Normandy to Midway; from Inchon to Khe Sahn; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coast Guardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

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A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just and noble, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, ~~not~~ ^{NO} ~~one~~ man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will ~~not~~ have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against an aggressor who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as we knew when we faced similar evils in our time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

VETERANS AFFAIRS INSERT

Page 1; Veterans Bills Signing Ceremony

4th paragraph -- second sentence to read:

~~The first (HR 3) bill provides for a 1991 cost-of-living adjustment; the second (HR 556) bill is a compromise which relies on independent science to settle the troubling questions concerning the effect on veterans of exposure to herbicides used during the Vietnam War. This is a continuation of my~~ *our* ~~Administration's pattern over the past two years to deal with this complex issue in a fair and compassionate way. The bill moves to codify the decisions of Secretary Derwinski and use the expertise of the National Academy of Sciences.~~

policy

*concerning further
research and study*

will

Document No. 210446SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/5/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOMSUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☒
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☒
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	TREFRY	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	FIRESTONE	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide comments and edits directly to
Chriss Winston, Room 122, x2930, with a copy
to this office, by 5:00P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

RESPONSE:

Please see comments
2/5/91

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

91 FEB -5 PM 12:58

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETSBRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.Rep. Sonny Montgomery
Sen. Arlen Specter
Sen. Bob Graham(?)
Rep. Bob Stump

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today, [acknowledgements/joke].

From Normandy to Midway; from Inchon to Khe Sahn; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coast Guardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

All of you -- all of us -- have seen combat, that most gut-wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their widows the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living allowance; the second, HR 556, gives monies for compensation and research for veterans suffering from diseases associated with agent orange exposure. *where there is a positive association with ?*

I want to acknowledge the hard work of both the House and the Senate in the tough negotiations over this legislation. And I want to salute the Members who ensured that in the end, a

on language here -- ~~not~~

and
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to check
again

2

bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass this important legislation. These two bills meet the urgent needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow, ~~[Their cause is just and noble,]~~ and the American people are behind them four square. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, not one man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will not have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

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Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 5, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: STEPHEN G. RADEMAKER *SR*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Veterans Bills Signing
Ceremony

Pursuant to Phil Brady's request, Counsel's Office has review the above-referenced matter and has no objection, subject to revision of the fourth line, paragraph 4, page one to read:

"second, HR 556, assures compensation and research for"

cc: Phillip D. Brady

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 FEB 5 P3:02

DATE: 2/5/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

SUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☒
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH <i>N/C</i>	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☒
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS <i>N/C</i>	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	²¹⁵⁰ TREFRY	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	FIRESTONE	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

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Chriss Winston, Room 122, x2930, with a copy
to this office, by 5:00P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

91 FEB -5 PM 12:58

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

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So many
~~All of you -- all of us --~~ have seen combat, that most gut-wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their *families* ~~widows~~ the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living *adjustment* allowance; the second, HR 556, ~~gives monies for compensation and research for veterans suffering from diseases associated with agent orange exposure.~~ *A*

I want to acknowledge the hard work of both the House and the Senate in the tough negotiations over this legislation. And I want to salute the Members who ensured that in the end, a

bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass this important legislation. These two bills meet the urgent needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

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Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 FEB 5 P5:12

DATE: 2/5/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOMSUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
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SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
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FITZWATER	☐	☒	FIRESTONE	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide comments and edits directly to
 Chriss Winston, Room 122, x2930, with a copy
 to this office, by 5:00P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

RESPONSE:

See comments. Thanks.
Holly Williamson
2-5-91

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

91 FEB -5 PM 12:58

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today, [acknowledgements/joke].

✓ V.A.
From ~~Normandy~~ to Midway, ^{to Normandy;} from Inchon to Khe Sahn; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coast Guardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

✓ V.A.
Be careful -
Dewinski did
not see
combat.
All of you -- all of us -- have seen combat, that most gut-wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

✓ V.A.
See
insert
next page
It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their widows the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, ^{bill} provides for a 1991 cost-of-living ^{adjustment;} ~~allowance~~; the second, HR 556, ^{bill} ~~gives monies for compensation and research for veterans suffering from diseases associated with agent orange exposure.~~

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Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CONGRESSIONAL
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Date: 2-5-91
To: Jennifer Grossman
Commercial Phone: 456-7750

FAX # 456-~~4480~~ 6218

FROM: Ed Jempulake
Commercial Phone: 233-2817

FAX #376-8778

Transmitting: This cover page plus 2 page(s)

Suggested Battles:

Korea

The Inchon Landing

Vietnam

Battle of the I A Drang Valley



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON

JAN 29 1991

The Honorable G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery
Chairman, Committee on
Veterans' Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the Administration, I am pleased to inform you the President is personally aware of and totally supportive of H.R. 556, 102nd Congress, the "Agent Orange Act of 1991." This bill is a compromise which relies on science to settle the troubling questions concerning the effect on veterans of exposure to herbicides--such as Agent Orange--used in the allied effort during the Vietnam war.

Among the bill's key features is codification, with minor modifications, of the presumptions of service connection for certain diseases associated with herbicide exposure or Vietnam service that VA, with the invaluable assistance of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards, has developed in recent years. Specifically, a Vietnam veteran disabled by non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, soft-tissue sarcoma (with some exceptions), or chloracne (within one year of leaving Vietnam) will be presumed to have incurred that disease while on active duty.

Further, the bill would establish a new regulatory mechanism for adding--or deleting--presumptions of service connection based on exposure to herbicides in Vietnam. Essentially, VA would be required to enter into a contract with the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) under which NAS would review and summarize the literature related to herbicide exposure and would provide its advice to VA. Taking into account the advice of NAS, VA could amend the list of those diseases for which service connection is presumed. That advice would also assist VA in decisions concerning further research and study.

The bill would also provide for research-related efforts in areas including tissue archiving, blood sampling and testing, and clinical-records review, but would do so subject to two important conditions: such activities would not be conducted if VA determines after considering the report of NAS, that they are not feasible or cost effective or would not make a material contribution to the body of scientific knowledge; and, such activities would be subject to specific appropriation of funds

2.

The Honorable G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery

by the Congress. We are pleased with this balanced provision, which will encourage important research within the limits of available resources and scientific feasibility.

Also, the bill would eliminate the dioxin function of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards.

We wish to express our belief that our Advisory Committee, since its creation in 1985, has done a thoroughly professional job in carrying out its assigned duties. We appreciate the difficult and often frustrating work they have undertaken over the years. Nevertheless, we are aware of the concern of some that a non-Governmental review would be of value. VA has testified before both the Senate and House Committees on Veterans' Affairs that we would not object to an independent review of our work in this area, after that work was completed. However, in the spirit of compromise, we support your proposal to eliminate the dioxin function of the Advisory Committee and replace it with a review of evidence by the NAS.

While we are supportive of this bill, we are seriously concerned about the effective date of the amendments, in section 10 of the bill, to Pub. L. No. 98-542 and to the provision relating to the court's order in Nehmer v. Department of Veterans' Affairs. We therefore ask that the staffs of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs work with my staff to develop an amendment to this section that is more consistent with the bill's goal of resolving the uncertainty about the associations between diseases and exposure to herbicides, and to address other technical matters.

In sum, we applaud your efforts and those of your colleagues to work toward a thoughtful and meaningful compromise of this -- controversial issue. We have testified many times that VA has one overriding goal in this area: providing, as best we can, the truth for our Vietnam veterans about the effects of exposure to Agent Orange. Because, in our opinion, that is the goal of this fine legislation, we are pleased to offer our support.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection from the standpoint of the Administration's program to the views expressed in this letter on H.R. 556.

Sincerely yours,



Edward J. Derwinski

EJD/tdr

91 FEB -5 PM 12:58

Steve Rademaker
Gray's office

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today, [acknowledgements/joke].

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All of you -- all of us -- have seen combat, that most gut-wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

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And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, not one man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will not have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against an aggressor who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as we knew when we faced similar evils in our time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
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Now I will sign these bills into law.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 FEB 5 13:39

DATE: 2/5/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

SUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☐
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☒
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	UNTERMEYER	☐	☒
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	TREFRY	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	FIRESTONE	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide comments and edits directly to
Chriss Winston, Room 122, x2930, with a copy
to this office, by 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

RESPONSE:

No comments -
Thanks!

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 FEB 6 A9:25

DATE: 2/5/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

SUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
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REMARKS:

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to this office, by 5:00P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

RESPONSE:

OK. S.R.

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

91 FEB -5 PM12:58

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
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Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

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PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

SUBJECT: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991, 11:15 A.M.

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SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	PORTER	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☒
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	TREFRY	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	FIRESTONE	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	WINSTON	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide comments and edits directly to
Chriss Winston, Room 122, x2930, with a copy
to this office, by 5:00P.M. TODAY, FEB. 5.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

91 FEB -5 PM 12:58

Grant/Grossman
February 5, 1991
12:30 p.m. / A:VETS

**BRIEF REMARKS: VETERANS BILLS SIGNING
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1991
11:15 A.M.**

Good morning. It's a pleasure -- once again -- to have so many familiar faces here today, [acknowledgements/joke].

From Normandy to Midway; from Inchon to Khe Sahn; to last week's battle of Khafji, American Marines, soldiers, airmen, sailors and Coast Guardsmen have given 'their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor' to keep freedom safe. We are fighting for peace today as they did then, because America must lead, as we always have.

All of you -- all of us -- have seen combat, that most gut-wrenching of all human experiences. And not one of us will ever forget it. But we are here today to ensure that our nation will ever remember those who defended her -- the men and women who stood where duty required them to stand.

It is my honor today to sign into law two bills which give veterans and their widows the compensation they deserve. The first, HR 3, provides for a 1991 cost-of-living allowance; the second, HR 556, gives monies for compensation and research for veterans suffering from diseases associated with agent orange exposure.

I want to acknowledge the hard work of both the House and the Senate in the tough negotiations over this legislation. And I want to salute the Members who ensured that in the end, a

bipartisan spirit prevailed to pass this important legislation. These two bills meet the urgent needs of our veterans -- and will build the confidence of tomorrow's veterans that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

A grateful nation salutes all our veterans for the difference they have made in the history of this country, and of the world. Our allied forces are sacrificing much today in pursuit of peace tomorrow. Their cause is just and noble, and the American people are behind them foursquare. I think everyone in this room is as proud of them as I am. //

And while their mission is a difficult and demanding one, not one man or woman serving in the Persian Gulf will not have to fight with one hand tied behind their back -- nor will they stay there one day longer than absolutely necessary. //

Each and every one of them has volunteered to stand against an aggressor who must be stopped; each has gone to stand up for what is moral and right in the world. The brave men and women of Desert Storm know -- as we knew when we faced similar evils in our time -- that when the forces of aggression arise, America stands ready to do the hard work of freedom.

Thank you, and God bless each and every one of you.

Now I will sign these bills into law.

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