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FOIA Number:

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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13561
Folder ID Number: 13561-008

Folder Title:
50th Anniversary of USO 4/5/91 [OA 6031]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	16	7	4

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO \ UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATER
APRIL 5, 1991

YOU KNOW, JAMES MICHENER ENDS HIS WAR NOVEL THE BRIDGES AT TOKO-RI BY ASKING: "WHERE DID WE GET SUCH MEN?" WELL, I LOOK OUT AT THESE THOUSANDS OF FACES -- VETERANS FROM WORLD WAR II TO THE PERSIAN GULF -- AND ALL I CAN DO IS ECHO HIS ADMIRATION AND PRIDE: "WHERE DID WE GET SUCH MEN AND WOMEN?" \ \ THE ANSWER -- FROM THE HEART OF AMERICA. YOU ARE THE HEART OF AMERICA.
\\

- 2 -

THAT'S WHAT THE USO HAS KNOWN ALL THESE YEARS. FROM THE SKIES OVER PEARL HARBOR TO THE SKIES OVER KUWAIT, THE USO HAS KNOWN WHAT HOMESICK, WEARY WARRIORS HAVE NEEDED. SOMETHING VERY SIMPLE. A TOUCH OF HOME.
\\

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING THE USO HAS DONE FOR 50 YEARS IS TO SAY TO OUR TROOPS, ON BEHALF OF AMERICA: HEY, WE MISS YOU. WE'RE THINKING ABOUT YOU. WE CARE ABOUT YOU.

YOU CAN'T BE HOME WITH US, SO WE'RE SENDING A LITTLE BIT OF HOME TO YOU. MAYBE IT'S A PHONE CALL TO YOUR FOLKS. OR A FRIENDLY STRANGER JUST TO TALK TO. OR BOB HOPE IN A VIETNAMESE HOSPITAL. BUT WHAT WE'RE REALLY GIVING YOU IS A SMILE AND A THOUGHT FROM YOUR GRATEFUL COUNTRY. \\

THE USO SUMS UP WHAT'S BEST ABOUT THIS NATION.

FOR THE USO IS MADE UP OF VOLUNTEERS -- THERE FOR THE SIMPLEST, MOST LOVING REASON OF ALL: BECAUSE THEY SEE A HUMAN NEED AND WANT TO HELP. \\

THE USO IS FAMILY -- THE MOST IMPORTANT WORD IN THE AMERICAN VOCABULARY -- OUR COUNTRY'S FAMILY CARING ABOUT -- AND CARING FOR -- EACH MEMBER. \\

AND THE USO IS AMERICA -- SHOWING THE WORLD THE OPTIMISM, DECENCY, AND GOOD-HEARTED GENEROSITY THAT FILLS THIS LAND FROM COAST TO COAST.

FOR, AS ITS FOUNDER FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT SAID: "WHEREVER MEN AND WOMEN OF GOOD WILL GATHER TOGETHER TO SERVE THEIR COMMUNITY -- THERE IS AMERICA." \\ AND THE MEN AND WOMEN OF USO BRIGHTEN THE DARK, LONELY CORNERS OF OUR TROOPS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THESE USO VOLUNTEERS ARE OUR POINTS OF LIGHT. TORCHBEARERS FOR AMERICA'S FINEST BEACON -- THE ONE OF CARING. \\ \\

WHEN OUR TROOPS WENT TO THE GULF, THE USO WENT WITH THEM.

IT INSPIRED THOSE LEFT BEHIND TO JOIN IN ITS SPIRIT -- THE PROUD, YELLOW-RIBBON SPIRIT OF THINKING ABOUT EVERY SINGLE SON, DAUGHTER, BROTHER, SISTER, FATHER, MOTHER OVER THERE. \\ \\

EVEN THOUGH TODAY'S USO IS IMMENSE, MY FATHER WOULD RECOGNIZE IT AS THE SAME ORGANIZATION PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ASKED HIM TO HELP START IN 1941. FOR 50 YEARS, THE USO HAS PROVEN THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO WEAR A STAR TO BE A HERO.

ITS VOLUNTEERS HAVE LIFTED THE SPIRITS AND ENNOBLED THE HEARTS OF GENERATIONS OF LONELY KIDS ABROAD, AND THEIR LONELY FAMILIES HERE AT HOME. \\\

I'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME WORDS A SOLDIER IN THE SAUDI DESERT WROTE TO COMEDIAN STEVE MARTIN AFTER HIS USO TOUR. CAPTAIN TODD O'BRADOVICH OF THE 82ND AIRBORNE SAID:

"WE TRAIN CONTINUALLY ... WE MUST BE READY TO FIGHT AND DO OUR JOB. THANKSGIVING MADE A LOT OF US HOMESICK ... (BUT) TO KNOW THAT PEOPLE LIKE YOU BACK HOME CARE ABOUT US MAKES ALL THE HARDSHIPS WORTHWHILE." \\\

WELL, FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS THE MAN WHO HAS SYMBOLIZED THE CARING OF PEOPLE BACK HOME HAS BEEN BOB (MR. USO) HOPE. WEARING BAGGY CAMOUFLAGE AND SWINGING A GOLF CLUB TO MAKE SOLDIERS LAUGH HALF A WORLD AWAY.

TRAVELLING ON BEHALF OF ALL OF US TO COMFORT OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS. BOB HAS TURNED DISTANT BATTLEFIELDS INTO TINY PIECES OF HOME.

BEFORE WE CONCLUDE TONIGHT'S CELEBRATION, I'D LIKE TO BRING OUT THIS MAN, WHO HAS SPENT MUCH OF HIS LIFE SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, BOB HOPE. \\\

BOB, IT IS MY PLEASURE TO PRESENT YOU WITH THIS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR SERVICE TO THE USO.

IT IS FOR MILLIONS OF GRATEFUL AMERICANS THAT I SAY -- THANK YOU, BOB. AND CONGRATULATIONS FROM US ALL. \\\

NOW, AS I SAY GOODNIGHT, I'M GOING TO TAKE SOME LICENSE WITH A SONG OF LEE GREENWOOD, WHO'S MADE MANY USO TOURS. FOR I KNOW THESE WORDS WOULD SPEAK FOR BOB AND FOR ALL OF US: "THERE'S PRIDE IN EVERY AMERICAN HEART AND IT'S TIME WE STAND AND SAY ... GOD BLESS THE USO."

#

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 27, 1991 10 a.m.
USO Draft One

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
April 5, 1991
Universal Amphitheater Los Angeles

You know, James Michener ends his war novel THE BRIDGES AT TOKO-RI by asking: "Where did we get such men?" Well, I look out at these thousands of faces -- veterans from WWII to the Persian Gulf -- and all I can do is echo his admiration and pride: "Where did we get such men and women?" The answer -- from the heart of America. You are the heart of America.

That's what the USO has known all these years. That the men and women serving for us so far away are the brothers and sisters of our hearts. From the Battle of the Bulge to the skies over Kuwait, the USO has known what homesick, weary warriors have needed. Something very simple. A touch of home.

The most important thing the USO has done for 50 years is to say to our troops, on behalf of America: hey, we miss you. We're thinking about you. We care about you. You can't be home with us, so we're sending a little bit of home to you. Maybe it's a phone call to your folks. Or a friendly stranger just to talk to. Or Bob Hope in a Vietnamese jungle. But what we're really giving you is a smile and a thought from your grateful country.

The USO sums up what's best about this nation. For the USO is made up of **volunteers** -- there for the simplest, most loving reason of all -- because they see a human need and want to help.

The USO is **family** -- the most important word in the American

vocabulary -- our country's family caring about and caring for each member. And the USO is **America** -- showing the world the optimism, decency, and good-hearted generosity that fills this land from coast to coast.

When our troops went to the Gulf, the USO went with them. It inspired those left behind to join in its spirit -- the proud, yellow-ribbon spirit of thinking about every single son, daughter, brother, sister, father, mother over there. Our heroes of Desert Storm gave a country back its freedom. Together, Americans have given a nation back its pride.

Even though today's USO is immense, my father would recognize it as the same organization President Roosevelt asked him to help start in 1941. Because for 50 years, the USO has proven you don't have to wear a star to be a hero. Its volunteers have lifted the spirits and ennobled the hearts of generations of lonely kids abroad, and their lonely families here at home.

I thought I'd leave you with some words a homesick soldier in the Saudi desert wrote to Tommy Hearn after he made a celebrity USO tour a few months ago. Sergeant William Thigpen said: "It just meant so much to me (that you came), words can't describe how much you have helped me ... may the Lord truly bless you because the Lord has blessed me through you."

Taking some license with the words of Lee Greenwood, who's made many USO tours: "There's pride in every American heart and it's time we stand and say ... God Bless the USO."

#

PRESIDENT BUSH PRESENTATION TO BOB HOPE

PRESIDENT BUSH

Before we conclude tonight's celebration, I would like to bring out a man who has spent much of his career in the service of his country and in the service of those who serve their country.

Ladies and gentlemen, Bob Hope.

(HOPE ENTERS)

Bob, I would like to present you with this award for over fifty years of service to the USO, the men and women of the armed forces, and their families.

To paraphrase a man who loves his country a great deal, George M. Cohan, I would just like to say, "My Father thanks you. My Mother thanks you. My Wife thanks you. The whole nation thanks you, and I thank you."
Congratulations.

FRI. APRIL 5th

Bob Hope gets award 1st time ~~at~~ at luncheon
Arr. luncheon 2:40pm before Bush gets there.

POTUS speaks

no presentation

Amphitheatre

POTUS last person in show.

remarks 4 min - goes into presentation.

act like this is the 1st time

he's gotten the award.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 03/29/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
(03/28 6:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TREFRY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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 MAR 28 PM 6:30

March 28, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW *TS*
FROM: BETH HINCHLIFFE
SUBJECT: USO 50TH ANNIVERSARY

On Friday, April 5, you will address 6,000 attendees in the Universal Amphitheater in a tribute to the USO, celebrating their 50th anniversary. Your remarks are 4 minutes in length, and will be on teleprompter.

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 28, 1991 6 p.m.
USO Draft Two

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
April 5, 1991
Universal Amphitheater Los Angeles**

You know, James Michener ends his war novel THE BRIDGES AT TOKO-RI by asking: "Where did we get such men?" Well, I look out at these thousands of faces -- veterans from WWII to the Persian Gulf -- and all I can do is echo his admiration and pride: "Where did we get such men and women?" The answer -- from the heart of America. You are the heart of America.

That's what the USO has known all these years. That the men and women serving for us so far away are the brothers and sisters of our hearts. From Pearl Harbor to the skies over Kuwait, the USO has known what homesick, weary warriors have needed. Something very simple. A touch of home.

The most important thing the USO has done for 50 years is to say to our troops, on behalf of America: hey, we miss you. We're thinking about you. We care about you. You can't be home with us, so we're sending a little bit of home to you. Maybe it's a phone call to your folks. Or a friendly stranger just to talk to. Or Bob Hope in a Vietnamese hospital. But what we're really giving you is a smile and a thought from your grateful country.

The USO sums up what's best about this nation. For the USO is made up of volunteers -- there for the simplest, most loving reason of all -- because they see a human need and want to help.

The USO is family -- the most important word in the American

vocabulary -- our country's family caring about and caring for each member. And the USO is America -- showing the world the optimism, decency, and good-hearted generosity that fills this land from coast to coast.

When our troops went to the Gulf, the USO went with them. It inspired those left behind to join in its spirit -- the proud, yellow-ribbon spirit of thinking about every single son, daughter, brother, sister, father, mother over there. Our heroes of Desert Storm gave a country back its freedom. Together, Americans have given a nation back its pride.

Even though today's USO is immense, my father would recognize it as the same organization President Roosevelt asked him to help start in 1941. Because for 50 years, the USO has proven you don't have to wear a star to be a hero. Its volunteers have lifted the spirits and ennobled the hearts of generations of lonely kids abroad, and their lonely families here at home.

I thought I'd leave you with some words a homesick soldier in the Saudi desert wrote to boxer Tommy Hearns after he made a celebrity USO tour a few months ago. Sergeant Thigpen of the 437 Supply Deployed wrote: "It just meant so much to me (that you came), words can't describe how much you have helped me ... may the Lord truly bless you because the Lord has blessed me through you."

Taking some license with the words of Lee Greenwood, who's made many USO tours: "There's pride in every American heart and it's time we stand and say ... God Bless the USO."

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 28, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: 50th Anniversary of the
USO

We have reviewed the attached draft and have no suggested changes from a policy standpoint. We approve of the draft remarks in their current form.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/27/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4:00PM, THURS., MARCH 28
 PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
APRIL 5, 1991
 SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATER, LOS ANGELES

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TREFRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments/edits on the attached directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to this office no later than 4:00PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 28.
 Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 27, 1991 10 a.m.
USO Draft One

91 MAR 27 AM 10:55

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
April 5, 1991
Universal Amphitheater Los Angeles

You know, James Michener ends his war novel THE BRIDGES AT TOKO-RI by asking: "Where did we get such men?" Well, I look out at these thousands of faces -- veterans from WWII to the Persian Gulf -- and all I can do is echo his admiration and pride: "Where did we get such men and women?" The answer -- from the heart of America. You are the heart of America.

That's what the USO has known all these years. That the men and women serving for us so far away are the brothers and sisters of our hearts. From the Battle of the Bulge to the skies over Kuwait, the USO has known what homesick, weary warriors have needed. Something very simple. A touch of home.

The most important thing the USO has done for 50 years is to say to our troops, on behalf of America: hey, we miss you. We're thinking about you. We care about you. You can't be home with us, so we're sending a little bit of home to you. Maybe it's a phone call to your folks. Or a friendly stranger just to talk to. Or Bob Hope in a Vietnamese jungle. But what we're really giving you is a smile and a thought from your grateful country.

The USO sums up what's best about this nation. For the USO is made up of volunteers -- there for the simplest, most loving reason of all -- because they see a human need and want to help.

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vocabulary -- our country's family caring about and caring for each member. And the USO is America -- showing the world the optimism, decency, and good-hearted generosity that fills this land from coast to coast.

When our troops went to the Gulf, the USO went with them. It inspired those left behind to join in its spirit -- the proud, yellow-ribbon spirit of thinking about every single son, daughter, brother, sister, father, mother over there. Our heroes of Desert Storm gave a country back its freedom. Together, Americans have given a nation back its pride.

Even though today's USO is immense, my father would recognize it as the same organization President Roosevelt asked him to help start in 1941. Because for 50 years, the USO has proven you don't have to wear a star to be a hero. Its volunteers have lifted the spirits and ennobled the hearts of generations of lonely kids abroad, and their lonely families here at home.

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Taking some license with the words of Lee Greenwood, who's made many USO tours: "There's pride in every American heart and it's time we stand and say ... God Bless the USO."

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

91 MAR 29 P6:17

TO POTUS

March 28, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW TS
FROM: BETH HINCHLIFFE
SUBJECT: USO 50TH ANNIVERSARY

On Friday, April 5, you will address 6,000 attendees in the Universal Amphitheater in a tribute to the USO, celebrating their 50th anniversary. Your remarks are 4 minutes in length, and will be on teleprompter.

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 28, 1991 6 p.m.
USO Draft Two

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April 5, 1991
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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM
91 MAR 28 All : 25

DATE: 3/27/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4:00PM, THURS., MARCH 28
PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
APRIL 5, 1991
SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATER, LOS ANGELES

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE <i>NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>14970</i> SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER <i>NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN <i>NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS <i>NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Prattemaker</i> GRAY <i>Soz6 NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TREFRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY <i>NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:
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RESPONSE:

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

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/27/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4:00PM, THURS., MARCH 28
PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO APRIL 5, 1991
SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATER, LOS ANGELES

Table with columns: NAME, ACTION, FYI. Rows include VICE PRESIDENT, SUNUNU, SCOWCROFT, DARMAN, BRADY, CARD, DEMAREST, FITZWATER, GRAY, HOLIDAY, MCCLURE, NEWMAN, PORTER, ROGICH, UNTERMEYER, ROGERS, SNOW, PETERSMEYER, TREFRY.

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

Recommend the words "from the Battle of The Bulge..." on p1, 2nd sentence 2nd IP be changed to read "from Pearl Harbor..." Reason - Pearl Harbor started WWII for us on 7 Dec 41 - the Bulge was 16 Dec 44 and hastened the end 5 months later. We learn out most of WWII when the USO contributed so much by starting with the Bulge rather than Pearl Harbor

Richard D. Trefry
LTC USA-Ret
MAD

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

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 27, 1991 10 a.m.
USO Draft One

91 MAR 27 AM 10:55

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
April 5, 1991
Universal Amphitheater Los Angeles

You know, James Michener ends his war novel THE BRIDGES AT TOKO-RI by asking: "Where did we get such men?" Well, I look out at these thousands of faces -- veterans from WWII to the Persian Gulf -- and all I can do is echo his admiration and pride: "Where did we get such men and women?" The answer -- from the heart of America. You are the heart of America.

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The most important thing the USO has done for 50 years is to say to our troops, on behalf of America: hey, we miss you. We're thinking about you. We care about you. You can't be home with us, so we're sending a little bit of home to you. Maybe it's a phone call to your folks. Or a friendly stranger just to talk to. Or Bob Hope in a Vietnamese jungle. But what we're really giving you is a smile and a thought from your grateful country.

The USO sums up what's best about this nation. For the USO is made up of **volunteers** -- there for the simplest, most loving reason of all -- because they see a human need and want to help.

The USO is **family** -- the most important word in the American

hospital
^

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Even though today's USO is immense, my father would recognize it as the same organization President Roosevelt asked him to help start in 1941. Because for 50 years, the USO has proven you don't have to wear a star to be a hero. Its volunteers have lifted the spirits and ennobled the hearts of generations of lonely kids abroad, and their lonely families here at home.

I thought I'd leave you with some words a homesick soldier in the Saudi desert wrote to Tommy Hearn after he made a celebrity USO tour a few months ago. Sergeant ~~William~~ Thigpen said: "It just meant so much to me (that you came), words can't describe how much you have helped me ... may the Lord truly bless you because the Lord has blessed me through you."

Taking some license with the words of Lee Greenwood, who's made many USO tours: "There's pride in every American heart and it's time we stand and say ... God Bless the USO."

#

boxer
of the 437 Supply Deployed wrote

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 28, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

FROM: CAROL BLYMIRE *CMB*

SUBJECT: FACT-CHECKING CHANGES/SUGGESTIONS

These are the changes/suggestions incurred during fact-checking:

Page One; para. 3: Bob Hope has not been documented as ever having performed in a Vietnamese jungle. He has, however, performed in a Vietnamese hospital. They were probably very similar, but we need to change it for fact's sake.

Page Two; para. 2: Change the word "kids" to "soldiers".

Page Two; para. 3: Sergeant Thigpen's first name isn't William. I called Army personnel, and they have 9 Sgt. Thigpens who could've been in Saudi at the time the letter was written. The closest match we could find was a Jesse Thigpen, but there is no way to guarantee that. I suggest changing it to: "Sergeant Thigpen of the 437 Supply Deployed wrote..."

General Suggestion: I think we need a sentence about the USO's important role during peacetime. Perhaps on Page Two, after the part about family, we can insert something like, "And year-round the USO provides support for soldiers' families, welcoming them to a new base, and helping them get adjusted to living in a new community."

Another possible insert -- maybe something about the USO and the transient nature of the military, since that's where the USO really is a silent hero. "No matter where a military family moves, the USO is there to make it feel like home."

91 MAR 29 P 1: 04

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM
 91 MAR 29 P3:26

DATE: 3/27/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4:00PM, THURS., MARCH 28
 PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
APRIL 5, 1991
 SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATER, LOS ANGELES

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TREFRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments/edits on the attached directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to this office no later than 4:00PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 28.
 Thank you.

RESPONSE:

No comments. Thanks.
Hw
 Holly Williamson
 03/28/91

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

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 MAR 29 P2: 22

DATE: 3/27/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4:00PM, THURS., MARCH 28

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
APRIL 5, 1991

SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATER, LOS ANGELES

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TREFRY	<input checked="" 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:

*No Comments -
OK!*

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

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 27, 1991 10 a.m.
USO Draft One

91 MAR 27 AM 10:55

**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
April 5, 1991
Universal Amphitheater Los Angeles**

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Taking some license with the words of Lee Greenwood, who's made many USO tours: "There's pride in every American heart and it's time we stand and say ... God Bless the USO."

#

March 27, 1991

TO: TONY
FROM: BETH
SUBJECT: SIG'S COMMENTS ON USO REMARKS

I didn't recall ever having seen this quote in any previous speeches, so I went back through all of Reagan's speeches on that European trip -- and he doesn't use the Michener quote anywhere. In the Pointe du Hoc speech, he quotes Stephen Spender "You are men who in your lives fought for life" -- then he says (or rather, Peggy Noonan says): "These are the boys of Pointe du Hoc. These are the men who took the cliffs." Maybe that's what Sig was thinking about.

I'm leaving tonight (Wednesday) after work -- I have Thursday, Friday and Monday off (though I'm flying back in time for Chriss' party Monday). If you want me, I'll be at: (617) 235-2255 (my father's house in Wellesley, MA).

Happy Easter! (Does Eddie get Easter eggs? Duchess does.)

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/27/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4:00PM, THURS., MARCH 28

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
APRIL 5, 1991

SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATER, LOS ANGELES

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TREFRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments/edits on the attached directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to this office no later than 4:00PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 28.
Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*Pls note page 1
To you
OK - 5.12*

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

I believe this was by Ronald Reagan used in 1984 at Normandy & Reagan will be in audience

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 27, 1991 10 a.m.
USO Draft One

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 MAR 28 P6:05

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PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
APRIL 5, 1991

SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATER, LOS ANGELES

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TREFRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

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Thank you.

RESPONSE:

No comment

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

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 27, 1991 10 a.m.
USO Draft One

91 MAR 27 AM 10:55

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
April 5, 1991
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#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 MAR 28 P4:09

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PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO
APRIL 5, 1991
SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATER, LOS ANGELES

Table with columns: NAME, ACTION, FYI. Rows include VICE PRESIDENT, SUNUNU, SCOWCROFT, DARMAN, BRADY, CARD, DEMAREST, FITZWATER, GRAY, HOLIDAY, MCCLURE, NEWMAN, PORTER, ROGICH, UNTERMAYER, ROGERS, SNOW, PETERSMEYER, TREFRY.

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RESPONSE:

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

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 27, 1991 10 a.m.
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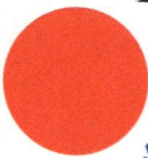
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2257

Document No. 224103SS

MAR 30 8:42

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/27/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4:00PM, THURS., MARCH 28

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APRIL 5, 1991

SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL AMPHITHEATER, LOS ANGELES

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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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<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"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TREFRY	<input checked="" 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:

March 29, 1991

The NSC staff has reviewed and recommends the attached minor changes to the draft Presidential speech.

BRENT SCOWCROFT

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

RECEIVED

91 MAR 27 P 3. 49

91 MAR 30 48: 45

PLATE

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
March 27, 1991 10 a.m.
USO Draft One

91 MAR 27 AM 10:55

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Universal Amphitheater Los Angeles

You know, James Michener ends his war novel THE BRIDGES AT TOKO-RI by asking: "Where did we get such men?" Well, I look out at these thousands of faces -- veterans from WWII to the Persian Gulf -- and all I can do is echo his admiration and pride: "Where did we get such men and women?" The answer -- from the heart of America. You are the heart of America.

That's what the USO has known all these years. That the men and women serving for us so far away are the brothers and sisters of our hearts. From the Battle of the Bulge to the skies over ^{Baghdad,} ~~Kuwait~~ the USO has known what homesick, weary warriors have needed. Something very simple. A touch of home.

The most important thing the USO has done for 50 years is to say to our troops, on behalf of America: hey, we miss you. We're thinking about you. We care about you. You can't be home with us, so we're sending a little bit of home to you. Maybe it's a phone call to your folks. Or a friendly stranger just to talk to. Or Bob Hope in ^{an Asian} ~~a Vietnamese~~ jungle. But what we're really giving you is a smile and a thought from your grateful country.

The USO sums up what's best about this nation. For the USO is made up of **volunteers** -- there for the simplest, most loving reason of all -- because they see a human need and want to help.

The USO is **family** -- the most important word in the American

vocabulary -- our country's family caring about and caring for each member. And the USO is America -- showing the world the optimism, decency, and good-hearted generosity that fills this land from coast to coast.

When our troops went to the Gulf, the USO went with them. It inspired those left behind to join in its spirit -- the proud, yellow-ribbon spirit of thinking about every single son, daughter, brother, sister, father, mother over there. Our heroes of Desert Storm gave a country back its freedom. Together, Americans have given a nation back its pride.

Even though today's USO is immense, my father would recognize it as the same organization President Roosevelt asked him to help start in 1941. Because for 50 years, the USO has proven you don't have to wear a star to be a hero. Its volunteers have lifted the spirits and ennobled the hearts of generations of lonely kids abroad, and their lonely families here at home.

I thought I'd leave you with some words a homesick soldier in the Saudi desert wrote to Tommy Hearn after he made a celebrity USO tour a few months ago. Sergeant William Thigpen said: "It just meant so much to me (that you came), words can't describe how much you have helped me ... may the Lord truly bless you because the Lord has blessed me through you."

Taking some license with the words of Lee Greenwood, who's made many USO tours: "There's pride in every American heart and it's time we stand and say ... God Bless the USO."

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