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Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13564
Folder ID Number: 13564-002

Folder Title:
Medal of Honor 4/19/91 [OA 6032]

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

NAME OF SPEECH & DATE OF SPEECH Medal of Honor

Wed. April 24, 1991

NAME OF WRITER : Curt Smith

NAME OF RESEARCHER: Jennifer Grossman

SPEECH SYNOPSIS: POTUS gives the medal

of honor to Corporal Freddie Stowers' sisters in honor of their brother. Corporal Stowers company was attacked in the Champagne-Meuse sector of France during WWI after the enemy faked a retreat. Corporal Stowers was mortally wounded, but still pushed his troops on. He was the first black soldier given the medal of honor from WWI, 73 years after he was first ~~recommended~~ recommended for the award.

23077555

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24
EAST ROOM

SUBJECT: _____

	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 type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<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"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BATEMAN	<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 APR 19 PM 5:25

April 19, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW *TS*
FROM: CURT SMITH *CS*
SUBJECT: MEDAL OF HONOR

On Wednesday, April 24th at 3 p.m. in the East Room, you will deliver brief remarks (approximately six minutes, on cards) upon which you will posthumously award the Medal of Honor to the family members of Corporal Freddie Stowers. The award recognizes his act of exceptional heroism on September 28, 1918. Your remarks describe the action seen that day in World War One, and touch on the legacy those acts provide.

Acknowledged are Corporal Stowers sisters Georgina Palmer and Mary Bowens, as well as Secretary Cheney, General Powell, and General Vuono.

(Smith/Grossman)
April 19, 1991
Draft Five
4:30 p.m.
STOWERS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR
EAST ROOM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1991

Georgina Palmer and Mary Bowens -- sisters of today's honoree. Secretary Cheney, General Powell, General Vuono, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House -- and to ceremonies honoring a true hero. / A man who makes us proud of our heritage as Americans. A man who -- in life, and death -- helped keep America free. //

I speak of Corporal Freddie Stowers, to whom, posthumously, we present our highest military award for valor, the Medal of Honor. It is an award for bravery and conscience -- that compendium we call character. It reminds us that America is great because America is good. //

Today, Corporal Freddie Stowers becomes the first black soldier honored with a Medal of Honor from World War I. He sought, and helped achieve, the triumph of right over wrong. He showed -- as this year has proved again -- that an inspired human heart can surmount bayonets and barbed wire. //

Seventy-three years ago, Corporal Stowers first was recommended for a Medal of Honor -- but his award was not acted upon. In 1987, then-Congressman Joe Dioguardi and my friend -- the late Mickey Leland -- discovered the Stowers case while conducting other research. The Army took up the case -- and last

November the Secretaries of the Army and Defense recommended that Corporal Stowers receive the Medal of Honor. I heard his story, and agreed enthusiastically.//

It has been said that "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge." On September 28, 1918, Corporal Freddie Stowers stood poised on the edge of such a challenge -- and summoned his mettle and courage. //

Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment, began their attack on Hill 188 in the Champagne-Meuse sector of France. Only a few minutes after the fighting began, the enemy stopped firing. / Enemy troops climbed onto the parapets of the trenches, held up their arms, and seemed to surrender. The relieved American forces held their fire and stepped into the open. //

As our troops moved forward, the enemy jumped back into their trenches and sprayed our men with a vicious stream of machine gun and mortar fire. The assault annihilated well over 50 per cent of Company C. //

In the midst of this bloody chaos, Corporal Stowers took charge and bravely led his men forward, destroying their foes. Although he was mortally wounded during the attack, Freddie Stowers continued to press forward, urging his men on until he died.//

On that September day, Corporal Stowers was alone, far from family and home. He had to be scared as friends died at his

side. But he vanquished his fear and fought -- not for glory, but for a cause larger than himself -- the cause of liberty.

Today, as we pay tribute to this great soldier, our thoughts continue to be with the men and women of all our wars, who valiantly carried the banner of freedom into battle. // They, too, know America would not be the land of the free if it were not also the home of the brave. //

The soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen of Desert Storm -- a group that includes Freddie Stowers' great grand-nephew, Staff Sgt. Douglas Warren of the 101st Airborne, who still is in Saudi Arabia -- all these valliant Americans are heirs to the legacy of Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C. No nation could be more proud of its sons and daughters than we are of them. //

Today, we celebrate their achievements. But we also heed these words, echoing over the centuries: "Only the dead have seen the end of war." /

We owe it to Freddie Stowers and those who revere his legacy to defend the principles for which he died -- and for which America stands. //

In that spirit, I am honored to welcome two of his sisters - - Georgina Palmer of Richmond, California, and Mary Bowens of Greenville, South Carolina. / They will accept the award on behalf of their late brother -- the text of which we now will read:

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
4-22-91

91 APR 19 PM 5:25

April 19, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH: TONY SNOW *TS*
FROM: CURT SMITH *CS*
SUBJECT: MEDAL OF HONOR

OK
on 4/19

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Acknowledged are Corporal Stowers sisters Georgina Palmer and Mary Bowens, as well as Secretary Cheney, General Powell, and General Vuono.

Sen John
Cheney

Former Medal of
Honor

(Smith/Grossman)
April 19, 1991
Draft Five
4:30 p.m.
STOWERS

Disbursed
new
of

US Congress

Allison
Leland

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR
EAST ROOM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1991

Georgina Palmer and Mary Bowens -- sisters of today's honoree. Secretary Cheney, General Powell, General Vuono, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House -- and to ceremonies honoring a true hero. / A man who makes us proud of our heritage as Americans. A man who -- in life, and death -- helped keep America free. //

I speak of Corporal Freddie Stowers, to whom, posthumously, we present our highest military award for valor, the Medal of Honor. It is an award for bravery and conscience -- that compendium we call character. ~~It reminds us that America is great because America is good.~~ //

Today, Corporal Freddie Stowers becomes the first black soldier honored with a Medal of Honor from World War I. He sought, and helped achieve, the triumph of right over wrong. He showed -- as this year has proved again -- that an inspired human heart can surmount bayonets and barbed wire. //

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Allison
x

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It has been said that "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge." On September 28, 1918, Corporal Freddie Stowers stood poised on the edge of such a challenge -- and summoned his mettle and courage. //

Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment, began their attack on Hill 188 in the Champagne-Meuse sector of France. Only a few minutes after the fighting began, the enemy stopped firing. / Enemy troops climbed onto the parapets of the trenches, held up their arms, and seemed to surrender. The relieved American forces held their fire and stepped into the open. //

As our troops moved forward, the enemy jumped back into their trenches and sprayed our men with a vicious stream of machine gun and mortar fire. The assault annihilated well over 50 per cent. of Company C. //

In the midst of this bloody chaos, Corporal Stowers took charge and bravely led his men forward, destroying their foes. Although he was mortally wounded during the attack, Freddie Stowers continued to press forward, urging his men on until he died.//

On that September day, Corporal Stowers was alone, far from family and home. He had to be scared as friends died at his

side. But he vanquished his fear and fought -- not for glory, but for a cause larger than himself -- the cause of liberty.

Today, as we pay tribute to this great soldier, our thoughts continue to be with the men and women of all our wars, who valiantly carried the banner of freedom into battle. // They, too, know America would not be the land of the free if it were not also the home of the brave. //

The soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen of Desert Storm -- a group that includes Freddie Stowers' great grand-nephew, Staff Sgt. Douglas Warren of the 101st Airborne, who still is in Saudi Arabia -- all these valliant Americans are heirs to the legacy of Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C. No nation could be more proud of its sons and daughters than we are of them. //

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We owe it to Freddie Stowers and those who revere his legacy to defend the principles for which he died -- and for which America stands. //

In that spirit, I am honored to welcome two of his sisters - - Georgina Palmer of Richmond, California, and Mary Bowens of Greenville, South Carolina. / They will accept the award on behalf of their late brother -- the text of which we now will read:

#

MEDAL OF HONOR \ EAST ROOM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1991 \ 3:00 P.M.

powell

also see p. 109

SECRETARY CHENEY, GENERAL POWERS, GENERAL VUONO.
DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. FORMER MEDAL OF
HONOR RECIPIENTS -- I SALUTE YOU, EVERY ONE. ALISON
LELAND. GEORGINA PALMER AND MARY BOWENS -- SISTERS OF
TODAY'S HONOREE. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. WELCOME TO THE
WHITE HOUSE -- AND TO CEREMONIES HONORING A TRUE HERO.

/

This honoree's great grand nephew, Staff Sgt. Douglas Warren of the 101st Airborne returned just last night from Saudi Arabia

- 2 -

A MAN WHO MAKES US PROUD OF OUR HERITAGE AS AMERICANS.
A MAN WHO -- IN LIFE, AND DEATH -- HELPED KEEP AMERICA
FREE. //

I SPEAK OF CORPORAL FREDDIE STOWERS, TO WHOM,
POSTHUMOUSLY, WE PRESENT OUR HIGHEST MILITARY AWARD FOR
VALOR, THE MEDAL OF HONOR. IT IS AN AWARD FOR BRAVERY
AND CONSCIENCE -- THAT COMPENDIUM WE CALL CHARACTER. //

TODAY, CORPORAL FREDDIE STOWERS BECOMES THE FIRST BLACK SOLDIER HONORED WITH A MEDAL OF HONOR FROM WORLD WAR I. HE SOUGHT, AND HELPED ACHIEVE, THE TRIUMPH OF RIGHT OVER WRONG. HE SHOWED -- AS THIS YEAR HAS PROVED AGAIN -- THAT AN INSPIRED HUMAN HEART CAN SURMOUNT BAYONETS AND BARBED WIRE. //

SEVENTY-THREE YEARS AGO, CORPORAL STOWERS FIRST WAS RECOMMENDED FOR A MEDAL OF HONOR -- BUT HIS AWARD WAS NOT ACTED UPON.

IN 1987, THEN-CONGRESSMAN JOE DIOGUARDI AND MY FRIEND -- THE LATE MICKEY LELAND -- DISCOVERED THE STOWERS CASE WHILE CONDUCTING OTHER RESEARCH. THE ARMY TOOK UP THE CASE -- AND LAST NOVEMBER THE SECRETARIES OF THE ARMY AND DEFENSE RECOMMENDED THAT CORPORAL STOWERS RECEIVE THE MEDAL OF HONOR. I HEARD HIS STORY, AND AGREED ENTHUSIASTICALLY.//

IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT "THE ULTIMATE MEASURE OF A MAN IS NOT WHERE HE STANDS IN MOMENTS OF COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE, BUT WHERE HE STANDS AT TIMES OF CHALLENGE." ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1918, CORPORAL FREDDIE STOWERS STOOD POISED ON THE EDGE OF SUCH A CHALLENGE -- AND SUMMONED HIS METTLE AND COURAGE. //

CORPORAL STOWERS AND THE MEN OF COMPANY C, 371ST INFANTRY REGIMENT, BEGAN THEIR ATTACK ON HILL 188 IN THE CHAMPAGNE-MEUSE SECTOR OF FRANCE.

ONLY A FEW MINUTES AFTER THE FIGHTING BEGAN, THE ENEMY STOPPED FIRING. / ENEMY TROOPS CLIMBED ONTO THE PARAPETS OF THE TRENCHES, HELD UP THEIR ARMS, AND SEEMED TO SURRENDER. THE RELIEVED AMERICAN FORCES HELD THEIR FIRE AND STEPPED INTO THE OPEN. //

AS OUR TROOPS MOVED FORWARD, THE ENEMY JUMPED BACK INTO THEIR TRENCHES AND SPRAYED OUR MEN WITH A VICIOUS STREAM OF MACHINE GUN AND MORTAR FIRE. THE ASSAULT ANNIHILATED WELL OVER 50 PER CENT OF COMPANY C. //

IN THE MIDST OF THIS BLOODY CHAOS, CORPORAL STOWERS TOOK CHARGE AND BRAVELY LED HIS MEN FORWARD, DESTROYING THEIR FOES. ALTHOUGH HE WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED DURING THE ATTACK, FREDDIE STOWERS CONTINUED TO PRESS FORWARD, URGING HIS MEN ON UNTIL HE DIED.//

ON THAT SEPTEMBER DAY, CORPORAL STOWERS WAS ALONE, FAR FROM FAMILY AND HOME. HE HAD TO BE SCARED AS FRIENDS DIED AT HIS SIDE.

BUT HE VANQUISHED HIS FEAR AND FOUGHT -- NOT FOR GLORY, BUT FOR A CAUSE LARGER THAN HIMSELF -- THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY.

TODAY, AS WE PAY TRIBUTE TO THIS GREAT SOLDIER, OUR THOUGHTS CONTINUE TO BE WITH THE MEN AND WOMEN OF ALL OUR WARS, WHO VALIANTLY CARRIED THE BANNER OF FREEDOM INTO BATTLE. // THEY, TOO, KNOW AMERICA WOULD NOT BE THE LAND OF THE FREE IF IT WERE NOT ALSO THE HOME OF THE BRAVE. //

THE SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AIRMEN, MARINES, AND COAST GUARDSMEN OF DESERT STORM -- A GROUP THAT INCLUDES ~~FREDDIE STOWERS' GREAT GRAND-NEPHEW, STAFF SGT. DOUGLAS WARREN OF THE 101ST AIRBORNE, WHO STILL IS IN SAUDI ARABIA~~ -- ALL THESE VALLIANT AMERICANS ARE HEIRS TO THE LEGACY OF CORPORAL STOWERS AND THE MEN OF COMPANY C. NO NATION COULD BE MORE PROUD OF ITS SONS AND DAUGHTERS THAN WE ARE OF THEM. //

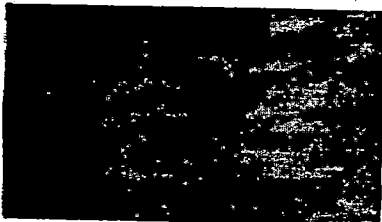
TODAY, WE CELEBRATE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS. BUT WE ALSO HEED THESE WORDS, ECHOING OVER THE CENTURIES: "ONLY THE DEAD HAVE SEEN THE END OF WAR." /

WE OWE IT TO FREDDIE STOWERS AND THOSE WHO REVERE HIS LEGACY TO DEFEND THE PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH HE DIED -- AND FOR WHICH AMERICA STANDS. //

IN THAT SPIRIT, I AM HONORED TO WELCOME TWO OF HIS SISTERS -- GEORGINA PALMER OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, AND MARY BOWENS OF GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA. /

THEY WILL ACCEPT THE AWARD ON BEHALF OF THEIR LATE
BROTHER -- THE TEXT OF WHICH WE NOW WILL READ:

#



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 19, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: TONY SNOW **TS**
FROM: CURT SMITH **CS**
SUBJECT: MEDAL OF HONOR

On Wednesday, April 24th at 3 p.m. in the East Room, you will deliver brief remarks (approximately six minutes, on cards) upon which you will posthumously award the Medal of Honor to the family members of Corporal Freddie Stowers. The award recognizes his act of exceptional heroism on September 28, 1918. Your remarks describe the action seen that day in World War One, and touch on the legacy those acts provide.

Acknowledged are Corporal Stowers sisters Georgina Palmer and Mary Bowens, as well as Secretary Cheney, General Powell, and General Vuono.

(Smith/Grossman)
April 19, 1991
Draft Five
4:30 p.m.
STOWERS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR
EAST ROOM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1991

Georgina Palmer and Mary Bowens -- sisters of today's honoree. Secretary Cheney, General Powell, General Vuono, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House -- and to ceremonies honoring a true hero. / A man who makes us proud of our heritage as Americans. A man who -- in life, and death -- helped keep America free. //

I speak of Corporal Freddie Stowers, to whom, posthumously, we present our highest military award for valor, the Medal of Honor. It is an award for bravery and conscience -- that compendium we call character. It reminds us that America is great because America is good. //

Today, Corporal Freddie Stowers becomes the first black soldier honored with a Medal of Honor from World War I. He sought, and helped achieve, the triumph of right over wrong. He showed -- as this year has proved again -- that an inspired human heart can surmount bayonets and barbed wire. //

Seventy-three years ago, Corporal Stowers first was recommended for a Medal of Honor -- but his award was not acted upon. In 1987, then-Congressman Joe Dioguardi and my friend -- the late Mickey Leland -- discovered the Stowers case while conducting other research. The Army took up the case -- and last

November the Secretaries of the Army and Defense recommended that Corporal Stowers receive the Medal of Honor. I heard his story, and agreed enthusiastically.//

It has been said that "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge." On September 28, 1918, Corporal Freddie Stowers stood poised on the edge of such a challenge -- and summoned his mettle and courage. //

Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment, began their attack on Hill 188 in the Champagne-Meuse sector of France. Only a few minutes after the fighting began, the enemy stopped firing. / Enemy troops climbed onto the parapets of the trenches, held up their arms, and seemed to surrender. The relieved American forces held their fire and stepped into the open. //

As our troops moved forward, the enemy jumped back into their trenches and sprayed our men with a vicious stream of machine gun and mortar fire. The assault annihilated well over 50 per cent of Company C. //

In the midst of this bloody chaos, Corporal Stowers took charge and bravely led his men forward, destroying their foes. Although he was mortally wounded during the attack, Freddie Stowers continued to press forward, urging his men on until he died.//

On that September day, Corporal Stowers was alone, far from family and home. He had to be scared as friends died at his

side. But he vanquished his fear and fought -- not for glory, but for a cause larger than himself -- the cause of liberty.

Today, as we pay tribute to this great soldier, our thoughts continue to be with the men and women of all our wars, who valiantly carried the banner of freedom into battle. // They, too, know America would not be the land of the free if it were not also the home of the brave. //

The soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen of Desert Storm -- a group that includes Freddie Stowers' great grand-nephew, Staff Sgt. Douglas Warren of the 101st Airborne, who still is in Saudi Arabia -- all these valliant Americans are heirs to the legacy of Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C. No nation could be more proud of its sons and daughters than we are of them. //

Today, we celebrate their achievements. But we also heed these words, echoing over the centuries: "Only the dead have seen the end of war." /

We owe it to Freddie Stowers and those who revere his legacy to defend the principles for which he died -- and for which America stands. //

In that spirit, I am honored to welcome two of his sisters - - Georgina Palmer of Richmond, California, and Mary Bowens of Greenville, South Carolina. / They will accept the award on behalf of their late brother -- the text of which we now will read:

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 19, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Medal of Honor

A moving and fitting set of remarks. 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: 4/18/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: FRIDAY 4/19/91 2:00 pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<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"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BATEMAN	<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 forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 19, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

91 APR 18 PM 12:52

(Smith/Grossman)
April 18, 1991
Draft Four
STOWERS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR
ROSE GARDEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 1991

Georgiana Palmer, Mary Bowens, Staffer Sergeant Bush Warren, Major Byrne, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House - - and to ceremonies honoring a true hero and pioneer. / A hero who made us proud to be Americans. A man who -- in life, and death -- helped keep America free. //

I speak of Corporal Freddie Stowers, whom, posthumously, we present with our highest civilian award, the Medal of Honor. It is an award for bravery and conscience -- that compendium we call character. It reminds us that America is great because America is good. //

Today, Corporal Freddie Stowers becomes the first black honored with a Medal of Honor from World War I. He sought, and helped achieve, the triumph of right over wrong. He showed -- as this year has proved again -- how the human heart can surmount bayonets and barbed wire. //

Seventy-three years ago, Corporal Stowers was first recommended for a Medal of Honor -- but his award was not acted upon. So in 1987, Congressman Disguarde and my friend -- the late Mickey Leland -- moved to redress the delay. / They introduced a resolution to honor the Corporal's heroism -- and were supported by the Secretaries of Army and Defense. When,

finally, we located Corporal Stowers' family, we moved to honor this American trailblazer -- for what a story his is. //

Martin Luther King once said that "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge." On September 28, 1918, Corporal Freddie Stowers stood poised on the edge of one such challenge -- and displayed to all his mettle and his courage. //

Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment began their attack on Hill 188 in France, and after only a few minutes of fighting the enemy ceased firing. / Enemy troops began climbing onto the parapets of the trenches, holding up their weapons, seemingly surrendering. This caused the American forces to cease fire and come out into the open. // As our troops moved forward, the enemy jumped back into their trenches and began a vicious round of machine gun and mortar fire. The assault annihilated well over 50 per cent of Company C. //

In the midst of this bloody chaos, Corporal Stowers took charge and bravely led his men forward, destroying the foe. Although during the attack he was gravely wounded by machine gun fire, he continued to press forward, urging on his men until he died. //

On that September day, Corporal Stowers was alone, and afraid, and so far from his home. But he overcame his fear --

which, after all, is the very definition of courage. / He fought not for glory but a cause larger than himself. //

Today, as we pay tribute to this great soldier, our thoughts continue to be with the men and women of Desert Storm who valiantly carried the banner of freedom into battle. // They, too, know America would not be the land of the free if it were not also the home of the brave. //

These soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen are heirs to the legacy of Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C. No Nation could be more proud of its sons and daughters. //

Today, we celebrate their glory. But we also heed these words, echoing over the centuries: "Only the dead have seen the end of war." / We owe it to Freddie Stowers and to those who revere his legacy to defend the principles for which he died -- and for which America stands. //

In that spirit, I am honored to welcome two of his sisters - - Georgina Palmer of Richmond, California, and Mary Bowens of Greenville, South Carolina. / They will accept the award on behalf of their late brother -- the text of which Mayor Bryne will now read:

#

✓

April 19, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

FROM: JENNIFER GROSSMAN

SUBJECT: MEDAL OF HONOR FACT-CHECK

- 1) page one, graph one, acknowledgments: it's "Georgina" rather than "Georgiana." It's "Staff Sergeant Douglas Warren" rather than "Staffer Sergeant Bush Warren" (?); he, however, is in Saudi and might not make it back for the ceremony. Major Byrne should **not** be acknowledged here. Secretary Cheney might come, waiting for confirmation. Colin Powell and Army Chief of Staff Carl Vuono, however, will attend and should be acknowledged.
- 2) page one, graph two, first sentence: as I have said before, this is the highest "military" not "civilian" honor.
- 3) page one, graph four -- oh boy: first, it's "Congressman Dioguardi" not "Disguarde." Secondly, the description of how the recommendation for the medal came to be is incorrect. I would cut "moved to redress.." to "Army and Defense" and replace it with something that reflects that Dioguardi and Leland "..discovered the Stowers case while conducting other research. The Army then took on the case and in November of last year the Secretaries of Army and Defense recommended to me that the Medal of Honor be awarded posthumously to Corporal Stowers. I could not but agree."
- 2) page two, graph two, first sentence: it's my personal feeling that quoting Martin Luther King is a bit patronizing in this context.
- 2) page two, graph three, second sentence (description of action): "holding up their arms" rather than "holding up their weapons."
- 3) page two, graph five, first sentence: do we really want to say that the Corporal was "afraid." Not only do we lack documentation for such a statement, what's so "Honor-able" about fear?

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 APR 19 P5:05

DATE: 4/18/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: FRIDAY 4/19/91 2:00 pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<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"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BATEMAN	<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 forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 19, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

91 APR 18 PM 12:52

(Smith/Grossman)
April 18, 1991
Draft Four
STOWERS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR
ROSE GARDEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 1991

Georgiana Palmer, Mary Bowens, Staffer Sergeant Bush Warren, Major Byrne, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House - - and to ceremonies honoring a true hero and pioneer. / A hero who made us proud to be Americans. A man who -- in life, and death -- helped keep America free. //

I speak of Corporal Freddie Stowers, whom, posthumously, we present with our highest civilian award, the Medal of Honor. It is an award for bravery and conscience -- that compendium we call character. It reminds us that America is great because America is good. //

Today, Corporal Freddie Stowers becomes the first black honored with a Medal of Honor from World War I. He sought, and helped achieve, the triumph of right over wrong. He showed -- as this year has proved again -- how the human heart can surmount bayonets and barbed wire. //

Seventy-three years ago, Corporal Stowers was first recommended for a Medal of Honor -- but his award was not acted upon. So in 1987, Congressman Disguarde and my friend -- the late Mickey Leland -- moved to redress the delay. / They introduced a resolution to honor the Corporal's heroism -- and were supported by the Secretaries of Army and Defense. When,

finally, we located Corporal Stowers' family, we moved to honor this American trailblazer -- for what a story his is. //

Martin Luther King once said that "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge." On September 28, 1918, Corporal Freddie Stowers stood poised on the edge of one such challenge -- and displayed to all his mettle and his courage. //

Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment began their attack on Hill 188 in France, and after only a few minutes of fighting the enemy ceased firing. / Enemy troops began climbing onto the parapets of the trenches, holding up their weapons, seemingly surrendering. This caused the American forces to cease fire and come out into the open. // As our troops moved forward, the enemy jumped back into their trenches and began a vicious round of machine gun and mortar fire. The assault annihilated well over 50 per cent of Company C. //

In the midst of this bloody chaos, Corporal Stowers took charge and bravely led his men forward, destroying the foe. Although during the attack he was gravely wounded by machine gun fire, he continued to press forward, urging on his men until he died. //

On that September day, Corporal Stowers was alone, and afraid, and so far from his home. But he overcame his fear --

which, after all, is the very definition of courage. / He fought not for glory but a cause larger than himself. //

Today, as we pay tribute to this great soldier, our thoughts continue to be with the men and women of Desert Storm who valiantly carried the banner of freedom into battle. // They, too, know America would not be the land of the free if it were not also the home of the brave. //

These soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen are heirs to the legacy of Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C. No Nation could be more proud of its sons and daughters. //

Today, we celebrate their glory. But we also heed these words, echoing over the centuries: "Only the dead have seen the end of war." / We owe it to Freddie Stowers and to those who revere his legacy to defend the principles for which he died -- and for which America stands. //

In that spirit, I am honored to welcome two of his sisters -
- Georgina Palmer of Richmond, California, and Mary Bowens of Greenville, South Carolina. / They will accept the award on behalf of their late brother -- the text of which Mayor Bryne will now read:

#

91 APR 19 P4:10

Document No. 230775SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/18/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: FRIDAY 4/19/91 2:00 pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<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"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BATEMAN	<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 forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 19, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

91 APR 18 PM12:52

(Smith/Grossman)
April 18, 1991
Draft Four
STOWERSPRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR
ROSE GARDEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 1991

Georgiana Palmer, Mary Bowens, Staffer ~~Sergeant~~ Sergeant Bush Warren,
~~Major Bush~~ ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House -
- and to ceremonies honoring a true hero and pioneer. / A hero
who made us proud to be Americans. A man who -- in life, and
death -- helped keep America free. //

I speak of Corporal Freddie Stowers, whom, posthumously, we
present with our highest civilian award, the Medal of Honor. It
is an award for bravery and conscience -- that compendium we call
character. It reminds us that America is great because America
is good. //

Today, Corporal Freddie Stowers becomes the first black
honored with a Medal of Honor from World War I. He sought, and
helped achieve, the triumph of right over wrong. He showed -- as
this year has proved again -- how the human heart can surmount
bayonets and barbed wire. //

Seventy-three years ago, Corporal Stowers was first
recommended for a Medal of Honor -- but his award was not acted
upon. So in 1987, Congressman Disguarde and my friend -- the
late Mickey Leland -- moved to redress the delay. / They
introduced a resolution to honor the Corporal's heroism -- and
were supported by the Secretaries of Army and Defense. [When,

2

finally, we located Corporal Stowers' family,] we moved to honor this American trailblazer -- for what a story his is. //

Martin Luther King once said that "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge." On September 28, 1918, Corporal Freddie Stowers stood poised on the edge of one such challenge -- and displayed to all his mettle and his courage. //

Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment began their attack on Hill 188 in France, and after only a few minutes of fighting the enemy ceased firing. / Enemy troops began climbing onto the parapets of the trenches, holding up their weapons, seemingly surrendering. This caused the American forces to cease fire and come out into the open. // As our troops moved forward, the enemy jumped back into their trenches and began a vicious round of machine gun and mortar fire. The assault annihilated well over 50 per cent of Company C. //

In the midst of this bloody chaos, Corporal Stowers took charge and bravely led his men forward, destroying the foe. Although during the attack he was gravely wounded by machine gun fire, he continued to press forward, urging on his men until he died. //

On that September day, Corporal Stowers was alone, and afraid, and so far from his home. But he overcame his fear --

3

which, after all, is the very definition of courage. / He fought not for glory but a cause larger than himself. //

Today, as we pay tribute to this great soldier, our thoughts continue to be with the men and women of Desert Storm who valiantly carried the banner of freedom into battle. // They, too, know America would not be the land of the free if it were not also the home of the brave. //

These soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen are heirs to the legacy of Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C. No Nation could be more proud of its sons and daughters. //

Today, we celebrate their glory. But we also heed these words, echoing over the centuries: "Only the dead have seen the end of war." / We owe it to Freddie Stowers and to those who revere his legacy to defend the principles for which he died -- and for which America stands. //

In that spirit, I am honored to welcome two of his sisters -
- Georgina Palmer of Richmond, California, and Mary Bowens of Greenville, South Carolina. / They will accept the award on behalf of their late brother -- the text of which Mayor Bryne will now read:

#

U

CLASSIFICATION

IMMEDIATE

PAGES

8

PRIORITY

RELEASER

BYRNE

ROUTINE

DTG

FROM: THE WHITE HOUSE MILITARY OFFICE

TO:

1. NANCY - SPEECHWRITER'S OFFICE

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

INFO:

1. _____

2. _____

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Per our conversation. The top cut is for General Trepp. The second is a revised cut for the Army Chief of Staff.



U

CLASSIFICATION

6218
NANCY

Document No. 23077555

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/18/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: FRIDAY 4/19/91 2:00 pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<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"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FIT.				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GR.				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOI.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sean
This is the original --
which has not been sent
to Tony.

B.

REMARKS:
Please
no lat
Thank

122, x2930,
o this office.

RESPONSE:

Richard B. Taylor
156 USA-Dev
MBH

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

91 APR 18 PM 12:52

(Smith/Grossman)
April 18, 1991
Draft Four
STOWERSPRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR
ROSE GARDEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 1991

Sec Cheney
Gen Powell
Gen Vuono
Georgiana Palmer, Mary Bowens, (*Douglas* Staffer-Sergeant ~~Warren~~ Warren,

Major Byrne, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House -
- and to ceremonies honoring a true hero and pioneer. / A hero
who made us proud to be Americans. A man who -- in life, and
death -- helped keep America free. //

I speak of Corporal Freddie Stowers, whom, posthumously, we
present with our highest *military* ~~civilian~~ award, the Medal of Honor. It
is an award for bravery and conscience -- that compendium we call
character. It reminds us that America is great because America
is good. //

Today, Corporal Freddie Stowers becomes the first black
honored with a Medal of Honor from World War I. He sought, and
helped achieve, the triumph of *democracy* ~~right over wrong~~. He showed -- as
this year has proved again -- how the human heart can surmount
bayonets and barbed wire. //

Seventy-three years ago, Corporal Stowers was first
recommended for a Medal of Honor -- but his award was not acted
upon. So in 1987, Congressman Disguarde and my friend -- the
late Mickey Leland -- moved to redress the delay, ~~and they~~
~~introduced a resolution to honor the Corporal's heroism~~ -- and
were supported by the Secretaries of Army and Defense. When,

2

finally, we located Corporal Stowers' family, we moved to honor this American trailblazer -- for what a story his is. //

Martin Luther King once said that "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge." On September 28, 1918, Corporal Freddie Stowers stood poised on the edge of one such challenge -- and displayed to all his mettle and his courage. //

Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment began their attack on Hill 188 ^{in the Champagne-Meuse sector of} France, ~~and~~ after only a few minutes of fighting the enemy ceased firing. / Enemy troops began climbing ^{ed} onto the parapets of the trenches, holding up their weapons, seemingly surrendering. This caused the American forces to cease fire and come out into the open. // As our troops moved forward, the enemy jumped back into their trenches and began a vicious round of machine gun and mortar fire. The assault annihilated well over 50 per cent of Company C. //

In the midst of this bloody chaos, Corporal Stowers took charge and bravely led his men forward, destroying the foe. Although ~~during the attack~~ ^{during the attack} he was ^{mortally} ~~gravely~~ wounded by machine gun fire, he continued to press forward, urging on his men until he died. //

On that September day, Corporal Stowers was alone, and afraid, and ~~so~~ far from his home. But he overcame his fear --

3

which, after all, is the very definition of courage. / He fought not for glory but a cause larger than himself. //

Today, as we pay tribute to this ^{and humble} great soldier, our thoughts continue to be with the men and women of ^{all our wars} Desert Storm who valiantly carried the banner of freedom into battle. // They, too, know America would not be the land of the free if it were not also the home of the brave. //

^{These} ^{of Desert Storm} soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen are heirs to the legacy of Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C. No Nation ^{should} ~~could~~ be more proud of its sons and daughters. //

Today, we celebrate their glory. But we also heed ^{the words of Plato} these words, echoing over the centuries: "Only the dead have seen the end of war." / We owe it to ^{Corporal} Freddie Stowers and to those who revere his legacy to defend the principles for which he died -- and for which America stands. //

In that spirit, I am honored to welcome two of his sisters - - Georgina Palmer of Richmond, California, and Mary Bowens of Greenville, South Carolina. / They will accept the award on behalf of their late brother -- the text of which ~~Mayor Byrne~~ ^{he} will now read:

#

**MEDAL OF HONOR PRESENTATION
(POSTHUMOUSLY) TO CPL FREDDIE
STOWERS, 24 APRIL 1991**

GEORGIANA PALMER, MARY BOWENS, STAFF SERGEANT ~~BUSH~~
WARREN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. WELCOME TO THE WHITE
HOUSE — AND TO CEREMONIES HONORING A TRUE AMERICAN
HERO — A MAN WHO GAVE THE LAST FULL MEASURE OF HIS
BEING FOR AMERICA.

THIS VALIANT AMERICAN WAS CORPORAL FREDDIE
STOWERS, AND IT IS MY DEEP HONOR TO PRESENT TO HIS
FAMILY OUR NATION'S HIGHEST MILITARY AWARD, THE
MEDAL OF HONOR. THIS MEDAL IS AWARDED FOR VALOR
ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY — AND IT SYMBOLIZES
THOSE QUALITIES THAT ARE UNIQUE TO THE AMERICAN
SOLDIER: COURAGEOUS IN WAR, COMPASSIONATE IN PEACE,
AND COMMITTED TO THE DEFENSE OF THE NATION.

TODAY, WE PAY TRIBUTE TO ONE SUCH SOLDIER — CORPORAL
FREDDIE STOWERS — FOR HIS HEROISM IN A MIGHTY CONFLICT
MORE THAN SEVEN DECADES AGO. HE SHOWED — AS THIS
YEAR HAS PROVED AGAIN — HOW THE HUMAN HEART CAN
SURMOUNT BAYONETS AND BARBED WIRE.

SEVENTY-THREE YEARS AGO, CORPORAL STOWERS WAS
FIRST RECOMMENDED FOR A MEDAL OF HONOR — BUT IN THE
CONFUSION OF WAR, HIS AWARD WAS NOT ACTED UPON.

SO IN 1987, CONGRESSMEN DISGUARDE AND MY FRIEND — ~~THE~~ ^{AND} ~~HEY~~
LATE MICKEY LELAND — MOVED TO REDRESS THE DELAY. ~~THEY~~
~~INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE CORPORALS~~
~~HEROISM~~ — AND WERE SUPPORTED BY THE SECRETARIES OF
ARMY AND DEFENSE. WHEN, FINALLY, WE LOCATED
CORPORAL STOWERS' FAMILY, WE MOVED TO HONOR THIS
AMERICAN HERO.

MARTIN LUTHER KING ONCE SAID THAT "THE ULTIMATE
MEASURE OF A MAN IS NOT WHERE HE STANDS IN MOMENTS
OF COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE, BUT WHERE HE STANDS AT
TIMES OF CHALLENGE." ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1918, CORPORAL
FREDDIE STOWERS STOOD POISED ON THE EDGE OF ONE SUCH
CHALLENGE — AND DISPLAYED TO ALL HIS METTLE AND HIS
COURAGE.

CORPORAL STOWERS AND THE MEN OF COMPANY C, 371ST
INFANTRY REGIMENT BEGAN THEIR ATTACK ON HILL 188 IN
THE CHAMPAGNE-MEUSE SECTOR OF FRANCE. AFTER ONLY A
FEW MINUTES OF FIGHTING THE ENEMY CEASED FIRING.
ENEMY TROOPS CLIMBED ONTO THE PARAPETS OF THE
TRENCHES, HOLDING UP THEIR WEAPONS, SEEMINGLY
SURRENDERING. THIS CAUSED THE AMERICAN FORCES TO
CEASE FIRE AND COME OUT INTO THE OPEN. AS OUR TROOPS
MOVED FORWARD, THE ENEMY JUMPED BACK INTO THEIR
TRENCHES AND BEGAN A VICIOUS ROUND OF MACHINE GUN
AND MORTAR FIRE. THE ASSAULT ANNIHILATED WELL OVER
50 PERCENT OF COMPANY C.

IN THE MIDST OF A BLOODY CHAOS, CORPORAL STOWERS TOOK COMMAND AND BRAVELY LEAD HIS MEN FORWARD, OVERRUNNING THE ENEMY POINTS AND DESTROYING THE FOE. ALTHOUGH HE WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED BY MACHINE GUN FIRE DURING THE ATTACK, HE CONTINUED TO PRESS FORWARD, URGING ON HIS MEN UNTIL HE DIED.

ON THAT SEPTEMBER DAY, CORPORAL STOWERS WAS FAR FROM HOME. BUT, ALTHOUGH HE WAS AFRAID — AS ALL SOLDIERS ARE — HE OVERCAME HIS FEAR — AND PRESSED FORWARD BEYOND THE LIMITS OF HUMAN ENDEAVOR — NOT FOR GLORY BUT A CAUSE LARGER THAN HIMSELF.

TODAY, AS WE PAY TRIBUTE TO THIS GREAT AND HUMBLE SOLDIER, OUR THOUGHTS CONTINUE TO BE WITH THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO VALIANTLY CARRIED THE BANNER OF FREEDOM INTO BATTLE IN DESERT STORM AND WHO MAN THE RAMPARTS OF FREEDOM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THEY, TOO, KNOW AMERICA WOULD NOT BE THE LAND OF THE FREE IF IT WERE NOT ALSO THE HOME OF THE BRAVE.

THE SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AIRMEN, MARINES, COAST GUARDSMEN OF TODAY ARE HEIRS TO THE LEGACY OF CORPORAL STOWERS AND THE MEN OF COMPANY C. NO NATION SHOULD BE MORE PROUD OF ITS SONS AND DAUGHTERS.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THEIR GLORY. BUT WE ALSO HEED THE WORDS OF PLATO — ECHOING OVER THE CENTURIES: "ONLY THE DEAD HAVE SEEN THE END OF WAR." WE OWE IT TO CORPORAL FREDDIE STOWERS AND TO THOSE WHO REVERE HIS COURAGE AND SACRIFICE TO SUSTAIN AND BUILD THE ARMED FORCES OF THIS NATION TO DEFEND THE PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH OUR NATION STANDS.

IN THAT SPIRIT, I AM HONORED TO WELCOME TWO OF HIS SISTERS — GEORGINA PALMER OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, AND MARY BOWENS OF GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA. THEY WILL ACCEPT THE AWARD ON BEHALF OF THEIR LATE BROTHER. READ THE CITATION.

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
01. List	Personal information of banquet attendees. (1 pp.)	04/19/91	P-6, (b)(6)	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File, Drafts
Subseries:
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: Medal of Honor

Date Closed: 9/20/2004 FOIA/SYS Case #: Re-review Case #: 2004-2249-S P-2/P-5 Review Case #:	OA/ID Number: 06032
MR Case #: MR Disposition: Disposition Date:	Appeal Case #: Appeal Disposition: Disposition Date:

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)] P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA] P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA] P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA] P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA] P-5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA] P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA] C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.	Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)] (b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA] (b)(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA] (b)(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA] (b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA] (b)(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA] (b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA] (b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA] (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information
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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

2892

91 APR 19 P2:58

DATE: 4/18/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: FRIDAY 4/19/91 2:00 pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<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"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BATEMAN	<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 forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 19, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

April 19, 1991

The National Security Council staff has reviewed and recommends the changes in the attached remarks.

Brent Scowcroft
Brent Scowcroft

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

RECEIVED

91 APR 18 P 3. 13

APR 18 65: 28

91 APR 18 PM12:52

(Smith/Grossman)
April 18, 1991
Draft Four
STOWERS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR
ROSE GARDEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 1991

Georgiana Palmer, Mary Bowens, Staffer ~~Sergeant~~ Sergeant Bush Warren,
Major Byrne, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House -
- and to ceremonies honoring a true hero and pioneer. / A hero
who ^{can make} ~~made~~ us proud to be Americans. A man who -- in life, and
death -- helped keep America free. //

I speak of Corporal Freddie Stowers, whom, posthumously, we
present with our highest ^{military} ~~civilian~~ award, the Medal of Honor. It
is an award for bravery and conscience -- that compendium we call
character. It reminds us that America is great because America
is good. //

Today, Corporal Freddie Stowers becomes the first black
honored with a Medal of Honor from World War I. He sought, and
helped achieve, the triumph of right over wrong. He showed -- as
this year has proved again -- how the human heart can surmount
bayonets and barbed wire. //

Seventy-three years ago, Corporal Stowers was first
recommended for a Medal of Honor -- but his award was not acted
upon. So in 1987, Congressman Disguarde and my friend -- the
late Mickey Leland -- moved to redress the delay. / They
introduced a resolution to honor the Corporal's heroism -- and
were supported by the Secretaries of Army and Defense. When,

finally, we located Corporal Stowers' family, we moved to honor this American trailblazer -- for what a story his is. //

Martin Luther King once said that "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge." On September 28, 1918, Corporal Freddie Stowers stood poised on the edge of one such challenge -- and displayed to all his mettle and his courage. //

Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment began their attack on Hill 188 in France, and after only a few minutes of fighting the enemy ceased firing. / Enemy troops began climbing onto the parapets of the trenches, holding up their weapons, seemingly surrendering. This caused the American forces to cease fire and come out into the open. // As our troops moved forward, the enemy jumped back into their trenches and began a vicious round of machine gun and mortar fire. The assault annihilated well over 50 per cent of Company C. //

In the midst of this bloody chaos, Corporal Stowers took charge and bravely led his men forward, destroying ^{their adversaries} ~~the foe~~. Although during the attack he was gravely wounded by machine gun fire, he continued to press forward, urging on his men until he died. //

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/18/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: FRIDAY 4/19/91 2:00 pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR

		ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		PETERSMEYER	<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"/>		SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		BATEMAN	<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 forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 19, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

U. good.
S.R.

Do we want who Palmer are?
Do we want who Palmer are?
Do we want who Palmer are?
Do we want who Palmer are?

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

91 APR 18 PM 12:52

(Smith/Grossman)
April 18, 1991
Draft Four
STOWERS

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TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 1991

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VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<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"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BATEMAN	<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 forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 19, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

NO COMMENTS. THANKS.

HOLLY WILLIAMSON *HW*
4-19-91

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 19, 1991

91 APR 19 P2:05



MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW

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

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Medal of Honor

Pursuant to Phillip Brady's request, Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced matter and has no legal objection. We note, however, that the "Major Byrne" mentioned in the first paragraph and the "Mayor Byrne" mentioned in the last appear to be the same person, and therefore one of the references is probably incorrect. Also, in the first paragraph, the text should refer to "Staff", not "Staffer" Sergeant Bush Warren.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

91 APR 18 9:28
WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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RESPONSE:

ok JS

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
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STOWERS

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*Bateman's
Comments*

(Smith/Grossman)
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Christina -

Just a few minor comments.

Thanks Jk

4/18

(Smith/Grossman)
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THE GARDEN
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	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BATEMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY <i>Von Lenbke 6937</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TREFRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 19, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

MASTER

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

All changes on this page accepted. - TS

(Smith/Grossman)
April 18, 1991
Draft Four
STOWERS

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Please identify

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MEDAL OF HONOR
ROSE GARDEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 1991
Staff Sgt. Douglas Warren
101st Airborne Div.
(still in Saudi)
Great Grand Neph. of
Freddie Stowers

~~Georgiana Palmer, Mary Bowens, Staffer Sergeant Bush Warren,~~

~~Major Byrne,~~ ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the White House -
- and to ceremonies honoring a true hero ~~and pioneer.~~ / A hero
who ~~made~~ ^{can make} us proud to be Americans. A man who -- in life, and
death -- helped keep America free. //

I speak of Corporal Freddie Stowers, ^{to} whom, posthumously, we
present ~~with~~ ^{military} our highest ~~civilian~~ ^{for valor} award, the Medal of Honor. It
is an award for bravery and conscience -- that compendium we call
character. It reminds us that America is great because America
is good. //

Today, Corporal Freddie Stowers becomes the first black
honored with a Medal of Honor from World War I. He sought, and
helped achieve, the triumph of ~~right over wrong~~ ^{democracy}. He showed -- as
this year has proved again -- how the human heart can surmount
bayonets and barbed wire. //

Seventy-three years ago, Corporal Stowers was first
recommended for a Medal of Honor -- but his award was not acted
upon. So in 1987, Congressmen ~~Disguarde~~ ^{Dioguardi} and my friend -- the
late Mickey Leland -- ~~moved to redress the delay.~~ ^{discovered the Stowers case while} / They ~~introduced a resolution to honor the Corporal's heroism -- and~~
~~and in November of last year the...~~ ^{conducting other research. The Army then took on the case}
~~were supported by the Secretaries of Army and Defense.~~ When, ~~e~~

the recommended to me that the Medal of Honor be awarded posthumously to Corporal Stowers. I could not but agree.

NSC
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finally, we located Corporal Stowers' family, ~~we~~ moved to honor this American trailblazer -- for what a story his is. //

~~Martin Luther King~~ ^{IT WAS} once said that "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge." On September 28, 1918, Corporal Freddie Stowers stood poised on the edge of one such challenge -- and displayed to all his mettle and his courage. //

Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C, 371st Infantry Regiment began their attack on Hill 188 in ^{the Champagne-Meuse sector of} France, ~~and~~ after only a few minutes of fighting the enemy ceased firing. / Enemy troops ~~began~~ ^{ed} climbing onto the parapets of the trenches, holding up their ^{arms} weapons, seemingly surrendering. This caused the American forces to cease fire and come out into the open. // As our troops moved forward, the enemy jumped back into their trenches and began a vicious round of machine gun and mortar fire. The assault annihilated well over 50 per cent of Company C. //

In the midst of this bloody chaos, Corporal Stowers took charge and bravely led his men forward, destroying ~~the foe~~ ^{their adversaries}.

Although ~~during the attack~~ ^{during the attack} he was ~~gravely~~ ^{mortally} wounded by machine gun fire, he continued to press forward, urging on his men until he died. //

On that September day, Corporal Stowers was alone, ^{? Honorable behavior?} (and afraid), and ~~so~~ far from his home. But he overcame his fear --

Bateman
Yes
authorizing
to use
Grossman

Trefery Yes
Yes
Grossman

NBC
Trefery Yes

Grossman

NO
NO

which, after all, is the very definition of courage. / He fought not for glory but a cause larger than himself. //

Today, as we pay tribute to this great soldier, our thoughts continue to be with the men and women of ~~Desert Storm~~ who valiantly carried the banner of freedom into battle. // They, too, know America would not be the land of the free if it were not also the home of the brave. //

~~These~~ ^{The} soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen are heirs to the legacy of Corporal Stowers and the men of Company C. No Nation ~~could~~ ^{should} be more proud of its sons and daughters. //

Today, we celebrate their glory. But we also heed ~~these~~ ^{the words of} Plato words, echoing over the centuries: "Only the dead have seen the end of war." / We owe it to ^{Corporal} Freddie Stowers and to those who revere his legacy to defend the principles for which he died -- and for which America stands. //

In that spirit, I am honored to welcome two of his sisters - Georgina Palmer of Richmond, California, and Mary Bowens of Greenville, South Carolina. / They will accept the award on behalf of their late brother -- the text of which ~~Mayor Bryne~~ will now ^{be} read:

#

Trefery

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and humble NO
all our wars YES

YES

should NO

NO
the words of

be