

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):  
S; 1998-0207-F

FOIA Number:  
S

# FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.**

---

**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:** 13585  
**Folder ID Number:** 13585-007

---

**Folder Title:**  
Clarence Thomas Swearing-In Ceremony 10/18/91 [OA 6038]

---

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>

---

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 18, 1991

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
AT CEREMONY FOR SWEARING IN OF CLARENCE THOMAS  
AS ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT

The South Lawn

2:00 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Welcome all to the White House. Mr. Vice President and Mrs. Quayle, a warm welcome. And, of course, to the members of the Supreme Court. And may I simply say that Barbara and I join with you and with all the nation in mourning the loss of Nan Rehnquist, the wife of the Chief Justice.

Let me also welcome the many members of the United States Congress that are with us today. Single out but a few -- Minority Leader Dole and Chairman Biden, and ranking member Thurmond of the committee, and so many others. Members of our Cabinet over here and so many friends of Clarence Thomas, who have worked with him here in Washington -- and, of course, I should especially single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. (Applause.)

And of course, those special guests, the many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife, Ginnie, son Jamal here in the front row. And Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams; his sister, Emma Mae Martin; his brother, Myers. His cousins -- it reminds me of Pinafore -- his cousins, sisters, aunts. (Laughter.) But that's the way it ought to be. And all of you, some of whom drove all the way up -- I see a little advertisement over here from Pin Point, Georgia, to be here this afternoon. (Applause.) That's 600 long miles -- but I've got a feeling they might have driven 6,000 miles to be here today.

People from far and wide -- from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- have come here today in testament to the character of Clarence Thomas. But what brought you here is also something more: the power of the American ideal -- the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These are the values that unite us all -- that give America meaning.

America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. When we ask our Justices to uphold the Constitution, we entrust to them the laws that give life to our principles. Clarence Thomas now joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is."

I said when I nominated Clarence Thomas that **this man is** a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans. Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from a single source: an inner strength stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point.

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government and in

MORE

every branch of federal government. Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him.

These are the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows firsthand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unthinking cruelty that tells some men and women that society expects little of them -- and offers even less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He's known his share of the joys of life: the love of family, the devotion of friends, the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and to the American Dream.

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he's answered with America at its best. He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court, and America will be better for it.

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of office is administered to our nation's newest Supreme Court Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level, America is blessed to have a man of this character serve on its Highest Court.

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas, congratulations. And now I'd like to ask Justice Byron White to administer the oath. (Applause.)

(The oath is administered.)

JUSTICE THOMAS: Thank you all so much. This is wonderful.

Mr. President, Mrs. Bush, Mr. Vice President and Mrs. Quayle, Senator Dole, and all my friends and all the members of Congress, Justice White and my future colleagues, and all my wonderful family members, friends, supporters and those who helped. Even as I am joyful at this event, I am deeply saddened by the death of Mrs. Rehnquist, and I join in the heartfelt condolences to the Chief Justice and his family.

Since that bright, sunny day in Kennebunkport July 1, there have been many difficult days as we all went through the confirmation battle -- and I mean we all. But on this sunny day in October at the White House, there is joy -- joy in the morning. (Applause.)

I thank almighty God. I thank those who stood along the road of 43 years of my life from Pin Point to the Supreme Court, from 1948 to 1991. I thank my mother and my father; my wonderful, wonderful grandparents; the nuns; my relatives; my neighbors; my friends -- all who insisted that I make something of myself. And all who stood ready to help me do just that.

I thank America for the ideal, the opportunity and the reaffirmation of so much that is good about our great country. I thank my wonderful wife and my funny son. (Laughter.) My wife is my best friend, and over the past 110 days, we have been brought closer together, our love has been strengthened, and we have become better people.

Today, now, it is a time to move forward. A time to look for what is good in others, what is good in our country. It's a time to see what we have in common, what we share as human beings and as citizens. It is a time to look for solutions rather than exploit problems. In the words of Sir Winston Churchill, "Let us go forward together."

I close this process, this long and enduring process, as I began in Kennebunkport. Only in America could this day have been possible. I thank you all and may God bless you. (Applause.)

END

2:22 P.M. EDT

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/17/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9:00 a.m. Friday 10/18

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY  
(10/17 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McBRIDE	<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"/>	FIRESTONE <i>WU</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 9:00 a.m., Friday, 10/18, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991 91 OCT 17 P7:24

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm  
[THOMAS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, all of you, to the White House. We have nearly a thousand special guests here today. I want to recognize the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his wife, [Natalie]. //

Let me welcome the many members of Congress and my Cabinet. Friends of Judge Thomas who have worked with him here in Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. / The many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. [Sister, brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this afternoon. 600 long miles -- but they would have driven 6000 miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide -- people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

For you see, this country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood. America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

Judge Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. He has served as Assistant

Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. ~~District Court of Appeals.~~ *Court of Appeals for DC Circuit.* Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
"Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. I  
now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

# # #

91 OCT 18 4:49 **WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 10/17/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9:00 a.m. Friday 10/18

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY  
(10/17 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McBRIDE	<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"/>	FIRESTONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 9:00 a.m., Friday, 10/18, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

*See comments*

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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991 91 OCT 17 P7:24

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm  
[THOMAS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, all of you, to the White House. We have nearly a thousand special guests here today. I want to recognize the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his wife, [Natalie]. //

Let me welcome the many Members of Congress and my Cabinet. Friends of Judge Thomas who have worked with him here in Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. / The many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. [Sister, brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this afternoon. 600 long miles -- but they would have driven 6000 miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide -- people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

For you see, this country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood. America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

Judge Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. He has served as Assistant

Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. District Court of Appeals. Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
"Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. I  
now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

# # #

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

91 OCT 18 A 9:15

DATE: 10/17/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9:00 a.m. Friday 10/18

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY  
(10/17 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McBRIDE	<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"/>	FIRESTONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 9:00 a.m., Friday, 10/18, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

*Good - a suggestion or two.*

*PHB for SR*

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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991 31 OCT 17 P7:24

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm  
[THOMAS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, all of you, to the White House. We have nearly a thousand special guests here today. I want to recognize the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his wife, [Natalie]. //

Let me welcome the many members of Congress and my Cabinet. Friends of Judge Thomas who have worked with him here in Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. / The many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. [Sister, brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this afternoon. *-- that's* 600 long miles, *-- ?* but they would have driven 6000 miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide -- people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

For you see, ~~this~~<sup>our</sup> country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood. America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

Judge Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. ~~He has served as Assistant~~

~~Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. District Court of Appeals.~~  
*at each experience*  
 Each position, will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

~~These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not~~  
*But this*  
 the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
"Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. I  
now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

# # #

*From the desk of*  
**George Bush**

Fine I just  
shortened it  
a little  
Put in Rival

IF WE'S there it will

90: ~~Barbara~~ Mr. Chief Justice ~~may~~  
McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm

I say that B-E and entire nation  
are thinking of you and your family as  
we mourn the loss of your beloved  
wife, Nav

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, ~~all of you~~, to the White House. We have nearly a  
thousand special guests here today. ~~I want to recognize the~~  
*First a warm welcome*  
to the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer  
*Barbara - I join with you and with the nation*  
to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his  
*Nav Rehnquist - the wife of the Chief Justice*  
wife, ~~[Natalie]~~. //

Let me welcome the many members of Congress and my Cabinet.  
Friends of Judge Thomas who have worked with him here in  
Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man  
every American would be proud to call friend. / The many  
members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie  
and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. *Emma Mae*  
*Meyers* [Sister, *Mark*  
brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or  
fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom  
drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this  
afternoon. 600 long miles -- but they would have driven 6000  
miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide --  
people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income  
-- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's  
also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

7502

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

~~For you see, this country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood.~~ America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words 'on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

Judge Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust ~~this~~ sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. He has served as Assistant

Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. District Court of Appeals. Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
"Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. I  
now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991

91 OCT 17 P7:24

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

## WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING  
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD)    /    /

Name of Correspondent: PHIL BRADY

MI Mail Report                      User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Presidential Remarks: Clarence Thomas Swearing-In Ceremony

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION		
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CUofc</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>9/10/18</u>		<u>  </u> / <u>  </u> / <u>  </u>
	Referral Note:			
<u>CUAT 07</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>9/10/18</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>9/10/18</u>
	Referral Note:			<u>9:00 am -</u>
<u>CUAT 23</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>9/10/18</u>		<u>  </u> / <u>  </u> / <u>  </u>
	Referral Note:			
<u>CUgray</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>9/10/18</u>		<u>  </u> / <u>  </u> / <u>  </u>
	Referral Note:			
<u>CUAT 02</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>9/10/18</u>		<u>  </u> / <u>  </u> / <u>  </u>
	Referral Note:			

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>ACTION CODES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A - Appropriate Action</li> <li>C - Comment/Recommendation</li> <li>D - Draft Response</li> <li>F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure</li> <li>I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary</li> <li>R - Direct Reply w/Copy</li> <li>S - For Signature</li> <li>X - Interim Reply</li> </ul> | <p><b>DISPOSITION CODES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A - Answered</li> <li>B - Non-Special Referral</li> <li>C - Completed</li> <li>S - Suspended</li> </ul> |
|---|---|
- FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**  
 Type of Response = Initials of Signer  
 Code = "A"  
 Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: Mark - Coordinate comments with Lee, please!

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.  
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).  
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.  
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

OCT 18 1991

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/17/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9:00 a.m. Friday 10/18

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY  
(10/17 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McBRIDE	<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"/>	FIRESTONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 9:00 a.m., Friday, 10/18, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991  
OCT 17 P7:24

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm  
[THOMAS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, all of you, to the White House. We have nearly a thousand special guests here today. I want to recognize the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his wife, [Natalie]. //

Let me welcome the many members of Congress and my Cabinet. Friends of Judge Thomas who have worked with him here in Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. / The many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. [Sister, brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this afternoon. 600 long miles -- but they would have driven 6000 miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide -- people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

For you see, this country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood. America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

Judge Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. He has served as Assistant

Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. District Court of Appeals. Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
 "Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
 shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
 office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
 Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
 is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
 Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. ✓ I  
 now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

therefore

Justice White, # # #  
 the Senior Assoc. Justice of the  
 U.S. Supreme Court, to adm. the  
 oath in his place.

> Chief Justice R. could not be here because  
 of his wife's death yesterday.

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 10/17/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9:00 a.m. Friday 10/18

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY  
(10/17 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH <del>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</del>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McBRIDE	<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"/>	FIRESTONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:  
 Please provide any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 9:00 a.m., Friday, 10/18, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE: *According to Counsel's office the commission has been signed meaning he should be referred to AS Justice. Even though he has not received the swearing in*

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991

31 OCT 17 P7:24

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm  
[THOMAS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, all of you, to the White House. We have nearly a thousand special guests here today. I want to recognize the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his wife, [Natalie]. //

Let me welcome the many members of Congress and my Cabinet. Friends of Judge Thomas who have worked with him here in Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. / The many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. [Sister, brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this afternoon. 600 long miles -- but they would have driven 6000 miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide -- people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

For you see, this country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood. America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

Judge Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. He has served as Assistant

Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. District Court of Appeals. Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
"Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. I  
now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

BYRON  
WHITE

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

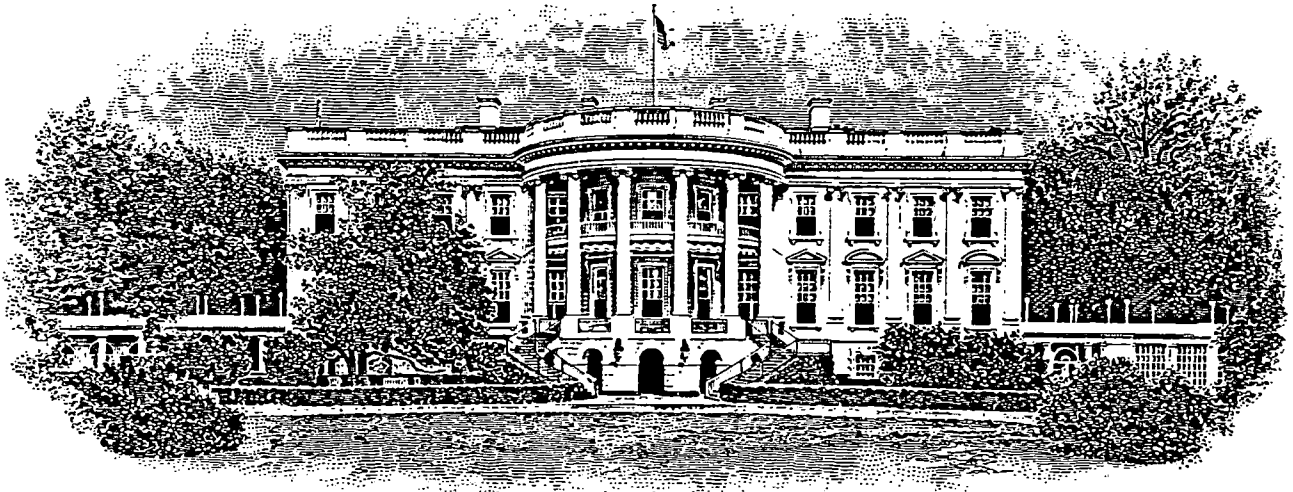
II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE **OCT. 17, 1991**  
TO **DAVID DEMAREST**

FAX NUMBER **513-621-0802**  
OFFICE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER **8**

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

FROM **CHRISTINA MARTIN**  
COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE NUMBER **202-456-2930**  
FAX: **202-456-6218**

**PLEASE HOLD AT DESK FOR  
MR. DEMAREST**

MR. DEWABERL  
BREVET HOLD VL DEER JOB

EX: 305-427-7518  
305-427-5220

CHRISTINA WUKIN

3

305-427-7518

DAVID DEWABERL  
TRAINING DIVISION  
APR 11 1991

McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm  
[THOMAS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, all of you, to the White House. We have nearly a thousand special guests here today. I want to recognize the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his wife, [Natalie]. //

Let me welcome the many members of Congress and my Cabinet. Friends of Judge Thomas who have worked with him here in Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. / The many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. [Sister, brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this afternoon. 600 long miles -- but they would have driven 6000 miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide -- people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

For you see, this country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood. America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

Judge Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. He has served as Assistant

Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. ~~District Court of Appeals.~~ *Circuit Court for DC*  
 Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his *Court of Appeals for DC*  
*Circuit*  
 vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
"Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. I  
now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:           DAVID DEMAREST  
                  TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM:               DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT:            CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

Judge

McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm  
[THOMAS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, all of you, to the White House. We have nearly a thousand special guests here today. I want to recognize the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his wife, [Natalie]. //

Let me welcome the many members of Congress and my Cabinet. Friends of ~~Judge~~<sup>Justice</sup> Thomas who have worked with him here in Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. / The many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. [Sister, brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this afternoon. 600 long miles -- but they would have driven 6000 miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide -- people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

For you see, this country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood. America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

<sup>Justice</sup>  
~~Judge~~ Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. He has served as Assistant

Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. District Court of Appeals. Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
"Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. I  
now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

# # #

## WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
  - H - INTERNAL
  - I - INCOMING
- Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD)     /     /

Name of Correspondent: PHIL BRADY

MI Mail Report                      User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Presidential Remarks: Clarence Thomas Swearing-In Ceremony

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CUofc</u>	ORIGINATOR	9/10/18
<u>CUAT 07</u>	A	9/10/18
<u>CUAT 23</u>	I	9/10/18
<u>CUgray</u>	I	9/10/18
<u>CUAT 02</u>	I	9/10/18

**ACTION CODES:**

- A - Appropriate Action
  - I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
  - C - Comment/Recommendation
  - R - Direct Reply w/Copy
  - D - Draft Response
  - S - For Signature
  - F - Furnish Fact Sheet
  - X - Interim Reply
- to be used as Enclosure

**DISPOSITION CODES:**

- A - Answered
- C - Completed
- B - Non-Special Referral
- S - Suspended

**FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: Mark - Coordinate comments with Lee, please!

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.  
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOP).  
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.  
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

## RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

### CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: \_\_\_\_\_ Media: \_\_\_\_\_ Individual Codes: \_\_\_\_\_

Prime Subject Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Subject Codes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

**SIGNATURE CODES:**

- CPn** - Presidential Correspondence
  - n - 0 - Unknown
  - n - 1 - George Herbert Walker Bush
  - n - 2 - George Bush
  - n - 3 - George
- CLn** - First Lady's Correspondence
  - n - 1 - Barbara Bush
  - n - 2 - Barbara
  - n - 3 - Bar
  - n - 4 - Mrs. Barbara Bush
- CBn** - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence
  - n - 1 - Barbara & George Bush
  - n - 2 - Barbara & George

**MEDIA CODES:**

- B** - Box/package
- C** - Copy
- D** - Official document
- G** - Message
- H** - Handcarried
- L** - Letter
- M** - Mailgram
- O** - Memo
- P** - Photo
- R** - Report
- S** - Sealed
- T** - Telegram
- V** - Telephone
- X** - Miscellaneous
- Y** - Study

OCT 18 1991

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 10/17/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9:00 a.m. Friday 10/18

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY  
(10/17 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McBRIDE	<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"/>	FIRESTONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments directly to Tony Snow no later than 9:00 a.m., Friday, 10/18, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991 31 OCT 17 P7:24

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm  
[THOMAS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, all of you, to the White House. We have nearly a thousand special guests here today. I want to recognize the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his wife, [Natalie]. //

Let me welcome the many members of Congress and my Cabinet. Friends of Judge Thomas who have worked with him here in Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. / The many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. [Sister, brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this afternoon. 600 long miles -- but they would have driven 6000 miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide -- people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

For you see, this country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood. America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

Judge Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. He has served as Assistant

Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. District Court of Appeals. Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
 "Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
 shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
 office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
 Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
 is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
 Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. ✓ I  
 now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

Justice White, # # #  
 the Senior Assoc. Justice of the  
 U.S. Supreme Court, to adm. the  
 oath in his place.

> Chief Justice R. could not be here because  
 of his wife's death yesterday.

therefore

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 17, 1991

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm  
[THOMAS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, all of you, to the White House. We have nearly a thousand special guests here today. I want to recognize the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his wife, [Natalie]. //

Let me welcome the many members of Congress and my Cabinet. Friends of Judge Thomas who have worked with him here in Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. / The many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. [Sister, brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this afternoon. 600 long miles -- but they would have driven 6000 miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide -- people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

For you see, this country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood. America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

Judge Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. He has served as Assistant

Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. District Court of Appeals. Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
"Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. I  
now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

# # #

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM  
91 OCT 18 A 9:15

DATE: 10/17/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: -----

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING IN CEREMONY  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1991

SUBJECT: SOUTH LAWN

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McBRIDE	<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"/>	FIRESTONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<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

October 17, 1991 31 OCT 17 P7:24

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST  
TONY SNOW *TS*

FROM: DAN MCGROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: CLARENCE THOMAS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., you will deliver remarks (6 minutes, on cards) to an audience of approximately 1,000 people on the South Lawn. The audience will include members of the Cabinet, Congress, and friends and family of Clarence Thomas.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks highlight the promise Thomas holds as a Supreme Court Justice -- specifically as a man who has served this country well as a public servant and as a justice who will champion the Constitution.

NOTE: This draft is in simultaneous staffing to senior staff.

McGroarty/Nix  
October 17, 1991  
7:00 pm  
[THOMAS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS  
THE SOUTH LAWN  
OCTOBER 18, 1991  
2:00 PM

Welcome, all of you, to the White House. We have nearly a thousand special guests here today. I want to recognize the members of the Supreme Court -- and let me send a special prayer to Chief Justice William Rehnquist, mourning the loss of his wife, [Natalie]. //

Let me welcome the many members of Congress and my Cabinet. Friends of Judge Thomas who have worked with him here in Washington -- and let me single out Senator Jack Danforth, a man every American would be proud to call friend. / The many members of Clarence Thomas's family here today: his wife Ginnie and son Jamal. Clarence's mother, Mrs. Leola Williams. [Sister, brother.] The cousins -- whether they're first, second, third or fourth -- all the aunts and uncles and friends, some of whom drove all the way up from Pin Point, Georgia to be here this afternoon. 600 long miles -- but they would have driven 6000 miles to share this proud day. //

The fact that people have come here from far and wide -- people from all walks of life, all levels of education and income -- is testament to the character of this individual. But it's also something more: proof of the power of the American ideal -

- vindication of the values of faith and family, of hard work and opportunity. These values unite us all -- these values give America meaning. //

For you see, this country stands alone. Unlike other nations, America was not founded on allegiance to a certain patch of ground, or bonds of blood. America is the first nation in history founded on an idea: on the unshakable certainty that all men are created equal. //

When we ask our Justices to swear allegiance -- to uphold the supreme law of the land, we entrust to them not mere words on parchment, paper promises, but the living heart of all we are as a people: the soul of this nation -- all that makes America decent and good. //

Judge Thomas joins the distinguished ranks of jurists to whom we entrust this sacred task -- who, in the stark and simple phrase of Chief Justice Marshall, tell us "what the law is." //

I said when I nominated this man that Clarence Thomas is "a fiercely independent thinker, with an excellent legal mind, who believes passionately in equal opportunity for all Americans." Since then, the whole nation has learned that the passion and the intellect and the independence of mind all spring from an inner strength indelibly stamped on his character long ago, when he walked the dirt roads of Pin Point. //

Clarence Thomas comes to the Supreme Court having worked in the private sector -- having served in state government, and in every branch of federal government. He has served as Assistant

Attorney General of the State of Missouri; in the United States Senate, as Legislative Assistant to Senator Danforth; in the Executive Branch as Assistant Secretary of Education and Chairman of the EEOC; and as Judge on the U.S. District Court of Appeals. Each position will serve him well on the Court -- sharpening his vantage point on the many questions that come before him. //

These are some of the man's qualifications. They are not the same as his experience.

Clarence Thomas knows first-hand the searing hate and sting of segregation. He knows the cold face of indifference -- the unintentional cruelty that tells men and women with every claim to equal citizenship that we expect little of them, and offer less.

But Clarence Thomas would not be here today if there were not more to his story. He has known his share of the joys of life: The love of family, / the devotion of friends, / the kind gestures from people committed to decency and fairness, to justice and the American Dream. //

Clarence Thomas has endured America at its worst -- and he has answered with America at its best. // He brings that hard-won experience to the High Court -- and America will be better for it. //

So let me say to everyone here: Don't be overawed by the solemnity of this moment. / Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pin Point has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America -- proud of all that is best in us.

No one said it better than Clarence Thomas himself: /  
"Only in America." // In the words of the 35th Psalm, "Let them  
shout for joy, and be glad." //

In just a few moments, we will bear witness as the oath of  
office is administered to our Nation's newest Supreme Court  
Justice. Before we do, let me say on a personal level: America  
is blessed to have a man of such character serve on its Highest  
Court. //

Clarence Thomas -- Mr. Justice Thomas: congratulations. I  
now ask [-----] to administer the oath.

# # #