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Folder ID Number: 13635-002

Folder Title:
Wreath-Laying Ceremony [Marine Corps Memorial], 8/7/92 [OA 5811]

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I've not done that. I explained to them yesterday, I thought I had some obligations here as President to try to get some things through, even though the Congress has dug in and made it very difficult to get something done. So I'll take that case to the American people. If you want to change an institution that hadn't changed in a long time, try on the Congress, the liberal Democratic control of the Congress.

That will help. Then say, here's what the man is trying to do in education reform. Here's what he's been trying to do in welfare reform. Here's what he's been trying to do in enterprise zones. Here's what he's been trying to do, and it's been blocked by a hostile, highly political, liberal leadership in the Congress. So that hasn't been defined out there, and I've got to get that done.

This is the last. Yes, followup.

Q. If I could just follow up. I just wonder why you think even some within your own party make this charge about you not having articulated what you stand for. Even some of the people, you may support the programs that they're advocating, but they don't really believe you're going to fight for them.

The President. Well, I keep reading that in various journals and books, and it's not true. So what I have to do then is say, here's what a convention is about, here's what a campaign is about and set the record straight and take the facts out there and let the American people make that determination themselves, not through some filters out there. That's the only way to take care of this problem, which I think has existed.

Thank you all very much. We're off to the Guadalcanal memorial.

Note: The President's 137th news conference began at 10:05 a.m. in the Briefing Room at the White House. During the news conference the following people were referred to: Dr. Rolf Ekeus, Executive Director, United Nations Special Commission on Iraq, and Margaret Thatcher, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

Remarks at a Ceremony Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Landing on Guadalcanal in Arlington, Virginia

August 7, 1992

Thank you all very much. Thank you, Mr. Secretary; Senator Chafee, and the other Members of Congress that are with us who are veterans of Guadalcanal. May I salute the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General Colin Powell; Commandant of the Marines Carl Mundy; General Sullivan, Commandant of the Army is with us; the Acting Secretary of the Navy Sean O'Keefe; distinguished Commandant of the Coast Guard William Kime; and of course, the Medal of Honor recipient, Mitchell Paige, but most important, you marines.

I would like to open—[applause]—I thought they had a little life left in them. I'd like to open if I may with a story. It's a story of heroism, a story of courage, sacrifice. It's a story from Guadalcanal. Kenneth Bailey was commanding officer of Company C, 1st Marine Raider Battalion, when his men were called upon to defend Henderson Field during the Japanese assault, September 12th and 13th of 1942. The enemy had penetrated our main line of defense, their number superior to ours. Only a miracle it seemed could defend that airfield.

Major Bailey and his men provided the miracle, turning back the flank attack, then covering the withdrawal of our main force. In the fighting, Major Bailey sustained severe wounds to his head, and even so, for 10 hours he and his men engaged the enemy in vicious hand-to-hand combat. The attack was repulsed, and Henderson Field was secured. Major Bailey died 2 weeks later from machine-gun fire in yet another battle on Guadalcanal. He received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his gallantry on Bloody Ridge.

Major Bailey's story serves as a summation for thousands of other stories, tales that could be told by the brave men gathered here who survived the hell that was Guadalcanal. Secretary Cheney mentioned the lesson of those

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battles, and I'm struck, recounting Major Bailey's story, of one lesson in particular.

Kenneth Bailey was from Pawnee, Oklahoma, in a town of 2,000 near the Arkansas River in the north central part of the State. In the months and years before the great war in the Pacific, who could have predicted that a son from Pawnee, Oklahoma, or the sons of Raritan, New Jersey, or Sioux Falls, South Dakota, or Rutland, Vermont, who could have foretold that these young men from every corner of America would be called upon to defend freedom 6,000 miles away on an obscure Pacific island called Guadalcanal?

It's safe to say that few, if any, had ever heard of the island. None could have predicted what would transpire there. But it was on Guadalcanal that the forces of freedom began their long march, a march that wouldn't end until 3 years later in Tokyo Bay on the deck of the U.S.S. *Missouri*.

No one can foretell when or where freedom will be challenged. That is one of the lessons of Guadalcanal. How many Americans in 1947 had heard of Inchon or Pusan or Chosen? How many of us 15 years later had heard of Da Nang or Khe Sahn? How few Americans in the summer of '90 had yet heard of Khafji or Safwan. Yet today, these names are indelibly part of the rollcall of honor, places where Americans made their stand and offered up their sweat and blood to a cause greater than themselves.

We honor the dead, not merely for their sake, but for our own sake as well. In commemoration and remembrance, we learn again that freedom, in the deepest sense, always hangs in the balance; that we earn it day by day in hot wars and cold; that its price, as Jefferson said, is eternal vigilance, an endlessly renewed dedication to keeping our great country strong, our defenses second to none, our leadership unquestioned and unchallenged.

There was a rhyme passed around during those dark 6 months that I'm sure many marines here today out front remember, 6 months, as the battle raged on, when freedom hung by the unbreakable thread of American bravery and resolve. Every marine who wasn't fighting on the island knew the

lines, "Say a prayer for your pal on Guadalcanal."

This morning, in this place—and thank you, Pastor, for your loving invocation—this morning and in this place, we remember those words and the men who inspired them. With hearts full of pride and awe and thanksgiving, we once again say a prayer for those who fought and died in a place few had known of but which all of us will never forget.

May God bless them. May God bless you. And may God bless our great country, the United States of America. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Note: The President spoke at 11:11 a.m. at the Marine Corps War Memorial.

Statement on Signing the Pacific Yew Act

August 7, 1992

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 3836, the "Pacific Yew Act." This Act ensures that Federal lands will be managed to provide for the sustainable harvest and long-term conservation of the Pacific yew. The bark of this tree is currently the only reliable source of taxol—an experimental drug used to treat cancer. By signing this bill into law today, we ensure that Pacific yew bark is made available to companies to produce a drug that has the potential to benefit thousands of patients.

It is very important that the collection of Pacific yew bark proceed with as little delay as possible, because taxol has shown very promising results in combating ovarian and breast cancer. In fact, the National Cancer Institute considers it to be the most important new cancer treatment drug discovered in the past decade. The Administration realizes the importance of taxol and is working to make sure that Pacific yew bark is available for taxol production.

The potential value of taxol for treating ovarian and other cancers was not known until 1989. By September 1991, 900,000 pounds of Pacific yew bark were collected on Federal lands. This quantity of bark will yield enough taxol to treat more than 12,000

**WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY \ MARINE CORPS MEMORIAL
FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1992 \ 11:00 A.M.**

**THANK YOU, SECRETARY CHENEY, FOR THAT KIND
INTRODUCTION. SECRETARY DERWINSKI. SENATORS CHAFEE
AND HEFLIN AND CONGRESSMAN BROOKS, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
WITH US TODAY WHO ARE VETERANS OF GUADALCANAL;
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINES CARL MUNDY; SECRETARY OF THE
ARMY MIKE STONE; ACTING SECRETARY OF THE NAVY SEAN
O'KEEFE; AIR FORCE SECRETARY DONALD RICE; COMMANDANT OF
THE COAST GUARD, WILLIAM KIME; MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT
MITCHELL PAIGE.**

- 2 -

**I WOULD LIKE TO OPEN, IF I MAY, WITH A STORY. IT
IS A STORY OF HEROISM, A STORY OF COURAGE AND
SACRIFICE. IT IS A STORY FROM GUADALCANAL.**

**KENNETH BAILEY WAS COMMANDING OFFICER OF COMPANY C,
FIRST MARINE RAIDER BATTALION, WHEN HIS MEN WERE CALLED
UPON TO DEFEND HENDERSON FIELD DURING THE JAPANESE
ASSAULT OF SEPTEMBER 12TH AND 13TH, 1942. THE ENEMY
HAD PENETRATED OUR MAIN LINE OF DEFENSE; THEIR NUMBERS
WERE SUPERIOR TO OURS, AND ONLY A MIRACLE, IT SEEMED,
COULD DEFEND THE AIRFIELD.**

MAJOR BAILEY AND HIS MEN PROVIDED THE MIRACLE, TURNING BACK THE FLANK ATTACK, THEN COVERING THE WITHDRAWAL OF OUR MAIN FORCE. IN THE FIGHTING, MAJOR BAILEY SUSTAINED SEVERE WOUNDS TO HIS HEAD. EVEN SO, FOR TEN HOURS, HE AND HIS MEN ENGAGED THE ENEMY IN HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT.

THE ATTACK WAS REPULSED. HENDERSON FIELD WAS SECURED. MAJOR BAILEY DIED TWO WEEKS LATER FROM MACHINE-GUN FIRE, IN YET ANOTHER BATTLE ON GUADALCANAL.

HE RECEIVED THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR FOR HIS GALLANTRY ON BLOODY RIDGE.

MAJOR BAILEY'S STORY SERVES AS A SUMMATION FOR THOUSANDS OF OTHER STORIES, TALES THAT COULD BE TOLD BY THE BRAVE MEN GATHERED HERE, WHO SURVIVED THE HELL THAT WAS GUADALCANAL. SECRETARY CHENEY MENTIONED THE LESSONS OF THOSE BATTLES, AND I AM STRUCK, RECOUNTING MAJOR BAILEY'S STORY, OF ONE LESSON IN PARTICULAR.

KENNETH BAILEY WAS FROM PAWNEE, A TOWN OF 2,000 NEAR THE ARKANSAS RIVER IN NORTH-CENTRAL OKLAHOMA. IN THE MONTHS AND YEARS BEFORE THE GREAT WAR IN THE PACIFIC, WHO COULD HAVE PREDICTED THAT A SON OF PAWNEE, OKLAHOMA -- OR THE SONS OF RARITAN, NEW JERSEY; SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA; RUTLAND, VERMONT -- WHO COULD HAVE FORETOLD THAT THESE YOUNG MEN, FROM EVERY CORNER OF AMERICA, WOULD BE CALLED UPON TO DEFEND FREEDOM SIX THOUSAND MILES AWAY, ON AN OBSCURE PACIFIC ISLAND CALLED GUADALCANAL?

IT'S SAFE TO SAY THAT FEW IF ANY HAD EVER HEARD OF THE ISLAND. NONE COULD HAVE PREDICTED WHAT WOULD TRANSPIRE THERE. BUT IT WAS ON GUADALCANAL THAT THE FORCES OF FREEDOM BEGAN THEIR LONG MARCH -- A MARCH THAT WOULDN'T END UNTIL THREE YEARS LATER IN TOKYO BAY, ON THE DECK OF THE USS MISSOURI.

NO ONE CAN FORETELL WHEN OR WHERE FREEDOM WILL BE CHALLENGED -- THAT IS ONE OF THE LESSONS OF GUADALCANAL.

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YET TODAY THESE NAMES ARE INDELIBLY PART OF THE ROLL CALL OF HONOR, PLACES WHERE AMERICANS MADE THEIR STAND, AND OFFERED UP THEIR SWEAT AND BLOOD TO A CAUSE GREATER THAN THEMSELVES.

WE HONOR THE DEAD NOT MERELY FOR THEIR SAKE BUT FOR OUR OWN AS WELL. IN COMMEMORATION AND REMEMBRANCE WE LEARN AGAIN THAT FREEDOM, IN THE DEEPEST SENSE, ALWAYS HANGS IN THE BALANCE -- THAT WE EARN IT DAY BY DAY, IN HOT WARS AND COLD -- THAT ITS PRICE, AS JEFFERSON SAID, IS ETERNAL VIGILANCE, AN ENDLESSLY RENEWED DEDICATION TO KEEPING OUR COUNTRY STRONG, OUR DEFENSES SECOND TO NONE, OUR LEADERSHIP UNQUESTIONED AND UNCHALLENGED.

THERE WAS A RHYME PASSED AROUND DURING THOSE DARK SIX MONTHS AS THE BATTLE RAGED ON, WHEN FREEDOM HUNG BY THE UNBREAKABLE THREAD OF AMERICAN BRAVERY AND RESOLVE. EVERY MARINE WHO WASN'T FIGHTING ON THE ISLANDS KNEW THE LINES: "SAY A PRAYER FOR YOUR PAL // ON GUADALCANAL."

THIS MORNING, IN THIS PLACE, WE REMEMBER THOSE WORDS AND THE MEN WHO INSPIRED THEM.

WITH HEARTS FULL OF PRIDE AND AWE AND THANKSGIVING, WE ONCE AGAIN SAY A PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO FOUGHT AND DIED IN A PLACE FEW HAD KNOWN OF, BUT WHICH WE WILL NEVER FORGET.

MAY GOD BLESS THEM. MAY GOD BLESS YOU. AND MAY GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

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**WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY \ MARINE CORPS MEMORIAL
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
8/7/92

2 AUG 6 P4:49

August 6, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: STEVEN PROVOST
FROM: ANDY FERGUSON *af*
SUBJECT: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

On Friday, August 7 at 10:45 a.m., you will participate in a wreath-laying ceremony hosted by the Commandant of the Marine Corps at the Marine Corps Memorial in Arlington. This ceremony is dedicated to all Guadalcanal veterans, and marks the 50th anniversary of the amphibious landing on the island of Guadalcanal. Your remarks are ten minutes in length, and will be on cards.

(Ferguson/Aarhus)
August 6, 1992
WREATH
Draft One

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY (GUADALCANAL)
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
AUGUST 7, 1992
11:00 A.M.

Thank you, Secretary Cheney, for that kind introduction.

(Acknowledgments)

I would like to open, if I may, with a story. It is a story of heroism, a story of courage and sacrifice. It is a story from Guadalcanal.

Kenneth Bailey was Commanding Officer of Company C, First Marine Raider Battalion, when his men were called upon to defend Henderson Field during the Japanese assault of September 12th and 13th, 1942. The enemy had penetrated our main line of defense; their numbers were superior to ours, and only a miracle, it seemed, could defend the airfield.

Major Bailey and his men provided the miracle, turning back the flank attack, then covering the withdrawal of our main force. In the fighting, Major Bailey sustained severe wounds to his head. Even so, for ten hours, he and his men engaged the enemy in hand-to-hand combat.

The attack was repulsed. Henderson Field was secured. Major Bailey died two weeks later from machine-gun fire, in yet another battle on Guadalcanal. He received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his gallantry on Bloody Ridge.

Major Bailey's story serves as a summation for thousands of other stories, tales that could be told by the brave men gathered

here, who survived the hell that was Guadalcanal. Secretary Cheney mentioned the lessons of those battles, and I am struck, recounting Major Bailey's story, of one lesson in particular.

Kenneth Bailey was from Pawnee, a town of 2,000 near the Arkansas River in north-central Oklahoma. In the months and years before the great war in the Pacific, who could have predicted that a son of Pawnee, Oklahoma -- or the sons of Raritan, New Jersey; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Rutland, Vermont -- who could have foretold that these young men, from every corner of America, would be called upon to defend freedom six thousand miles away, in an obscure Pacific island called Guadalcanal?

It's safe to say that few if any had ever heard of the island. None could have predicted what would transpire there. But it was on Guadalcanal that the forces of freedom began their long march -- a march that wouldn't end until three years later in Tokyo Bay, on the deck of the USS Missouri.

No one can foretell when or where freedom will be challenged -- that is one of the lessons of Guadalcanal. How many Americans, in 1947, had heard of Pusan or Chosin or Inchon? How many of us, fifteen years later, had yet heard of Da Nang or Khe Sahn? And how few Americans, in the summer of 1990, had yet heard of Dahran or Khafji.

Yet today these names are indelibly part of the roll call of honor, places where Americans made their stand, and offered up their sweat and blood to a cause greater than themselves.

We honor the dead not merely for their sake but for our own as well. In commemoration and remembrance we learn again that freedom, in the deepest sense, always hangs in the balance -- that we earn it day by day, in hot wars and cold -- that its price, as Jefferson said, is eternal vigilance, an endlessly renewed dedication to keeping our country strong, our defenses second to none, our leadership unquestioned and unchallenged.

[American leadership is expressed in many ways. NSC INSERT TO COME].

Let me return, in closing, to Guadalcanal. There was a rhyme passed around during those dark five months as the battle raged on, when freedom hung by the unbreakable thread of American bravery and resolve. Every Marine who wasn't fighting on the islands knew the lines: "Say a prayer for your pal // on Guadalcanal."

This morning, in this place, we remember those words and the men who inspired them. With hearts full of pride and awe and thanksgiving, we once again say a prayer for those who fought and died in a place few had known of, but which we will never forget.

May God bless them. May God bless you. And may God bless the United States of America.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 08/06/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN <i>NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PROVOST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO <i>NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH <i>NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY <i>NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY <i>NIC for now unless Veteran affairs sends some down.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	GAUGHAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:
 Please provide any comments directly to Dan McGroarty AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THIS EVENING, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

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

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WASHINGTON

2 AUG 6 P4: 49

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[American leadership is expressed in many ways. NSC INSERT TO COME]

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May God bless them. May God bless you. And may God bless the United States of America.

#

7 AUG 92 5:10

URGENT



NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT STAFFING DOCUMENT

TIME STAMP

SYSTEM LOG NUMBER: 6125

ACTION OFFICER: Patterson
~~ROSTOW~~ Mc

DUE: ASAP, TODAY

Prepare Memo For Scowcroft/Howe

Appropriate Action

Prepare Memo For Brady

Prepare Memo For Sittmann

Prepare Memo Scowcroft

to McGroarty cc: Brady

CONCURRENCES/COMMENTS*

PHONE* to action officer at ext. _____

Concur

FYI

Andricos

Concur

FYI

Jones

Concur

FYI

Patterson

Barth

Kansteiner

Pavitt

Beers

Keith

Poneman

Burns

Koch

Primosch

Canas

Lampley

Pryce

Chellis

Leary

Rademaker

Davis

Linhares

Riedel

Dyke

Lowenkron

Rostow

Fry

McNamara

Stettner

Gompert

McShane

Tilley

Gordon

Melby

Tobey

Haass

Menan

Van Eron

Hahn

Morley

Waguespack

Hewett

Needles

Wayne

Holl

O'Leary

Whitley

Hull

Ordway

Hutchings

Paal

INFORMATION

Sittmann

Hill

Exec Sec Desk

Scowcroft (advance)

Howe (advance)

Records Mgmt.

COMMENTS

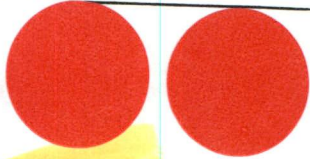
ASAP, TODAY

Logged By JDA

URGENT

Return to Records Mgmt.
379 OEOb

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 08/06/92

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PROVOST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	GAUGHAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments directly to Dan McGroarty AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THIS EVENING, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

NSC concurs, with changes as noted.

Brent Scowcroft

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 6, 1992

2 AUG 6 P4: 49

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: STEVEN PROVOST
FROM: ANDY FERGUSON *af*
SUBJECT: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

On Friday, August 7 at 10:45 a.m., you will participate in a wreath-laying ceremony hosted by the Commandant of the Marine Corps at the Marine Corps Memorial in Arlington. This ceremony is dedicated to all Guadalcanal veterans, and marks the 50th anniversary of the amphibious landing on the island of Guadalcanal. Your remarks are ten minutes in length, and will be on cards.

(Ferguson/Aarhus)
August 6, 1992
WREATH
Draft One

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY (GUADALCANAL)
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
AUGUST 7, 1992
11:00 A.M.

Thank you, Secretary Cheney, for that kind introduction.

(Acknowledgments)

I would like to open, if I may, with a story. It is a story of heroism, a story of courage and sacrifice. It is a story from Guadalcanal.

Kenneth Bailey was Commanding Officer of Company C, First Marine Raider Battalion, when his men were called upon to defend Henderson Field during the Japanese assault of September 12th and 13th, 1942. The enemy had penetrated our main line of defense; their numbers were superior to ours, and only a miracle, it seemed, could defend the airfield.

Major Bailey and his men provided the miracle, turning back the flank attack, then covering the withdrawal of our main force. In the fighting, Major Bailey sustained severe wounds to his head. Even so, for ten hours, he and his men engaged the enemy in hand-to-hand combat.

The attack was repulsed. Henderson Field was secured. Major Bailey died two weeks later from machine-gun fire, in yet another battle on Guadalcanal. He received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his gallantry on Bloody Ridge.

Major Bailey's story ^{exemplifies} ~~serves as a summation~~ for thousands of other stories, tales ^{of the} ~~that could be told~~ by the brave men gathered

here, who survived the hell that was Guadalcanal. Secretary Cheney mentioned the lessons of those battles, and I am struck, recounting Major Bailey's story, of one lesson in particular.

Kenneth Bailey was from Pawnee, a town of 2,000 near the Arkansas River in north-central Oklahoma. In the months and years before the great war in the Pacific, who could have predicted that a son of Pawnee, Oklahoma -- or the sons of Raritan, New Jersey; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Rutland, Vermont -- who could have foretold that these young men, from every corner of America, would be called upon to defend freedom six thousand miles away, ^{on} in an obscure Pacific island called Guadalcanal?

It's safe to say that few if any had ever heard of the island. None could have predicted what would transpire there. But it was on Guadalcanal that the forces of freedom began their long march -- a march that wouldn't end until three years later in Tokyo Bay, on the deck of the USS Missouri.

No one can foretell when or where freedom will be challenged -- that is one of the lessons of Guadalcanal. How many Americans, in 1947, had heard of ^{Pusan} [Pusin] or Chosin or Inchon? How many of us, fifteen years later, had yet heard of Da Nang or Khe Sahn? And how few Americans, in the summer of 1990, had yet heard of ^{Khafji or Safwan} [~~Dahran~~ or Khafji].

Yet today these names are indelibly part of the roll call of honor, places where Americans made their stand, and offered up their sweat and blood to a cause greater than themselves.

We honor the dead not merely for their sake but for our own as well. In commemoration and remembrance we learn again that freedom, in the deepest sense, always hangs in the balance -- that we earn it day by day, in hot wars and cold -- that its price, as Jefferson said, is eternal vigilance, an endlessly renewed dedication to keeping our country strong, our defenses second to none, our leadership unquestioned and unchallenged.

[American leadership is expressed in many ways. NSC INSERT TO COME]

Let me return, in closing, to Guadalcanal. There was a rhyme passed around during those dark five months as the battle raged on, when freedom hung by the unbreakable thread of American bravery and resolve. Every Marine who wasn't fighting on the islands knew the lines: "Say a prayer for your pal // on Guadalcanal."

This morning, in this place, we remember those words and the men who inspired them. With hearts full of pride and awe and thanksgiving, we once again say a prayer for those who fought and died in a place few had known of, but which we will never forget.

May God bless them. May God bless you. And may God bless the United States of America.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 6, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN MCGROARTY

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Wreath-Laying Ceremony

We have reviewed the attached presidential remarks and have noted two minor suggested changes on the draft.

If you have any questions or we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

92 AUG 7 4 9 : 36

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 08/06/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PROVOST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	GAUGHAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:
 Please provide any comments directly to Dan McGroarty AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THIS EVENING, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE: _____

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

2700 6 P4: 49

August 6, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: STEVEN PROVOST

FROM: ANDY FERGUSON *af*

SUBJECT: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

On Friday, August 7 at 10:45 a.m., you will participate in a wreath-laying ceremony hosted by the Commandant of the Marine Corps at the Marine Corps Memorial in Arlington. This ceremony is dedicated to all Guadalcanal veterans, and marks the 50th anniversary of the amphibious landing on the island of Guadalcanal. Your remarks are ten minutes in length, and will be on cards.

(Ferguson/Aarhus)
August 6, 1992
WREATH
Draft One

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY (GUADALCANAL)
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
AUGUST 7, 1992
11:00 A.M.

Thank you, Secretary Cheney, for that kind introduction.

(Acknowledgments)

I would like to open, if I may, with a story. It is a story of heroism, a story of courage and sacrifice. It is a story from Guadalcanal.

Kenneth Bailey was Commanding Officer of Company C, First Marine Raider Battalion, when his men were called upon to defend Henderson Field during the Japanese assault of September 12th and 13th, 1942. The enemy had penetrated our main line of defense; their numbers were superior to ours, and only a miracle, it seemed, could defend the airfield.

Major Bailey and his men provided the miracle, turning back the flank attack, ~~then~~ covering the withdrawal of our main force. In the fighting, Major Bailey sustained severe wounds to his head. Even so, for ten hours, he and his men engaged the enemy in hand-to-hand combat.

The attack was repulsed. Henderson Field was secured. Major Bailey died two weeks later from machine-gun fire, in yet another battle on Guadalcanal. He received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his gallantry on Bloody Ridge.

Major Bailey's story ^{REFLECTS} ~~serves as a summation for~~ thousands of other stories, tales that could be told by the brave men gathered

here, who survived the hell that was Guadalcanal. Secretary Cheney mentioned the lessons of those battles, and I am struck, recounting Major Bailey's story, of one lesson in particular.

Kenneth Bailey was from Pawnee, a town of 2,000 near the Arkansas River in north-central Oklahoma. In the months and years before the great war in the Pacific, who could have predicted that a son of Pawnee, Oklahoma -- or the sons of Raritan, New Jersey; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Rutland, Vermont -- who could have foretold that these young men, from every corner of America, would be called upon to defend freedom six thousand miles away, ^{only} in an obscure Pacific island called Guadalcanal?

It's safe to say that few if any had ever heard of the island. None could have predicted what would transpire there. But it was on Guadalcanal that the forces of freedom began their long march -- a march that wouldn't end until three years later in Tokyo Bay, on the deck of the USS Missouri.

No one can foretell when or where freedom will be challenged -- that is one of the lessons of Guadalcanal. How many Americans, in 1947, had heard of Pusin or Chosin or Inchon? How many of us, fifteen years later, had yet heard of Da Nang or Khe Sahn? And how few Americans, in the summer of 1990, had yet heard of Dahran or Khafji.

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[American leadership is expressed in many ways. NSC INSERT TO COME]

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May God bless them. May God bless you. And may God bless the United States of America.

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Document No. 34307

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

92 AUG 6
DATE: 08/06/92 P6: 00

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PROVOST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	GAUGHAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments directly to Dan McGroarty AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THIS EVENING, with a copy to this office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

No legal objection or comments.
PH Walden
8-6-92

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 6, 1992

2 AUG 6 P4:49

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: STEVEN PROVOST

FROM: ANDY FERGUSON *af*

SUBJECT: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY

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(Ferguson/Aarhus)
August 6, 1992
WREATH
Draft One

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY (GUADALCANAL)
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
AUGUST 7, 1992
11:00 A.M.

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3

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