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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Smith, Curt, Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1992

OA/ID Number: 13889
Folder ID Number: 13889-038

Folder Title:
Reagan Video, 2/6/91

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	18	29	1	5

(Smith/Cawley)
January 31, 1991
6 P.M.
GIPPER

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: REAGAN VIDEO
FEBRUARY 6, 1991

Ladies and gentlemen. Nancy Reagan -- who was such a gracious First Lady and whose anti-drug crusade stirred a Nation and touched countless lives. And let me say a special hello to Mrs. Thatcher -- a staunch ally of America who became the very embodiment of Great Britain. Most of all, my friend and mentor who loved his country and served her well -- Ronald Reagan. /

From the life of Nations emerge great figures. Churchill. / Sadat. / Dwight Eisenhower. / Margaret Thatcher. / All showed -- as was said of Charles DeGaulle -- that "greatness knows no national boundaries." Each changed the course not only of their country but of history. //

So it was, and is, of the fortieth President of the United States. Some men reflect their times. Mr. President, you helped change your times. You were a visionary, a crusader, an evangelist for good. Which is why I say: They'll get you on Mt. Rushmore yet. //

Today, Ronald Reagan is eighty years old -- yet as young as the American spirit. You often spoke of America as a "shining city on a hill" -- and helped make it so. Embodying what you described as the American song: "Hopeful, big-hearted, idealistic, daring, decent, and fair." //

Think of America. / You helped restore faith in our Nation -- and in ourselves. / Think of the world. You knew that human dignity forms the essence of democracy. So you spoke loudly, and eloquently, for freedom's values and ideals. // From Korea to Normandy, you lit the "morning star of liberty" -- not only making ours a safer but a far better world in which to live. //

Over the past few weeks, we have sought to preserve that world -- and to create a new world order -- by defending freedom against Iraq. Like all Americans, I have rejoiced at the success of our missiles and planes -- at our technical advantage. It didn't happen by accident. It happened because of Ronald Reagan's commitment to a strong defense. //

Mr. President, you believed passionately that no American should be asked to fight unless equipped with the very best -- so you made our military strong and proud. I thank you for that. The courage and vision that marked the defense budgets of your eight years as President are now paying off for every American in the seas and sands of the Gulf.

In closing, let me end on a personal note. I want to thank you for your many kindnesses to Barbara and me. I want to thank you for your confidence. I know full well I would not be President today were it not for your vote of confidence in me eleven years ago when you chose me as your running mate. // God bless you and Nancy. May God bless Prime Minister Thatcher and those courageous men and women of the United Kingdom who are

fighting shoulder to shoulder with us in the Gulf. And God bless these United States of America.

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January 14, 1991

MEMORANDUM

TO: CHRISS WINSTON
CURT SMITH

FROM: CAROLYN CAWLEY *cc*

RE: REAGAN BIRTHDAY VIDEO REMARKS

p.1/para.2:

Curt, I can not find this quote about De Gaulle anywhere. Did you have any luck over the weekend? If not, how about substituting one of these Nixon quotes:

"...the quality of vision that could see the grand sweep of history at a time when others focused on the events of the moment."

-- RN in a personal letter to Mrs. De Gaulle and President Pompidou upon the death of De Gaulle on November 11, 1970

-- this quote fits right in the context of the paragraph as it now reads.

"Greatness knows no national boundaries...."

-- RN in a personal letter to President Pompidou. November 11, 1970

CS changed draft to include this one instead.

p.2/para.2:

Re: NYT on FDR --

The quote should read:

"Men will thank God on their knees, a hundred years from now, that Franklin D. Roosevelt was in the White House."