

# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

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**Folder Title:** Taping: Holiday Messages for the  
Armed Forces (Dolan)(Itchon) 09/20/1988

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*Last Updated: 11/26/2024*

Christ  
+  
Thank

— Mark 2

TAPING: CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES

THIS HOLIDAY  
SEASON -- CHRISTMAS,  
HANUKKAH, AND NEW YEAR'S  
DAY -- IS A TIME FOR  
CELEBRATION AND JOY.  
OUR COUNTRY HAS REMAINED  
AT PEACE FOR ANOTHER  
YEAR, FOR WHICH WE CAN BE  
GRATEFUL. BUT IT IS A  
SAD TRUTH THAT PEACE CAN  
ONLY BE MAINTAINED BY  
BEING PREPARED FOR WAR.

YOU, THE MEMBERS OF  
THE ARMED FORCES, STAND  
AT THE FRONT EDGE OF THE  
READINESS THAT ALLOWS OUR  
NATION TO PAUSE AND  
REFLECT DURING THIS  
HOLIDAY SEASON.

FROM THE DAYS OF

VALLEY FORGE, OUR COUNTRY  
HAS ASKED GREAT  
SACRIFICES OF ITS  
CITIZENS AND  
CITIZEN-SOLDIERS. THESE  
SACRIFICES ARE FELT MORE  
DEEPLY THIS TIME OF YEAR,  
AS SOME OF YOU SPEND THE  
HOLIDAYS AWAY FROM YOUR  
HOMES AND LOVED ONES --  
IN MANY CASES, FOR THE  
FIRST TIME. I WANT YOU  
TO KNOW THAT I AM DEEPLY  
GRATEFUL TO YOU, AS ARE  
AMERICANS EVERYWHERE.

I FEEL GREAT PRIDE  
AS I LOOK BACK OVER THE  
8 YEARS IT HAS BEEN MY  
PRIVILEGE TO SERVE AS  
YOUR COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.  
YOU ARE THE NATION'S  
FINEST AND YOU ARE AMONG  
THE MOST PROFESSIONAL MEN  
AND WOMEN TO HAVE WORN

THE UNIFORMS OF OUR ARMED  
SERVICES. YOUR  
PATRIOTISM, DEDICATION,  
AND ABILITY TO DO YOUR  
DIFFICULT BUT VITALLY  
IMPORTANT JOBS HAVE  
ENABLED AMERICANS  
EVERYWHERE TO STAND  
TALL -- AND FREE.

NANCY AND I WISH YOU  
AND YOUR FAMILIES A VERY  
HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON, AND  
A PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUS  
1989. GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

# # #

TAPING: THANKSGIVING MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES

THANKSGIVING IS A  
TIME WHEN WE SURROUND  
OURSELVES WITH FAMILY AND  
FRIENDS AND GIVE THANKS  
FOR THE BLESSINGS WE HAVE  
RECEIVED.

IT IS A TRULY  
AMERICAN HOLIDAY THAT  
BEGAN WHEN THE FIRST  
SETTLERS GAVE THANKS TO  
GOD FOR THEIR SURVIVAL IN  
A HOSTILE AND STRANGE  
ENVIRONMENT.

AMERICANS STILL HAVE  
MUCH IN COMMON WITH THOSE  
EARLY SETTLERS WHO TILLED  
THEIR FIELDS BUT WERE  
ALWAYS READY TO SHOULDER  
MUSKETS TO DEFEND THE  
SETTLEMENT. WHILE THE

2

WORLD IS MUCH MORE  
COMPLEX TODAY, YOU --  
SOLDIERS, SAILORS,  
AIRMEN, AND MARINES --  
ARE JUST AS READY TO  
DEFEND THE "SETTLEMENT"  
WE CALL THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA.

IT IS NOT AN EASY  
TASK. YOU ROUTINELY  
SACRIFICE MANY COMFORTS  
SO THE REST OF US CAN  
LIVE SAFELY -- SECURE IN  
THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY  
AND PEACE. YOUR  
SACRIFICES ARE  
APPRECIATED AND THE  
THOUGHTS OF ALL AMERICANS  
ARE WITH YOU AS YOU SPEND  
ANOTHER HOLIDAY GUARDING  
OUR FREEDOMS.

WE CAN HAVE PEACE  
ONLY IF WE ARE PREPARED  
FOR WAR. DURING MY

3

TENURE, WE HAVE ALL  
WORKED HARD TO REBUILD  
OUR ARMED FORCES AND KEEP  
THEM STRONG. I WILL  
LEAVE OFFICE IN JANUARY  
SECURE IN THE KNOWLEDGE  
THAT THE ARMED FORCES OF  
THE UNITED STATES ARE  
WELL-EQUIPPED,  
WELL-TRAINED, AND  
WELL-MOTIVATED.

FOR THAT, WE CAN BE  
THANKFUL THIS HOLIDAY  
SEASON.

NANCY AND I WISH ALL  
OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES  
A BOUNTIFUL THANKSGIVING  
AS WE GIVE THANKS FOR  
AMERICA. GOD BLESS YOU.

# # #



(Dolan edit)  
September 19, 1988  
3:30 p.m. *YIL*

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

This holiday season -- Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year's Day -- is a time for celebration and joy. Our country has remained at peace for another year, for which we can be grateful. But it is a sad truth that peace can only be maintained by being prepared for war.

You, the members of the Armed Forces, stand at the front edge of the readiness that allows our Nation to pause and reflect during this holiday season.

From the days of Valley Forge, our country has asked great sacrifices of its citizens and citizen-soldiers. These sacrifices are felt more deeply this time of year, as some of you spend the holidays away from your homes and loved ones -- in many cases, for the first time. I want you to know that I am deeply grateful to you, as are Americans everywhere.

I feel great pride as I look back over the 8 years it has been my privilege to serve as your Commander-in-Chief. You are the Nation's finest and you are among the most professional men and women to have worn the uniforms of our Armed Services. Your patriotism, dedication, and ability to do your difficult but vitally important jobs have enabled Americans everywhere to stand tall -- and free.

Nancy and I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season, and a peaceful and prosperous 1989. God bless you all.

(Dolan edit)  
September 19, 1988  
3:30 p.m. PR

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Nancy and I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season, and a peaceful and prosperous 1989. God bless you all.

master

(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m. SS

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

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Nancy and I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season, and a peaceful and prosperous 1989. God bless you all.

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 09/15/88

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: C.O.B. Friday 09/16/88

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL TAPING:

1. WOMEN'S SPORTS FOUNDATION
2. YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SEMINARS
3. ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION DINNER
4. THANKSGIVING MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES
5. CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES
6. PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HOOLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRANOWITZ <i>none</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
POWELL <i>add</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MASENG <i>none 135</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER - OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RANGE <i>none</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OGLESBY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RISQUE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAUER <i>none</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RYAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CRIPPEN <i>went 2.0</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPRINKEL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CULVAHOUSE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TUCK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DAWSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TUTTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DONATELLI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCKINNEY <i>add 2.30</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOBBS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DOLAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			FAULKNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Tony Dolan by close of business on Friday, 09/16, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

## RESPONSE:

(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 1988 5:11

This holiday season -- Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year's Day -- is a time for celebration and joy. Our country has remained at peace for another year, for which we can be grateful. But it is a sad truth that peace can only be maintained by being prepared for war.

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Nancy and I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season, and a peaceful and prosperous 1989. God bless you all.

(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m. S

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DATE: 09/15/88

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: C.O.B. Friday 09/16/88

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL TAPING:

1. WOMEN'S SPORTS FOUNDATION
2. YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SEMINARS
3. ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION DINNER
4. THANKSGIVING MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES
5. CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES
6. PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HOOLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRANOWITZ	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
POWELL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MASENG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER - OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RANGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OGLESBY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RISQUE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAUER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RYAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CRIPPEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPRINKEL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CULVAHOUSE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TUCK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DAWSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TUTTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DONATELLI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCKINNEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOBBS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DOLAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			FAULKNER		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Tony Dolan by close of business on Friday, 09/16, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

September 16, 1988

## RESPONSE:

The NSC Staff concurs as amended.

*Robert M. Wentz*  
*Paul Schott Stevens*  
 Executive Secretary

**Rhett Dawson**  
 Ext. 2702

(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 1988 SEP 15 PM 5:11

This holiday season -- Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year's Day -- is a time for celebration and joy. Our country has remained at peace for another year, for which we can be grateful. But it is a sad truth that peace can only be maintained by being prepared for war.

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I feel great pride as I look back over the 8 years it has been my privilege to serve as your Commander-in-Chief. You are the Nation's finest and you are the most professional men and women who have worn the uniforms of our Armed Services. Your patriotism, dedication, and ability to do your difficult but vitally important jobs have enabled Americans everywhere to stand tall -- and free.

Nancy and I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season, and a peaceful and prosperous 1989. God bless you all.

*/Presume  
all Americans  
are good  
patriots  
at Christmas*



→ *DAWSON'S*  
*ofc*

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 09/15/88

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: C.O.B. Friday 09/16/88

SUBJECT:

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2. YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SEMINARS
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- \* 4. THANKSGIVING MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES
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	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HOOLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRANOWITZ <i>none</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
POWELL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MASENG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER - OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RANGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OGLESBY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RISQUE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAUER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RYAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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DONATELLI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCKINNEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOBBS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DOLAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			FAULKNER		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Tony Dolan by close of business on Friday, 09/16, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

## RESPONSE:

- \* Thanksgiving Message - OK!
- \* Christmas Message - See edit. (... lots of great folks wore those uniforms in WW II, Korea, Viet Nam --- ETC. Let's don't over-state the praise.)

*A. McKinney*

Rhett Dawson  
Ext. 2702

(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 1988 SEP 15 PM 5:11


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EDIT I feel great pride as I look back over the 8 years it has been my privilege to serve as your Commander-in-Chief. You are the Nation's finest and you are <sup>among</sup> the most professional men and women <sup>to have</sup> ~~who have~~ worn the uniforms of our Armed Services. Your patriotism, dedication, and ability to do your difficult but vitally important jobs have enabled Americans everywhere to stand tall -- and free.

Nancy and I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season, and a peaceful and prosperous 1989. God bless you all.

(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m. 

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: THANKSGIVING MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

Thanksgiving is a time when we surround ourselves with family and friends and give thanks for the blessings we have received.

It is a truly American holiday that began when the first settlers gave thanks to God for their survival in a hostile and strange environment.

Americans still have much in common with those early settlers who tilled their fields but were always ready to shoulder muskets to defend the settlement. While the world is much more complex today, you -- soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines -- are just as ready to defend the "settlement" we call the United States of America.

It is not an easy task. You routinely sacrifice many comforts so the rest of us can live safely -- secure in the blessings of liberty and peace. Your sacrifices are appreciated and the thoughts of all Americans are with you as you spend another holiday guarding our freedoms.

We can have peace only if we are prepared for war. During my tenure, we have all worked hard to rebuild our Armed Forces and keep them strong. I will leave office in January secure in the knowledge that the Armed Forces of the United States are well-equipped, well-trained, and well-motivated.

For that, we can be thankful this holiday season.

Nancy and I wish all of you and your families a bountiful Thanksgiving as we give thanks for America. God bless You.

(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m. S

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edif  
(Dolan-Itchon)  
September 15, 1988  
~~Draft~~

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1448

Nancy and I wish all of you and your families a bountiful  
Thanksgiving as we give thanks for America. God Bless You.



(Dolan edit)  
September 19, 1988  
3:30 p.m. *KJ*

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We can have peace only if we are prepared for war. During my tenure, we have all worked hard to rebuild our Armed Forces and keep them strong. I will leave office in January secure in the knowledge that the Armed Forces of the United States are well-equipped, well-trained, and well-motivated.

For that, we can be thankful this holiday season.

Nancy and I wish all of you and your families a bountiful Thanksgiving as we give thanks for America. God bless you.



(Dolan edit)  
September 19, 1988  
3:30 p.m. f. l.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: THANKSGIVING MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

Thanksgiving is a time when we surround ourselves with family and friends and give thanks for the blessings we have received.

It is a truly American holiday that began when the first settlers gave thanks to God for their survival in a hostile and strange environment.

Americans still have much in common with those early settlers who tilled their fields but were always ready to shoulder muskets to defend the settlement. While the world is much more complex today, you -- soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines -- are just as ready to defend the "settlement" we call the United States of America.

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## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 09/15/88

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: C.O.B. Friday 09/16/88

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL TAPING:

1. WOMEN'S SPORTS FOUNDATION
2. YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SEMINARS
3. ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION DINNER
4. THANKSGIVING MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES
5. CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR THE AMRED FORCES
6. PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND DELICIOUS FREEDOM

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HOOLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRANOWITZ <i>none</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
POWELL <i>none</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MASENG <i>none 135</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MILLER - OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RANGE <i>none</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OGLESBY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RISQUE <i>none</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAUER <i>none</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RYAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CRIPPEN <i>none 6.10</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPRINKEL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CULVAHOUSE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TUCK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DAWSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TUTTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DONATELLI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCKINNEY <i>none</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOBBS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DOLAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			FAULKNER		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Tony Dolan by close of business on Friday, 09/16, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

## RESPONSE:

(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: THANKSGIVING MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988 1988 SEP 15 PM 5:10

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For that, we can be thankful this holiday season.

Nancy and I wish all of you and your families a bountiful Thanksgiving as we give thanks for America. God bless You.

(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m. SS

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

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(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m. 

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR THE ARMED FORCES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

This holiday season -- Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year's Day -- is a time for celebration and joy. Our country has remained at peace for another year, for which we can be grateful. But it is a sad truth that peace can only be maintained by being prepared for war.

You, the members of the Armed Forces, stand at the front edge of the readiness that allows our Nation to pause and reflect during this holiday season.

From the days of Valley Forge, our country has asked great sacrifices of its citizens and citizen-soldiers. These sacrifices are felt more deeply this time of year, as some of you spend the holidays away from your homes and loved ones -- in many cases, for the first time. I want you to know that I am deeply grateful to you, as are thoughtful Americans everywhere.

I feel great pride as I look back over the 8 years it has been my privilege to serve as your Commander-in-Chief. You are the Nation's finest and you are the most professional men and women who have worn the uniforms of our Armed Services. Your patriotism, dedication, and ability to do your difficult but vitally important jobs have enabled Americans everywhere to stand tall -- and free.

Nancy and I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season, and a peaceful and prosperous 1989. God bless you all.

(Dolan edit)  
September 15, 1988  
4:00 p.m.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

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(Dolan <sup>ed. t</sup> ~~Itchon~~)  
September 15, 1988  
~~Draft~~

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 29, 1988

RECEIVED

AUG 30 1988

SCHEDULING  
OFFICE

MEMORANDUM FOR FREDERICK J. RYAN  
ANNE HIGGINS

FROM

 JAMES C. MCKINNEY

SUBJECT

Thanksgiving and Christmas/New Year's Day  
Messages for Members of the Armed Forces

Attached are proposed messages for Thanksgiving and Christmas/New Year's Day for members of the Armed Forces. As in the past, DoD is requesting both written messages and audio/visual tapes.

We understand that the deadlines set by DoD (September 9th and September 23rd) may not be acceptable, however, we would appreciate your assistance in obtaining the materials as soon as possible.

Thank you.

cc: Mary Jane Smith





OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, WHITE HOUSE MILITARY OFFICE

SUBJECT: Proposed Thanksgiving and Christmas/New Year's Day  
Messages to the Armed Forces

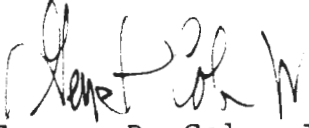
The President customarily approves Thanksgiving and Christmas/New Year's Day messages for the Armed Forces. Proposed messages are attached.

To permit worldwide dissemination in an orderly and timely manner, it is necessary to have a signed text for print release by September 9, and an audio and video recording for radio and television release by September 23, 1988.

We are informed that the Naval Audiovisual Unit at the White House is amenable to recording the message. However, should the recording be done commercially, request 1/4" reel-to-reel at 7-1/2 ips for audio; 1" Type C videotape or 3/4" U-Matic video cassette for television.

The Department of Defense plans to release the message to:

- more than 1,100 Armed Forces newspapers worldwide.
- military radio and television outlets in the United States.
- military radio and television outlets overseas and to Navy ships through the facilities of the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service.
- all DoD activities via message.

  
George P. Cole, Jr.  
Colonel, USAF  
Executive Secretary

Attachments:  
As stated

**Proposed Thanksgiving Day Message from the President  
to Members of the Armed Forces**

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For that, we can be thankful this holiday season.

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**Proposed Christmas / New Year's Day Holiday Message from the President to Members of the Armed Forces**

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