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Last Updated: 02/11/2025

Ottawa - Embassy Personnel

EVENT

3/11 - Wednesday

DELIVERY DATE

	<u>DUE</u>
DRAFT/KK	<u>Wed, 3/4, noon</u>
FINAL	
DATE:	<u>Fri, 3/6</u>
TIME:	<u>3:00</u>
OFFICE:	<u>DD</u>

RECEIVED

Date: _____

Office: _____

WRITER: _____

NOTES:

Research: MC

OTTAWA - EMBASSY PERSONNEL: MARCH 11, 1981

A FEW WEEKS AGO, I HAD THE HONOR OF PRESENTING A MUCH DESERVED BUT LONG DELAYED MEDAL OF HONOR TO AN AMERICAN SOLDIER.

IT WAS ONE OF THOSE INCREDIBLE STORIES OF HEROISM -- THE SPECIAL FORCES SERGEANT WAS WOUNDED TIME AFTER TIME AND STILL MANAGED TO FIGHT OFF THE ENEMY WHILE SAVING THE LIVES OF EIGHT OTHER GREEN BERETS.

OUR HISTORY IS RICH WITH SUCH EXAMPLES OF MILITARY VALOR -- IT MAKES ALL OF US ESPECIALLY PROUD. AND YET I THINK MANY OF US REFLECTED -- WHEN WE WELCOMED HOME OUR HOSTAGES FROM IRAN A MONTH AND A HALF AGO -- THAT HEROISM IS NOT ALWAYS THE STUFF OF

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FLAK AND FIREFIGHTS. THERE IS ALSO A DEVOTION TO DUTY -- DUTY THAT IS FREQUENTLY TEDIOUS AND DEVOTION THAT OFTEN GOES UNNOTICED -- THAT IS QUIETLY HEROIC.

BECAUSE WE'RE A NATION OF SPIRITED INDIVIDUALS, WE AMERICANS HAVE A REPUTATION FOR SOMETIMES NOT BEING VERY DEVOTED TO THE ART OF DIPLOMACY. YOU MAY REMEMBER WILL ROGERS' REMARK THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD NEVER LOST A WAR OR WON A CONFERENCE. AND WINSTON CHURCHILL SAID OF ONE OF OUR SECRETARIES OF STATE, JOHN FOSTER DULLES: "HE IS THE ONLY CASE OF A BULL I KNOW WHO CARRIES HIS CHINA CLOSET WITH HIM."

WELL, THERE IS REAL HUMOR THERE BUT I AM NOT SO SURE IT IS ACCURATE ANYMORE -- IF ANY GROUP OF PUBLIC SERVANTS COMES TO MIND FOR THEIR SINGULAR DEDICATION DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS IT IS THOSE OF YOU WHO WORK IN OUR EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES.

BESIDES THE TEHRAN INCIDENT, WE HAVE AVERAGED MORE THAN TWENTY ASSAULTS A YEAR ON AMERICAN OFFICIALS ABROAD AND, AS YOU KNOW, SIX OF OUR AMBASSADORS HAVE DIED TRAGICALLY IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

YOUR TASK BY DEFINITION IS NOT AN EASY ONE -- YOU MUST FACE ALL THE DANGERS OF THE MODERN WORLD WHILE YOU SAFEGUARD OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS AND MAINTAIN CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH OTHER NATIONS AND THEIR CITIZENS.

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I'VE FELT THIS WAY FOR A LONG TIME ABOUT THOSE WHO SERVE THE UNITED STATES. IT IS SAID THAT POPE JOHN USED TO SAY THAT HE WOULD HAVE A DREAM ABOUT A CERTAIN PROBLEM AND THEN -- AFTER RESOLVING TO TELL THE POPE ABOUT IT -- WAKE UP THE NEXT MORNING AND REALIZE HE WAS THE POPE.

SO AS PRESIDENT I CAN PROMISE YOU THAT WE WILL DO ALL IN OUR POWER TO HELP AND PROTECT YOU IN YOUR WORK. I CAN DO ONE OTHER THING, TOO. ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, I CAN SAY THANK YOU -- FOR YOUR DEVOTION TO YOUR PROFESSION AND TO YOUR COUNTRY.

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OTTAWA - EMBASSY PERSONNEL, March 11, 1981

A few weeks ago, I had the honor of presenting a much deserved but long delayed Medal of Honor to an American soldier.

It was one of those incredible stories of heroism -- the special forces sergeant was wounded time after time and still managed to fight off the enemy while saving the lives of eight other Green Berets.

Our history is rich with such examples of military valor -- it makes all of us especially proud. And yet I think many of us reflected -- when we welcomed home our hostages from Iran a month and a half ago -- that heroism is not always the stuff of flak and firefights. There is also a devotion to duty -- duty that is frequently tedious and devotion that often goes unnoticed -- that is quietly heroic.

Because we're a Nation of spirited individuals, we Americans have a reputation for sometimes not being very devoted to the art of diplomacy. You may remember Will Rogers' remark that the United States had never lost a war or won a conference. And Winston Churchill said of one of our Secretaries of State, John Foster Dulles: "He is the only case of a bull I know who carries his China Closet with him."

Well, there is real humor there but I am not so sure it is accurate anymore -- if any group of public servants comes to mind for their singular dedication during the past few years it is those of you who work in our Embassies and consulates.

Besides the Tehran incident, we have averaged more than twenty assaults a year on American officials abroad and, as you know, six of our Ambassadors have died tragically in the line of duty.

Your task by definition is not an easy one -- you must face all the dangers of the modern world while you safeguard our national interests and maintain cordial relations with other nations and their citizens.

I've felt this way for a long time about those who serve the United States. It is said that Pope John used to say that he would have a dream about a certain problem and then -- after resolving to tell the Pope about it -- wake up the next morning -- and realize he was the Pope.

So as President I can promise you that we will do all in our power to help and protect you in your work. I can do one other thing, too. On behalf of the American people, I can say thank you -- for your devotion to your profession and to your country.

(Dolan/KK)

March 6, 1981

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(Dolan/KK)

First Draft
March 5, 1981

OTTAWA - EMBASSY PERSONNEL
March 11, 1981

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Your task by definition is not an easy one -- you must face all the dangers of the modern world while you safeguard our national interests and maintain cordial relations with other Nations and their citizens.

I've felt this way for a long time about those who serve the United States. It reminds me that Pope John used to say that he would have a dream about a certain problem and then -- after resolving to tell the Pope about it -- wake up the next morning -- and realize he was the Pope.

So as President I can promise you that we will do all in our power to help and protect you in your work. I can do one other thing too. On behalf of the American people, I can say thank you -- for your devotion to your profession and to your country.

(Dolan) *K/K*

First Draft
March 4, 1981

OTTAWA - EMBASSY PERSONNEL
MARCH 11, 1981

A few weeks ago, I had the honor of presenting a much deserved but long delayed Medal of Honor to an American soldier.

It was one of those incredible stories of heroism -- the special forces sergeant was wounded time after time and still managed to fight off the enemy while saving the lives of eight other Green Berets.

Our history is rich with ^{*such*} examples of ~~this sort of~~ military valor -- it makes all of us especially proud. And yet I think many of us reflected -- when we welcomed home our hostages from Iran a few months ago -- that heroism is not always the stuff of flak and firefights. There is also a devotion to duty -- duty that is frequently tedious and devotion that often goes unnoticed -- that is quite ^{*heroic*} heroic.

Because we're a Nation of ^{*spontaneous individuals*} ~~go-getters~~, we Americans have a reputation for ^{*being*} not being very devoted to the art of diplomacy. You may remember Will Roger's remark that the United States had never lost a war or won a conference. And ^{*Winston Churchill*} ~~one British Prime Minister~~ said of one of our ^{*Secretaries of State*} ~~best known diplomats~~: "he is the only case I know of a bull who carries his China Closet with him."

4/ Well, there is real humor there but I am not so sure it is accurate anymore -- if any group of public servants comes to mind for their singular dedication during the past few years it is those of you who work in our ^{*res*} Embassy and consulates.

Besides the Tehran incident, we have averaged more than twenty assaults a year on American officials abroad and, as you know, two of our ambassadors have died tra^gically in the line of duty.

Your task by definition is not an easy one -- you must face all the dangers of the modern world while you safeguard our national interests and maintain cordial relations with other Nations *and their citizens.*

I've felt this way for a long time about those who serve the United States. It reminds me that Pope John used to say that he would have a dream about a certain problem and then -- after resolving to tell the Pope about it -- wake up the next morning -- and realize he was the Pope.

So as President I can promise you that we will do all in our power to help and protect you in your work. I can do one other thing too. On behalf of the American people, I can say thank you -- for your devotion to your profession and to your country.

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So as President I can promise you that we will do all in our power to help and protect you in your work. I can do one other thing too. On behalf of the American people, I can say thank you -- for your devotion to your profession and to your country.

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4 soldiers
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