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Speech Drafts: Records, 1981-1989

Folder Title: Reception for Vietnam Veterans Leadership
Program (Dolan)(Timmons) 03/01/1984

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Last Updated: 04/01/2025

(DOLAN)

MARCH 1, 1984

RECEPTION FOR VIETNAM VETERANS
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

FIRST OF ALL I WANT TO SAY WE'RE DELIGHTED TO HAVE YOU HERE AT THE WHITE HOUSE AND TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS IN THE VIETNAM VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM. YOU KNOW, THIS IS THE FOURTH TIME I'VE ADDRESSED YOU AND EACH TIME YOUR NUMBERS HAVE GROWN. THAT'S JUST ONE OF THE SIGNS OF SUCCESS BROUGHT ABOUT BY YOUR DEDICATION AND SELFLESSNESS.

FORGIVE ME IF I SOUND A LITTLE PROUD, BUT YOU KNOW WE STARTED WITH LITTLE MORE THAN AN IDEA NEARLY 3 YEARS AGO. AND NOW I'M PROUD TO NOTE THAT THERE ARE 50 VIETNAM VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS WITH MORE THAN 4,500 V.V.L.P. VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE DONATED MORE THAN 250,000 HOURS TO HELPING THEIR FELLOW VETERANS.

THE V.V.L.P.'s HAVE DIRECTLY PLACED OVER 2,000 VETERANS IN JOBS, COUNSELED THOUSANDS MORE, AND DEVELOPED CLOSE TO 7,000 JOB OPPORTUNITIES. IN ADDITION, THE PROGRAMS HAVE COUNSELED HUNDREDS OF VETERANS ON SMALL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES, HELPING MANY OF THEM REALIZE THE AMERICAN DREAM OF OWNING AND OPERATING THEIR OWN BUSINESS.

NOW AS YOU KNOW, THIS IS A PIVOTAL CONFERENCE FOR THE VIETNAM VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM. YOU'RE FOCUSING ON YOUR ROLE AFTER THE END OF THIS FISCAL YEAR WHEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S INVOLVEMENT WILL END. THROUGH ACTION, THE FEDERAL VOLUNTEER AGENCY, WE SOUGHT TO PLAY A CATALYTIC ROLE; THE IDEA WAS TO DEVELOP A SELF-SUSTAINING NETWORK OF PROGRAMS INDEPENDENT OF BUREAUCRACY THAT WOULD MOBILIZE SUCCESSFUL VETERANS AS VOLUNTEERS.

IN 3 YEARS, THIS GOAL HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, AND NOW THIS FALL YOUR PROGRAMS WILL BE ON THEIR OWN. YOU SHOULD BE IMMENSELY PROUD OF THIS; IT'S A TESTIMONY TO YOUR ENERGY, RESOURCEFULNESS, AND SPIRIT OF INDEPENDENCE. PLEASE BE ASSURED YOU WILL HAVE MY SUPPORT IN URGING ALL AMERICANS TO SUPPORT THE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM'S INITIATIVES IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

THROUGH SERVICE TO THE NATION DURING THE VIETNAM WAR AND THROUGH ONGOING VOLUNTEER EFFORTS LIKE THIS ONE, YOU ARE, AS VIETNAM VETERANS, WORKING TO BUILD A STRONGER AMERICA. BELIEVE ME, YOUR IDEAL OF SERVICE, OF GIVING OF ONE'S SELF FOR THE GOOD OF ALL, IS BOTH RESPECTED AND ENCOURAGED.

IN CLOSING, I'D LIKE TO RETURN TO SOMETHING I SAID WHEN THIS PROGRAM WAS INAUGURATED IN NOVEMBER OF 1981. AT THAT TIME I SAID, ". . . A NATION'S FUTURE IS ONLY AS CERTAIN AS THE DEDICATION OF ITS DEFENDERS, AND THE NATION MUST BE AS LOYAL TO THEM AS THEY ARE TO THE NATION."

OVER A DECADE AGO WHEN BATTLE RAGED ACROSS VIETNAM, MANY OF YOU HERE IN THIS ROOM WERE FIGHTING -- STEADFAST AND LOYAL -- FOR YOUR COUNTRY AND THE PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH IT STANDS. TODAY, ONCE AGAIN, YOU HAVE STEPPED FORWARD WHEN YOUR COUNTRY CALLED, DEMONSTRATING THAT SAME LOYALTY AND SENSE OF COMMITMENT THAT WOULD MAKE YOUR FALLEN COMRADES AND THOSE MISSING PROUD. ON BEHALF OF YOUR FELLOW VETERANS AND ALL AMERICANS, I WANT TO THANK YOU.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

#

RR
no 1's

(Dolan/BE)
February 29, 1984
5:00 p.m. RR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: RECEPTION FOR VIETNAM VETERANS
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1984

First of all I want to say we're delighted to have you here at the White House and to thank you for your efforts in the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program. You know, this is the fourth time I've addressed you and each time your numbers have grown. That's just one of the signs of success brought about by your dedication and selflessness.

Forgive me if I sound a little proud, but you know we started with little more than an idea nearly 3 years ago. And now I'm proud to note that there are 50 Vietnam Veterans Leadership Programs with more than 4,500 V.V.L.P. volunteers who have donated more than 250,000 hours to helping their fellow veterans. The V.V.L.P.'s have directly placed over 2,000 veterans in jobs, counseled thousands more, and developed close to 7,000 job opportunities. In addition, the programs have counseled hundreds of veterans on small business opportunities, helping many of them realize the American dream of owning and operating their own business.

Now as you know, this is a pivotal conference for the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program. You're focusing on your role after the end of this fiscal year when the Federal Government's involvement will end. Through ACTION, the Federal volunteer agency, we sought to play a catalytic role; the idea was to develop a self-sustaining network of programs independent

of bureaucracy that would mobilize successful veterans as volunteers.

In 3 years, this goal has been accomplished, and now this fall your programs will be on their own. You should be immensely proud of this; it's a testimony to your energy, resourcefulness, and spirit of independence. Please be assured you will have my support in urging all Americans to support the Leadership Program's initiatives in the years ahead.

Through service to the Nation during the Vietnam War and through ongoing volunteer efforts like this one, you are, as Vietnam veterans, working to build a stronger America. Believe me, your ideal of service, of giving of one's self for the good of all, is both respected and encouraged.

In closing, I'd like to return to something I said when this program was inaugurated in November of 1981. At that time I said, ". . . a nation's future is only as certain as the dedication of its defenders, and the nation must be as loyal to them as they are to the nation."

Over a decade ago when battle raged across Vietnam, many of you here in this room were fighting -- steadfast and loyal -- for your country and the principles for which it stands. Today, once again, you have stepped forward when your country called, demonstrating that same loyalty and sense of commitment that would make your fallen comrades and those missing proud. On behalf of your fellow veterans and all Americans, I want to thank you.

God bless you all.

All #3 & language
OK'd by
Ken Monfield
VVL P director
WILL SEND
BACK-UP

(Dolan/BE)
February 28, 1984
4:00 p.m. SS

MARKS: RECEPTION FOR VIETNAM VETERANS
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1984

Set-up FJTE
2-16-84
March 1

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at the White House and to thank you for your efforts in the
Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program. You know, this is the ~~third~~
time I've addressed you and each time your numbers have grown.
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Government's involvement will end. Through ACTION, the Federal
volunteer agency, we sought to play ~~only~~ a catalytic role; the
idea was to develop a ^{self-sustaining} network of programs independent of
bureaucracy that would ^{mobilize} ~~realize~~ successful veterans as volunteers.

VVL P-
part 83
ACTION
(one of
them
p. 200)

Ken
Monfield
Director
VVL

Post
4 minutes
after 6:00

304 5010
DOD

In 3 years, this goal has been accomplished, and now this fall your programs will be on their own. You should be immensely proud of this; it's a testimony to your energy, resourcefulness, and spirit of independence. Please be assured you will have my support in urging all Americans to support the Leadership Program's initiatives in the years ahead.

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God bless you all.

VVV
OK direction
K...
M...
659-9
Sunset
Sept. 83

FJRTJ
Set up
Nov 10
2:16

11-10-81
P.D. 1238

11-10-81
P.D. 1238

JACK
TAVAR
307-551
VA

History
11-10-81
Cunning
Vietnam
p. 576
NIXON
2000-4

on tape
83
Nov 83
Nov 83



Veterans
Administration

FEBRUARY 29 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR Ben Elliott
Speechwriting Office
The White House

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: Reception for Vietnam
Veterans Leadership Program (Thursday, March 1,
1984

This confirms my telephone conversation with Ms. Kimberly
Timmons of your office.

The Veterans Administration concurs in the proposed remarks
as written, but recommends the following addition to page 2,
paragraph 3, line 4:

"...its defenders, and the Nation must be as loyal to
them..."

Reason: To conform to the President's original remarks
in November 1981

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jack D. Tarran".

JACK D. TARRAN
Executive Secretary

cc: Craig L. Fuller



FEBRUARY 29 1984

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The White House

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JACK D. TARRAN
Executive Secretary

cc: Craig L. Fuller



FEBRUARY 1, 1968

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM URGENT

DATE: 2/28/84 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 10:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY, 2/29

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: RECEPTION FOR VIETNAM VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1984

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McFARLANE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FELDSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SVAHN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HERRINGTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TUTWILER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WIRTHLIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HENKEL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			ROSEBUSH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			FISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			ELLIOTT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

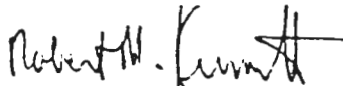
REMARKS:

Please forward any comments/edits directly to Ben Elliott in room 100 EOB by 10:00 a.m. TOMORROW, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, with an information copy to my office.

Thank you.

February 29, 1984

RESPONSE: Recommend addition of phrase in last paragraph after word commitment, "that would make your fallen comrades and those missing very proud." (Comment: VVLP has been active in POW/MIA and is aware of the President's commitment.)


 Robert M. Kimmitt

Richard G. Darman
 Assistant to the President
 Ext. 2702

Received S S
1984 FEB 28 PM 3:52

(Dolan/BE)
February 28, 1984
4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: RECEPTION FOR VIETNAM VETERANS
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1984

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Through service to the Nation during the Vietnam War and through ongoing volunteer efforts like this one, you are, as Vietnam veterans, working to build a stronger America. Believe me, your ideal of service, of giving of one's self for the good of all, is both respected and encouraged.

In closing, I'd like to return to something I said when this program was inaugurated in November of 1981. At that time I said, "A Nation's future is only as certain as the dedication of its defenders, and the Nation must be loyal to them as they are to the Nation."

Over a decade ago when battle raged across Vietnam, many of you here in this room were fighting -- steadfast and loyal -- for your country and the principles for which it stands. Today, once again, you have stepped forward when your country ^{that would make} called, ^{and missing people} ~~and~~ ^{you fallen comrades} demonstrating that same loyalty and sense of commitment, ^{and} On behalf of your fellow veterans and all Americans, I want to thank you.

God bless you all.

(Dolan/BE)
February 29, 1984
5:00 p.m.

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LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1984

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God bless you all.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUMDATE: 2/28/84 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 10:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY, 2/29SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: RECEPTION FOR VIETNAM VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1984

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McFARLANE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FELDSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SVAHN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HERRINGTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TUWILER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WIRTHLIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HENKEL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			ROSEBUSH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			FISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			ELLIOTT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments/edits directly to Ben Elliott in room 100 EOB by 10:00 a.m. TOMORROW, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, with an information copy to my office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

OK
F. Whittlesey

Richard G. Darman
Assistant to the President
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

1984 FEB 30 AM 10: 54

February 29, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING -
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Reception for Vietnam
Veterans Leadership Program

As requested by Richard Darman in his Staffing Memorandum of February 28, 1984, this office has reviewed the referenced Presidential remarks and has no legal objection to them.

cc: R. Darman

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/28/84 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 10:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY, 2/29

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: RECEPTION FOR VIETNAM VETERANS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1984

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VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McFARLANE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HERRINGTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>TUTWILER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>WIRTHLIN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>HENKEL</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<u>ROSEBUSH</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<u>FISCHER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<u>ELLIOTT</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*No objection
w. signature*

Richard G. Darman
Assistant to the President
Ext. 2702

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MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY - none	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FELDSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SVAHN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY - none	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HERRINGTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>TUTWILER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>WIRTHLIN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>HENKEL</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<u>ROSEBUSH</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<u>FISCHER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<u>ELLIOTT</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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Assistant to the President
Ext. 2702

(Dolan/BE)
February 28, 1984
4:00 p.m. SS

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THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1984

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Through service to the Nation during the Vietnam War and through ongoing volunteer efforts like this one, you are, as Vietnam veterans, working to build a stronger America. Believe me, your ideal of service, of giving of one's self for the good of all, is both respected and encouraged.

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God bless you all.

(Dolan/BE)
February 28, 1984
4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: RECEPTION FOR VIETNAM VETERANS
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1984

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(Dolan) / *BK*
February 27, 1984
6:00 p.m.

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God bless you all.

(Dolan/BE)
February 28, 1984
10:00 a.m. ~~2:00~~

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(Dolan)
February 27, 1984
3:30 p.m.

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In three years, this goal has been accomplished and now this fall your programs will be on their own. You should be immensely proud of this; it's a testimony to your energy, resourcefulness and ~~sense~~ ^{spirit} of independence. Please be assured you will have my support in urging all Americans to support the Leadership Program's initiatives ^{in the years ahead.} ~~as it becomes a private sector initiative.~~

Through service to the Nation during the Vietnam War and through ongoing volunteer efforts like this one, you are, as Vietnam veterans, working to build a stronger America in which the ideal of service, of giving of one's self for the good of all, is respected and encouraged.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 22, 1984

Sony
+ RT
←

MEMORANDUM FOR BENTLY ELLIOTT

FROM: DOUGLAS A. RIGGS *DAR*

Subject: Proposed remarks for President Reagan at the
Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program (VVLV)
reception in the Residence on March 1, 1984

Pursuant to our conversation, please find enclosed the proposed remarks prepared by ACTION which is the sponsoring agency for VVLV. It would be appreciated if you would review the remarks and put them into the style and context agreeable to you and the President.

It was planned that the proposed remarks should not exceed 2 to 3 minutes. The balance of the President's time will be consumed in a reception line.

Please call me if you have any question. If possible, I would like to finalize the remarks by the close of business on Monday, February 27, 1984.

Thank you very much.

Suggested remarks for President Reagan meeting with VWLP, March 1, 1984

to say we're delighted to have you here at the White House and

First of all I want to thank each of you for your efforts in the Vietnam

Veterans Leadership Program, ~~on behalf of all our fine veterans.~~ You know,

this is the third time I've addressed ^{you} this group and each time it's gotten ^{your numbers} larger. *That's just one of the* That's a visible sign of the success of this program.

Forgive me, if I sound a little proud at this point but you know We started with little more than an idea nearly three years ago, and now,

I'm proud to note that there are 50 Vietnam Veterans Leadership Programs *with 4 more*

~~around the country.~~ You volunteers here today represent more than 4,500

more than VWLP volunteers in ~~these programs and,~~ ^{who have} all together, you've donated ~~over~~

more than 250,000 hours to helping ^{their} your fellow veterans, ~~demonstrating to all Amer-~~

~~icans that our Vietnam veterans are an important leadership resource for~~

~~the future.~~ The VWLPs have directly placed over 2,000 veterans in jobs,

counseled thousands more and ~~referred them to other job sources and de-~~

veloped close to 7,000 job opportunities to which veterans can apply.

In addition the programs have counseled hundreds of veterans on small

business opportunities, helping ^{a number of} them realize the American dream of owning

and operating their own business. ~~A number of businesses have already~~

Now As you know ~~been started as a direct result of VWLP efforts.~~

This is a pivotal conference for the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program,

~~because now~~ you're focusing on your role after the end of this fiscal

year when the federal government's involvement will end. Again, this is

another reason for our immense pride in this program. Through ACTION,

the federal volunteer agency, we sought to play only a catalytic role,

~~in mobilizing successful veterans as volunteers.~~ *so* The idea was to develop

a network of programs independent of bureaucracy, ^{that would realize} a network of programs

successful veterans as volunteers. ~~with the independence to come up with the most appropriate solutions for~~

~~each individual community.~~

In three years, this goal has been accomplished and your programs will be on their own, ~~this fall~~ ^{now this fall} ~~this fall~~ ^{You should be proud of this; it's a testimony to your every, resourceful and sense of independence.}

~~At this time, I'd like to urge all Americans to support the Leadership Programs's initiatives.~~ ^{as it becomes a private enterprise}

Through service to the nation during the Vietnam War and through ongoing volunteer efforts, ~~these~~ ^{for this one, you are, as} Vietnam veterans, ~~are~~ working to build healthier ^{a stronger America} communities in which the ideal of service, of giving of one's self for the good of all, is respected, encouraged, and meaningful.

In closing I'd like to return to something I said when this program was inaugurated in November of 1981. At that time I said, "A nation's future is only as certain as the dedication of its defenders, and the nation must be as loyal to them as they are to the nation."

~~Over a decade ago when the battle~~

~~Sixteen years ago, as the Tet Offensive raged across Vietnam, many of you here in this room were fighting—steadfast and loyal—for your country and the principles for which we stand.~~ Today, once again you have stepped forward when your country called, demonstrating that same loyalty and sense of commitment. On behalf of your fellow veterans and countrymen, I thank you...

- I see no need to talk about the Tet Offensive. Shouldn't it be more general?



ACTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20525

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tony Dolan, The White House

FROM: *Kenneth Moorefield*
Kenneth Moorefield, National Director
Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program

DATE: February 27, 1984

SUBJECT: Suggested Remarks for President Reagan on behalf
of the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program (VVLP)

I spoke with Tom Shull who supports the concept of not specifying any single individual in the President's remarks. This gets us out of a potentially sticky political problem.

Please call me if there is anything else we can provide.

Suggested remarks for President Reagan meeting with VVLP, March 1, 1984

First of all I want to thank each of you for your efforts in the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program on behalf of all our fine veterans. You know, this is the third time I've addressed this group and each time it's gotten larger. That's a visible sign of the success of this program.

We started with little more than an idea nearly three years ago and now, I'm proud to note that there are 50 Vietnam Veterans Leadership Programs around the country. You volunteers here today represent more than 4,500 VVLP volunteers in those programs and, all together, you've donated over 250,000 hours to helping your fellow veterans, demonstrating to all Americans that our Vietnam veterans are an important leadership resource for the future. The VVLPs have directly placed over 2,000 veterans in jobs, counseled thousands more and referred them to other job sources and developed close to 7,000 job opportunities to which veterans can apply. In addition the programs have counseled hundreds of veterans on small business opportunities, helping them realize the American dream of owning and operating their own business. A number of businesses have already been started as a direct result of VVLP efforts.

This is a pivotal conference for the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program because now you're focusing on your role after the end of this fiscal year when the federal government's involvement will end. Again, this is another reason for our immense pride in this program. Through ACTION, the federal volunteer agency, we sought to play only a catalytic role in mobilizing successful veterans as volunteers. The idea was to develop a network of programs independent of bureaucracy, a network of programs with the independence to come up with the most appropriate solutions for each individual community.

President's remarks - 2

In three years, this goal has been accomplished and your programs will be on their own this fall.

At this time, I'd like to urge all Americans to support the Leadership Programs's initiatives.

Through service to the nation during the Vietnam War and through ongoing volunteer efforts, these Vietnam veterans are working to build healthier communities in which the ideal of service, of giving of one's self for the good of all, is respected, encouraged and meaningful.

In closing I'd like to return to something I said when this program was inaugurated in November of 1981. At that time I said, "A nation's future is only as certain as the dedication of its defenders, and the nation must be as loyal to them as they are to the nation."

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 27, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD DARMAN

FROM: ANTHONY DOLAN

SUBJECT: American Legion Speech

Per our conversation, the sections that are potentially political (according to Counsel's Office) have been bracketed and can be easily removed or modified.

Personally, I think it gives us a chance to put some of our opposition strategy to work by getting it on the record now, following the Democratic primary in New Hampshire. It's a morning speech and would be a good media opportunity. I should point out some members of Counsel's Office also think we should keep it a political speech because of the potential gain for minimal cost.

cc: Ben Elliott

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

2/16/84

MEMORANDUM

TO: FAITH WHITTLESEY / JAMES ROSEBUSH

FROM: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR. *FJR*

SUBJ: APPROVED PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITY

MEETING: Participate in a Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program
Reception

DATE: March 1, 1984

TIME: 5:00 pm

DURATION: 15 minutes

LOCATION: East Room

REMARKS REQUIRED: Yes

MEDIA COVERAGE: Coordinate with Press Office

FIRST LADY

PARTICIPATION: Optional

NOTE: PROJECT OFFICER, SEE ATTACHED CHECKLIST

cc: R. Darman	J. Rosebush
R. Deprospero	R. Scouten
B. Elliott	B. Shaddix
D. Fischer	W. Sittmann
C. Fuller	L. Speakes
W. Henkel	WHCA Audio/Visual
E. Hickey	WHCA Operations
G. Hodges	A. Wrobleski
C. McCain	Nell Yates
B. Oglesby	

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

FEBRUARY 3, 1984

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR., DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: FAITH WHITTLESEY *FAW*
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC LIAISON

REQUEST: For the President to participate in a Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program ceremony (VVLP). *Reception*

PURPOSE: To recognize volunteer achievements of Vietnam veterans on behalf of their fellow veterans and to recognize the leadership role of the nation's Vietnam veterans by acknowledging the participants in VVLP.

BACKGROUND: Administered by ACTION, the VVLP is an important veterans service begun by the Reagan Administration. The VVLP has established 50 programs across the country. Each project director and each chairman of each program and almost all board members are Vietnam combat veterans: five hold the Congressional Medal of Honor; approximately half the chairmen and project directors hold at least one Purple Heart; and a number are severely disabled as a result of their service to the nation. Over 3,500 non-stipend volunteers have stepped forward to work in this program. These individuals for the most part, are Vietnam veterans working at the highest levels of their communities. They have volunteered over 200,000 hours of time to materially improve the situation of Vietnam veterans. The program's sunset date is September, 1984.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: The President launched the VVLP on the eve of Veterans Day, 1981 with a ceremony in the Rose Garden. In January 1983 the President met with members of the VVLP in the White House briefing room.

DATE: Thursday, March 1, 1984

DURATION: 15-20 minutes

MEDIA: Full press coverage

PARTICIPANTS: 150 prominent Vietnam veterans and others associated with the program.

APPROVED FOR

Date. *3/1/84*
Time. *5:00*
Length. *15 min*
Date *3/1/84*
E.R.

OUTLINE

OF EVENTS: President makes brief remarks, circulates among guests and poses for photos.

REMARKS

REQUIRED: Brief remarks

RECOMMENDED

BY: Faith Whittlesey, Thomas W. Pauken, Harry N. Walters

OPPOSED BY: Not known

PROJECT

OFFICER: Douglas A. Riggs

include hand (pauken)