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Last Updated: 04/08/2025

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Jony

5/15/84

MEMORANDUM

TO: WILLIAM HENKEL/ED HICKEY

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

SUBJ: APPROVED PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITY

MEETING: Participate in ceremonies for Entombment of Vietnam
Unknown Soldier

DATE: May 28, 1984

TIME: 1:30 pm

DURATION: To be determined

LOCATION: Arlington National Cemetery

REMARKS REQUIRED: Yes

MEDIA COVERAGE: Coordinate with Press Office

FIRST LADY

PARTICIPATION: Yes¹

NOTE: PROJECT OFFICER, SEE ATTACHED CHECKLIST

cc: R. Darman
R. Deprospero
B. Elliott
D. Fischer
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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

April 30, 1984

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1984
SCHEDULING
OFFICE

MEMORANDUM FOR FREDERICK J. RYAN

FROM:

Paul B. Thompson for
ROBERT M. KIMMITT

SUBJECT:

Ceremonies for Unknown Serviceman of
Vietnam Era

The Vice President's Office has informed us that the Vice President is scheduled to be out of town on May 25 when the Rotunda Ceremony of the subject event takes place. By appropriateness and precedence, the President or the Vice President needs to be at the Capitol Ceremony.

DAVID E. BONIOR
12TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

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April 25, 1984

The Honorable James Baker
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Baker:

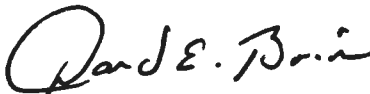
On May 28, 1984 the inclusion of an Unknown Soldier will occur at Arlington National Cemetery. This is certainly long overdue, and we all look forward to the day when this meaningful event will take place.

As you know, in November 1982, a group of Vietnam veterans dedicated the national Memorial on the Mall in Washington, D.C. The Memorial was built with contributions from the American people to honor all who served in Vietnam.

President Reagan did not attend the ceremonies to dedicate the national Vietnam Veterans Memorial. It is my hope, however, that on this special occasion when an unknown soldier is placed in Arlington that the President will not forget to pay his respects at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The Memorial which has done so very much to honor the veterans and to heal the nation's wounds after a bitterly divisive era should not be neglected by the President on this upcoming Memorial Day.

In closing, let me express my personal gratitude to the Administration for honoring Vietnam veterans at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Sincerely,



David E. Bonior
Member of Congress

DEB/scm



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS US ARMY MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
FORT LESLEY J. MCNAIR
WASHINGTON, DC 20319

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

ANCSSE

MEMORANDUM THRU EDWARD V. HICKEY, JR.

FOR WILLIAM F. SITTMANN

SUBJECT: Ceremonies for the Unknown Serviceman of Vietnam

30 March 1984

G. Connelley
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1. The President should arrive at the U.S. Capitol Rotunda at 2:35 p.m. on 25 May 1984.
2. Upon arrival at the East Capitol Plaza, he will be assisted to his position in the Rotunda by his escort officer. When all participants are in position, the casket will be brought into the Rotunda. At this time, the President will deliver the eulogy. At the conclusion of the eulogy, a soldier will position himself near the foot of the casket with the Presidential Wreath. The President should move to him and place the wreath at the casket assisted by the wreath bearer, and return to his position. The benediction will be given at this time. This ceremony will last approximately 15 minutes and concludes the ceremonies for the day.
3. The President should arrive at Arlington National Cemetery on 28 May 1984 at 1:30 p.m. He will be escorted to the dismount point at the north entrance of the Amphitheater. Upon his arrival at the north entrance, he will be taken to the Memorial Display Room; when all is ready, the President will be escorted to his seat in the Apse. The funeral service will last approximately 25 minutes. The U.S. Army Band will sound honors to the Unknown, and the casket will be carried into the Apse—the President should stand during honors and place his right hand over his heart. When the casket is in place, the U.S. Marine Band will begin the funeral service with the playing of the National Anthem—the President should stand and place his right hand over his heart. At the completion of the National Anthem, there will be 1 minute of silence. At the conclusion of the 1 minute of silence, the Catholic chaplain will give the invocation. The Trumpet Call will then be sounded, and the audience will join in singing "My Country Tis of Thee." At the conclusion of the song, the President will make a brief address, present the Medal of Honor, and return to his seat. The chorus will sing "On Bended Knee." The Jewish chaplain will then read Psalm 91 followed by the U.S. Army Chorus singing "The Last Words of David." The Protestant chaplain will then read the New Testament lesson from John 14:1-7, 15-17 and 27. Following the reading, the chorus will sing "The 23rd Psalm." At the conclusion of the song, the Orthodox chaplain will pronounce the benediction—all standing. The

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SUBJECT: Ceremonies for the Unknown Serviceman of Vietnam

President will then be escorted into the Memorial Display Room. When all is ready on the Plaza, the President will follow the casket, escorted by General Ballantyne, to his position on the Plaza. The chaplains will then deliver their committal prayers. At the conclusion of the prayers, the President will place the Presidential Wreath and return to his position facing the Tomb. The Saluting Battery will fire a 21-gun salute--the President should place his right hand over his heart. At the completion of the gun salute, the chaplain will give the benediction. At the conclusion of the benediction, the President should again salute as the firing party fires 3 volleys followed by the playing of Taps. When Taps is complete, the interment flag will be folded and presented to General Ballantyne. General Ballantyne will then give the flag to the President. The President will then present the flag to the Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, for safekeeping. The ceremony is thus concluded, and the President will be ushered off the Plaza to his vehicle for departure.



PAUL C. MILLER
Director
Ceremonies and Special Events

1 Encl
State Funeral Plan

FOR THE SECRETARY

THE STATE FUNERAL PLAN FOR THE INTERMENT
OF THE
UNKNOWN SERVICEMAN OF VIETNAM

The designation ceremony for the Unknown American Serviceman killed in Vietnam will take place in Hawaii on 17 May 1984 at 1100. Following the designation ceremony, the Unknown will depart Hawaii with ceremony at approximately 1200 and be transported by ship to Alameda Naval Air Station, California, arriving no later than noon, 24 May 1984. The anticipated travel time from Hawaii to San Francisco is approximately 7 days. The Unknown will arrive at Alameda Naval Air Station with ceremony and will be transported to the base chapel, Travis Air Force Base, for repose. The Unknown will be received with ceremony and will lie in repose until 0500, 25 May 1984. Public viewing during the period of repose will be continuous until 2 hours prior to the departure from the base chapel, if public interest requires. A guard of honor will attend the Unknown while in repose.

On 25 May 1984, the deceased will depart the base chapel with ceremony at 0530 and will be transported to the Travis air terminal for departure. The Unknown will depart Travis Air Force Base with ceremony at 0600 and will be transported to Andrews Air Force Base. The Unknown of Vietnam will arrive at Andrews Air Force Base with ceremony on Friday, 25 May 1984, at approximately 1400 and will be escorted to the U.S. Capitol for lying in state.

The deceased will be received with ceremony at the U.S. Capitol at approximately 1445 and will lie in state in the Capitol Rotunda for approximately 3 days, until 1200 Memorial Day. A guard of honor will attend the Unknown until departure from the U.S. Capitol. Public viewing during the period of lying in state in the Capitol Rotunda will be continuous until 2 hours prior to the departure from the Capitol, if public interest requires. The Unknown will be moved from the U.S. Capitol at 1200, Monday, 28 May 1984, with ceremony, placed on the caisson on the East Plaza of the Capitol and proceed to Delaware and Constitution Avenue to join the main funeral procession to Arlington National Cemetery. A flyover will be conducted as the caisson is centered on Memorial Bridge.

The funeral service will be held in the Amphitheater, Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), at approximately 1400 followed by interment at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The casket will be closed throughout all ceremonies. Honors will consist of 4 ruffles and flourishes and a 21-gun salute. The period of mourning will be from reveille, on the day of arrival in Washington, D.C. to retreat, the day of interment in Arlington National Cemetery.



April 27, 1984

RECEIVED

APR 30 1984

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The Hon. Joseph C. Zengerle*

*Served in Vietnam

Affiliations noted for
purposes of identification only.

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
Attn: Fred Ryan

Dear President Reagan:

This Memorial Day will be a very special time for all who served in Vietnam and for the country as a whole. At long last, a Vietnam casualty will be interred at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.

As you know, in 1982 the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated on the Mall in Washington, D.C. We would like to invite you to lay a wreath or to pay a visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial during the period at which the Unknown Soldier is in the Capitol Rotunda. A visit by you to this most significant national Memorial that has done so much to heal the nations wounds after that divisive era would be a great honor to all those who served their nation in Vietnam. We would be especially pleased if you would lay a wreath on Memorial Day.

Our organization, which erected the Memorial with no government funding, would be honored if you would accept our offer. During these significant days upcoming in May, it would be unfortunate if the national Memorial that first honored America's Vietnam veterans was not recognized.

We stand ready to cooperate in any way.

My Highest Regard,

Jan C. Scruggs
President

JCS/caj

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1110 Vermont Avenue N.W. Suite 308 Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 659-2490

To the Unknown HeroesEXTENSION OF REMARKS
OF**HON. THOMAS C. HENNINGS, JR.**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Wednesday, June 11, 1958

Mr. HENNINGS. Mr. President, with the interment of the unknown soldiers of World War II and the Korean war at Arlington Cemetery on Memorial Day, one of the foremost thoughts in everyone's mind is the great sacrifice made by many American soldiers on the fields of battle during the past two conflicts. One of my fellow Missourians has taken up his pen and expressed his thoughts for all of us to read. It is indeed a fine tribute to those who have made the supreme sacrifice. I ask unanimous consent that the poem *To the Unknown Heroes*, written by Clarence Hooton, be printed in the Appendix of the Record.

There being no objection, the poem was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

TO THE UNKNOWN HEROES

Their names are not known,
In this wide, wide world.
But they answered the call.
Where our flag was unfurled.

Each gave up all.
That was dear to him;
And marched to the colors.
With a face that was grim.

And as time went on,
He crossed the sea;
To offer his life.
For you and for me.

There in conflict,
Mid shot and shell
These unknown heroes
Stumbled and fell.

Each was mortally wounded.
A fact he well knew.
Mortally wounded
For me and for you.

He thought of his mother,
And his eyes grew dim.
And he thought of a maiden,
Who was waiting for him.

Then rising on an elbow
He breathed a last prayer,
For God in Heaven
To give them His care.

And as the ebbing of life,
Caused his form to sag,
He mentioned his country
And mentioned his flag.

They buried them there,
Beneath foreign sod.
Unknown to all.
Excepting God.

Now mothers and maidens,
Both bow in prayer
For unknown heroes
Who fell over there.

May we as a people,
Ever mindful be,
Of those who have died,
For you and for me.

(Written by Clarence Hooton, Buffalo, Mo.)

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. JOHN M. ROBSION, JR.

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 1958

Mr. ROBSION of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, the current press dispatches are carrying the story of the selection of two unknown soldiers to be entombed beside the present unknown soldier of the Arlington National Cemetery. One of the two selected will represent our American soldiers in World War II, and the other will represent our American soldiers in the Korean war. The remains of another American soldier was similarly chosen as a nameless hero to be consigned to the sea from the deck of the U. S. S. Cruiser *Canberra*, off the shores of the Virginia Capes.

The following feature story of the subject appeared in the Washington Post and Times Herald of May 25:

TWO UNKNOWN WARRIORS TO BE CHOSEN TODAY

(By Harry Nash)

NORFOLK, VA., May 25.—Chopin's Funeral March will sound in solemn dirge over the Atlantic, Monday, at a rendezvous of 3 unknown American fighting men who died in their country's last 2 wars.

By high line from other warships, their bodies will swing across the waves to the cruiser *Canberra*. There they will be encased in bronze caskets and placed on deck beneath the ship's deadly Terrier missiles. Thus will the stage be set for two ceremonies, selection of the nameless hero of World War II and the burial at sea of the unselected unknown. Between these two will lie the unknown serviceman of the Korean war.

SAILOR'S WREATH

On the *Canberra's* lower aft-missile deck, somber in dark blue bunting, a Navy enlisted man will step forward, pick up a wreath and place it on 1 of the 2 outer caskets, 1 containing a man who died in the European theater, the other a man who died in the Pacific theater.

The selected unknown and the Korean war unknown will be entombed in Arlington Cemetery on Memorial Day beside the unknown soldier of World War I.

Monday's ceremonies will be held 25 miles east of Cape Henry. Before they begin, 3 teams, in a closed compartment, in turn will arrange and rearrange the positions of the unknowns from the European and Pacific theaters to preserve their geographical anonymity.

FUNERAL MARCH

As the three caskets are borne to the ceremonial deck area by Navy bodybearers, the Atlantic Fleet cruiser force band will play Chopin's Funeral March. Flanking the caskets will be honorary pall bearers and color guards from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.

Rear Adm. Lewis S. Parks, commander of the cruiser force, will introduce William R. Charrette, hospitalman first class, of Key West, Fla., holder of the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry in Korea. Charrette is a native of Ludington, Mich.

As drums sound a slow steady beat, Charrette will place the wreath on one of the caskets. As he salutes the casket, the Navy Hymn will be sung by the Sea Chanters, a 23-man choral group from the United States Navy Band in Washington.

The Korean unknown and the selected World War II unknown will be transferred by high line to the destroyer *Blandy*, which will carry them to Washington. There they will lie in state in the Capitol for 48 hours before their entombment at Arlington. The *Blandy* will be escorted up the Potomac by the Coast Guard cutter *Ingham*.

The unselected unknown will be removed from his casket and wrapped in a weighted canvas shroud as the *Canberra* proceeds to deeper water for the burial.

Over the *Canberra's* public address system and by bugle call will come the word: "All hands bury the dead."

The ship will come to stop, her colors lowered to half mast, the nameless hero's body will be placed on a small ramp, extending over the side of the ship. The band will play a dirge as the crew forms ranks.

Air Force, Navy, and Army chaplains representing the Eastern Orthodox, Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant faiths will conduct individual committal services.

The ramp will be tipped. The body will drop into the sea. All hands will snap to salute. A Marine color guard will fire 3 volleys. A Marine bugle will sound taps.

The *Canberra* will turn her bow toward Norfolk.

World War I was proclaimed as a war to end all wars. Yet, since it was fought another even greater world war has been waged, and also the Korean war; and instead of having a wise and lasting peace as the result of all these unprecedented conflicts, the world continues in a state of perilous confusion, augmented by a race for supremacy in atomic and other death-dealing instruments of destruction, with no solution in sight. What an indictment of the human race is thus involved.

Apropos of all of this—under leave accorded for this extension—I desire to quote a poem written some years ago, and before World War II, with respect to the unknown soldier from World War I, entombed in the Arlington National Cemetery. The author is a distinguished predecessor of mine in this body, Hon. Maurice H. Thatcher, and appeared in various publications, including the anthology, Christmas Lyrics of 1939, from which it is now quoted:

THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER SPEAKS

(Arlington National Cemetery)

I am the Unknown Soldier. Here I rest.
Beneath this white and stainless monument:
Above all others is my mem'ry blest.
For I'm the Nation's symbol: in me are blent
Ideals of valor and of sacrifice.
Before the Day of Judgment none may know

My name or race, or hold the least surmise
Of who I am; or whether high or low.
"Rest!" did I say? Alone my dust is here:
My spirit ne'er may find repose until
There is an end to sceptered force and fear,
And man shall cease to ravage and to kill,
War's victims, all, must haunt the stricken
world

To war itself be dead, its banners furled.

—Maurice H. Thatcher.

Known but to God

EXTENSION OF REMARKS
OF
HON. FREDERIC R. COUDERT, JR.
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 9, 1958

Mr. COUDERT. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks, I include an address by Mr. William H. McIntyre, president-elect of the Society of American Legion Founders. Mr. McIntyre spoke on June 11 before the Veterans of the National Guard and Naval Militia, Inc., in the 69th Regiment Armory, New York City.

KNOWN BUT TO GOD

I am a member of Metropolitan Post American Legion and was privileged to receive from the Secretary of the Army on behalf of the Armed Forces of the United States an invitation to attend the burial of the two unknown Americans in Arlington Cemetery, May 30, 1958. It had also been my privilege to be present at the interment of the Unknown Soldier of World War I on November 11, 1921.

When World War I terminated, our illustrious dead were returned to America. They came to Hoboken, N. J., in the Port of New York. When these bodies arrived, the caskets were placed on the piers. There was a short service and taps was sounded by a sergeant bugler of the 69th Regiment, New York. In all, the number of dead from World War I numbered 21,000.

After World War II, the Government set up the National Graves Registration and Memorial plan for repatriation of our war dead. The object of this plan was to fulfill an obligation to our departed comrades, to assist the relatives, and to carefully safeguard the interest of deceased veterans.

In September 1949, I was present when the first of our dead were exhumed at St. Laurent Cemetery in France for return to the United States. In all, 156,000 were returned.

When the Korean dead were brought back, they came to the Port of San Francisco, Calif., and all bodies being returned to the next of kin east of the Mississippi River came to the Army base in Brooklyn, N. Y. In round numbers 19,000 were received here. Despite the hour of day or the weather conditions, the speaker never missed a service for all these dead.

On May 29, 1958, at 3 p. m. a wreath was placed under the dome in the Rotunda of the Capitol on behalf of the Society of American Legion Founders. As bearer of this wreath, I was escorted by an Army General and a Navy Commander to the caskets and placed the wreath. After a short prayer and a salute, the bearer retired.

These bodies lay in the Rotunda for 2 days until May 30th at 1 p. m. when the funeral procession started for Arlington Cemetery. The caskets were carried down the long flight of steps on the east portico of the Capitol through an honor cordon to the caissons drawn by matched gray horses that were to carry them down Constitution Avenue and across the Memorial Bridge to the cemetery where there are now 92,000 interred. Both this avenue and the bridge were lined by contingents of the different branches of the Armed Forces. While the funeral cortege moved in slow cadence, the howitzers, located in the Washington Monument Park, boomed their salutes every minute until the cemetery was reached. These caissons were preceded by quotas of troops from every branch of the Armed Forces and from West Point, Annapolis, Air Force, and Coast Guard, service academies that marched up the sloping hills of Arlington Cemetery past the

monument dedicated by Canada to the Americans who served in their forces during World War I to the grove of beech trees in front of the Memorial Amphitheater. After the caissons, rode the Vice President of the United States. The long march, the tenseness of the occasion, and the rigid discipline of standing at attention in the hot weather took its toll as there were a number of heat prostration casualties.

Prior to the arrival of the President, 15 of the Nation's newest jets and bombers roared overhead. One jet missing from the formation, was back at Bolling Air Force Base. The missing buddy was draped in black.

At 3 o'clock the President came to the apex platform. The program in the National Memorial Amphitheater was as follows:

1. National anthem.
2. Invocation.
3. Trumpet call—2 minutes silence.
4. Song by the audience—America the Beautiful.
5. The presentation of the Medals of Honor by President Eisenhower, who said, "On behalf of a grateful people, I present Medals of Honor to these two unknowns who gave their lives for the United States of America."
6. A choral group of the United States Army Corps rendered On Bended Knee.
7. The psalm of the day by the Chaplain of the United States Air Force.
8. A musical selection—23d Psalm by a member of the United States Marine Band.
9. Scripture lesson by Chief of Chaplains, United States Air Force.
10. A musical selection: Dirge for Two Veterans.
11. Benediction by Chief Chaplain, United States Navy.
12. Postlude, United States Marine Band.

The caskets were conveyed to the crypts on either side of the Unknown Soldier's Tomb and there prayers were said by the chaplains for the Catholic, Jewish, and Protestant faiths. The President then placed his wreath. The salute of 21 guns was fired and taps blown. This concluded the services at Arlington Cemetery.

On May 31, at 11 a. m., the national commander of the American Legion presented three distinguished service medals of that organization on the unknown Americans of World War I, II, and Korea.

At 2:20 p. m., the medallion of the Society of American Legion Founders was conferred at the Tomb of the Unknowns for these veterans of World War I, II, and Korea. The prayer said under the dome of the Capitol was repeated.

"With bowed heads, oh gentlest heart of Jesus, have mercy on the souls of our departed comrades. Oh merciful Saviour, send Thy angels to conduct them to the place of refreshment, light, and peace. Amen."

After the salute the medallion was accepted by the Superintendent of the Arlington National Cemetery and placed in the museum off the plaza. As bearer of the medallion, I was escorted by the honor guard to the tomb and to the museum.

Gathered in the amphitheater were the country's leading citizens and military leaders, representatives of foreign governments, veterans, patriotic, religious, and civic organizations, and private citizens. With these interments, the country's shrine through her military dead becomes known as the Tomb of the Unknowns.

WILLIAM H. MCINTYRE,
President-Elect, The Society
of American Legion Founders.

At Arlington—1958EXTENSION OF REMARKS
OF**HON. BASIL L. WHITENER**OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**Tuesday, June 24, 1958**

Mr. WHITENER. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. William R. Turner, Sr., a constituent of mine from Gastonia, N. C., has written a very lovely and inspiring poem entitled "At Arlington—1958."

Mrs. Turner was moved to write her poem as the result of the magnificent exercises held at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day when the Unknown Soldiers of World War II and the Korean conflict were entombed.

I believe that my colleagues in the House will get as much enjoyment out of reading Mrs. Turner's poem as I did, and, therefore, under unanimous consent, I include it in the Appendix of the RECORD:

AT ARLINGTON—1958

Welcome, my brothers, welcome!

Clasp my hand in greeting.

I have been waiting with mixed emotions

For this momentous meeting;

I had wondered if you were coming,

If even the thoughts of men

Would pause, take countenance,

Do homage to those latest conquests,

And refer it to now and then.

Who is it, my brother, you ask of me?

Who stands with me when the flag is flying

Who sits by me when the day is done

Who sighs when knowing, madly roaring,

Bloody battles are fought and won;

Who, melancholy, right and left looking,

Over the eternal mass of time?

He whose heart is aching, breaking.

Waiting for, "Thy will, not mine."

It is he who was waiting;

When, filled with reverence and awe,

Mourned, as for a well beloved child,

They brought me here that day,

He was sad, he was lonely

The day that I arrived;

And, though we have been together constantly,

He seldom since that day has smiled.

Come, He will bid you welcome—

You'll find quiet, peace, contentment and rest

When the touch of His hand you feel

With His clasp of friendship you are blest;

But if I am not mistaken

You are not the only ones—

He is waiting for the forsaken

From the vastnesses of seas and skies and lands.

He is waiting for a calling,

To come and enter in

And bring grace and joy and love abounding

And peace that passeth understanding.

For if to come He is not bidden

To dwell on earth in the hearts of men

He will ever be sadly looking, wistfully mourning,

For the certain coming of other men.

—Thelma Turner.

GASTONIA, N. C.

The Unknown Soldier Speaks Again

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. JOHN E. HENDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1958

Mr. HENDERSON. Mr. Speaker, our Congress and our country recently witnessed the tribute paid to the Unknown Soldiers of World War II and the Korean incident. The ceremony was a beautiful, reverent, and meaningful recognition of the debt America owes to our soldiers of all wars. While the memory of the recent ceremony remains with us, I should like to bring to the attention of the Members a poem which was written by a deceased constituent of the 15th District, William H. H. Gantz. This poem was first printed in the Columbus Citizen of October 3, 1942, and is, indeed, most fitting as we approach the 182d anniversary of our existence as a free and independent people. The poem has been furnished to me by a sister of the author, Lillian Graessie Gantz.

THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER SPEAKS AGAIN

I died because the world goes mad,
And sin becomes a fad;
I died because it is wrong, not right,
Which reigns, with sheer delight!
I died because we gave no thought
To the brotherhood, which Jesus taught!

I died because the world is vain,
And hopeless in its greed-for gain;
I died because the world is cruel—
And sordid, too, with Despot's rule—
And "shalt not kill" and "shalt not steal"
Are virtues, each without appeal.

I died because we gave no heed
To George Washington's noble creed;
I died because we gave no heed
To immortal Lincoln's word and deed;
I died because of selfish ways
That dominate our earthly days—

And wickedness, lust and hate and strife,
A flaming part of each one's life!
I died because the Church has failed—
But that's your fault, and mine;
We made our vows, then broke our pledge
And lived on worldly wine!

We of the dead, so burdened with fame,
Care not at all for any name;
But we of the dead shall ever hope,
Our dying was not in vain!
So I, the Unknown Soldier, bring this message
to you, —

My countrymen, so tried and true:
"You are the hope of Democracy—
And America, the world star of destiny;
If with Victory you would have peace,
Then let the struggle never cease,
Everywhere, to make men free—
And bring to them true liberty!

"So much depends on each of you,
On what you think and what you do—
It all depends on what you give;

"From out the dead I speak to you—
Fill in the ranks, clasp hands with outs—
We gave our all, unto death we fought,
To win the Brotherhood, which Jesus
taught!"

—William H. H. Gantz.

MARIETTA, OHIO.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 7, 1984

Dear Mrs. Hart:

I very much appreciate hearing the League's views on the interment of an Unknown Serviceman from the Vietnam Era. Throughout our deliberations, we have maintained that our first obligation was to the families themselves. We resisted Congressional and veterans group pressure to rush the process, thus ensuring integrity for the families.

Our commitment to the issue of American servicemen prisoner or missing in Vietnam will not be diminished, but will be strengthened by the interment mandated by Congressional law. We fully intend the ceremony to be one that not only honors our brave men who served in Southeast Asia, but addresses the haunting unknown question -- the fate of our men still missing.

I hope the League will find it is in their interest, as I believe it is, to join us in an act of national unity that will spark greater public awareness that the Vietnam War is not behind us without the fullest possible accounting for our men.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Anne Hart
Vice Chairman
National League of Families
of American Prisoners and
Missing in Southeast Asia
1608 K Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

bearers removed the caskets from the caissons and, led as before by clergy and colors, carried them inside. The Unknown Soldier of World War II was borne through the south entrance and the Korean War Unknown Soldier through the entrance on the north. Just inside the amphitheater, each casket was set on a movable bier and wheeled around the colonnade to the apse, where the World War II Unknown Soldier was placed in front of President Eisenhower and the Korean War Unknown Soldier in front of Vice President Nixon. While the caskets were being brought to the apse, the U.S. Marine Band, seated in the amphitheater, played religious music. After the caskets were situated, the Marine Band played the national anthem. (Diagram 28)

The Army Chief of Chaplains, General Ryan, then delivered the invocation. At its conclusion a bugler sounded attention three times and a two-minute period of silence followed. The Army Chorus and the audience sang "America," after which President Eisenhower arose and placed a Medal of Honor on each casket. The reading of scripture and singing to religious music followed. (Table 10) As the funeral service was brought to a close by the Marine Band's postlude, the Unknown Soldiers were taken to the amphitheater's Trophy Room. The Presidential party also withdrew to the Trophy Room, while the audience made its way to the plaza at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier for the burial service.

TABLE 10—TROOP LIST, FUNERAL SERVICE FOR THE UNKNOWN SOLDIERS OF WORLD WAR II AND THE KOREAN WAR

Duty	U.S. Army		U.S. Marine Corps		U.S. Navy		U.S. Air Force		U.S. Coast Guard		Total	
	Officers	En-listed Men	Officers	En-listed Men	Officers	En-listed Men	Officers	En-listed Men	Officers	En-listed Men	Officers	En-listed Men
Escort commander and staff.....	1										1	
Special honor guard.....	2		2		2		3		2		11	
National color detail.....		2		1		1		1		1		6
Clergy.....	2				1		1				4	
Body bearers.....		4		2		2		2		2		12
Band.....			1	56							1	56
Chorus.....	1	30									1	30
Site control.....	20										20	
Security cordon.....	6	372									6	372
Ushers.....	4	45	3	44	2	42	2	42	2	15	13	188
Guides.....	21										21	
Floral detail.....	3	33									3	33
Communications.....	1	4									1	4
Information desk.....	12	40									12	40
Total.....	73	530	6	103	5	45	6	45	4	18	94	741

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PRESIDENT EISENHOWER PLACES MEDAL OF HONOR ON EACH CASKET

The Unknown Soldiers were taken from the Trophy Room, in a procession that included the Presidential party, to the head of the plaza steps. There the procession halted while the Army Band sounded four ruffles and flourishes. After this salute the procession descended the steps, and the body bearers placed the caskets over the crypts. (*Diagram 29*) They then took hold of the flags that had draped the caskets and held them taut above the caskets.

Three chaplains, General Ryan, a Catholic; Admiral Harp, a Protestant; and Colonel Pincus, a Jew, each conducted the burial service of his faith. The saluting battery of the 3d Infantry then fired twenty-one guns. At the first round, the minute-gun battery on the Washington Monument grounds ceased firing. After the gun salute, a squad of eight from the 3d Infantry fired the traditional three volleys and, immediately afterward, a 3d Infantry bugler sounded taps. The body bearers then folded the flags and presented them to the President and Vice President, who in turn gave them to cemetery officials for safekeeping. (*Table 11*)

The presentation of the flags completed the burial service. After the participants had left the plaza, the public, guided by members of the 3d Infantry, filed by the crypts. Later in the evening, about 2100, cemetery superintendent John C.



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

ANC&SE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS US ARMY MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

FORT LESLEY J. MCNAIR

WASHINGTON, DC 20319

MEMORANDUM THRU EDWARD V. HICKEY, JR.

FOR WILLIAM F. SITTMANN /MICHAEL K. DEAVER

SUBJECT: Ceremonies for the Unknown Serviceman of Vietnam

30 March 1984

1. The President should arrive at the U.S. Capitol Rotunda at 2:35 p.m. on 25 May 1984.
2. Upon arrival at the East Capitol Plaza, he will be assisted to his position in the Rotunda by his escort officer. When all participants are in position, the casket will be brought into the Rotunda. At this time, the President will deliver the eulogy. At the conclusion of the eulogy, a soldier will position himself near the foot of the casket with the Presidential Wreath. The President should move to him and place the wreath at the casket assisted by the wreath bearer, and return to his position. The benediction will be given at this time. This ceremony will last approximately 15 minutes and concludes the ceremonies for the day.
3. The President should arrive at Arlington National Cemetery on 28 May 1984 at 1:30 p.m. He will be escorted to the dismount point at the north entrance of the Amphitheater. Upon his arrival at the north entrance, he will be taken to the Memorial Display Room; when all is ready, the President will be escorted to his seat in the Apse. The funeral service will last approximately 25 minutes. The U.S. Army Band will sound honors to the Unknown, and the casket will be carried into the Apse--the President should stand during honors and place his right hand over his heart. When the casket is in place, the U.S. Marine Band will begin the funeral service with the playing of the National Anthem--the President should stand and place his right hand over his heart. At the completion of the National Anthem, there will be 1 minute of silence. At the conclusion of the 1 minute of silence, the Catholic chaplain will give the invocation. The Trumpet Call will then be sounded, and the audience will join in singing "My Country Tis of Thee." At the conclusion of the song, the President will make a brief address, present the Medal of Honor, and return to his seat. The chorus will sing "On Bended Knee." The Jewish chaplain will then read Psalm 91 followed by the U.S. Army Chorus singing "The Last Words of David." The Protestant chaplain will then read the New Testament lesson from John 14:1-7, 15-17 and 27. Following the reading, the chorus will sing "The 23rd Psalm." At the conclusion of the song, the Orthodox chaplain will pronounce the benediction--all standing. The

ANC&SE

SUBJECT: Ceremonies for the Unknown Serviceman of Vietnam

President will then be escorted into the Memorial Display Room. When all is ready on the Plaza, the President will follow the casket, escorted by General Ballantyne, to his position on the Plaza. The chaplains will then deliver their committal prayers. At the conclusion of the prayers, the President will place the Presidential Wreath and return to his position facing the Tomb. The Saluting Battery will fire a 21-gun salute--the President should place his right hand over his heart. At the completion of the gun salute, the chaplain will give the benediction. At the conclusion of the benediction, the President should again salute as the firing party fires 3 volleys followed by the playing of Taps. When Taps is complete, the interment flag will be folded and presented to General Ballantyne. General Ballantyne will then give the flag to the President. The President will then present the flag to the Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, for safekeeping. The ceremony is thus concluded, and the President will be ushered off the Plaza to his vehicle for departure.



PAUL C. MILLER
Director
Ceremonies and Special Events

1 Encl
State Funeral Plan

• FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

THE STATE FUNERAL PLAN FOR THE INTERMENT
OF THE
UNKNOWN SERVICEMAN OF VIETNAM

The designation ceremony for the Unknown American Serviceman killed in Vietnam will take place in Hawaii on 17 May 1984 at 1100. Following the designation ceremony, the Unknown will depart Hawaii with ceremony at approximately 1200 and be transported by ship to Alameda Naval Air Station, California, arriving no later than noon, 24 May 1984. The anticipated travel time from Hawaii to San Francisco is approximately 7 days. The Unknown will arrive at Alameda Naval Air Station with ceremony and will be transported to the base chapel, Travis Air Force Base, for repose. The Unknown will be received with ceremony and will lie in repose until 0500, 25 May 1984. Public viewing during the period of repose will be continuous until 2 hours prior to the departure from the base chapel, if public interest requires. A guard of honor will attend the Unknown while in repose.

On 25 May 1984, the deceased will depart the base chapel with ceremony at 0530 and will be transported to the Travis air terminal for departure. The Unknown will depart Travis Air Force Base with ceremony at 0600 and will be transported to Andrews Air Force Base. The Unknown of Vietnam will arrive at Andrews Air Force Base with ceremony on Friday, 25 May 1984, at approximately 1400 and will be escorted to the U.S. Capitol for lying in state.

The deceased will be received with ceremony at the U.S. Capitol at approximately 1445 and will lie in state in the Capitol Rotunda for approximately 3 days, until 1200 Memorial Day. A guard of honor will attend the Unknown until departure from the U.S. Capitol. Public viewing during the period of lying in state in the Capitol Rotunda will be continuous until 2 hours prior to the departure from the Capitol, if public interest requires. The Unknown will be moved from the U.S. Capitol at 1200, Monday, 28 May 1984, with ceremony, placed on the caisson on the East Plaza of the Capitol and proceed to Delaware and Constitution Avenue to join the main funeral procession to Arlington National Cemetery. A flyover will be conducted as the caisson is centered on Memorial Bridge.

The funeral service will be held in the Amphitheater, Arlington National Cemetery (ANC), at approximately 1400 followed by interment at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The casket will be closed throughout all ceremonies. Honors will consist of 4 ruffles and flourishes and a 21-gun salute. The period of mourning will be from reveille, on the day of arrival in Washington, D.C. to retreat, the day of interment in Arlington National Cemetery.

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