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Last Updated: 04/08/2025

Chicago

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TAPING: CHICAGO VIETNAM VETERANS PARADE

GREETINGS TO ALL OF YOU GATHERED IN CHICAGO FOR THE VIETNAM VETERANS WELCOME HOME PARADE. PRESIDENT TEDDY ROOSEVELT, A MAN WHO HAD HIMSELF LED TROOPS INTO BATTLE, ONCE SAID, "A MAN WHO IS GOOD ENOUGH TO SHED HIS BLOOD FOR HIS COUNTRY IS GOOD ENOUGH TO BE GIVEN A SQUARE DEAL AFTERWARDS." CLEARLY, THE WELCOME HOME RECEIVED BY MANY OF OUR BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED IN VIETNAM WAS LESS THAN THEY DESERVED, AND THAT IS PUTTING IT MILDLY. TODAY, HOWEVER, AMERICANS ARE MAKING UP FOR THAT. ALL OVER OUR COUNTRY, CITIZENS ARE JOINING TOGETHER TO HONOR THOSE WHO SEDVED THEID

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COUNTRY AND THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM IN SOUTH VIETNAM. IN 1984, I HELPED DEDICATE THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL IN OUR NATION'S CAPITAL AND ON MEMORIAL DAY AND OTHER OCCASIONS, VIETNAM VETERANS HAVE BEEN SINGLED OUT, AS THEY SHOULD BE, FOR THEIR SERVICE. YOUR PARADE IN CHICAGO IS A FINE EXAMPLE OF WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT. I HOPE THAT ALL THOSE WHO PARTICIPATE, AND ALL THOSE VETERANS THROUGHOUT OUR COUNTRY, WILL STAND A LITTLE TALLER KNOWING THAT THE PEOPLE OF CHICAGO AND, INDEED, ALL AMERICA ARE GRATEFUL AND HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN.

THIS PARADE,

A WELCOME HOME EVENT,

IS SIMPLY TAKING CARE

OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

THE GOOD WILL EXPRESSED

BY THIS CELEBRATION WILL HELP HEAL OLD WOUNDS. YET, EVEN AS THOSE WOUNDS HEAL, LET US RESTATE, FIRMLY AND UNAMBIGUOUSLY. THE BOOK ON THE VIETNAM WAR WILL NOT BE CLOSED UNTIL THE FINAL PAGES ON THE PRISONERS OF WAR AND THE MISSING IN ACTION HAVE BEEN WRITTEN. CHEERING ON OUR VETERANS IS SOMETHING AMERICA WANTS TO DO; KEEPING FAITH WITH THOSE WHOSE NAMES ARE FOUND ON THE POW-MIA LIST IS OUR DUTY. INDEED, IN THE LAST YEAR OVER 50 OF THESE BRAVE MEN WERE RETURNED TO THEIR FINAL BURIAL ON U.S. SOIL.

IN RECENT YEARS,
MANY HAVE OBSERVED AN
AWAKENING OF PATRIOTIC
SPIRIT ACROSS AMERICA.
IT CAN BE SEEN IN EVENTS
WHICH DRAW PEOPLE
TOGETHER TO HELP THE LESS

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IN OUR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, AND ON MAINSTREET AMERICA. NEXT MONTH, WE WILL BE REDEDICATING MISS LIBERTY HERSELF, STANDING THERE PROUD AND TALL IN NEW YORK HARBOR, LIFTING HIGH HER TORCH OF FREEDOM. IT IS APPROPRIATE IN SUCH TIMES AS THESE, WHEN WE RECOGNIZE HOW MUCH WE HAVE TO BE GRATEFUL FOR, THAT WE TURN TO OUR VETERANS AND OFFER THEM THANKS. TO ALL OF YOU WHO ARE MARCHING: I SALUTE YOU. YOU HAVE DONE US PROUD. GOD BLESS YOU.

# # #

(Rohrabacher/BE) May 30, 1986 4:00 p.m. QQ

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHICAGO VIETNAM VETERANS PARADE MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

Greetings to all of you gathered in Chicago for the Vietnam Veterans welcome home parade. President Teddy Roosevelt, a man who had himself led troops into battle, once said, "A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards." Clearly, the welcome home received by many of our brave men and women who served in Vietnam was less than they deserved, and that is putting it mildly. Today, however, Americans are making up for that.

All over our country, citizens are joining together to honor those who served their country and the cause of freedom in South Vietnam. In 1984, I helped dedicate the Vietnam Veterans

Memorial in our Nation's Capital. And on Memorial Day and other occasions, Vietnam Veterans have been singled out, as they should be, for their service. Your parade in Chicago is a fine example of what I'm talking about. I hope that all those who participate, and all those veterans throughout our country, will stand a little taller knowing that the people of Chicago and, indeed, all America are grateful and have not forgotten.

Action have been written. Cheering on our Veterans is something America wants to do; keeping faith with those whose names are found on the POW-MIA list is our duty. Indeed, in the last year over 50 of these brave men were returned to their final burial on U.S. soil.

In recent years, many have observed an awakening of patriotic spirit across America. It can be seen in events which draw people together to help the less fortunate, it is evident in our colleges and universities, and on mainstreet America. Next month, we will be rededicating Miss Liberty herself, standing there proud and tall in New York harbor, lifting high her torch of freedom. It is appropriate in such times as these, when we recognize how much we have to be grateful for, that we turn to our veterans and offer them thanks. To all of you who are marching: I salute you. You have done us proud. God bless you.

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(Rohrabacher/BE)
May 29, 1986
12:30 p.m. <<

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Next month

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5	/29/86	ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9:00 a.m. 5/30/86					
		1. NFL Players Association Annual Awards Banquet					
	MAD TITOS	. (one minute script)					
SUBJECT:	TAPINGS:	2. NFL Players Association Annual Awards Banquet					
(two-minute script)							
		3. Chicago Vietnam Veterans Parade					

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
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### REMARKS:

- ABC News Braodcast for 50th Anniversary
   National Right to Life Convention
- 6. Tribute to Jimmy Doolittle

Please give your comments/edits directly to the Speechwriters with an info copy to my office by 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning. Thanks.

**RESPONSE:** 

(Rohrabacher/BE) May 29, 1986 12:30 p.m.

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#### THE WHITE HOUSE

#### WASHINGTON

May 29, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR BENTLY T. ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND

DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM: C. CHRISTOPHER COX

SENIOR ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Tapings

As requested, our office has reviewed the following texts:

1. NFL Players Association Annual Awards Banquet (1 minute)

2. NFL Players Association Annual Awards Banquet (2 minutes)

3. Chicago Vietnam Veterans Parade

4. ABC News Broadcast 50th Anniversary

5. National Right to Life Convention

6. Tribute to Jimmy Doolittle

We have no legal or editorial comments. Thank you for submitting these for our consideration.

cc: David L. Chew

Document No.	

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

<b>DATE:</b> 5	/29/86	ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9:00 a.m. 5/30/86					
		1.	NFL Players Association Annual Awards Banquet				
	MAD TIVES	,	(one minute script)				
SUBJECT:	TAPINGS:	2.	NFL Players Association Annual Awards Banquet				
			(two-minute script)				
		3.	Chicago Vietnam Veterans Parade				

ACTION FYI				ACTION	ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT			MASENG			
REGAN			POINDEXTER			
MILLER			RYAN			
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KING			SPEECHWRITERS			
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#### **REMARKS:**

- 4. ABC News Braodcast for 50th Anniversary
- 5. National Right to Life Convention
- 6. Tribute to Jimmy Doolittle

Please give your comments/edits directly to the Speechwriters with an info copy to my office by 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning. Thanks.

**RESPONSE:** 

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sec Vietnam Vets Space che
printer addition on 151 page

(Elliott edit)
May 29, 1986
12:00 noon

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: NFL PLAYERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET
1-MINUTE SCRIPT
MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

I am pleased to help honor the best of the National Football League at the 1986 NFL Players Association Mackey Awards Banquet. These awards are especially important to the players and to us fans, as well. They are based not only on statistics, but on ratings by teammates and opponents. And, as we all know, when our peers tell us: "We're the best," that is particularly significant.

I congratulate the award winners, the NFL Players

Association and its Executive Director, Gene Upshaw; host Frank

Gifford; and the Better Boys Foundation of Chicago.

The BBF has worked hard for 25 years to make lives better for the boys and girls and men and women of the North Lawndale area of Chicago. Its programs have given thousands of young people a new chance to make a better life.

The NFL Players Association and business, civic, and labor leaders have worked together to make these awards a success for 20 years now. You should all be proud of the job you've done.

Nancy joins me in wishing you well. We hope the coming years bring more success to the NFL players, the Players
Association and the Better Boys Foundation.

Thank you and God bless you.

(Elliott edit)
May 29, 1986
12:00 noon

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: NFL PLAYERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET 2-MINUTE SCRIPT MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

Good evening. I'm pleased to join you in honoring the best of the National Football League. For 20 years the Mackey Awards have stood for excellence on the field and off. The awards are determined not only by statistics, but by the players themselves. And it is indeed an honor to be recognized by your peers as the best at what you do. I congratulate the NFL Players Association and its Executive Director, Gene Upshaw; I also congratulate the Better Boys Foundation of Chicago.

For the past 25 years, the BBF has worked hard to improve the lives of boys and girls, men and women, of the city's North Lawndale area. Its programs for family counseling, alternative education, and after-school enrichment have become models for other groups to follow. For the last 20 years, the association between the Better Boys Foundation and the NFL Players

Association has done much to help the BBF achieve its goals. It has also produced this outstanding showcase -- the NFLPA Mackey Awards Banquet.

Congratulations must go to the honorary President of Better
Boys -- Buddy Hackett, who has worked with the group since
helping to found it a quarter century ago. To Frank Gifford, of
ABC Sports, who does such a wonderful job as Master of
Ceremonies. To Joe Kellman, who conceived the BBF and built it,
with lots of help, into the outstanding organization it is today.

To the Levy [lee-vee] Brothers -- Larry and Mark -- who are serving as General Chairmen of the 1986 banquet. To Norman Greene of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the 1986 Banquet Labor Chairman. To Ron Balcer [BALL-sir] of Inland Real Estate, this year's Banquet Chairman. And to all past and future general chairmen: all of you have worked so hard for months and even years to make this historic banquet the success that it has become. It's a great night for the athletes, a great night for the Better Boys Foundation, a great night for the people of Chicago.

Again, congratulations to all the award winners, the NFLPA and the BBF. You're all winners in my book.

(Rohrabacher/BE) May 29, 1986 12:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHICAGO VIETNAM VETERANS PARADE MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

Veterans welcome home parade. President Teddy Roosevelt, a man who had himself led troops into battle, once said, "A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards." Clearly, the welcome home received by many of our brave men and women who served in Vietnam was less than they deserved, and that is putting it mildly.

All over our country, citizens are joining together to honor, those who served their country and the cause of freedom in South Vietnam. In \_\_\_\_, I helped dedicate the Vietnam Veterans

Memorial in our Nation's Capital. And on Memorial Day and other occasions, Vietnam Veterans have been singled out, as they should be, for their service. Your parade in Chicago is a fine example of what I'm talking about. I hope that all those who participate, and all those veterans throughout our country, will stand a little taller knowing that the people of Chicago and, indeed, all America are grateful and have not forgotten.

Action have been written. Cheering on our Veterans is something America wants to do; keeping faith with those whose names are found on the POW-MIA list is our duty.

In recent years, many have observed an awakening of patriotic spirit across America. It can be seen in events which draw people together to help the less fortunate, it is evident in our colleges and universities, and on mainstreet America. In a little over a month, we will be rededicating Miss Liberty herself, standing there proud and tall in New York harbor, lifting high her torch of freedom. It is appropriate in such times as these, when we recognize how much we have to be grateful for, that we turn to our veterans and offer them thanks. To all of you who are marching: I salute you. You have done us proud. God bless you.

(Rohrabacher/BE) May 29, 1986 12:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

Greetings to all of you gathered in Denver for the National Right to Life Convention. The bond that ties you together is a love of life and a willingness to work and struggle on behalf of the unborn. I'm proud to say that in this noble cause I stand with you.

Earlier this year, in my State of the Union address, I said that "there is a wound in our national conscience" and that "America will never be whole as long as the right to life granted by our Creator is denied to the unborn."

At that time, I also urged the Congress to pass legislation prohibiting the use of all Federal funds to finance, promote, encourage, or otherwise support abortion. I know that I can count on your support in this effort.

Some progress has already been made. In 1984, our Administration ordered that private foreign organizations which "perform or actively promote abortion" would no longer be eligible for our foreign aid. As a result, funding such abortions has been stopped.

As a moral Nation, it is incumbent upon us to take on issues of life and death, even when it's tough to do so. We view with special repugnance reports that forced abortion is used as a method of population control in some countries. We will continue to oppose this evil and to use our influence to stop it.

The promotion of abortion and the use of forced abortion as a means of population control are direct attacks upon the values which are the foundation of Western civilization, and upon the human family itself. This is the ultimate human rights issue. We cannot, and will not, remain silent. Nor will we permit our foreign aid to be used for these purposes.

Our movement is not just against abortion; we are for life.

I applaud those of you who have worked to provide compassionate
care to those women seeking alternatives to abortion. Each child
saved is an immeasurable victory.

During your meeting, I am sure that you will review the many accomplishments that have been achieved in recent years. Progress has been made, yet our ultimate objectives remain unchanged: to overturn the tragedy of <a href="Roe v. Wade">Roe v. Wade</a> and restore the protection of the law to the most helpless of our brethren —the unborn child. There is reason for optimism because our cause is just, compassionate, and defends the special dignity of each person. Love is the motive. Saving the lives of unborn children is the goal.

I wish you a successful convention and Godspeed on your journey home. God bless you.

(Noonan/BE)
May 29, 1986
12:00 noon

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: ABC NEWS BROADCAST FOR 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIFE MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

Ladies and gentlemen,

I think John Kennedy would be proud and not at all surprised to know that together we have met our responsibility: the great Republic of the United States is still preserved, still secure, still strong and still purposeful.

On this 50th anniversary of "Life Magazine" it's hard not to have a strong sense of how much things have changed. But President Kennedy's remarks also remind us of how much is still the same. The United States is still "the chief defender of freedom in a time of freedom's maximum danger." And democracy depends as never before on majority rule and majority understanding.

Today we rely heavily on the great organizations of communication for a balanced view of the news of the day. That's a big responsibility. But just about all of us appreciate the wisdom of Thomas Jefferson when he said that our most precious freedom is freedom of the press -- for without it, the people are denied the facts they need to make the decisions that keep democracy alive.

Today, as 25 years ago, our central task is: to preserve our own democracy and encourage the spread of freedom throughout the world. It is my hope that 25 years from now, in the autumn of the year 2011, a President of the United States will be able to say: we have met our responsibilities, and because of that we

are a free country living peacefully in a world that is increasingly free. Somehow I think that's going to happen; somehow I think those words are going to be said.

Thank you, and good night.

(Dolan) May 29, 1986 12:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: TRIBUTE TO JIMMY DOOLITTLE MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

Good evening.

Ever since I was a little boy -- and there's documentary proof that I once was -- my idol has been Abraham Lincoln. While I've always wanted to emulate him, the closest I've ever come is with ax and woodpile. Of course, I've had my share of other heroes over the years, but very few have had lives as constant, productive, and exciting as the man we honor today.

General Doolittle with Jo, his bride since 1917, presently resides in Carmel, California, where, as a civilian, he's outranked by Mayor Clint Eastwood. Remembered best as leader of the first aerial raid on the mainland of Japan in World War II, for which President Franklin D. Roosevelt awarded him the Congressional Medal of Honor, Jimmy Doolittle's myriad accomplishments began during World War I when, as a First Lieutenant, he taught combat tactics and aerial gunnery.

Even those who've known Jimmy over the years would find it difficult to list the full extent of his accomplishments. We remember him as a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. It was Doctor of Science Doolittle who, with Elmer Sperry Junior, developed man's capability to fly at night and in all kinds of bad weather.

What makes Jimmy unique among aerospace pioneers is the combination of a first-rate scientific mind with the know-how of a skilled pilot, a combination that could make a flying machine

do things that had not even been attempted before. To achieve what he's done, Jimmy has shown curiosity, courage, tenacity, dedication, perseverance and, not least of all, bravery beyond the comprehension of those who remain on the ground.

And so it's my extreme pleasure to congratulate this modern legend and my personal hero on the occasion that honors his 90 remarkable years. We can all feel proud and privileged to belong to the same country and era as this very gifted man -- a man who's filled his life and ours to overflowing with achievement and meaning.

Jimmy, a grateful Nation salutes you.

#### NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

May 30, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

FROM: RODNEY B. MCDANIEL &

SUBJECT: Speech #3

The NSC concurs with Speech Number 3 with the fix noted. NSC Staff member Richard Childress will be addressing this same group on POW/MIA issues and the addition strengthens the substance. The dedication was 1984 as noted.

#### Attachment

Tab A Speech #3

cc: David Chew

(Rohrabacher/BE) May 29, 1986 12:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHICAGO VIETNAM VETERANS PARADE MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

Greetings to all of you gathered in Chicago for the Vietnam Veterans welcome home parade. President Teddy Roosevelt, a man who had himself led troops into battle, once said, "A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards." Clearly, the welcome home received by many of our brave men and women who served in Vietnam was less than they deserved, and that is putting it mildly. Today, however, Americans are making up for that.

All over our country, citizens are joining together to honor those who served their country and the cause of freedom in South Vietnam. In 1984, I helped dedicate the Vietnam Veterans

Memorial in our Nation's Capital. And on Memorial Day and other occasions, Vietnam Veterans have been singled out, as they should be, for their service. Your parade in Chicago is a fine example of what I'm talking about. I hope that all those who participate, and all those veterans throughout our country, will stand a little taller knowing that the people of Chicago and, indeed, all America are grateful and have not forgotten.

Action have been written. Cheering on our Veterans is something America wants to do; keeping faith with those whose names are found on the POW-MIA list is our duty. Here brown men were returned to them fined and buried on US soil.

In recent years, many have observed an awakening of patriotic spirit across America. It can be seen in events which draw people together to help the less fortunate, it is evident in our colleges and universities, and on mainstreet America. In a little over a month, we will be rededicating Miss Liberty herself, standing there proud and tall in New York harbor, lifting high her torch of freedom. It is appropriate in such times as these, when we recognize how much we have to be grateful for, that we turn to our veterans and offer them thanks. To all of you who are marching: I salute you. You have done us proud. God bless you.

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Document No.

**URGENT** 

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE:	ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9:00 a.m. 5/30/86
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SUBJECT: TAPINGS:	2. NFL Players Association Annual Awards Banquet
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	3. Chicago Vietnam Veterans Parade

ACTION FYI				ACTION FYI	
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REGAN			POINDEXTER		
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BALL			SPEAKES		
BUCHANAN			SPRINKEL		
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In recent years, many have observed an awakening of patriotic spirit across America. It can be seen in events which draw people together to help the less fortunate, it is evident in our colleges and universities, and on mainstreet America. In a little over a month, we will be rededicating Miss Liberty herself, standing there proud and tall in New York harbor, lifting high her torch of freedom. It is appropriate in such times as these, when we recognize how much we have to be grateful for, that we turn to our veterans and offer them thanks. To all of you who are marching: I salute you. You have done us proud. God bless you.

(Rohrabacher/BE) May 29, 1986 12:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHICAGO VIETNAM VETERANS PARADE MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

Greetings to all of you gathered in Chicago for the Vietnam Veterans welcome home parade. President Teddy Roosevelt, a man who had himself led troops into battle, once said, "A man who is good enough to shed his blood for his country is good enough to be given a square deal afterwards." Clearly, the welcome home received by many of our brave men and women who served in Vietnam was less than they deserved, and that is putting it mildly. Today, however, Americans are making up for that.

All over our country, citizens are joining together to honor those who served their country and the cause of freedom in South Vietnam. In \_\_\_\_\_, I helped dedicate the Vietnam Veterans

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(Rohrabacher/BE) May 29, 1986 11:00 a.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHICAGO VIETNAM VETERANS PARADE MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

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Ben

(Rohrabacher) (SC May 28, 1986 6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHICAGO VIETNAM VETERANS PARADE MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

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(Rohrabacher)
May 28, 1986
6:30 p.m.

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PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: CHICAGO VIETNAM VETERANS PARADE MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1986

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5/19/86

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#### MEMORANDUM

TO:

BEN ELLIOTT/ELIZABETH BOARD

FROM:

FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR

SUBJECT:

APPROVED PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITY

Taping Session:

MEETING:

1. Message for Chicago Vietnam Veterans Parade

on June 13 (Coordinate with M. Maseng)

DATE:

2. National Right to Life Convention in Denver

June 12-14 ((Coordinate with M. Maseng)

TIME:

June 10, 1986

5:00 pm

**DURATION:** 

5 minutes each

LOCATION:

Library

REMARKS REQUIRED:

Yes

MEDIA COVERAGE:

No

FIRST LADY

PARTICIPATION:

No

NOTE: PROJECT OFFICER, SEE ATTACHED CHECKLIST

K. Barun
P. Buchanan
D. Chew
M. Coyne
E. Crispen
M. Daniels
T. Dawson
D. Dellinger
B. Elliott
J. Erkenbeck
L. Faulkner
C. Fuller

W. Henkel

C. Hicks
J. Hooley
A. Kingon
J. Kuhn
C. McCain
W. Ball
R. Riley
G. Walters
R. Shaddick
B. Shaddix
L. Speakes

J. Courtemanche WHCA Audio/Visual WHCA Operations