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Folder Title: Lay Wreath and Deliver Remarks at
Tomb of the Unknowns (Dolan)(Dannerbeck)
11/11/1988

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Last Updated: 04/08/2025

Vets
dolan 11

(DOLAN)

11/10/88 - 3 P.M.

LAY WREATH AND DELIVER REMARKS
AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETARY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1988

THOSE WHO LIVE TODAY REMEMBER THOSE WHO
DO NOT. THOSE WHO KNOW FREEDOM REMEMBER
TODAY THOSE WHO GAVE UP LIFE FOR FREEDOM.

TODAY, IN HONOR OF THE DEAD, WE CONDUCT
CEREMONIES. WE LAY WREATHS. WE SPEAK WORDS
OF TRIBUTE. AND IN OUR MEMORIES, IN OUR
HEARTS -- WE HOLD THEM CLOSE TO US STILL.

YET WE ALSO KNOW -- EVEN AS THEIR
FAMILIES KNEW WHEN THEY LAST LOOKED UPON
THEM -- THAT THEY CAN NEVER BE FULLY OURS
AGAIN, THAT THEY BELONG NOW TO GOD AND TO
THAT FOR WHICH THEY SO SELFLESSLY MADE A
FINAL AND ETERNAL ACT OF DEVOTION.

WE COULD NOT FORGET THEM. EVEN IF THEY WERE NOT OUR OWN, WE COULD NOT FORGET THEM. FOR ALL TIME, THEY ARE WHAT WE CAN ONLY ASPIRE TO BE: GIVING, UNSELFISH, THE EPITOME OF HUMAN LOVE -- TO LAY DOWN ONE'S LIFE SO THAT OTHERS MIGHT LIVE.

WE THINK ON THEIR LIVES. WE THINK ON THEIR FINAL MOMENTS. IN OUR MIND'S EYE, WE SEE YOUNG AMERICANS IN A EUROPEAN FOREST OR ON AN ASIAN ISLAND OR AT SEA OR IN AERIAL COMBAT. AND AS LIFE EXPIRED, WE KNOW THAT THOSE WHO COULD HAD LAST THOUGHTS OF US AND OF THEIR LOVE FOR US.

AS THEY THOUGHT OF US THEN, SO TOO WE THINK OF THEM NOW. WITH LOVE, WITH DEVOTION. AND WITH FAITH -- THE CERTAINTY THAT WHAT THEY DIED FOR WAS WORTHY OF THEIR SACRIFICE. FAITH TOO IN GOD AND IN THE NATION THAT HAS PLEDGED ITSELF TO HIS WORK AND TO THE DREAM OF HUMAN FREEDOM.

- 3 -

AND A NATION TOO THAT TODAY AND ALWAYS
PLEDGES ITSELF TO THEIR ETERNAL MEMORY.
THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 11/10/88 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: -----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: LAY WREATH AND DELIVER REMARKS AT TOMB OF THE
UNKNOWNNS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	KRANOWITZ	☐	☒
DUBERSTEIN	☐	☒	MASENG	☐	☒
POWELL	☐	☒	RANGE	☐	☒
WRIGHT - OMB	☐	☐	RISQUE	☐	☒
OGLESBY	☐	☒	RYAN	☐	☐
CRIPPEN	☐	☒	SPRINKEL	☐	☐
CULVAHOUSE	☐	☒	TUCK	☐	☐
DAWSON	☐	☒	TUTTLE	☐	☐
DONATELLI	☐	☒	<u>DOLAN</u>	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	<u>Lauremarche</u>	☐	☒
HOBBS	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
HOOLEY	☐	☒	_____	☐	☐

REMARKS: The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

RR none

2020

2021

2022

(Dolan)
November 10, 1988
2:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: LAY WREATH AND DELIVER REMARKS AT
TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETARY
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1988

Those who live today remember those who do not. Those who know freedom remember today those who gave up life for freedom.

Today, in honor of the dead, we conduct ceremonies. We lay wreaths. We speak words of tribute. And in our memories, in our hearts -- we hold them close to us still.

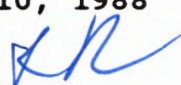
Yet we also know -- even as their families knew when they last looked upon them -- that they can never be fully ours again, that they belong now to God and to that for which they so selflessly made a final and eternal act of devotion.

We could not forget them. Even if they were not our own, we could not forget them. For all time, they are what we can only aspire to be: giving, unselfish, the epitome of human love -- to lay down one's life so that others might live.

We think on their lives. We think on their final moments. In our mind's eye, we see young Americans in a European forest or on an Asian island or at sea or in aerial combat. And as life expired, we know that those who could had last thoughts of us and of their love for us.

As they thought of us then, so too we think of them now. With love, with devotion. And with faith -- the certainty that what they died for was worthy of their sacrifice. Faith too in God and in the Nation that has pledged itself to his work and to the dream of human freedom.

And a Nation too that today and always pledges itself to
their eternal memory.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 11/09/88 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON THURSDAY 11/10SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: LAY WREATH AND DELIVER REMARKS AT TOMB
OF THE UNKNOWNNS
(11/09 6:30 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	KRANOWITZ <i>add</i>	☒	☐
DUBERSTEIN	☐	☒	MASENG <i>none</i>	☒	☐
POWELL <i>none</i>	☒	☐	RANGE <i>none</i>	☒	☐
WRIGHT - OMB	☐	☐	RISQUE <i>Co. to be add</i>	☒	☐
OGLESBY	☐	☒	RYAN	☐	☐
CRIPPEN <i>none</i>	☒	☐	SPRINKEL	☐	☐
CULVAHOUSE <i>none</i>	☒	☐	TUCK	☐	☐
DAWSON	☐	☒	TUTTLE	☐	☐
DONATELLI	☒	☐	<u>DOLAN</u>	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	<u>COURTEMANCHE</u>	☐	☒
HOBBS	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
HOOLEY	☐	☒	_____	☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Tony Dolan by NOON on Thursday, 11/10, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

(Dolan)
November 9, 1988
6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: LAY WREATH AND DELIVER REMARKS AT
TOMB OF THE UNKNOWNNS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1988

1988 NOV -9 PM 7:

Those who live today remember those who do not. Those who know freedom today remember those who gave up life for freedom.

Today, in honor of the dead, we conduct ceremonies. We lay wreaths. We speak words of tribute. And in our memories, in our hearts -- we hold them close to us still.

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SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: LAY WREATH AND DELIVER REMARKS AT TOMB
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DAWSON	☐	☒	TUTTLE	☐	☐
DONATELLI	☒	☐	DOLAN	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	COURTEMANCHE	☐	☒
HOBBS	☐	☐		☐	☐
HOOLEY	☐	☒		☐	☐

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

No comments

(Dolan)
November 9, 1988
6:30 p.m.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1988

1988 NOV -8 PM 7:30

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HOBBS	☐	☐		☐	☐
HOOLEY	☐	☒		☐	☐

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RESPONSE:

*just right
MM*

(Dolan)
November 9, 1988
6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: LAY WREATH AND DELIVER REMARKS AT
TOMB OF THE UNKNOWNNS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1988

1988 NOV -9 PM 7:

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HOOLEY	☐	☒		☐	☐

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

Legis Aff: Recommend removal of "fathers, brothers, sons" reference, as it excludes females who have died in the line of duty in America's wars. SSA 10 Nov

Rhett Dawson
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 10, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY R. DOLAN
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM: C. DEAN MCGRATH, JR. *WDC*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Lay Wreath and Deliver
Remarks at Tomb of the Unknown

Counsel's office has reviewed the above-referenced Presidential remarks, and we have no legal objection to their delivery.

Thank you for submitting these remarks for our review.

cc: Rhett B. Dawson

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

November 10, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY R. DOLAN

FROM:

fr PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS *TRP*

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks: Lay Wreath and Deliver
Remarks at Tomb of the Unknowns

We have reviewed and concur in the above subject remarks as written.

Attachment

Tab A Incoming Correspondence

cc: Rhett Dawson

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 11/09/88

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON THURSDAY 11/10

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REMARKS:

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(Dolan)
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Yet we also know -- even as their families knew when they last looked upon them -- that they can never be fully ours again, that they belong now to God and to the ages and to that for which they so selflessly made their final, their eternal act of devotion.

We could not forget them. Even if they were not our fathers or husbands or sons, we could not forget them. For all time, they are what we can only aspire to be: giving, unselfish, the epitome of human love -- to lay down one's life so that others might live.

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REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

MAKE REFERENCE TO "FATHERS, SONS...."
MORE GENDER NEUTRAL, I.E. PARENTS, CHILDREN...

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

10/20/88

MEMORANDUM

TO: NANCY RISQUE (Coordinate with James Hooley)
FROM: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.
SUBJECT: APPROVED PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITY

MEETING: Lay Wreath and deliver Remarks at the Tomb
of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery

DATE: November 11, 1988

TIME: 11:00 am

DURATION: To be determined

LOCATION: Arlington, Virginia

BACKUP LOCATION:

REMARKS REQUIRED: Yes

MEDIA COVERAGE: Coordinate with Press Office

FIRST LADY
PARTICIPATION:

NOTE: PROJECT OFFICER, SEE ATTACHED CHECKLIST

M. Archambault
A. Kranowitz
J. Courtemanche
E. Crispen
R. Dawson
F. Donatelli
D. Dellinger
A. Dolan
J. Erkenbeck
L. Faulkner
C. Fuller
M. Fitzwater
M. Maseng

Advance Office
J. Hooley
J. Kuhn
J. Lamb
J. Manning
J. McKinney
N. Risque
D. Johnson
R. Shaddick
G. Walters
WHCA Audio/Visual
WHCA Operations