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ID # 257457 CU

BP

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

☐ O - OUTGOING

☐ H - INTERNAL

☐ I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1

Name of Correspondent: Dave Chew

☐ MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Presidential Remarks: Ceremony Honoring Teacher of the Year (Thurs, 4-18-85)

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CU HALL</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>85.04.11</u>		<u>C</u>	<u>85.04.11</u>
<u>CUAT 18</u>	Referral Note:	<u>85.04.11</u>		<u>C</u>	<u>85.04.11</u>
	Referral Note:	<u>4-12-85 JGR</u>	<u>MEMO TO B. ELLIOTT</u>		
	Referral Note:				
	Referral Note:				
	Referral Note:				

ACTION CODES:

A - Appropriate Action
C - Comment/Recommendation
D - Draft Response
F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure

I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
R - Direct Reply w/Copy
S - For Signature
X - Interim Reply

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S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
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RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: 0 Individual Codes: 1110

Prime Subject Code: SP Secondary Subject Codes: MA 056

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C		Time: _____	P- _____
DSP		Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

CPn - Presidential Correspondence

- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
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- n - 3 - Ron
- n - 4 - Dutch
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- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

CLn - First Lady's Correspondence

- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence

- n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
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- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 12, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS 
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Ceremony Honoring
Teacher of the Year (Thurs., 4/18/85)

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced remarks,
and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective.

cc: David L. Chew

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/11/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/15/85

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CEREMONY HONORING TEACHER OF THE YEAR
(4/11 - 3:30pm draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	OGLESBY	☒	☐
REGAN	☐	☒	ROLLINS	☐	☒
DEAVER	☐	☒	SPEAKES	☐	☒
STOCKMAN	☐	☐	SVAHN	☒	☐
BUCHANAN	☒	☐	TUTTLE	☐	☐
CHEW	☐	☒	VERSTANDIG	☐	☐
FIELDING	☒	☐	WHITTLESEY	☐	☐
FRIEDERSDORF	☒	☐	<u>RYAN</u>	☐	☒
HICKEY	☐	☐	<u>DANIELS</u>	☐	☐
HICKS	☐	☒	<u>ELLIOTT</u>	☐	☒
KINGON	☒	☐	<u> </u>	☐	☐
McFARLANE	☐	☐	<u> </u>	☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments, edits, recommendations directly to Ben Elliott by cob Monday, April 15, 1985. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

1985 APR 11 PM 4:46

David L. Chew
Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

(Elliott)
April 11, 1985
3:30 p.m.

Received SS

1985 APR 11 PM 4:14
PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CEREMONY HONORING TEACHER OF THE YEAR
THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1985

Well, thank you so much and it's good to welcome you to the White House. I want to thank Good Housekeeping magazine, the Encyclopedia Britannica Companies, and the Council of Chief State School Officers for sponsoring the Teacher of the Year Award. And we're very happy to see students and faculty of Irmo High. We appreciate that you came all the way from South Carolina just to chaperone Mrs. Dozier and make sure she doesn't get into any trouble in Washington.

Today we honor a very special American. She and her colleagues are, day-by-day, in their quiet, unsung way, probably more important to the survival and success of our freedom than anyone else in this Nation -- that's how much teachers mean to America.

Good teachers must be so many different people: our child's third parent and lifelong friend; the person who makes hard things seem easy; who teaches us to think apart, yet act together; and who conveys the meaning of ideas and, through personal example, the nobility of ideals.

Sometimes, when targets of others' rudeness and abuse, teachers must feel like they've become an American dartboard. But, they're a tough, resilient crew, and pretty clever, too. They can be funny or cross, but they stick to their challenge, whether it's math, English, or history, or teaching about word processors which, incidentally, still leave me at a total loss.

Most of all, good teachers care. They care very much about what they teach, about the curiosity they instill, about how well their students learn, and where their lives will lead. So we look to teachers and we look up to teachers. We count on their conscience, their courage, and their concern. We count on them being the kind of hero Emily Dickinson described when she wrote, "If I can stop one heart from breaking . . . If I can ease one life the aching . . . Or cool one pain . . . I shall not live in vain."

Each gifted instructor, each leader helping restore excellence in education today, is a vessel of hope for America -- hope that ignorance may be cast away; hope that young minds may be awakened to new worlds of discovery; and, yes, hope that we may always be free, for with freedom as our guiding star, America's future will never be a burden dragging us down, but a great soaring adventure of creativity, powered by the deepest treasures of the human mind and heart -- wisdom, faith, and love.

We have such an individual with us today. Born in Vietnam, orphaned as a young girl, then adopted by U.S. warrant officer Lawrence Knecht who was stationed in Saigon, Mrs. Therese Knecht Dozier enjoys a dual honor: she and her brother are believed to be the first Vietnamese children adopted by an American couple. And, as a 32-year-old high school history teacher in Columbia, South Carolina, she is America's 1985 Teacher of the Year.

Terry Dozier began her career in 1974, teaching social studies in Gainesville, Florida, after she graduated from the University of Florida. By the way, she graduated with a

straight-A average as the university's "Outstanding 4-Year Scholar." In 1976, her husband's work took them to Miami, where she taught math to disadvantaged children at an inner-city school. Since 1977, she's been teaching at Irmo High School, where she concentrates on world history.

She has said, "I have always been very conscious of having been given a chance to make something of myself. I want to give that chance to others and to share the excitement of learning that I have always felt. Teaching is a way of repaying a debt."

Indeed it is. Her teaching is a reflection of her own experiences, a statement that there is no certainty our values will survive. Everything depends on us. Mrs. Dozier does not take America for granted. Perhaps more than most, she may appreciate that ours has been a blessed land set apart in a special way -- a great continent between the oceans to be found by people from every corner of the Earth; people with a special love for freedom and the courage to uproot themselves, and leave homeland and friends to come here to create something new in all the history of mankind -- a land where man is not beholden to government, government is beholden to man.

Terry Dozier is a teacher of world history who provides students with perspective and the ability to make sound judgements. "She makes history exciting," her students say. Well, speaking as one former radio announcer, I was impressed, Terry, when I heard your account of Louis XVI's ride to the guillotine was so vivid, your students were sitting in suspense on the edge of their seats.

Your sense of history and your keen mind will give students a better grasp of the world. As we know, this month marks the 10th anniversary of the communist conquest of South Vietnam. In reaction to that event, "No More Vietnams" has become the slogan of a generation.

But the lessons of recent history -- from countries in Eastern Europe, to Asia, Africa, and Cuba and Nicaragua -- are clear: freedom is a fragile flower that cannot be protected by slogans alone. A line in William Tell says, "The most pious man cannot stay in peace if it does not please his evil neighbor."

It is unfortunate, but true, that there are regimes in the world that, by their very nature, are neither agreeable nor altruistic, but arrogant and aggressive; regimes that not only disdain democracy but defiantly proclaim the doctrine of Lenin which states, "The dictatorship of the proletariat is nothing else than power based upon force and limited by nothing -- by no law and by absolutely no rule."

If we expect Americans to become intelligent, successful leaders for a more secure and prosperous world, then should they not study this doctrine of dictatorship, and its application today, as seriously and thoroughly as they study the intellectual foundation of our own freedom?

I strongly believe, and I know Secretary Bennett agrees, that our actions must be informed by an awareness of history and the realities of human nature if mankind is to avoid repeating the tragedies of the past. By helping young people acquire such

knowledge, Mrs. Dozier is contributing directly to the health and vitality of this country and to its freedom.

Now, Mrs. Dozier, I can't close without telling our guests about a few of those other things you do so well, which have gained you such renown: you know, like how you dress up for Punk Rock Day, and cheerlead in the Student-Faculty Basketball Game, and coordinate the Homecoming half-time activities, too.

Let me say for the entire country what your family, your fellow members of the faculty, and the students at Irmo High already know. You are Teacher of the Year because you have taught so many, so much, and so well; and even more, because your gift has given them joy and love of learning. And, I don't think I'm speaking out of school when I add -- the love they share for learning is a love they share for you.

Mrs. Terry Dozier, today America honors you. But, in truth, it is you who honors America every day of the year.

Thank you and God bless you always.

ID # 257459 CU

BP

WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET☐ O - OUTGOING☐ H - INTERNAL☐ I - INCOMINGDate Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 / 1Name of Correspondent: Dave Chew☐ MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Remarks: Drapier at Conference on Religious Liberty

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
CUTALL	ORIGINATOR	85,04,12		C	85,04,12 PY
CUTAT 18	R	85,04,12		C	85,04,12 PY
	Referral Note: 4-12-85 JGR MEMO TO ELLIOTT			COB	
	Referral Note:				
	Referral Note:				
	Referral Note:				

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 T - Telegram
 V - Telephone
 X - Miscellaneous
 Y - Study

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 12, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS 
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Remarks: Dropby at Conference on
Religious Liberty

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced remarks,
and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective.

cc: David L. Chew

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/12/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: C.O.B. TODAY, 4/12/85

SUBJECT: REMARKS: DROPBY AT CONFERENCE ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY
(4/12 - 10:00 a.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	OGLESBY	☒	☐
REGAN	☐	☒	ROLLINS	☒	☐
DEAVER	☐	☒	SPEAKES	☐	☒
STOCKMAN	☒	☐	SVAHN	☒	☐
BUCHANAN	☒	☐	TUTTLE	☐	☐
CHEW	☐	☒	VERSTANDIG	☐	☐
FIELDING	☒	☐	WHITTLESEY	☐	☐
FRIEDERSDORF	☒	☐	RYAN	☐	☐
HICKEY	☐	☐	DANIELS	☐	☒
HICKS	☐	☒	ELLIOTT	☐	☒
KINGON	☒	☐		☐	☐
McFARLANE	☒	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide any edits directly to Ben Elliott by c.o.b. today, with an information copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

1985 APR 12 PM 1:51

David L. Chew
 Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

Received SS

(Noonan/BE)
April 12, 1985
10:00 a.m.

1985 APR 12 AM 10:40
PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DROPBY AT CONFERENCE ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1985

Thank you very much.

I am deeply honored to address this conference. I know that a good many of you have come a long way to be here today, and I know you have given greatly of your time, energy and concern. And I can only hope, as you do, that those now suffering around the world for their beliefs will draw renewed courage from your work.

The history of religion and its impact on civilization cannot be summarized in a few days, never mind minutes. But one of the great shared characteristics of all religions is the distinction they draw between the temporal world and the spiritual world. All religions, in effect, echo the words of the gospel of St. Matthew: "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's, and unto God the things which are God's." What this injunction teaches us is that the individual cannot be entirely subordinate to the state, that there exists a whole other realm, an almost mysterious realm of individual thought and action which is sacred, and which is totally beyond and outside of state control.

This idea has been central to the development of human rights. Only in an intellectual climate which distinguishes between the City of God and the City of Man -- and which explicitly affirms the independence of God's realm, and forbids any infringement by the state on its prerogatives -- only in such

a climate could the idea of individual human rights take root, grow, and eventually flourish.

We see this climate in all democracies, and in our own political tradition. The founders of our republic rooted their democratic commitment in the belief that all men "are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights." And so they created a system of government whose avowed purpose was -- and is -- the protection of those God-given rights.

But, as all of you know only too well, there are many political regimes today that completely reject the notion that a man or a woman can have a greater loyalty to God than to the state. Marx's central insight, when he was creating his political system, was that religious belief would subvert his intentions. Under Marxism, the ruling party was to claim for itself the attributes which religious faith ascribes to God alone. Under Marxism, the state was to be the final arbiter of truth, justice, and morality. And so Marx declared religion an enemy of the people -- a drug, an opiate of the masses. And Lenin said, "Religion and communism are incompatible in theory as well as in practice We must fight religion."

All of this illustrates a truth that I believe must be re-understood: atheism is not an incidental element of communism, not just part of the package -- it is the package.

In countries which have fallen under communist rule, it is often the church which forms the most powerful barrier against a completely totalitarian system. And so, totalitarian regimes

always seek either to destroy the church or, when that is impossible, to subvert it.

For the former, we have the Soviet Union, where the church was immediately attacked by the communist revolution. This was not done without considerable craftiness. The Soviets, bowing to Western "squeemishness" about the denial of liberties, often characterized their actions as merely defensive.

In 1945, Josef Stalin met with Harry Hopkins, who had been sent by Harry Truman to discuss various East/West problems. In the middle of a talk about politics, Stalin interjected the following: In 1917, he said, the Russian communist party had proclaimed the right of religious freedom as part of their political program. But, he said, the churches of Russia had declared the Soviet government anathema, and had called on church members to resist the call of the Red Army. Now what could we do, said Stalin, but declare war on the church. He assured Hopkins, however, that World War Two had ended the church-state antagonism and now freedom of religion could be granted to the church.

Well, this, as you know, goes under the heading "The Big Lie." But it was told in a typically plaintive and put-upon manner, as if there was just no choice; try as we could to reason with those cruel and powerful priests, they just wouldn't stop attacking us and so we had to close their churches.

Well, history has taught us that you can bulldoze a church but you can't extinguish all that is good in every human heart. And so, in spite of the dangers involved there are Christians

throughout the communist world, and Muslims, and Jews, who continue to practice their faith. Some of them have been imprisoned for their courage.

There is the late Valery Marchenko, who died in a Soviet prison hospital a few short months ago. He was 37 years old, a scholar and a Christian who, at his most recent trial, said that all of his life he had tried to "serve goodness" which he considered to be his "Christian duty." There is Father Gleb Yakunin, who was recently sent to Siberia for 5 years of internal exile. He is another prisoner of faith. And Vladislav Rakay, recently jailed for helping to distribute bibles in Czechoslovakia. These are only a few of many.

Dr. Ernest Gordon, the President of an organization named CREED -- Christian Rescue Effort for the Emancipation of Dissidents -- noted that on a recent trip to Eastern Europe, he spoke with a priest who had spent 10 years in prison. The priest asked him to deliver a message to the West: there is a war going on; it is not nuclear but spiritual. The fallout of the atheistic explosion is everywhere. But Dr. Gordon added, "Although the fallout may be everywhere, we are reminded that God too is everywhere and not even tyrannies can keep him out."

We in the United States have protested this terrible abuse of people who are nothing less than heroes of the century. Most recently, when Congressional leaders met in Moscow with Premier Gorbachev, House Minority leader Bob Michel brought along a list of Baltic and Ukrainian prisoners of conscience. And the Council on Soviet Jewry was magnificent in making sure that the

congressional delegation did not leave without extensive data on persecuted Jews in the Soviet Union.

Religious persecution, of course, is not confined to Europe. We see it in Iran, whose leaders have declared virtual war on the Bahais. We see it in Afghanistan, where the Soviets have moved against the Mujahadeen. And we see a variation on how to abuse religious freedom in the Sandinista regime of Nicaragua.

In Nicaragua, the Sandinista regime is faced with a politically active church that -- although it supported the revolution -- is now considered a major obstacle to complete totalitarian control. And so the Sandinistas are actively attempting to discredit and split the church hierarchy. One area to be watched, by the way: the Sandinistas, like all communist regimes, are injecting their ideology into the educational system and have begun widespread literacy campaigns to indoctrinate children and adults. But the Catholic Church is fighting to maintain autonomy and keep this indoctrination out of church-run schools.

This has not been resolved. Cuba solved the problem by closing all private schools, including religious schools. So did Ethiopia.

The general state of religious liberty in Nicaragua is suggested by testimony from various sources, including refugees. We recently learned of a pastor of the Evangelical Church in a Nicaraguan town who told the Freedom Fighters that the Sandinistas had threatened to send the 3,000 members of his church to relocation camps. The pastor and his church members

are now hiding out in caves and temporary settlements in the countryside.

May I interject here that stories like this are the reason we are asking Congress for aid to help the Freedom Fighters, and to help the victims of the Sandinista regime.

The Sandinistas also harassed Jews. Two Nicaraguan refugees, Sarita and Oscar Kellerman, have told of the firebombing of their synagogue by the Sandinistas -- and how they wrote on the synagogue and the Kellerman's home the words, "Jews -- Out of Nicaragua."

When I think of Nicaragua these days, it occurs to me anew that you can judge any new government, any new regime, by whether or not it allows religion to flourish. If it doesn't, you can be sure it is an enemy of mankind -- for it is attempting to ban what is most beautiful in the human heart.

But we must not feel despair, because it is not appropriate to the times. We are living in a dramatic age. Throughout the world, the machinery of the state is being used as never before against religious freedom -- but at the same time, throughout the world, new groups of believers keep springing up. Points of light flash out in the darkness, and God is honored once again. Perhaps this is the greatest irony of the communist experiment: the very pressure they apply seems to create the force, friction, and heat that allow deep belief to once again burst into flame.

I believe that the most essential element of our defense of freedom is our insistence on speaking out for the cause of religious liberty. I would like to see this country rededicate

itself wholeheartedly to this cause. I join you in your desire that the Protestant churches of America, the Catholic Church, and the Jewish organizations remember the members of their flock who are in prison or in jeopardy in other countries.

We are our brothers' keepers, all of us. And I hope the message will go forth, from this conference to prisoners of conscience throughout the world: "Take heart, you have not been forgotten. We, your brothers and sisters in God, have made your cause our cause, and we vow never to relent until you have regained the freedom that is your birthright as a child of God."

Thank you. God bless all of you.

ID # 257541 CU
BP

WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- ☐ O - OUTGOING
☐ H - INTERNAL
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Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) / /

Name of Correspondent: Daniel Chew

☐ MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) (B) (C)

Subject: Address: Disney World "Inaugural Parade"
Orlando, Florida

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CUTROLL</u>		ORIGINATOR	<u>85/05/21</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>85/05/21</u>
		Referral Note:			
<u>CUAT 17</u>		<u>R</u>	<u>85/05/21</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>85/05/21</u>
		Referral Note:	<u>5-21-85 SMC TO B. ELLIOTT</u>		
			<u> / / </u>		<u> / / </u>
		Referral Note:			
			<u> / / </u>		<u> / / </u>
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			<u> / / </u>		<u> / / </u>
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 21, 1985

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

FROM: SHERRIE M. COOKSEY *SMC*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Address:
Disney World "Inaugural Parade"

We have reviewed the above-referenced draft Presidential remarks and have no legal or other objections to them.

cc: David L. Chew

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUMDATE: 5/21/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 p.m. 5/22/85SUBJECT: ADDRESS: Disney World "Inaugural Parade"
Orlando, Florida

(5/21 - 2:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	LACY	☐	☐
REGAN	☐	☒	McFARLANE	☐	☒
STOCKMAN	☒	☐	OGLESBY	☒	☐
BUCHANAN	☒	☐	ROLLINS	☒	☐
CHAVEZ	☒	☐	RYAN	☐	☐
CHEW	☐	☒	SPEAKES	☐	☒
DANIELS	☐	☐	SPRINKEL	☒	☐
FIELDING	☒	☐	SVAHN	☒	☐
FRIEDERSDORF	☒	☐	TUTTLE	☐	☐
HENKEL	☒	☐	<u>ELLIOTT</u>	☐	☒
HICKEY	☐	☐	<u>HENKEL</u>	☐	☐
HICKS	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
KINGON	☒	☐	_____	☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide any changes/recommendations directly to Ben Elliott, with an info copy to my office by 2:00 Wednesday, May 22nd.

RESPONSE:

1985 MAY 21 PM 4:34

David L. Chew
Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

Received SS
105 MAY 21 PM 4:00

(Robinson/BE)
May 21, 1985
2:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DISNEY WORLD "INAUGURAL PARADE"
ORLANDO, FLORIDA
MONDAY, MAY 27, 1985

Thank you. Thank you all.

Before I begin, I would like to ask you to join me for a brief moment in observing the special character of today, Memorial Day. This morning I laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery and joined millions across our Nation in mindfulness of those who have died so that we might live in liberty. Would you bow your heads with me to honor those men who have given their lives for our country.

[The President bows his head and observes silence].

Amen.

Well, it is indeed an honor for me to be here today to receive this magnificent gift -- a second and very much warmer Inauguration Day. You have my heartfelt thanks, and my gratitude goes even deeper when I consider that many of you have travelled great distances -- some from as far away as New Mexico, Nebraska, Iowa, and the State where I went to high school myself, Illinois.

By the way, I understand that the band here today from Holland, Missouri, call themselves the Holland High Dutch and are being led by a drum major whose first name is Reagan. Now, it so happens that when I was in high school my nickname was Dutch and I, too, led the marching band as a drum major.

So, to young Reagan of Holland High, from one Dutch drum major to another: I can't help thinking that if these

coincidences continue, you may end up with an Inauguration Day of your own.

Well, this day has been a joy for me, and my deepest thanks go to each of you, from the piccolo players to the masters of the oom-pah on the tubas. I am deeply grateful to the private organizations and enterprises that helped to make this parade possible. Some have provided funding; others have contributed reduced-rate hotel rooms, airline flights, bus transportation, free meals, and expertise in coordinating the whole event.

One of the chief aims of our Administration has been to emphasize the vital contributions which we Americans can make to our national life through private sector initiatives; and if I may say so, the generosity and enthusiasm so evident in the execution of this event represent an outstanding example. To the many hundreds who gave of their time and talents to help make today possible, my congratulations on a job well done.

Tomorrow evening I will address the Nation about a dramatic proposal to reform our system of taxation. It is a proposal that will affect Americans of all ages and occupations and touch every aspect of the economic life of our country. But in the main it is a proposal intended to better the lives of you, our young people -- a measure designed to give to you as you come of age a Nation of renewed freedom, vitality, and strength.

Permit me to consider with you the view of American life on which our tax proposal is based. I'll begin by sharing with you some of my own memories about growing up in our country.

My high school and college days -- if you can take your minds back that far -- happened to fall during the Great Depression of the 1930's. The overall unemployment rate was more than a quarter of the entire work force -- one in four workers had no job. The Government broadcast radio messages telling people to stay home rather than tie up traffic looking for work.

In my own case, all the way through high school and college I had a summer job as a lifeguard on the banks of an Illinois river. It didn't pay much, but in those days you knew you were lucky just to have work.

By the way, 1 year I was able to add to my income by working on the college campus. Come to think of it, it was one of the best jobs I've ever had -- washing dishes in a girls' dormitory.

But often during those years I wondered whether after college I would be able to get a real job or would have to go right back to being a lifeguard. As it turned out, I did have to spend my first summer after college back on the banks of that Illinois river. If there was ever a time when our future looked dark, it was during those difficult days of the thirties.

But here we are just half a century later, enjoying a standard of living that 50 years ago could not even have been imagined. Each decade for the past five decades, employment in America has risen at an average rate of 12 million. Over the same period, real income per person has increased at an average rate of 30 percent per decade.

Buoyed by medical breakthroughs, improving diets, and generally rising standards of living, the life expectancy of

Americans has been increasing steadily for 50 years. I've already surpassed my own life expectancy at birth by two decades -- to many, that represents a source of great annoyance.

Today we are able to take for granted any number of inventions that inspired wonder and awe when they were first introduced -- the polio vaccine of Dr. Jonas Salk; television, first in black-and-white, now in vivid color; drought-resistant seeds and cold-resistant grains; computers in the workplace and even in the home; spacecraft that can orbit the Earth for days, then land gently on a desert runway.

In 1927, I shared in the joy and relief that swept the country when we heard at last that Lindbergh had landed safely in France. Five decades later, I stood in the California Mojave and watched the Space Shuttle Columbia glide silently to Earth after a journey of thousands of miles.

The central fact of our history during these decades is that, despite the predictions so many made when I was a young man, life in America today is not worse than it was in the days of my boyhood but better -- markedly and joyously better.

Let us ask, then, what has made it so. Was it perhaps the Government, directing our activities and intervening in our lives?

During these past five decades, the Government has indeed provided vital services and to some extent helped to improve life for many of our people. No one doubts the absolute necessity of a strong national defense or the role our military has played in

keeping us free. Likewise, no one doubts the importance of the Government safety net that we have established for those in genuine need.

Yet our national experience shows that, when Government grows beyond these two limited duties of providing national defense and caring for those truly in need -- when Government lays claim to more and more of our resources and begins through massive regulation and high taxation to impinge upon our individual freedoms -- then our economy grows not more prosperous, but less so.

Throughout the 1970's, for example, the growth of Government was utterly unbridled. Yet our economy stagnated. By 1980, the Gross National Product registered zero growth. No, it was not the Government that spurred our economic growth.

If not the Government, was it, perhaps, our natural resources?

Our vast land has always been blessed by a mighty multitude of resources -- broad plains, powerful rivers, and rich deposits of minerals. Yet, in a sense, the primary reality of a resource exists not in the Earth, but in the minds of the men who give it usefulness and value.

Consider oil. A century ago, oil was nothing but a thick, foul, and useless liquid. It was the invention of the internal combustion engine that gave to oil its function. Today oil fuels the economy of the world.

Or think of sand -- sand that used to be nothing but the stuff that deserts are made of. The development of the silicon

microchip has given sand a vital function, and today we use it to make the computer chips that give home computers their intelligence, monitor functions on aircraft, and guide our satellites through the dark reaches of space.

No, it has not been resources nor Government that have given us our enduring vibrancy and growth, but the initiative and enterprise of individual Americans.

Air travel, for example, has become a glorious commonplace because test pilots like Lindbergh had daring, and engineers like Boeing and Douglas had wits and determination. The Government might have wished it could simply decree a polio vaccine, but it took years of unremitting effort and dedication by Dr. Salk to make the vaccine a reality.

In this setting, one story of private initiative is particularly appropriate. Back in Missouri in the early 1900's, there lived a little farm boy who discovered that he had a knack for drawing barnyard animals. As an adult he began to put his animals into cartoons, and he became convinced that he could entertain people with them by telling stories about a little creature with a high voice, red trousers, yellow shoes, and white gloves.

Professionals in the field made fun of the idea, and the young man had to sell or pawn virtually everything he owned. But 51 years later, this man and his creation have become permanently fixed in the history of our popular culture. His name was Walt Disney; his little creature, Mickey Mouse.

The determination that each of these heroes of progress demonstrated came from within. Yet in each case it was crucial to the success of their efforts that they were operating in a climate of economic liberty -- in a free market where they could make use of pooled resources, experiment with new techniques and products, and submit their plans and hypotheses to the test of practical experience.

This aspect of freedom -- economic freedom -- is one of the distinctive characteristics of life in our Nation, as interwoven into the American legacy as freedom of speech or of the press. It has enabled our people to make our Nation into a marvel of economic progress, and as with all the freedoms that we enjoy, it is our duty to cherish and protect it.

And this is just what our tax reform plan, that I'll introduce tomorrow night, is intended to do. It will make the tax code more simple, efficient and fair, and place more resources into the hands of your families and, ultimately, you yourselves. In so doing, it will expand our economic freedom and clear the way for even greater economic vitality than that which we enjoy today.

Nor will the benefits be economic alone. With more resources at their disposal, the American people will be able to provide greater support to the institutions that they themselves value -- our schools and universities, the arts, our churches and synagogues. As our economy grows, our cultural, educational, and religious life will flourish.

John Marshall said, "The power to tax involves the power to destroy." If so, then the power to cut taxes must surely be the power to create -- the power to force Government to stand back and let the people themselves give expression to the spirit of enterprise -- building and imagining; giving to you, our sons and daughters, a Nation of ever greater prosperity and freedom.

My friends, thank you again for the gift of this magnificent Inaugural Parade. May you enjoy all the blessings of a free and bountiful Nation. And may you always remember the enduring truth that our tax plan seeks to embody and that Americans have cherished through the ages: God made man for liberty.

Thank you and God bless you.

ID # 257544 CU
9P

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- ☐ O - OUTGOING
☐ H - INTERNAL
☐ I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

Name of Correspondent: DAVE crew

☐ MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Address: T.V. Address to the Nation on Jan
Referral Plan

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CUHOLL</u>		ORIGINATOR	<u>85/05/22</u>		<u>C 85/05/22</u>
<u>CUAT17</u>		Referral Note:	<u>R 85/05/22</u>		<u>R 85/05/22</u>
		Referral Note:	<u>5-22-85 SMC MEMO TO Elling 5 pm</u>		
		Referral Note:			
		Referral Note:			
		Referral Note:			

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
C - Comment/Recommendation
D - Draft Response
F - Furnish Fact Sheet
to be used as Enclosure
I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
R - Direct Reply w/Copy
S - For Signature
X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
B - Non-Special Referral
C - Completed
S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: See ID 321357CU

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

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Prime Subject Code: SP Secondary Subject Codes: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C		Time: _____	P- _____
DSP		Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

CPn - Presidential Correspondence
 n - 0 - Unknown
 n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
 n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
 n - 3 - Ron
 n - 4 - Dutch
 n - 5 - Ron Reagan
 n - 6 - Ronald
 n - 7 - Ronnie

CLn - First Lady's Correspondence
 n - 0 - Unknown
 n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
 n - 2 - Nancy
 n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence
 n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
 n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

B - Box/package
C - Copy
D - Official document
G - Message
H - Handcarried
L - Letter
M - Mailgram
O - Memo
P - Photo
R - Report
S - Sealed
T - Telegram
V - Telephone
X - Miscellaneous
Y - Study

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 22, 1985

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

FROM: SHERRIE M. COOKSEY *SMC*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Television Address on Tax Reform

As we discussed, I have reviewed the above-referenced draft Presidential address and consider it a lucid and compelling explanation of the President's proposals for tax reform; nevertheless, I do have several recommendations for corrections or changes in that address.

First, in the last clause of the last sentence of ¶ 3, page 4, the reference to \$10,000 should be changed to \$11,000. Similarly, in sentence 2 of page 8 the reference to \$30,000 should be changed to \$29,000.

Second, on page 6, ¶ 5, the references to the exemptions, deductions and credits available to a poverty-level family with an income of \$12,000, should include a reference to our proposed increased standard deduction.

Finally, on page 9, ¶ 2, you may wish to include an explanation of why we envision a "return-free" filing system.

cc: David L. Chew

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/22/85 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5:00 P.M. TODAY
May 22nd

SUBJECT: ADDRESS: T.V. Address to the Nation on Tax Reform Plan

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	LACY	☐	☐
REGAN	☒	☐	McFARLANE	☒	☐
STOCKMAN	☐	☐	OGLESBY	☒	☐
BUCHANAN	☒	☐	ROLLINS	☒	☐
CHAVEZ	☐	☐	RYAN	☐	☐
CHEW	☐ P	☐ SS	SPEAKES	☐	☒
DANIELS	☐	☐	SPRINKEL	☒	☐
FIELDING	☒	☐	SVAHN	☒	☐
FRIEDERSDORF	☒	☐	TUTTLE	☐	☐
HENKEL	☐	☐	<u>ELLIOTT</u>	☐	☒
HICKEY	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
HICKS	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
KINGON	☒	☐	_____	☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please provide any edits directly to Ben Elliott by 5:00 p.m. TODAY, May 22nd, with an information copy to my office. Thank you.

CLOSE HOLD

RESPONSE:

1985 MAY 22 AM 11:16

David L. Chew
 Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

(Elliott)
May 22, 1985
10:30 a.m.

Received SS

1985 MAY 20
~~PRESIDENTIAL~~ ADDRESS: T.V. ADDRESS TO THE NATION
ON TAX REFORM PLAN
TUESDAY, MAY 28, 1985

My fellow citizens, I'd like to speak to you tonight about our future, about a great historic effort it is time all of us made together to give the words -- freedom, fairness, opportunity, and hope -- new meaning and new power for every man and woman in America.

Specifically, I want to speak about our tax code; about what we can and must do as a Nation, this year, to transform a system that's become an endless source of confusion, resentment, and discouragement, into one that is clean, simple, and fair for all; a tax code that can no longer run roughshod over Mainstreet families and businesses, but ensures them strong incentives and rewards for work, risk-taking, and investment in a successful American future of strong economic growth.

No other issue goes so directly to the heart of our national economic life; none other will have greater bearing, or more lasting impact, on the well-being of your families.

We have seen what can be achieved when we remember the core principles that define who we are and what we stand for: remember that America was never about promises, but about promise; remember that those who talked about limits were talking about their own limitations, not America's.

Our critics charged that letting you keep more of your earnings would trigger an inflationary explosion, send interest rates soaring, and destroy our economy. Well, we cut your tax

rates all right, by nearly 25 percent. But what that helped trigger was a steep decline in inflation, the prime rate dropping to its lowest level in 6 years, creation of 8 million new jobs, a record 600,000 business incorporations a year, and 30 straight months of economic expansion.

We said it before, let us say it again: there are no limits to growth and human progress when men and women are free to follow their dreams. Freedom is the heart of this peaceful Second American Revolution for hope and opportunity we are creating for our future.

We made one great dramatic step together. We owe it to ourselves to make many more. For the sake of opportunity and greater growth, we must lower your tax rates further, much further. For the sake of fairness, simplicity, and efficiency, we must start changing the structure of a system that can still treat our earnings as the personal property of the I.R.S.; still treat people in similar situations dramatically different regarding the tax they pay; and still cause some people to invest, not to find new technologies to make us more competitive and productive, not to make a better mousetrap, but simply to avoid a tax trap.

Our tax system has been modified dozens of times and in hundreds of different ways over the course of this century. Yet, those changes rarely improved the system, they only made it more like Washington itself: more complicated, more unfair, more cluttered with legalistic gobbledygook and loopholes designed not

for everyday wage-earners, but those with power, those with influence, those with high-priced attorneys and accountants.

How many times have we heard people brag about schemes to avoid paying any taxes; or watched luxuries casually written off to be paid eventually by somebody else -- that somebody, of course, being you. I believe that, in both spirit and substance, our tax system has come to be un-American.

Well, death and taxes may be inevitable, but high taxes and unfair taxes are not. The first American Revolution drew strength from an unshakable conviction that taxation without representation is tyranny. Two centuries later, a Second American Revolution is quietly gathering force again -- a peaceful revolution, to be sure, but, like our first, one born of popular resentment against a tax system that is unwise, unwanted, and unfair.

I've spoken with and received letters from thousands of you, Republicans, Democrats, and Independents. I know how ready, how hungry you are -- for change. Make no mistake, we, the kin of those first brave souls who came here to give birth to a new life in liberty, we can change America again; we can change America for the better; we can change America forever. So, let's get moving.

Tonight, I am putting forth a proposal for America's future; a pro-growth, pro-family proposal to free us from the grip of special interests and create a binding commitment to the only special interest that counts -- you who pay America's bills; a proposal to end make-work for attorneys and create millions of

new jobs for working people; a proposal to end divisive politics of envy and create a spirit of harmony through new opportunity -- a chance for everyone to hitch their wagon to a star and set out to reach the American Dream.

Our proposal is a "FIRST" -- a revolutionary step for Fairness, Incentives, Rewards, and Simplicity in Taxation.

Let me start by addressing the question on your minds -- how would the proposal affect you. As you can see from this chart, compared to the current system, the answer for the great majority of American taxpayers is that it will lower your tax rates, reduce your tax burden, and greatly increase your opportunities to succeed and help America grow.

The current tax system has 14 different brackets of tax rates ranging from 11 to 50 percent. We would take a giant step toward an ideal system by replacing all that with a simple 3-bracket system -- with tax rates of 15, 25, and 35 percent. The lowest rate of 15 percent would be applied to taxable income up to \$29,000. The second rate, 25 percent, would be applied to -- but only to -- taxable income above \$29,000 up to a maximum of \$70,000. In other words, if your taxable income is \$40,000, you still would be taxed at that lowest rate of 15 percent on your first \$29,000 of taxable income; only your remaining \$10,000 would then be taxed at the middle rate of 25 percent.

The same principle applies throughout; only taxable income earned above \$70,000 would be taxed at the highest rate of 35 percent. After that, no matter how much more you earned, you would never pay more than 35 cents on every dollar to Uncle Sam.

By lowering and simplifying everybody's tax rates all the way up the income scale, each of us will have incentives to climb higher, strive to succeed, excel, and help America grow.

I believe the worth of any economic policy must be judged by the strength of its commitment to American families. Families stand at the center of our society; the great pulsing heartbeat of America, they are guardians of the most noble values of our past, trustees of our deepest hopes for the future. There is no instrument of hard work, savings, investment, and job creation as effective as the family. There is no cultural institution as ennobling as family life. And there is no better, indeed, no equal means to rear the young, protect the weak, or attend the elderly.

Yet, past policies cruelly betrayed families and family values. They permitted inflation and a steeply progressive tax system to push families relentlessly into higher and higher tax brackets. But they didn't permit the personal exemption to keep up with inflation. From \$600 in 1950, it rose to only \$1,000 in 35 years.

For three decades, families have been footing the bill for other special interests, and now families are in trouble. Thomas Jefferson warned, the power to tax is the power to destroy. And as one gentleman from Memphis, Tennessee, recently put it quite bluntly, "The taxes that are taken out of my check, is money that I need -- not extra play money. Please do all that you can to make the tax system more equitable towards the family."

This is just what we are determined to do -- to put forward and pass the single strongest pro-family initiative in post-war history, bar none. In addition to lowering your tax rates further, [show chart], we intend to double the personal exemption -- immediately -- increasing it to \$2,000 for every taxpayer and dependent. And, starting in 1989, that \$2,000 would be increased to protect against any rise in inflation.

We propose to increase the standard deduction and the earned income tax credit for low-income working people.

And we would greatly strengthen families' incentives to save through Individual Retirement Accounts, I.R.A.'s. Right now, I.R.S.'s are available only to the spouse who works outside the home. We would extend equal benefits to both spouses. This would enable any family to save, and to reduce their taxable income, by up to \$4,000 each year. Of course, many families could not afford to save \$4,000, but every dollar they could save would be fully deductible from their taxable earnings.

Strengthening incentives, restoring equity, dignity and hope, and investing anew in our children, our most precious resource for tomorrow, represents an historic first for fairness and a new dawn of opportunities for your families. Let me walk you through some examples of families in different income groups, to illustrate how dramatically these incentives would empower you to better your lives, your country, and your future.

Take a family of four, struggling at a poverty-level existence, with an annual income of only \$12,000. By doubling the personal exemption, raising the zero bracket amounts and the

earned income credit, we could assure that family would pay no income tax. And if they are industrious, go out and earn more, say an additional \$5,000 to get ahead, how much tax would they pay? Only 15 cents on each dollar of that additional \$5,000. They would pay a total tax of \$750 on \$17,000 of earnings, so their actual rate would be less than 5 percent.

We are offering a ladder of opportunity for every family trapped in dependency -- a ladder of opportunity to grab hold of, to climb out of poverty, and to escape welfare forever.

Now, let's consider a larger working family, a family of six, earning a median income of \$26,000 a year. Right away, the value of that family's personal exemptions would rise to \$12,000.

Add to this the new, higher standard deduction of \$3,800; then, if they could save or borrow \$2,000 for an I.R.A., we see that, lo and behold, this family could reduce its taxable income by almost \$18,000. So, on earnings of \$26,000 they would pay taxes on only \$8,000. Now, take 15 percent of \$8,000 and what do we get -- \$1,200. Twelve hundred dollars in income tax on \$26,000 in earnings equals an effective tax rate of barely 5 percent. And remember, again, for every dollar of additional income this family could earn, only 15 cents would be taxed 'til its taxable income reaches \$29,000 -- and that's clearly a long way off.

Now consider a young married couple without children. Both are career professionals and doing very well, earning a joint income of \$60,000. They've taken out a loan to buy a home. After adding up the value of their mortgage interest, an I.R.A.,

their personal exemptions and other expenditures for charity and interest on purchases, they would find they could reduce their taxable income by \$15,000. So they would be paying taxes on \$45,000. How much tax would they owe? Fifteen percent of \$30,000 which comes to \$4,500; and then 25 percent on their remaining \$15,000, which is \$3,750. So, on \$60,000 in combined earnings, they would owe just over \$8,000, an effective rate of less than 15 percent.

The power of these incentives should send one, simple, straightforward message to our entire Nation: America, go for it.

We are reducing tax rates for all by simplifying the complex system of itemized deductions, exclusions and special credits that favor some at the expense of others. This means curtailing business expenses now being written off; and it means ending several personal deductions, including the State and local tax deduction which actually contributes to the problem of high tax rates and provides a special subsidy for a few high-tax states.

I know some charge that we cannot afford to give up this particular subsidy. Well, they're wrong. Lowering tax rates and doubling the personal exemption will more than compensate for eliminating the State and local deduction.

But deductions that are widely used, deductions central to American values, will be maintained. The home mortgage interest deduction would be fully retained for a taxpayer's principal residence, and up to \$2,000 would still be deductible on other interest expenses; the existing itemized deductions for

charitable contributions, medical expenses, and casualty losses would be preserved; and, so, too, would the current preferential treatment of Social Security and veterans disability payments.

Comparing the current tax system to our proposal is like comparing a Model T to a space shuttle. Believe me, I should know; I've been around long enough to see both. One enormous dividend of the 3-bracket system will be simplicity, which, in turn, will strengthen the perception and reality of fairness.

The number of taxpayers needing to itemize would be reduced to only ____ percent. We can envision a "return-free" filing system with more than 60 percent of all taxpayers receiving their tax bill or refund without ever having to file a return. Most Americans would go from the long form or the short form to no form. We see the day when the only place you'll find the old 1040 is in a museum.

I have spoken of our proposed changes to help individuals and families. Let me explain how we would complement them with proposals for business to ensure fairness, by eliminating or modifying numerous special privileges that are economically unjustifiable, and to strengthen growth by preserving incentives for investment, research, and development.

We begin with a basic recognition: the greatest innovations for new jobs, technologies, and economic vigor today come from a small but growing circle of heroes -- American Entrepreneurs, the men and women of faith, intellect, and daring who take great risks to invest in and invent our future. The great majority of the 8 million new jobs I mentioned were created by small

enterprises with 20 employees or less -- and those enterprises were often born in the dream of one human mind or heart.

To young Americans wondering tonight, where will I go, what will I do with my life, I ask you to consider setting out with your friends on the path of adventure -- to start up and own your own business. Like the two college students who launched one of America's top computer firms from a garage behind their house, you can help us unlock the doors to a golden future. You can become participants, and, yes, perhaps leaders, too, in this great new movement for progress -- The Age of the Entrepreneur.

My goal is an America bursting with opportunity, an America that celebrates freedom every day by giving every citizen an equal chance, an America made ever younger by the fullness of entrepreneurial spirit, unleashed and breaking free. For starters, lowering personal tax rates will give a hefty boost to the more than 16.5 million businesses which are not corporations, but individual proprietorships or partnerships.

To further strengthen business formation, we propose to reduce the maximum corporate tax rate to 33 percent. And that 33-percent rate would be approached in stages: the first \$50,000 in earnings being taxed at a 15-percent rate, the top 33-percent rate only kicking in above \$100,000.

To these incentives, we would add another -- a reduction in the maximum tax on capital gains. Following the first capital gains tax cut back in 1978, we've seen the number of companies making offerings to raise capital increase more than ten-fold. We've seen the revenue raised increase by 15-fold. And we've

seen those lower tax rates sweep out an old, tired economy wheezing from neglect, and sweep in an energetic, powerful engine of progress bringing a trainload of new jobs, higher incomes, and opportunities to more and more Americans of average means.

The parents who invest \$10,000 for their daughter's education, and who make a profit on their investment, will have more to spend on her education if the capital gains tax rate is lower. Their daughter will have a better chance of finding a job after college, if our economy is thriving from incentives that assure a rich and expanding flow of investment capital. And the pensions of American workers, whose retirement incomes is the biggest source of investment in our equity and bond markets, will be larger and far more secure if we opt for lower rates and stronger growth.

So, to marshall more venture capital for more sunrise industries, for greater productivity breakthroughs, and new technological leadership, we would exclude from taxable income a full 50 percent of capital gains, lowering the top tax rate to 17-1/2 percent.

Also, we intend to keep incentives for capital investment competitive and improve efficiency by lowering the overall cost of capital and cutting back on special preferences that have too long favored some industries at the expense of others. We would repeal the investment tax credit, but improve the depreciation system by maintaining short cost recovery periods and indexing it for inflation. This approach would bring effective tax rates

closer for different categories of investment. We would also preserve incentives for investment in research and development.

To alleviate the double taxation of dividends, we would introduce the principal of corporate dividend deductibility, with an initial deductible amount of 10 percent.

And, to avoid perceptions that engender frustration and resentment, we would seek a minimum tax that ensures any corporations or individuals producing sufficient income would pay a fair share.

This, then, is our plan. I believe it is a revolutionary first for freedom, fairness, and our future; a challenge for each of us to excel because it would lower tax rates for every income group of individuals; because it would mean the top rate of personal income taxation being cut in half in just 5 years; because it would reduce the overall effective tax rate on investment; because it would give the United States the lowest overall rates of taxation of any major industrial democracy and, yes, because it could lift us into a future of promise, reaching out to an endless horizon, and lit by the star of freedom that guides America to supremacy in jobs creation, investment, growth and progress throughout the world.

I know cynics and big taxers will give a hundred reasons why this historic proposal isn't perfect, won't pass, and can't work. They just happen to be the same people who opposed virtually every major initiative we've fought for in the last 4 years. Yet, here we are tonight -- stronger, more united, more confident in our Nation than any time in recent memory.

So remember, the American Dream belongs to you; it lives in a million different hearts; and it can be fulfilled in a million different ways. With you by our side, we're not going to stop moving and shaking this town until that dream can be real -- for every person and child, from the sidewalks of Harlem to the mountaintops of Haiwaii.

Let's not let this splendid moment slip away. Let's not let prisoners of envy and mediocrity wear us down and ruin our dreams. Let's not let special interest raids for the few rob us all.

In these last 4 years, we've made a fresh start together. In these next 4, we can begin a new chapter in our history that will be entitled, America's Future -- Freedom's Finest Hour. It can be done, and with your help, it will be done.

Thank you, God bless you, and good night.

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 258062

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: OCTOBER 31, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. RONALD C. ACOSTA

SUBJECT REQUESTS PUBLIC ADDRESS REGARDING PAYING
RESPECT TO LIVING VETERANS NOV 11 84

SP
not a letter
letter with
after Nov 11 for
mail or
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		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:	ACT	DATE	TYPE	C	COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D	YY/MM/DD
MARY RAWLINS	ORG	84/10/31	FR	AS	10/31/84
REFERRAL NOTE:					
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES:

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION CODES:	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	* CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	* OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	* CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		* OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY *			*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT. 2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

December 5, 1984

Dear Commander Acosta:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your letter concerning a Veterans Day public address.

Unfortunately, we received your letter after the holiday date due to the tremendous amount of mail that is received at the White House. However, the President is most appreciative of your thoughtfulness in writing and he has asked me to convey to you his gratitude for your personal letter.

With regard to your requests concerning the Congressional Medal of Honor, we do not have that information available, but I would like to recommend that you contact the Library of Congress for the detailed information you seek.

With the President's warmest wishes,

Sincerely,

FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.
Director, Presidential
Appointments and Scheduling

Commander Ronald C. Acosta
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Gros-Guidry Post Number 8528
Post Office Box 532
Cut Off, LA 70345

FJR:ab

11/11/84
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37
Scheduling
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S.
GROS-GUIDRY POST NO. 8538
P.O. Box 532
Cot 066, Louisiana 70345

27 October 1984

President Ronald Regan
White House
Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20000

President Regan:

For the past four years our local junior high school has been putting on a Veterans Day Program with the support of the local VFW Post. We try to emphasis a certain topic while addressing the public and the students alike.

This year, in fact just prior to beginning this letter I was able to get in contact with a Congressional Medal of Honor Winner for our program this year. Yes indeed they are hard to find.

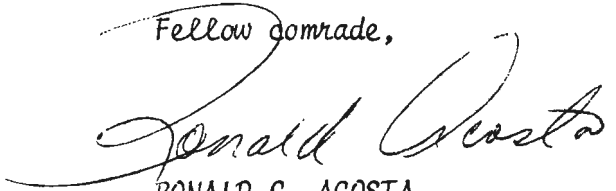
1. Prior to his speech I will introduce him in regards to his award. From your office I am asking if I could get the latest requirement to receive this award. Also if you could break down the different wars and how many Congressional Medal of Honor winners for each war and in regards to the individual if the person was alive or dead.

2. I realize many have lost family members as Killed in Action, yet if on Veterans Day if you could address the public for a few minutes in informing them even though we seem to continuously pay our respect to the dead many respects should be paid to the living veterans.

I sincerely appreciate your time and effort in this matter, and sincerely hope to be hearing from your office prio to November 11.

For those who fought for it, Freedom has a flavor the protected will never know.

Fellow comrade,


RONALD C. ACOSTA
Commander
Rte. 1 Box 317
Lockport, LA 70374

*
pen of letters of: Library of Congress

11/11/84

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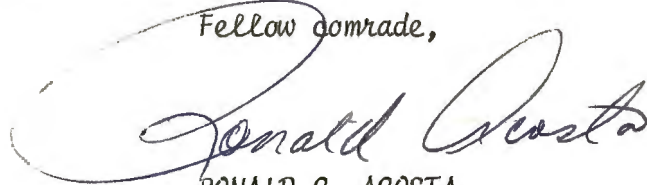
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