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AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

AISNE-MARNE AMERICAN CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL

The World War I Aisne-Marne American Cemetery and Memorial lies south of the village of Belleau (Aisne), France six and one-half miles northwest of Chateau-Thierry. It may be reached by automobile from Paris via Route N-3, turning left opposite the entrance pylons of the Chateau-Thierry Monument which are about two miles west of the town of Chateau-Thierry. The total distance is 58 miles. The cemetery may also be reached via toll Autoroute A-4 by taking the Montreuil-aux-Lions exit and following the cemetery signs to Lucy-le-Bocage and proceeding through Belleau Wood to the entrance of the de l'Est to Chateau-Thierry. The journey takes about one hour.

This forty-two acre cemetery with the headstones lying in a sweeping curve at the foot of the hill where stands Belleau Wood. It contains the graves of 2,289 American Dead, most of whom fought in the vicinity and in the Marne valley in the summer of 1918. From the hillside rises the memorial chapel decorated with sculptured and stain glass details of wartime personnel, equipment and insignia. On its interior walls are inscribed the names of 1,060 who gave their lives in the service of their country and who are resting in unknown graves. The observation platform in the chapel tower affords excellent views over the battlefield. During World War II, the chapel was damaged slightly by an enemy shell.

Belleau Wood adjoining the cemetery contains many vestiges of World War I. At the flagpole is a monument commemorating the valor of the U.S. Marines who captured much of this ground in 1918.

In the summer the cemetery is open to visitors daily from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm and in the winter from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.
History of Taps

Its sad, haunting melody is one of the most familiar tunes in America. It will be played tonight, just as it has been played for the past 134 years, at United States military establishments throughout the world. The sad tune not only marks the end of the day for soldiers; it also denotes the end of their lives. The melody might spring to mind, but the title of the tune may not: The tune is Taps, and it was written by Dan Butterfield. Butterfield was a Union General, awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, and after the war he served as the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Department. He was born in Utica, New York, on October 31st, 1831. He was the third son of John Butterfield, renowned for his dealings with both the Overland Stage and American Express.

Taps sprang from Dan Butterfield's imagination in 1862. During the Civil War, as the United States fought to either tear itself asunder or heal its differences, Butterfield spent July in Virginia with his men. He was as restless as his men that night. Sweat made it's sticky trailings under dirty blue uniforms; plastering the wool against the too hot skin. The brigade was camped at Berkley Plantation, overlooking the James River near Tidewater. Buttefield sat on his cot and thought about the good fortune he had had last month during the battle of Gaines' Mill - his wounds had not been serious. Others, of course, hadn't shared his good fortune. Many dead and wounded had been left behind there. Those that had escaped might have fallen a few days later at Malvern Hill, when Lee's troops attacked but fell back before the Union soldiers. But Butterfield's ruminations were interrupted by his bugler sounding Extinguish Lights.

Butterfield had never liked Extinguish Lights, a tune borrowed from the French and played to signal the end of the day. He thought it too stiff and formal for everyday use. In his imagination played a different melody to signal day's end - something peaceful, soothing, and just a bit melancholy. Besides his soldiering skills, Butterfield had other talents. He reached into his pocket and drew forth a crumpled, stained envelope. Whistling and humming, he got down to work, finishing his imagination's song.

O.W. Norton, Butterfield's 22 year old bugler, recounts what happened next: "Butterfield, showing me some notes on staff written in pencil on the back envelope, asked me to sound them on my bugle. I did this several times, playing the music as written. He changed it somewhat, lengthening some notes and shortening others, but retaining the melody as he first gave it to me. "After getting it to his satisfaction, he directed me to sound the call thereafter, in place of the regular call. The music was beautiful on the still summer nights and was heard far beyond the limits of our brigade. The next day I was visited by several other buglers from neighboring brigades asking for a copy of the music, which I gladly furnished." The music also drifted across the battlefield and was soon taken up by the Confederate buglers. Later, at a Union military funeral, Taps was substituted for the customary rifle volleys at the graveside. It seems that Union officers were worried that the
Haunting History of "Taps"

Music is an integral part of the military; it wakes you up in the morning, and it signals "lights out" at night. The story that follows is extracted from Doug Storer's Encyclopedia of Amazing but True Facts, published by Signet.

It all began in 1862, during the Civil War, when a Union Army officer, Captain Robert Ellicombe, was with his men near Harrison's Landing, Va. The Confederate Army was on the other side of this narrow strip of land. During the night, Ellicombe heard the moan of a soldier who lay mortally wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention.

Crawling on his belly through the gunfire, the captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The captain lit a lantern. Suddenly, he caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son!

The boy had been studying music in the South when war broke out. Without telling his father, he had enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, the heartbroken father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was partially granted. The captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. That request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate.

Out of respect for his father, they did say that they could give him one musician. The captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted.

The music was the haunting melody Americans now know as "Taps" used at all military funerals.-HUB, U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center

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While commanding during the American Civil War, General Daniel Adams Butterfield thought the present military "end of day" music was too formal. In July 1862, he hummed a version of a song to an aide. The aide later wrote it down in musical form. General Butterfield then asked the brigade bugler to play the music for him instead of the regulation music. The brigade loved the music and adopted it as their new bugle call.

Although yet unnamed, other brigades began playing General Butterfield's song as well. After the war, the music was deemed the official Army bugle call. In 1874, General Butterfield's song was named "Taps".

"Taps" is now played by the military at burials, memorial services, during the lowering of the flag and to signal the end of a military day.
ceremonial gunshots would set off an attack by the edgy Confederates. Taps was well on its way to becoming the nation's requiem. It was played when General Dan Buttefield was laid to rest on July 17th, 1901, thirty nine years after he spent a steamy night in Virginia scribbling on an old envelope. He was buried at West Point where his white marble monument still stands. In the Oneida, New York, Historical Society's collection resides General Buttefield's Medal of Honor, his silver mess gear, two of his swords and other memorabilia. That, and the haunting melody at sunset, are all that's left of him.

UPDATE:

In Manhattan, a rather nice statue was erected in his memory. It stands in the park named Sakura Park (if my memory is accurate) at West 122nd Street between Convent Avenue and Riverside Drive. He stands on his pedestal with Riverside Church to his left and Julia Grant's Tomb fixed in his gaze directly ahead of him. Down on West 12th Street where he lived after the War, a noteworthy small apartment building stands on the site of his home. This late 20th century building is called Butterfield House.

Thank you

Ron Haber who's wife is a great-great-great niece of General Butterfield.
(Kinderhook Lake, NY)

I have had a request for the lyrics to taps here they are:

Day is done
gone the sun
from the Lakes
from the hills
from the sky
all is well
safely rest
God is nigh.

Fading light
Dims the sight,
And a star gems the sky,
Gleaming bright,
From afar,
Drawing nigh,
Falls the night.

Thanks and praise,
For our days,
Neath the sun,
Neath the stars,
Neath the sky,
As we go, This we know,
God is neigh.

thanks to Teresa Jones for this information.
Another Verse Was Sent to me By David Estes:
Fades the light
From afar
Goeth day,
cometh night
And a star
Leadeth all, 
speedeth all 
To their rest

By Thornware Consulting

http://users.southeast.net/~ahrendt/1sttaps.htm
ORIGINS OF "TAPS"

During the Civil War, in July 1862 when the Army of the Potomac was in camp, Brig. Gen. Daniel Butterfield summoned Pvt. Oliver Wilcox Norton, his brigade bugler, to his tent. Butterfield, who disliked the colorless "extinguish lights" call then in use, whistled a new tune and asked the bugler to sound it for him. After repeated trials and changing the time of some notes which were scribbled on the back of an envelope, the call was finally arranged to suit Gen. Butterfield and used for the first time that night. Pvt. Norton, who on several occasions, had sounded numerous new calls composed by his commander, recalled his experience of the origin of "Taps" years later:

"One day in July 1862 when the Army of the Potomac was in camp at Harrison's Landing on the James River, Virginia, resting and recruiting from its losses in the seven days of battle before Richmond, Gen. Butterfield summoned the writer to his tent, and whistling some new tune, asked the bugler to sound it for him. This was done, not quite to his satisfaction at first, but after repeated trials, changing the time of some of the notes, which were scribbled on the back of an envelope, the call was finally arranged to suit the general.

"He then ordered that it should be substituted in his brigade for the regulation "Taps" (extinguish lights) which was printed in the Tactics and used by the whole army. This was done for the first time that night. The next day buglers from nearby brigades came over to the camp of Butterfield's brigade to ask the meaning of this new call. They liked it, and copying the music, returned to their camps, but it was not until some time later, when generals of other commands had heard its melodious notes, that orders were issued, or permission given, to substitute it throughout the Army of the Potomac for the time-honored call which came down from West Point.

In the western armies the regulation call was in use until the autumn of 1863. At that time the XI and XII Corps were detached from the Army of the Potomac and sent under command of Gen. Hooker to reinforce the Union Army at Chattanooga, Tenn. Through its use in these corps it became known in the western armies and was adopted by them. From that time, it became and remains to this day the official call for "Taps." It is printed in the present Tactics and is used throughout the U.S. Army, the National Guard, and all organizations of veteran soldiers.

Gen. Butterfield, in composing this call and directing that it be used for "Taps" in his brigade, could not have foreseen its popularity and the use for another purpose into which it would grow. Today, whenever a man is buried with military honors anywhere in the United States, the ceremony is concluded
by firing three volleys of musketry over the grave, and sounding with the
trumpet or bugle "Put out the lights. Go to sleep"...There is something
singularly beautiful and appropriate in the music of this wonderful call. Its
strains are melancholy, yet full of rest and peace. Its echoes linger in the
heart long after its tones have ceased to vibrate in the air."

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NATIONAL CEMETERIES

The United States honors its military dead by burial in four general types of cemeteries. These are temporary military cemeteries, permanent military cemeteries, national cemeteries, and Army post and other cemeteries. Temporary military cemeteries are established during hostilities in or near combat areas. They are operated by theater commanders. Permanent military cemeteries are set aside in foreign countries after hostilities end. They are the charge of the American Battle Monuments Commission. There are eight American military cemeteries for the dead of World War I and 14 for those of World War II. Six of the World War I cemeteries are in France. They are the Aisne-Marne, near Belleau; Meuse-Argonne, at Romagne; Oise-Aisne, near Fère-en-Tardenois; St. Mihiel, at Thaumont; Somme, at Bony; and Suresnes, at Suresnes. Flanders Field Cemetery is at Waregem in Belgium. The eighth cemetery is Brookwood, at Surrey in England.

**World War II Military Cemeteries**

Five permanent World War II cemeteries are in France. They are Normandy, near St. Laurent, Brittany, near St. James, Lorraine, at St. Avold; Epinal, near Epinal; and Rhone, at Draguignan. Two are in Italy; Florence, near Florence, and Sicily-Rome at Nettuno. Two are in Belgium; Henri-Chapelle, near Henri-Chapelle, and Ardennes, near Neuville-en-Condroz.

The remaining military cemeteries are: Cambridge, near Cambridge, England; Netherlands, at Margraten, in The Netherlands; Luxembourg, near the city of Luxembourg; Carthage, near Tunis, in Tunisia; and Manila, at Manila, in the Philippines. The American Battle Monuments Commission also administers a cemetery in Mexico City for American soldiers killed in the Mexican War.

National cemeteries are permanent cemeteries on United States territory. There are almost 100 such burial grounds, including one each at Sitka, Alaska; Honolulu, Hawaii; and San Juan, Puerto Rico. The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu is the burial place for many who died in World War II and the Korean War. The cemetery at Antietam, in Maryland, is divided into segments, each representing a state. Here are buried 4,773 Union soldiers (1,836 unidentified) of the Civil War, largely from the battles of South Mountain and Antietam. Most of the national cemeteries are supervised by the Department of the Army. The remainder are under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service.
Resting Place of Famous Soldiers

The best known is Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. It was created in 1864, and the first men to be buried there were a Union and a Confederate soldier, placed side by side. It contains the graves of Gen. Philip Sheridan, Adm. George Dewey, Rear Adm. Robert E. Peary, Gen. John J. Pershing, and Maj. Pierre Charles L’Enfant, who drew the plans for the city of Washington. Two presidents, William Howard Taft and John F. Kennedy, are interred at Arlington. Two of President Kennedy's infant children are buried beside their father. In 1968 his brother Robert F. Kennedy was buried at Arlington. (See also Kennedy, John F.; Kennedy Family.)

Since 1967, burial has been limited to men dying on active duty, retired personnel, Medal of Honor holders, and the military in high government office. Their families may also be interred at Arlington. The restrictions were waived in 1981 for the burial there of Joe Louis, the former heavyweight boxing champion. In 1986 the remains of two astronauts of the space shuttle Challenger were buried at Arlington.

There are more than 200,000 graves in the cemetery. Nearly all are marked by simple stones. Monuments stand above the graves of famed military men. Special memorials honor men who fell in American wars. Services are held in a marble amphitheater.

The marble Tomb of the Unknown Soldier honors unidentified servicemen of the United States who were killed in action. It was designed to receive the body of an unknown soldier of World War I. His remains were laid in it on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1921. The remains of an unknown hero of World War II and of the Korean War were interred in crypts on Memorial Day, May 30, 1958. On Memorial Day, 1984, remains of an unknown soldier of the Vietnam War were interred.

The Department of the Army and the Department of the Interior operate the national cemeteries, which include such historic areas as Gettysburg, in Pennsylvania; Antietam, in Maryland; Battleground, in Washington, D.C.; Fort Donelson, Shiloh, and Stones River, all in Tennessee; Fredericksburg, Poplar Grove, and Yorktown, all in Virginia; and Vicksburg, in Mississippi.

There are cemetery sections in Andrew Johnson and Custer Battlefield national monuments, in Tennessee and Montana, respectively. There is also a cemetery section in Chalmette National Historical Park in Louisiana.
Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington is one of more than 100 national cemeteries; however, it is the only one of two national cemeteries administered by the Army. The cemetery at the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home in Washington, D.C., also falls under the administration of Arlington National Cemetery.

Nearly 4 million visitors pay their respects to over 250,000 fallen military heroes entombed at Arlington each year. Because of limited space, burials at Arlington National Cemetery are restricted to specific categories of honorably discharged U.S. service men and women.

The 612 acres of Arlington National Cemetery were once part of the 1,100-acre Arlington plantation owned by Mary Ann Randolph Custis, one of George Washington's relatives. She married Lt. Robert E. Lee on June 30, 1831, and lived at Arlington House for 30 years.

Lee resigned his commission in 1861 when the war between the states seemed certain, and left the estate forever, rather than fight against his native Virginia. Federal troops crossed the Potomac not long after that, fortified the estate's ridges, and turned the home into the Army of the Potomac's headquarters.

Arlington House and the estate were confiscated in May 1864 and sold to the federal government when the Lees failed to pay $92.07 in property taxes in person.

Union forces built three fortifications on the land, and 200 acres nearby were set aside as a national cemetery. Sixty-five soldiers were buried there on June 15, 1864, and by the end of the Civil War more than 16,000 headstones dotted Arlington plantation's rolling hills.

Soldiers from the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 were reinterred at Arlington. A Freedman's Village established at the estate in June 1863 provided food, housing, medical care, employment training and education for more than 30 years for former slaves who migrated to the area.

More than 3,800 blacks from Freedman's Village are buried at Arlington, their headstones noting their names and the word "civilian" or "citizen".

Fact Sheets about Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington National Cemetery Map

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Arlington Mansion and 200 acres of ground immediately surrounding it were designated officially as a military cemetery June 15, 1864, by Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton.

More than 260,000 people are buried at Arlington Cemetery.

Veterans from all the nation's wars are buried in the cemetery, from the American Revolution through the Persian Gulf War and Somalia. Pre-Civil War dead were reinterred after 1900.

The federal government dedicated a model community for freed slaves, Freedman's Village, near the current Memorial Amphitheater, Dec. 4, 1863. More than 1,100 freed slaves were given land by the government, where they farmed and lived during and after the Civil War. They were turned out in 1890 when the estate was repurchased by the government and dedicated as a military installation.

In Section 27, are buried more than 3,800 former slaves, called "Contrabands" during the Civil War. Their headstones are designated with the word "Civilian" or "Citizen."

Arlington National Cemetery and Soldiers Home National Cemetery are administered by the Department of the Army. All other National Cemeteries are administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs, or the National Park Service.

Arlington House (Custis-Lee Mansion) and the grounds in its immediate vicinity are administered by the National Park Service.

The flags in Arlington National Cemetery are flown at half-staff from a half hour before the first funeral until a half hour after the last funeral each day. Funerals are normally conducted five days a week, excluding weekends.

Funerals, including interments and inurnments, average 20 a day.

With more than 260,000 people buried, Arlington National Cemetery has the second-largest number of people buried of any national cemetery in the United States. Arlington National Cemetery conducts approximately 5,400 burials each year. The
largest of the 130 national cemeteries is the Calverton National Cemetery, on Long Island, near Farmingdale, N.Y. That cemetery conducts more than 7,000 burials each year.

The Tomb of the Unknowns is one of the more-visited sites at Arlington National Cemetery. The Tomb is made from Yule marble quarried in Colorado. It consists of seven pieces, with a total weight of 79 tons. The Tomb was completed and opened to the public April 9, 1932, at a cost of $48,000.

Three unknown servicemen are buried at the Tomb of the Unknowns:

- Unknown Soldier of World War I, interred Nov. 11, 1921. President Harding presided.
- Unknown Soldier of the Korean Conflict, interred May 30, 1958. President Eisenhower presided, Vice President Nixon acted as next of kin.

The remains of the Vietnam Unknown were disinterred May 14, 1998, and were identified as those of Air Force 1st Lt. Michael J. Blassie, whose family has reinterred him near their home in St. Louis, Mo. It has been determined that the crypt at the Tomb of the Unknowns that contained the remains of the Vietnam Unknown will remain empty.

The Tomb of the Unknowns is guarded by the U.S. Army 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard) began guarding the Tomb April 6, 1948.

On July 24, 1998, U.S. Capitol Police Officers John Michael Gibson, 42, and Jacob Joseph Chestnut, 58, were killed in the line of duty. They are buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Special Agent Gibson is buried in Section 28. Officer Chestnut, a retired Air Force master sergeant, is buried in Section 4.

In addition to in-ground burial, Arlington National Cemetery also has one of the larger columbariums for cremated remains in the country. Four courts are currently in use, each with 5,000 niches.

When construction is complete, there will be nine courts with a total of 50,000 niches; capacity for 100,000 remains. Any honorably discharged veteran is eligible for inurnment in the columbarium.

Frequently asked questions
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BURIAL IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Because of limited space, burials at Arlington National Cemetery are restricted to specific categories of honorably discharged U.S. service men and women. These categories are:

- Service members who die while on active duty, except those serving on active duty for training purposes only
- Any veteran retired from active military service with the armed forces
- Any veteran retired from the reserves, drawing retired pay and served a period of active duty other than for training is eligible upon reaching the age of 60
- Any veteran of the armed forces separated honorably before Oct. 1, 1949, for medical reasons with a 30 percent or greater disability rating effective on the day of discharge
- Holders of the nation's highest military decorations (Medal of Honor; Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross, Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Medal Silver Star or the Purple Heart
- The current and former presidents of the United States
- Any former member of the armed forces who served on active duty for other than training purposes and held the position of: an elective office of the U.S. government; Chief Justice of the United States or Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; an office listed in 5 USC 5312 or 5313 (Levels I and II of the Executive Schedule) at the time the person held the position; or the chief of a mission who, at the time during his or her tenure was classified in Class I under the provisions of Section 411, Act of 13 August 1946, 60 Stat. 1002, as amended (22 USC 866) or as listed in State Department memorandum dated March 21, 1988
- Any former prisoner of war who, while a prisoner of war, served honorably in the active military, naval or air service, whose last period of service terminated honorably, and who died on or after Nov. 30, 1993
- The spouse, widow or widower, minor children, permanently dependent children and certain unmarried adult children of any of the above eligible veterans
- The widow or widower of a member of the armed forces lost or buried at sea or officially determined missing in action; a member of the armed forces buried in a U.S. military cemetery overseas maintained by the American Battle Monuments
Commission; or a member of the armed forces interred in Arlington National Cemetery as part of a group burial

- The parents of a minor child or permanently dependent child whose remains, based on the eligibility of a parent, is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. A spouse divorced from the primary eligible or widowed or remarried is not eligible for interment.
- The surviving spouse, minor children or permanently dependent children of any eligible veteran buried in Arlington National Cemetery
- Provided certain conditions are met, a former member of the armed forces may be buried in the same grave with a close relative who is buried in Arlington National Cemetery and who is the primary eligible.

All veterans eligible for in-ground burial and their dependents may have their cremated remains placed in a designated unmarked area of the cemetery. Subsequent burials of eligible family members will also be in this area of the cemetery. Ashes must be in biodegradable containers or be placed in the gravesite without containers. A permanent register of all burials in this special area is maintained at the cemetery's administration building.

Service members who do not meet these requirements may qualify for inurnment in the cemetery's columbarium complex, which houses cremated remains. Any honorably discharged veteran, spouse and dependent children may be inurned in the same family niche.

Space assignment in Arlington National Cemetery is done only when there is need. No site may be reserved, and only one gravesite will be assigned per family. If a spouse or eligible child dies first, space will be assigned for the spouse or child's interment, provided the service member agrees in writing to be buried in the same site.

There is no charge for a grave (or columbarium niche) in Arlington National Cemetery, for opening or closing a grave, gravesite care, burial flags or for government headstone or marker or concrete grave liners. Except for active-duty service members, all other costs must be borne by the family.

Requests for exceptions to burial-eligibility policies will not be considered until the death of the individual. Letters requesting exceptions should be mailed or faxed to:

Superintendent
Arlington National Cemetery
Arlington, VA 22211-5003
FAX (703) 697-4967

Letters should include: Name of deceased; reason the deceased should be favorably considered; all relevant information regarding military service or special service to the nation; all documentation of military service -- DD Form 214, award certificates, orders, etc. If interment is to be in the grave with an immediate-family member, include that decedent's full name, burial location and relationship; a point of contact with day and evening phone numbers; a completed copy of Arlington National Cemetery's public...
disclosure form -- available by calling (703) 695-3175 or 3191 -- signed by next of kin or representative. Decisions are generally provided by telephone within 48 hours after receipt of request.

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In April 1980, the first 5,000-niche section of Arlington National Cemetery's Columbarium for cremated remains was opened for use. Eventually, 50,000 niches will be provided.

The Columbarium is in the southeast section of the Cemetery, about a half mile from the Memorial Gate.

Eligibility

Because of space limitation, ground burial in Arlington is quite restricted. The criteria for the Columbarium is more liberal and extended to all honorably discharged veterans. Those qualifying for inurnment include:

- Any member of the Armed Forces who dies on active duty
- Any person eligible for in-ground burial at Arlington National Cemetery
- Any former member of the armed forces who served on active duty (other than for training) and whose last service ended honorably
- Any former member of the armed forces retired from active duty
- Any member of a reserve component who dies while on active duty for training or performing full-time service under Title 32, United States Code; while performing authorized travel to or from that duty or service; while on authorized inactive-duty performed as a member of the Army National Guard or Air national Guard (23 USC 502); while hospitalized or being treated at the expense of the U.S. government for an injury or disease incurred or contracted while on that duty or service, performing that travel or inactive-duty training or undergoing that hospitalization or treatment at the expense of the United States
- Any citizen of the United States who, during any war in which the United States has
been engaged, served in the armed forces of any government allied with the United States during that war, whose last service ended honorably by death or otherwise, and was a citizen of the United States at the time of entry into that service and at the time of death

- Any member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps of the Army, Navy or Air Force whose death occurs while attending an authorized training camp; on an authorized practice cruise; performing authorized travel to or from that camp or cruise; or while hospitalized or receiving treatment at the expense of the United States for injury or disease incurred while attending that camp or cruise, performing that travel, or receiving that hospitalization or treatment at the expense of the United States

- Certain commissioned officers of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or the U.S. Public Health Service
- The spouse, minor children and certain adult children of those listed above
- A former member of a group certified as active military service for the purpose of receiving benefits by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs by the provisions of Section 401, Public Law 95-202

**Those Not Eligible**

- Parents, brothers, sisters, or in-laws -- even if they live with, or are dependents of, an eligible person
- A person whose last separation from the armed forces was under less-than-honorable conditions, even though he or she may receive veteran's benefits
- A person who has volunteered for the armed forces but has not entered upon active duty
- A remarried former spouse of a deceased service member (unless the remarriage is terminated by divorce from or death of the second spouse)

Dependents are not eligible unless the primary eligible person has been, or will be inurned in the Columbarium. This does not apply to cases where the primary eligible has been lost or buried at sea or officially determined to be permanently missing, or missing in action.

**Columbarium Plaques**

Each niche, which accommodates no more than two urns, is sealed with a marble plaque inscribed with the names, highest military grades and years of birth and death of those inurned. The plaques are automatically ordered when inurnment is requested and are provided at no cost. Neither flowers nor other commemorative items are allowed in the Columbarium.
This tradition, known as "flags in," has been conducted annually since The Old Guard was designated as the Army's official ceremonial unit in 1948.

Every available soldier in the 3rd U.S. Infantry participates, placing small American flags one foot in front and centered before each grave marker.

During an approximately three-hour period, the soldiers place flags in front of more than 260,000 gravestones and about 7,300 niches at the cemetery's columbarium.

Another 13,500 flags are placed at the Soldier's and Airmen's Cemetery. As part of this yearly memorial activity, Old Guard soldiers remain in the cemetery throughout the weekend, ensuring that a flag remains at each gravestone.

American flags are also placed at the graves of each of the four unknown service men interred at the Tomb of the Unknowns, by the Tomb Sentinels.

All flags are removed after Memorial Day before each cemetery is opened to the public.
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INTERNATIONAL EDITION

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National Cemeteries

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NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS, an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce, with headquarters in Gaithersburg, Md., and additional facilities in Boulder, Colo. The NBS was established in 1901 as the reference laboratory for measurements and standards within the United States. As the nation's central laboratory, its role is to advance scientific knowledge, through improved measurements, for the benefit of industry, government, and the public. It develops national standards of measurement for length, mass, time, volume, temperature, light, color, electric energy, radioactivity, X-ray intensity, viscosity, sound, radio frequency, and other physical quantities. In research, NBS scientists make contributions to such fields as nuclear, thermal, and solid-state physics, spectroscopy, fluid mechanics, and kinetics. They also study the properties of various materials.

The NBS is organized into institutes. They include the Institute for Basic Standards, the Institute for Materials Research, the Institute for Applied Technology, and the Institute for Computer Sciences and Technology.


NATIONAL CEMETERIES are burial grounds established by the U.S. Congress for the interment of any member or former member of the U.S. armed forces whose last service terminated honorably. The veteran's husband or wife may be buried in a national cemetery. Their minor children or adult children who are dependent by reason of physical or mental disability may be interred in the grave of one of the parents. There is no cost for the grave site.

The federal government maintains about 150 national cemeteries throughout the United States and in other countries. The National Cemetery Act of 1973 from the Department of the Army to the Veterans Administration (VA)

The VA now has responsibility for more than 100 of the national cemeteries. Fourteen national cemeteries are the responsibility of the Department of the Interior because they are situated within historical sites maintained by that department.

The Army has responsibility for two—the Soldier's Home National Cemetery, situated in Washington, D.C., and Arlington National Cemetery, located in Virginia. See also Arlington National Cemetery.

The remaining 23 national cemeteries, all in other countries, are maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission. One cemetery, in Mexico City, contains the remains of 750 Americans who fell during the Mexican War. Eight cemeteries in Europe contain the dead of World War I, and 14 cemeteries, all in Europe except for one each in Tunisia and the Philippines, contain the remains of World War II veterans. More than half of those originally buried in foreign cemeteries were subsequently returned home at the request of their next of kin. Use of each cemetery site has been granted by the host government, and the United States pays for maintenance and taxes.

Legislative authority to establish national cemeteries dates to 1862, during the Civil War, when Congress gave President Abraham Lincoln permission to purchase cemetery grounds.

The locations of U.S. national cemeteries, listed according to the responsible agency, follow.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Mobile, Ala.
Sitka, Alaska
Prescott, Ariz.
Vicksburg, Miss.
Del Rio, Tex.
Fort Smith, Ark.
Little Rock, Ark.
San Antonio, Tex.
Los Angeles, Calif.
Riverside, Calif.
San Bruno, Calif.
San Diego, Calif.
San Francisco, Calif.
Denver, Colo.
Fort Lyon, Colo.
Bay Pines, Fla.
Pensacola, Fla.
St. Augustine, Fla.
Marietta, Ga.
Honolulu, Hawaii
Alton, Ill.
Danville, Ill.
Mound City, Ill.
Quincy, Ill.
Rock Island, Ill.
Springfield, Ill.
Indianapolis, Ind.
Marion, Ind.
New Albany, Ind.
Keokuk, Iowa
Fort Leavenworth, Kan.
Fort Scott, Kan.
Dievesonton, Kan.
Danville, Ky.
Lexington, Ky.
Louisville, Ky.
Nancy, Ky.
Nicholasville, Ky.
Perryville, Ky.
Baton Rouge, La.
Pineville, La.
Zachary, La.
Togus, Me.
Annapolis, Md.
Kennedy, Md.
Bourne, Mass.
Minneapolis, Minn.
Biloxi, Miss.
Columbus, Miss.
Natchez, Miss.
Jefferson City, Mo.
St. Louis, Mo.
Springfield, Mo.
Manchester, N. H.
Beverly, N. J.
Salem, N. J.
Ft. Meade, Md.
Sante Fe, N. Mex.
Balti, Md.
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Elmira, N. Y.
Fort Meade, Md.
New Bern, N. C.
Raleigh, N. C.
Salisbury, N. C.
Wilmington, N. C.
Dayton, Ohio
Fort Gibson, Okla.
Portland, Ore.
Roseburg, Ore.
White City, Ore.
Annapolis, Pa.
Bayamnon, Puerto Rico
Beaufort, S. C.
Florence, S. C.
Fort Meade, S. Dak.
Hot Springs, S. Dak.
Kell, S. Dak.
Chattanooga, Tenn.
Knoxville, Tenn.
Madison, Wis.
Memphis, Tenn.
Mountain Home, Tenn.
Fort Bliss, Texas
Houston, Texas
Kerrville, Tex.
San Antonio, Texas
Albuquerque, N. Mex.
Culpeper, Va.
Danville, Va.
Harrison, Va.
(2)
Hopewell, Va.
Lexington, Va.
Mechanicsville, Va.
Quantico, Va.
Richmond, Va.
(3)
Sandston, Va.
Stanton, Va.
Winchester, Va.
Grafton, W. Va.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Washington, D. C.
Arlington, Va.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Washington, D. C.
Andersonville, Ga.
St. Louis, Mo.
Sharpsburg, Md.
Hughson, Miss.
Crow Agency, Mont.
Gettysburg, Pa.

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

Mexican War
Mexico City, Mexico
World War I
Waregem, Belgium
Ypres, Belgium
Bordeaux, France
Belgium, France
Bordeaux, France
Fere-en-Tardenois, France
Romagne, France
St. Saime, France
Thiacourt, France
World War II
Henri-Chapelle, Belgium

NATIONAL CITY is a city of southwestern California, in San Diego county, on San Diego Bay just south of San Diego. Its industries include meat processing, the production of lumber, furniture, submarine cables, and missile parts, and the state's largest orchid nursery. The mothballed Pacific Reserve Fleet is anchored near the city.

National City was settled in 1868 and incorporated in 1882. It has a council and city manager form of government. Population: 54,249.
PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
MONDAY, MAY 29, 2000

We are blessed, today, to be able to gather again in this magnificent amphitheater, in our national cemetery, to remember those who lost everyone they loved, to protect the country they loved.

As you entered the grounds this morning, you saw that every gravestone is decorated with an American flag. Indeed, this day of remembrance was first known as Decoration Day -- launched in 1868 by order of the Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic who designated this day "for decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country."

Some still remember that meaning. On the Thursday before Memorial Day, this year and every year for more than forty years, the entire regiment of 1,200 soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry has honored America's fallen heroes by placing American flags before every one of more than 260,000 gravestones here at Arlington. And a contingent remains on patrol 24 hours, all weekend long, to make sure each flag remains standing.

On this Memorial Day, not a single hero here has been forgotten; each and every one has been remembered, by the proud and devoted members of the 3rd U.S. Infantry. I want to thank them for their patriotism, their devotion to duty, and their commitment to honoring the original meaning of Memorial Day.
It is written in the lives of those laid to rest here.

Here in this hallowed ground consecrated with the bodies of our fallen heroes, contain the whole panorama of our State's history, written on the lines on the gravestones, and in the lives of those laid to rest here.
Here in Arlington, the whole panorama of our heroic history in etched between the lines of every gravestone. Presidents Kennedy and Taft are buried here. Generals Pershing and Bradley are buried here. John Foster Dulles and Oliver Wendell Holmes. Medgar Evers and Joe Louis. George Marshall and Audie Murphy. Three of the Marines remembered forever for raising our flag on Iwo Jima; they are buried here. And not only the famous, but the unknown heroes of more than two centuries of fighting tyranny are buried here. In the heart and history of America – this is sacred soil.

As we gather here and remember, our hearts go out to those who can never forget. People whose wounds are still fresh twenty, forty, fifty years later: Young women, crushed with sorrow, who cancelled their weddings. Expectant mothers, stunned with grief, who raised their child alone. Young children who had said good night, every night, to a picture – suddenly left with only a picture.

For those of us who have not lived it – it is hard to imagine it.

Seeing – with shock and dread – a uniformed officer and a chaplain step out of an Army staff car and approach the front door.

Hearing the only high-ranking military officer ever to set foot in your house expressing the deep sorrow and gratitude of the United States.
Thinking "You can't be right." "You must be mistaken." "My husband, my brother, my son is still alive."

Wondering "How did he die?" "Who was with him?" "Can I talk to someone who was with him?"

Asking: "What am I going to do?" "How am I going to raise our children?" "How am I going to tell our children?"

And finally: "When can I see him? When is he coming home?"

At a moment like that, there is so little one can do – but that little is vital. Our chaplains, blessed by God with the ability to absorb the unbearable grief of others, answer questions, hold hands, and keep coming back to help.

To all families who have borne this loss, and to any who may bear it in the future, I want to renew our national pledge: the United States will not forsake its fallen heroes. We will never abandon the cause of freedom our heroes gave their lives for. And we will never abandon our heroes themselves. Wherever it takes us, as long as it takes us, we will keep our sacred commitment to seek the fullest possible accounting.
I met this morning at the White House with sons and daughters and spouses of servicemen still missing in action. There is no better way to understand how important this is to the hearts and minds of Americans, than to hear the family members say it for themselves.

I have the honor of telling you today our team members have just last week identified finally and officially, the remains of a soldier of the 1st cavalry regiment of the Americal division, whose Huey helicopter was “flying in the weeds” (as they say) at 25 feet, over Laos in 1970 when it lost power and crashed. He died immediately, and was pinned in the wreckage. When others rushed the scene tried to try to bring out his body, they were forced out by enemy fire. A later effort met the same fate. But he was never forgotten. Years later, with the help of several governments, extensive interviews, excavations, and DNA testing, a positive identification was made. Army Specialist 4 John E. Crowley of Williamson, New York, forever 20 years old, was laid to rest here in Arlington Cemetery this Friday with his mother and brother at his side.

I also wish to announce the United States is resuming talks with North Korea the first week of June in Kuala Lumpur in the hopes of resuming recovery operations in North Korea this year.

As we prepare to observe the 50th anniversary of the invasion of South Korea by the North -- we reaffirm our commitment to the more than 1.7 million who served there, the more than 36,000 who lost their lives there, and the more than 8,100 still missing there -- that we will honor their service by remembering the colleagues left behind, and doing everything we can to bring them home.
So many of you here today know personally the ever present pain of losing a friend or family member. Today, many fewer families know the pain of that sacrifice. That is a blessing. But it can turn to a curse if we forget the sacrifices that have made the world safer for Americans.

One friend of veterans has told how she asked a group of school children in Washington four years ago what Memorial day means, and they said: that’s the day the pool opens.

That’s not their fault. They don’t know. We have to teach them.

That is why, today, I ask all Americans – in a symbolic act of national unity – to pause wherever they are at 3 pm local time to observe a national moment of remembrance for America’s fallen heroes.

At that time, the melancholy tones of Taps – our national requiem – will be played all across America – in the Capitol Rotunda and the Viet Nam memorial; at Ellis Island and the Liberty Bell; in VA Hospitals and National Parks; on Voice of America and Armed Forces Network; in Wal Mart, K-Mart and the Mall of the Americas.

And in Yankee Stadium, the chief umpire will step out from behind Home Plate, remove his mask, halt the game – and a capacity crowd will rise with hands on hearts, hear Taps – and remember. And when little boys and girls tug on their parents’ sleeve and whisper: “Mommy, Daddy, what’s happening?” A new generation of Americans will hear for the first time about our fallen heroes.
As we remember our heroes, it is fair to hear:

If these heroes were given a voice today, they might well say to us: "America, we gave up our youth and our future for you. We made our wives widows and children orphans for you.

Please tell us, you have made our sacrifice matter."

At the dawn of this new century, we can say with solemn pride to our fallen heroes: Yes, we have made your sacrifice matter.

You fought to keep us strong. We are today the most powerful, most prosperous nation on earth – with a military feared and revered around the world. We have made your sacrifice matter.

You fought so we could have peace. As we enter the 21st century, our children are not dying in war, as much as they did before. (More than 500,000 died in wars in the first half of the 20th century; fewer than 500 died in the last quarter of the 20th century) We are making your sacrifice matter.

You fought for freedom in foreign lands – knowing it would protect our freedom at home.

Today, freedom is advancing around the world. For the first time in human history, more people live under democracies than dictatorships. We have made your sacrifice matter.

You fought for peace and freedom in a bitterly divided Europe – where American heroes are buried today in twenty cemeteries, from Flanders to Ardennes to Normandy.
Today's Europe is less divided, more democratic and more peaceful than at any time in its history. NATO has three new allies from across Europe's old divide. Central Europe is free, and flourishing. And soldiers from almost every European country – the most bitter former adversaries among them – are serving under a single command keeping the peace in the Balkans. We are making your sacrifice matter.

I depart for Europe today. I will visit Portugal, to attend the 14th U.S.-EU summit of my Presidency. I will visit Germany, and make the first visit of an American President to the free, democratic, undivided capital of Berlin. United by a common bond of democracy – we are sharing with our European allies the responsibilities of building peace, freedom, stability, within Europe and beyond. And we are working together to find a formula for prosperity, and help remove an ancient cause of war.

I will visit Russia – former worldwide sponsor of the communism so many of you gave your lives to battle. Russia has just seen its first transition from one democratically-elected leader to another in a thousand years of history. And I will deliver the first speech ever by an American President to a democratically-elected Russian parliament. We will continue to work with Russia to encourage deeper democratic and economic reform, to reduce the nuclear danger, to advance our arms control agenda.

I will visit Ukraine – a country whose people helped defeat the Nazis, but which has been dominated by the Soviet system for seventy years, and is eager to throw off the yoke of
communism, embrace freedom and economic reform, and join the peaceful democratic mainstream of the transatlantic community.

The world of today is not recognizable from 50 years ago. Adversaries have become allies. Dictatorships have become democracies. We have prevented a major war in Europe, and the Communism we fought to contain in the Cold War, in Viet Nam, and Korea has collapsed or retreated around the world. Heartened by our progress, we will intensify our efforts to integrate Southeast Europe and the former states of the Soviet Union into the U.S.-European mainstream. These are the two remaining challenges in fulfilling the vision of a peaceful, undivided, democratic Europe – and moving closer to a goal of our heroes, whose hope was not only to win wars, but to help end war.

On this first Memorial day of the 21st century, I thank you – our fallen heroes – for your defense of freedom, justice, and human dignity. You never fought for empire, for territory, for dominance. While your enemies fought to defend tyranny, you gave your lives to defend freedom. I wish you all could know – as we stand at the dawn of a new century you never saw – that far from fading into the past, your sacrifice is shaping our future. I wish you all could know – thirty, forty, fifty years after you’re gone ... your truth is marching on.

May God bless you all. May God bless America.

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history of Mem. day -- decoration day -- flags at the 260,000 graves.

Check this: (website: www.mdw.army.mil/FS-A09.HTM)

Following opening acknowledgments:

This day was originally known as decoration day, and the first national observance was launched in 1868 by order of the Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic who designated this day "for decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country."

Some still remember and honor that original meaning. Each year for more than 40 years; the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), the Army's official ceremonial unit, has honored America's fallen heroes by placing American flags before every gravestone here at Arlington just before Memorial Day weekend.

They know the tradition as "flags in." Every soldier in the 3rd infantry participates. And many remain here all weekend -- to make sure a flag remains at each gravestone. Look around you; there is a flag planted before every one of more than 260,000 gravestones. America's heroes buried here have been remembered this Memorial Day -- each and every one -- by a proud and devoted member of the Old Guard. Members of the Old Guard present, will you stand: Thank you for your patriotism, your devotion, and your commitment to remember your fellow American heroes.

Understanding the sacrifice -- what it is like to get the news.

we have to make their sacrifice matter.

I report to you:

how many have died in wars is dwindling -- the causes for which you died is rising

trip report -- item by item:

Your truth is marching on.

I know those of you who have lost loved ones, talk to them sometimes, and believe that somehow, somewhere, they can hear. I want to say a few words to those in this burial ground and others, in this country and
others, who gave their lives for us, who in the words of Gen. Logan, used their breasts as a barricade between our country and its foe).

I stand before you -- as commander in chief of the United States Armed Forces at the turn of the century, reporting to you -- America's fallen heroes -- on what we as a nation have done with your sacrifice.

war deaths way down. Our children don't die in war, as much as they did before.

democracy way up.

So many of you who gave your lives in Europe; so many of you who gave your lives in the battle against Communism.

I am departing today for Europe -- where more than a dozen cemeteries from Flanders Field to ________, are tragic monuments to your sacrifice, hold the remains of so many of you.

I will visit Portugal where so many of the European nations divided for centuries are partners, allies.

Germany -- I will visit Germany, whose tyranny, so many of you (get figure) gave your lives to defy. Any you mocked the words of its leader who thought the sons and daughters of democracy did not have the steel and mettle to match the fire and will of a captive people.

I will visit Russia and Ukraine former republics of the Soviet Union -- a central pillar and proponent of the communism you gave your lives to fight in Korea and Vietnam.

(You would have wished in your moments that the Soviet Union would a, b, c).

The United States does not fight for empire, for territory. The sons and daughters of nations you fought cannot make the claim they died for freedom. Tragically, many died to defend tyranny. You gave your life to defend the truth of freedom. It must make you proud to know -- so many years after you're gone; your truth is marching on.

May God bless you and hold you in his arms; as we hold on to you in memory.

And may God never stop blessing America with heroes like you.
150 national cemeteries

cemeteries abroad;

8 cemeteries in europe contain American dead from ww 1

14 foreign cemeteries contain dead from ww2 12 in europe one in tunisia (carthage) and one in the Philippines.

famous cemeteries abroad of WW I Flanders Field -- most recognizable name. Meuse-Argonne,

famous from WW 2 -- Normandy, brittany, ardennes.

Notes from Betsy and Hans:

components:

* trip preview

* include some preview of the upcoming 50th anniv of Korea.

* returning remains

* flags in – old guard Tom -
I did a little telephone sleuthing and came up with the following information regarding the Old Guard's effort to put flags at every grave (called "flags-in"). A good contact for what it takes to actually get all of the flags in (coordination, timing etc.) is Sergeant First Class Pearson at (703)696-3011. For more of the history of their efforts (how long its
been done, when and how it originated) he suggested we contact the Arlington Cemetery historian, Mr. Tom Sherlock at (703)695-1622.

Hope this helps you.

Betsy

"old glory" can we read some lines?

* Preview: Asian Americans – denied medal of honor because of racism: inoue is among them. also check notes on nakashima that I got from metzler.

* whole purpose of European unity is what these guys fought and died for.

(cite european contribution to the balkans)

* russia – new, young dynamic leadership – a sentence or two on arms control – a new opportunity for cooperation with Russia.

* should there be a balancing graf on Africa – as with Europe, we are eager to see more and more countries volunteer to take part in peacekeeping missions, etc. message: we can’t give up on these regional efforts; us can’t do it all everywhere -- help other regions of the world prepare themselves for this.

* Look at POTUS speech on Armed forces day – he improvised on the decision about where to send troops.

* THEME: we have many fewer casualties today, but we still have sacrifices. high operations tempo. we believe by taking these actions, we prevent a wider conflict. note in the 1930s we had neutrality laws.

smaller investment now to prevent a larger investment later.

* Moment of remembrance.

NOTES on ARlington book of history
1996 – kids were asked – what is memorial day and they said the day the pool opens. kids touring washington. talked about freedom.

Taps and going to events. Taps really says it. It lingers in the heart, maybe we could do this where people gather.

Audio and video tape of taps.

checked on response. sent it out to Malls. People said thanks. we’re remembering.

what was really great. baseball. Yankee stadium and orioles 1997. they stopped in midpithc.

Ladies and Gentleman, everyone sat at attention. they did a video. voiceover with Taps – the whole stadium stood up. ti was thrilling and fantastic. daddy what was that? about. baseball has been great. this year, there will be three. Yankee stadium. Cleveland and Colorado home games. 3 pm.

stop the game. Home plate umpire will stop the game. Video on Jumbo Tron. They do the intro to Taps.

We’re proud to remember on this day. What is actually on the tape.

Then we have Amtrak; they couldn’t play tap. on all their trains. Amtrak will blow All 200 trains on a scheduled runs. they will announce, then they will blow the whistle. One minute moment of remembrance.

Kmart and Walmart – radio system. We send them the audio tape. and Video. They play the audio. that will have taps

Malls, including the mall of America.

1997 – was the first year of the effort.
When I talked to Podesta. it should not be an organization. it should be from the commander in chief as a white house initiative. I would like to have it change in time.

President mentioned in 1998 Potus mentioned for the first time.

We have greyhound. they asked for 100 tapes for all their terminals. they're asking people to pause.

Several airports. First year. the older people stood at attention. younger people didn't get it at first.

Minnesota airport has a live bugler. skyharbor. Port Authority in New York.

Airports. Airlines. want to call barnum and bailey – they love the idea – they have two; one in new york and one in cleveland. as close to 3 as possible.

race tracks involved. Indy does it a day before. nascar is not at that time. PGA NBA they're on at 3 pm local time.

At 6 pm on CSPAN House will vote. To call on the President to encourage all Americans to participate in this national moment of remembrance.

We got times square. CNBC will play a videotape – all national parks. VA hospitals. federal prisons.

I'm going to get a list of all participants.

want that list and the blurb for the video.

background – with other countries. 275 million. Israel does it for the sirens. Netherlands 8 pm. UK for vets day. they've been having a moment of silence. they're all trying to do 2 minutes.
275 million Americans. even some pools. press would support it. radio stations. tune into this station. observe the moment as we play taps. cars asked to turn on their headlights.

transit metro – they will make the announcement.

response on aprt of the public. If they hear taps wherever they are, place their hands over their hearts and remember.

each commander in chief hereafter will do this.

podesta letter on Dear Abby.

asking boaters to participate. wherever anybody is to observe.

the whole idea is for americans to reflect on their heritage. to rededicate themselves to national service. to live together as human beings to connect.

This is the start of igniting that fire. that they should give back to this country.

values – respect and gratitude; to get kids on the right track. they don’t know what they have. 3 pm when we’re out enjoying our freedom.

call on people to play it and respond to it.

white house web site:

fact sheet.

what’s going to appear in Dear Abby.

www.whitehouse.gov/remembrance

Deaths in major wars of this century:

ww1 served: 4,743,826

- 53402 in battle, 63,114 other – total 116,516

wounds not mortal 204,002

ww2 – served: 16,353,659
291,557 in battle, 113,842 other - total 405,399
wounds not mortal 670,846
korea - served: 5,764,143

33,652 3262 36,914 wounds not mortal 103,284
vietnam served: 8,752,000

persian gulf served: 467,939
148 battle deaths; 151 other deaths; 467 wounds not mortal;

NOTES from reading:

Timothy 2/4/7 - I have fought a good fight, I have finished my
course, I have kept the faith.

more than a quarter million - from every war since the
revolution.

use: shaking with (silent) sobs -- or stunned into silence.
dazed in grief and disbelief.

make it vivid: 94: today, somewhere in America a curious
child, rummaging through an attic, will stumble upon ....
deployment around the world today - get it from vets day.
mention: veterans of all the wars of the 20th century.
(no veterans from this century).

One strong graf or two on the path ahead.

(sometimes we focus too much on the moment and miss the broad
sweep of history - let's look at what has happened over the last
century.
Check Freedom House for the number of free societies now and at the beginning of the century.

We will not close the book - ever - on our sons lost in war.

Gen Logan’s order came in 1868 - so the first memorial day celebration at Arlington came in that year, making this the 123rd annual ceremony.

164 victims of the explosion of the battleship Maine that started the Spanish-American War were interred in Arlington in 1899.

Old Guard:

In 1926, the Third U.S. Infantry, known as the Old Guard, commence supplying an Honor Guard for the Tomb. What began as only a daylight watch, became in 1937, a 24 hour vigil which has continued without interruption.

Four million visitors to Arlington National Cemetery every year.

In the author's words: "people who have earned their place at Arlington."

Three of the six men pictured raising the flag on Iwo Jima are buried in Arlington (and profiled in the book).


Paderewski - Roosevelt said his body would stay here at Arlington until Poland was free - it stayed there throughout the war. was president of the polish gov't in exile after the Nazi invasion.

ASK IF PADEREWSKI IS STILL AT ARLINGTON OR IF HE WENT HOME.

442 reg. combat team.

Asian americans whose families were from west coast, put in internment camps. army made this regiment to fight in the war, they were unsure if they fight in japanese ancestry, sent to europe, most decorated in WW 2. 21 ASian Americans will be receiving medal of honor from ww 2. a number from the 442.

two brothers buried side by side. 442nd white house military office. names 442 regimental combat team. names: adjoining graves pvt. raito nakashima company B 442. brotehr sgt wataru nakashima company m 442.

units been researched. most decorated unit in ww 2 in the army. will get medal of honor.

they were fighting two types of tyranny. axis powers. prejudice in their own country.

survival assistance officer. and chaplain. usutally a letter from the chief of staff. notification were made in person.

call chaplains of the military services. chief of chaplain’s office, casualty assistance. how it was done on large scale.

chief of chaplain’s office. how the notification is made.

rick -

army chief of chaplain - 703 695 1133 office of chief of chaplain. Major General gunhus. Depy chief of chaplain brg gen Hicks. exec. officer col -- ask to talk to chief.
normal goes thru notification teams through casuatility branch. they go personally with chaplain and team. notification through the army - by commander. as opposed to a chaplain. someone who notifies is the bad guy. chaplain is good guy. in notifying, how the person died, what they were thinking and doing. were they doing something purposeful, was their death not in vain. then they say it couldn't possibly be true. you've made a mistake. can I talk with him.

can I talk with those who talked to him.

stunned silence. it has to be a mistake. it's impossible. you're mistaken. people on the scene is mistaken, it wasn't really him.

sometimes a telegram was sent. sometimes you may beat the telegram. sometimes not. during gulf war, they did preset up teams. take notifications directly personally.

actually going to the house.

during vietnam might have received have received a telegram first. Private Ryan - first scene accurately. mothers with four children. she saw staff car driving up to the house people got out priest officer, officer handed telegram. that three of her sons had died.

a telegram and a visit. why are these people in uniforms. training is express sorrow and gratitude of the USG. inform gently, chaplain offer his services. becomes a discussion group.

persons had been killed in training accident, went with battalion commander. wife and mother of soldier were living together. when the two of us were there. the look of shock and puzzlement and dread. I'll never forget. they knew it was bad, we told them of the death. they dissolved in tears. swore there was no way it could be theirs. get these people over the bump. so I made several visit after the fact. casuality assistance officers. helped them with details. thorough system to help with these arrangements.

our heroic chaplains - to whom they in rightly a memorial on these grounds
two small children involved. wife was more devastated than the mother. she saw the life planeed was gone and life she hope for for her children was gone. had to be strong for her children.
couple was catholic. were the children in the house at the time. they were not in the room. we made sure that was the case. about 5 pm. one kid was in bed. wanted to make sure they were home.

was there maybe batallion commander. he was the one to really information. deanil and disbelief went pretty quickly. then began to ask questions: what do I do now? Then describe the details we have it under control and will help them. anyone is hit with details. burial expenses, where do we do it - all details of survivors. where do I live now. how will I get the money to raise.

first was all personal fright and fear and expression of impotence. there is nothing we can do. we can't do anything.

details of how did he die who was there. how did it happen? we research the details carefully before we go over.

they want to talk to someone who was there. if they had a good friend.

what was he doing, what was he saying, was it an accident. was he engaged in purposeful duty. questions about his welfare at the time. was a priest there to annoint him.

What do we do now?

What am I going to tell my children? how am I going to raise my children. how will they live without their father.

if they want to bring their children in then, we will tell them. or we will leave it to them. or their own priest of clergy men.

gradually let their children in. depends how much the children can absorb.

I would neve rtell the children. we tell them together mother be the spokesman. daddy has died.

31 years 10 times I personally. went.
each is unique. what stikes me most is when I talked wth the children. 12 year old girl was inconsolable. dissolved in tears. could hold her, wait it out. we asked her to come in. her mother, you have to know your dad is not going to be with us. anymore.

incrduclus

what not coming home.
dead
dissolved in tears
went on for 25 minutes.
cases of training accidents - it just seems senseless.

they sususally want to know very quickly when Joe is coming home
and want to know how. they want to be part of allying him to
rest.

we talk of closeure but - when they finally see a person int eh
flesh, it makes a huge differenct. he is here they know where
they are.

my g-mother lost my uncles in the battle of the bulge - buried
in flanders .always had some vagueness, didn’t know where he
really was. had never layed him to rest. put his name on a
monument ina

they never really brought him home. he had one of those
crosses in flanders field with his name. they don’t really know
it was him.

tremendous emotional content - that is him, until we have him
somewhere wher we know it is at peace. we must go after the
remains. we spent awufl notificaitons to make sure we trace the
people who have died and treat them with respect. it helps our
own troops. if something happens. we won’t abandon them even if
they’re dead.

always fearing the telegram. either they had the fear or the
experience. they see the clouds gathering, and hoep it passes
over.
potus should say: stay away from intellecuta convince the people: I am trying to reach into your heart and make you understand I know where you’re at. you never get them. you always reach them through their hearts. convince them you feel on their level. and your’e there.

when I go to houses. you simply hug them. physically ocntact. holding a person is what they need most. as you judge the situation, you express, you want them to know you undersna the enormity and that you don’t understand it.

I’ve said - I’ve told the story of the death of someone I have felt painfully - the death of someone I felt. I thought I would never get over it. I thought I was so devastated, my heart had been ripped from me so much.

I am over it now. Time does heal.

In one case wehre tank turned inot a guy - he got into that position, he saw what was going to happen. he went to push two guys out of the way. his head was caught.

he was saivnght elives of two of his friends. risked his life. it’s not an accident - courageous dedicaion got him killed. reason: because they raised him that way. They were the ones who helped him to understand it was important to do that for his neighbors and his friends.

point: paint a pictureof his courage and bravery, by the kind of person he was had chosen the military and had igiven his life for his friends. he died for a good reason.

not always easy to die for a good reason.

every one dies, not every one dies for good reason.

people

the young generation may not understand. It’s not their fault. it is a good thing. fewer people are dying. But when few people have the experience of someone in their family or friends die. they don’t know, they have no personal connection.
But the reason fewer are dying now - is the proud legacy of those who died in the past.  
the reason people are not dying now - is because people did such a good job before.  
young folks can't see that.

maybe go into a riff of how people remember their fallen ones.  
ask the chaplain what are soothing ways to remember people.

casualty assistance officers. they can tell everything.
chaplain could tell you - what it would be like. ask them what would be comforting.

ask chaplain what it's like. What they think the veterans and survivors would like to hear.

get them to reenact what it would be like in WW or earlier times. - as the wife sits there - dazed in grief and disbelief.

historian tom sherlock - 703 695 1622.

robert frost.

Supt Metzler - 703 695 3175
successful address: no more than 10 minutes. hits a lot of high points as far as the veterans go. WW2 Korean Viet Nam Desert Storm.

people carrying the flags in are generally WW2 vets. makes it difficult. That is the beginning and end of the program.

expression = when these men were young they were the youth and vitality. they have the legacy of the past. 270,000 buried here in the cemetery have given their service to their country.

pro: presi. maj gen. chaplain. supt.

sec cohen - maybe. general ivaney will introduce the President.

attending 6,000. Veterans and families.

clinton for vets day last year. made announcement - today remains are being returned from n. korea. that was a big reaction. more remains had been returned or worked on. that’s very sensitive here at Arlington

92,000 not come back from the wars of this century. very sensitive.

those who sacarified their lives or are willing to...

Vicent krebs korean veteran - lost his brother in Korea.

very humble man - outstanding individual he and brother both in korean war.

vince krebs entered war with --- brother became POW never made it back, friend of brothers carried a picture in his wallet. frantic serach krebs. carried.

korean war venteredh

korea50.army.mil

we’ve located first and only american at 38th parallel - a guy from connecticut. lost his hearing in Korea. only June 25

have newspaper articles on him that local newspapers.
Jack said: if we invited Vincent Krebs to sit in one of the boxed areas - to get him to be acknowledged. have him stand up for a moment.

Col Fisher could make that happen. we can get him here with his wife. get him to the WH breakfast.

talk to VA.

Jack Metzler put me in touch with these guys who are korean war specialists working on the 50th.

Lt col jim fisher 703 604 0827
Lt com jeff bender 703 602 6076 -- writer

statistics.

2000 WW I veterans living today.

Korea war veterans are gearing up - next four years korean war commemoration. they feel that they're forgotten.

Tom-
I talked to Brian Peterman on the National Moment of Remembrance. He suggested you call Carmella LaSpada from No Greater Love (a non-profit that seeks to be sure we continue to remember those who've given the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy). Her # is (202)783-4665. She can give you more background on the idea and their goals.

At the time of WW 2 and the Korean war - note how many american deaths. what percentage of the people of America knew someone who fought and died, or at least who came under fire. the percentage had to be huge (as Korea started 6 years after WW 2 ended. The percentage now is down. a very low percentage know

Get some facts about Americans who died in Wars - show the drop in the last fifty years.

You did the job so well that we have not had to sacrifice to that extent since. It is great, but there is a risk that freedom will not be understood and appreciated but those who did not fight for it (careful). The percentage is plunging so there
is a risk they may not know the price. \(\text{segue to National Day of Remembrance.}\)

tie in - precursor we're getint ready for the kick off to the
Korean war.

opening. ceremony - June 25

pres. will speak June 25 at the Korean Memorial.

important reference to Korean War.

info -

National moment of remembrance.

brian peterman has been working on it. picked up interest at
NSC. Cos is interested 3 pm on afternoon of 29th. asking
everyone to stop wherever they are.

also - not just those who sacrificed their lives, but those who
were willing to.

when you look at

look at the region -- It is our task to make their sacrifice
matter.

weave the word "truth" in earlier and throughout so that it
gives more force to the close.

The truths he died for.

Talk about - when the Cold War grew hot - in Vietnam and Korea.

Last centuries wars

Talk about personal sacrifice. Get personal stories of those
who died in battle, who are buried in Arlington and where we can
get some details of the survivors.

Then explore for a moment the notion of sacrifice. the
calculus - there is something more important than me - there is

\(\text{Stories}\).
Given a chance, it is good. (maybe seek quotes from a military hero on the idea of giving one’s life for something).

That is true, it is our sacred duty to make it true.

They died for truth - Dickison poem

Consult also Whitman death and war poems.

What has America and the world done with their sacrifice. One wants it to matter.

But there is a compact, not only that they will die defending us, but that we will carry on in a way we could not have. That something new will grow.

Poem - whitman - there is no such thing as death and if there is it leads life forward.

not the famous people in Arlington:

Find some unknowns

unknown soldier - unknown stories:

tell some of the stories of those who died in Europe - on the day of his departure for Europe: EU, Germany, Russia, Ukraine:

note who may have given their lives to defeat Germany: those who have fought in Korea and Vietnam.

I’m going to Germany and Russia

Germany was an old adversary we brought into the democratic fold in the 20th century. It took ten years after the fall of Berlin before they joined NATO. Russia is a former adversary we can integrate in the 20th century.

You have given your lives to subdue Germany in WW 2. To contain the Soviet Union in WW2.
Today - I say to the souls of all those who lie here having served not just their nation, but the principles their nation stands for: justice, liberty, equality, humanity.

I say to you today, as I set out for your Europe. That the chaotic and divided continent that drew you from your homes so many decades ago: I am going to visit it this week. It is more united than it has ever been. Your sacrifice change the world. That the Germany you fought against. I am leaving today to pay a visit. It has become our friend: Your sacrifice helped change the world. Moscow, the center of the Soviet Union you took up arms against: I am leaving today to pay a visit. It has thrown off communist and elects its leaders. Your sacrifice helped changed the world.

As America’s President to its fallen heroes. On this first Memorial day of the 21st century, I thank you for your sacrifice that we still feel today: I thank for your defense of freedom, and justice, and liberty, and humanity. You may be proud to know - that as we stand at the dawn of a new century you never saw (your sacrifice changed the world). far from fading into the past, your sacrifice is shaping our future. Far from losing its impact in the mists of memory, your truth is marching on.

You have served. Your truth is marching on.

Tell those resting here: your truth is marching on.

Cite each individual: their circumstances, how they died, who was left behind, what the KIA lost in years, opportunities, children and family members, and then say: we grieve over your loss, but your sacrifice changed the world. You may be proud to know - ten twelve twenty, fifty years after you are gone - your truth is marching on. (weave the word truth in earlier).

every one seeks meaning after a death. Survivors of People who die of gunshot wounds fight to control handguns. People who die of diseases hope to fight infections. People who die of accidents seek greater safety. Survivors of people who die fighting tyranny are obliged to intensify their efforts to eliminate tyranny. So that others don’t have to die this way.
Death of a loved one often transforms us by its shock.

The deaths of all these promising young people who lost their lives fighting tyranny, should redouble our efforts to end tyranny.

Their sacrifice is not something we pocket and thank them for; it is an obligation. It confers an obligation. Their job is to sacrifice; our job is to make their sacrifice matter. They didn’t die just for the glory of giving their lives for something. They died so that we might build a free, better society. (have life and have it abundantly).

We seek peace – but where good and evil collide, peace and justice cannot prevail together.

They didn’t just give their lives. Made wives widows and children’s orphans – forced parents to bury their children.

(some breathtaking piece of poetry about death)

POLICY/THEMES ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM TOM’S STUFF

III. The Solution: Constructive Integration

1. If the overarching threat in a globalized world is disintegration, part of the answer is to promote integration around common interests and values. It is to build, adapt, and expand institutions that allow nations to gain more by cooperating than by competing in zero sum games. Hence our focus on building an undivided Europe, adapting NATO, elevating the OSCE, urging EU expansion, encouraging regional security arrangements in Asia and Africa, creating the WTO, the Summit of the Americas process, the Middle East economic summits, and so on. We have also encouraged institutions to expand their membership to countries undergoing important transitions, using their entry requirements to leverage the outcomes we seek – for example, using NATO enlargement to encourage reform in central and eastern Europe, and using the WTO to promote change in China.

Address to the UNGA, 1997:

"To seize the opportunities and move against the threats of this new global era, we need a new strategy of security. Over the past five years, nations have begun to put that strategy in
place through a new network of institutions and arrangements with distinct missions, but a common purpose -- to secure and strengthen the gains of democracy and free markets while turning back their enemies.

We see this strategy taking place on every continent -- expanded military alliances like NATO, its Partnership for Peace, its partnerships with a democratic Russia and a democratic Ukraine; free trade arrangements like the WTO and the Global Information Technology Agreement; and the move toward free trade areas by nations in the Americas, the Asia Pacific region, and elsewhere; strong arms control regimes like the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Nonproliferation Treaty; multinational coalitions with zero tolerance for terrorism, corruption, crime, and drug trafficking; binding international commitments to protect the environment and safeguard human rights.

Through this web of institutions and arrangements, nations are now setting the international ground rules for the 21st century, laying a foundation for security and prosperity for those who live within them, while isolating those who challenge them from the outside."

2. Our Cold War military alliances were not merely a temporary response to a transitory threat. They remain vital in deterring future dangers and promoting constructive integration among nations that share our values. They are not merely defensive, but instruments for advancing common interests; they are defined not merely by what they are against, but what they are for. Hence our decision to preserve and adapt our European and Asian alliances, by no means an obvious course at the end of the Cold War.

USIP, 4/7/99:

"Among the first decisions I made in 1993 was to preserve the alliances that kept the peace during the Cold War. That meant in Asia, we kept 100,000 troops there, and maintained robust alliances with Japan, Korea, Thailand, Australia and the Philippines. We did this, and have done it, not to contain China or anyone else, but to give confidence to all that the potential threats to Asia's security will remain just that -- potential -- and that America remains committed to being involved with Asia and to Asia's stability.

Address to Future Leaders of Europe, 1/9/94:
"I am committed to keeping roughly 100,000 troops in Europe. It is not habit, but security and partnership that justifies this continuing commitment. And just as we have worked in partnership with Europe on every major security challenge in this century, it is time for us to join building the new security for the 21st century. . . . The old security was based on the defense of our bloc against another bloc. The new security must be found in Europe's integration, an integration of security forces, of market economies, of national democracies."

San Francisco, 2/26/99:

"The century's bloodiest wars began in Europe. That's why I've worked hard to build a Europe that finally is undivided, democratic and at peace. We want all of Europe to have what America helped build in Western Europe -- a community that upholds common standards of human rights, where people have the confidence and security to invest in the future, where nations cooperate to make war unthinkable."

Address to Future Leaders of Europe, 1/9/94:

My administration supports European Union, and Europe's development of stronger institutions of common purpose and common action. We recognize we will benefit more from a strong and equal partner than from a weak one.

Integration among states can also be an answer to the specific problem of disintegration within states. The President has argued that countries divided ethnically are more likely to resolve their problems if they can benefit from belonging to larger communities that encourage transnational cooperation and make borders less relevant to people's lives. That's another reason we have pursued the goal of an undivided Europe, and why we have focused on the integration of the Balkans as the long term solution to its problems.

3. A Peaceful, Democratic, Undivided Europe

Eight years ago, Europe's formal division had been overcome. But NATO still treated the Iron Curtain as something meaningful;
it seemed to many we would be allied with Europe's old democracies forever, but its new democracies never. Central Europe feared becoming a zone of poverty and instability outside the European mainstream. Genocidal violence was erupting in the former Yugoslavia. Western Europe responded with ineffectual pleading; America claimed it had "no dog" in the fight.

Today, Europe is less divided, more democratic and more peaceful that at any time in its history. NATO has three new allies from across Europe's old divide, real partnerships with all its new democracies, and unchallenged credibility as the guarantor of Europe's security. Central Europe is flourishing and integrated. The Balkans are being stabilized, with democracy in Croatia, an increasingly secure peace in Bosnia, ethnic cleansing reversed in Kosovo - only a rump Serbian state left under Milosevic's sway. Soldiers from almost every European country - the most bitter former adversaries among them - are serving under a single command keeping the peace in the Balkans. Greece and Turkey are making progress toward reconciliation - and the EU has recognized Turkey as a candidate for membership. All of these developments were championed by the President. None would have happened without American leadership. [AND ALL GIVE MEANING TO AMERICAN SACRIFICE].

Meanwhile, America's partnership with our core allies in Europe is so focused on shared global interests and common global agendas that our summits with the EU elicit from the press yawns of boredom. With no fundamental issues dividing us, attention is focused on a few narrow trade disputes. But our larger economic relationship with Europe is thriving: US investment in Europe multiplied seven-fold between 1994 and 1998.

4. Russia

Eight years ago, everyone knew that at the very best, a democratic transformation in Russia would take a generation or more to be complete. But no one knew if Russia had any time to experiment and struggle toward that goal, before a nationalist or communist backlash reversed its gains. Our efforts bought Russia time. Patient outside support helped Russia to conquer hyperinflation, to liberalize prices, to make the ruble convertible, and to survive financial shocks, preserving its chance to endure the transition from communism. Despite the setbacks and suffering along the way, Russians have embraced democracy and repeatedly rejected a return to the past. And we have stood by our principles: insisting on market reforms as a condition for assistance, aiding Russians struggling to build a
free media and to defend the rule of law, defending the sovereignty of Russia's neighbors, denouncing Russia's tactics in Chechnya and seeking an international presence there.

In the meantime, we negotiated the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltics, mobilized Russian support for a just end to the Kosovo war, brought Russian troops into NATO-led missions in the Balkans. We won Russian ratification of START II, disproving critics who said that would never happen if we stuck to our guns in the Balkans and stood by our aspiring NATO allies in central Europe. And we agreed on the outlines of a START III Treaty that will reduce our arsenals by 80% from their Cold War height.

We also forged a successful partnership with Russia and the other New Independent States to meet the most urgent security challenge of the post-Cold War era: reducing and securing the old Soviet arsenal of WMD. Our efforts have helped deactivate almost 5,000 former Soviet nuclear warheads, to eliminate nuclear weapons from Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan, to strengthen security at over 100 sites in the region, to improve export controls, to engage over 30,000 weapons scientists in civilian research, and to purchase hundreds of tons of highly enriched uranium from dismantled Russian weapons. The doomsday scenario many predicted when the Soviet Union collapsed -- of loose nukes and of scientists selling their services to the highest bidder -- has not come to pass (despite Congressional pressure to cut our vital assistance programs).

7. Democracy and Human Rights

Freedom has steadily advanced over the last seven and a half years. In 1995 [check], for the first time, more than half the world's people lived under governments of their own choosing. In 1999, with the democratic transitions in Indonesia and Nigeria, more people won the right to elect their leaders than in 1989, the year the Berlin Wall fell. We had helped organize international pressure against the dictatorship in Nigeria, and pressed Soeharto to transfer power in Indonesia.

(From JBS Princeton:

Let us look first at Russia. Russia is in the midst of not one, but three, monumental transitions: from an empire to a nation state; from a command economy to a market economy; Communism to democracy.
Not long ago, Americans would have been delighted to see even one such transition. Few expected to see the day Russia would forsake Communism, pull its troops out of Central Europe and the Baltics, privatize its economy, slash military spending, reduce its arsenal of nuclear weapons, and elect its leaders.

Today, Russia has done all these things. And of all the frightful scenarios sketched out for Russia in 1991, none have come to pass. No “loose nukes,” no nuclear confrontation, no return to Russian dictatorship, no new Russian empire, no new anti-Western alliance. President Yeltsin did not postpone or cancel the Presidential elections in 1996, as some had feared, neither did he find some pretext to cling to power past his second term. And predictions that Russia would turn its back on the international community because of NATO enlargement and Kosovo have both proved wrong.

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Record Type: Record

To: Thomas M. Rosshirt/NSC/EOP@EOP
cc: 
Subject: National Moment of Remembrance

Here's the statement we edited.

----------------------Forwarded by Betsy Pimentel/NSC/EOP on 05/18/2000 12:13 PM---------------------------

Here's the statement we edited.

Record Type: Record

To: Carmella A. LaSpada/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc: Loretta M. Ucelli/WHO/EOP@EOP, Sonya N. Hebert/WHO/EOP@EOP, Philip H. Cullom/NSC/EOP@EOP, Betsy Pimentel/NSC/EOP@EOP
Subject: National Moment of Remembrance

Carmella- Per our telephone conversation, I want to suggest that you be sure to emphasize that the National Moment of Remembrance is to remember those from our Armed Forces that have given their lives for our country. The recent statement released by the President doesn't make that clear.

Here are suggested changes:

PRESIDENT CLINTON:
CALLING ON ALL AMERICANS TO JOIN IN A NATIONAL MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE
"As we contemplate the comforts and blessings of our lives and the well-being of our nation, I ask you to pause just for a moment to remember those who gave their lives to protect the values that give meaning to our lives."

President Bill Clinton
May 31, 1999

On Memorial Day, President Clinton will urge all Americans to participate in a National Moment of Remembrance to honor those who died in service to our nation. The Moment, which will occur at 3:00 p.m. local time, is intended to raise awareness and unite the nation in acknowledging the contributions made by the men and women who gave their lives for our country's freedom. The commemoration has been established as a presidential initiative and has been introduced in Congress as a joint resolution.

Putting the “Memorial” Back in Memorial Day. Like many national holidays, Memorial Day is frequently regarded as a day off rather than one to remember our nation's ideals and those men and women in the Armed Forces who gave their lives to preserve them. In May 1996, the idea of a moment of remembrance was born when a group of school children touring the nation's capital was asked what Memorial Day meant to them and they responded, “That's the day the pools open!” Determined that those who died for our country not be forgotten, No Greater Love, a national humanitarian organization, began a campaign to designate a specific time on Memorial Day when Americans could stop and reflect on the true meaning of the holiday. At 3:00 p.m. on the following Memorial Day, “Taps” was played on radio and television stations across the nation as Americans paused to remember those who gave their lives to the cause of freedom. Known as the National Moment of Remembrance, this nationwide observance has since been repeated every year, and this year President Clinton and Congress are joining together to endorse the commemoration.

Uniting Americans in Honor of our Fallen Heroes. Memorial Day was established as a national holiday in 1868 to pay tribute to those who died serving our country. The goal of the National Moment of Remembrance is to reclaim the holiday as the solemn event it was intended to be by:

• Bringing Americans together to simultaneously pause, remember, and honor those who gave their lives in service to our nation and the preservation of our freedoms;
• Highlighting the importance of service to the community, the nation, and the world;
• Recognizing the value of our freedom and the contributions our military heroes who made to keep us free;
• Making Memorial Day relevant to younger Americans and increasing their awareness of past and present sacrifices of those who serve in our Armed Forces.

Carrying On a Tradition of Remembrance. This year's National Moment of Remembrance will take place on Monday, May 29th for one minute, beginning at 3:00 p.m. local time—a time when most Americans will likely be making the most of the freedoms we enjoy. At that time, Americans around the world are urged to pause from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or to listen to “Taps”, in tribute to those men and women in uniform who realized that "freedom isn't free" and gave their last full measure of being defending our nation's valued ideals. All federal departments and agencies will participate in the Moment of Remembrance and will encourage participation by state and local governments, organizations, trade unions, corporations, and individual citizens. The White House has established a website for more information on the National Moment of Remembrance at www.whitehouse.gov/remembrance.
Memorial Day 2000

"...for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan..."

Lincoln

For Information on Memorial Day Ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, please click here then select "Public Events"

I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours, to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of Freedom.

-- Abraham Lincoln, November 1864

"War drew us from our homeland in the sunlit springtime of our youth. Those who did not come back alive remain in perpetual springtime -- forever young -- And a part of them is with us always."

-- Author Unknown

If you were at all moved by the bravery and dedication of the United States forces portrayed in the motion picture "Saving Private Ryan," click on the logo to the left to help the National D-Day Memorial Foundation formally remember those who sacrificed so much for us!

I have fought a good fight,
I have finished my course,
I have kept the faith.
— Timothy 2:4:7

When he shall die,
Take him and cut him out in little stars,
And he will make the face of heaven so fine
That all the world will be in love with night,
And pay no worship to the garish sun.
— Scene 2, Romeo and Juliet
William Shakespeare

Even in our sleep, pain which cannot forget
falls drop by drop upon the heart, until, in our own despair,
against our will, comes wisdom through the awful grace of God.
Aeschylus.
The Caisson Platoon, "The Old Guard"
Photo (c) Michael Robert Patterson, July 1997

"Where Valor Proudly Sleeps"
(The Bivouac of the Dead)
"Day Is Done..."

Click Here For A New Feature: Gravesite Photos Of Arlington National Cemetery
Click Here For An Improved Map Of Arlington National Cemetery

| Tell them of us and say,                   | "It is better to have lived one day as a lion than one thousand days as a sheep." |
| For their tomorrow,                       | Inscription on the stone of Lieutenant Colonel Charles G. Clinger, USA,          |
| We gave our today."                       | Section 8, Arlington National Cemetery.                                       |
| -- The Kohima Epitaph                     |                                                                               |
| This appears on a monument erected at the British military cemetery at Kohima, Assam, India, in memory of those who died in World War II's largest Asian land battle near there in 1944. |                                                                               |
| "I went - it was not long ago - to stand again upon that crest | "In great deeds something abides. On great fields something stays.        |
whose one day's crown of fire has passed into the blazoned coronet of fame.

I sat there alone on the storied crest, till the sun went down as it did before over the misty hills, and the darkness crept up the slopes, till from all earthly sight I was buried as with those before.

But oh, what radiant companionship rose around, what steadfast ranks of power, what bearing of heroic souls. Oh, the glory that beamed through those nights and days.

Nobody will ever know it here! I am sorry most of all for that. The proud young valor that rose above the mortal, and then at last was mortal after all."

-- Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain
Commenting on his return to Little Round Top, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, in 1913. Chamberlain was awarded the Medal of Honor for his service there.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Timothy 2:4:7</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alone and far removed from earthly care The noble ruins of men lie buried here. You were strong men, good men Endowed with youth and much the will to live I hear no protest from the mute lips of the dead. They rest; there is no more to give. So long my comrades, Sleep ye where you fell upon the field. But tread softly pleaseMarch o'er my heart with ease March on and on, But to God alone we kneel.</td>
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-- Audie Murphy

Forms change and pass; bodies disappear; but spirits linger, to consecrate ground for the vision-place of souls.

And reverent men and women from afar, and generations that know us not and that we know not of, heart-drawn to see where and by whom great things were suffered and done for them, shall come to this deathless field to ponder and dream;

And lo! the shadow of a mighty presence shall wrap them in its bosom, and the power of the vision pass into their souls."

-- Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain
Commenting on his return to Gettysburg and the great battlefield there.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Executive Mansion Washington, November 21, 1864</th>
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<tr>
<td>To Mrs. Bixby, Boston, Mass.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dear Madam,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts, that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering to you the Consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours, to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of Freedom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yours very sincerely and respectfully A. Lincoln</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Burials At Arlington Cemetery

"Each headstone represents a story to be told,
A past to be remembered."

Commander Charles E. Bigler

"War drew us from our homeland in the
sunlit springtime of our youth.
Those who did not come back alive
remain in perpetual springtime -- forever young --
and a part of them is with us always."

-- Author Unknown

The thundering line of battle stands,
And in the air death moans and sings;
But Day shall clasp him with strong hands,
And Night shall fold him in soft wings.

-- Julian Grenfell
Killed-In-Action, 1915
Biographical Information: Some Of Those Buried In Arlington

Medal of Honor Recipients Buried In Arlington

Air Force C-141 Crew Laid To Rest In Arlington - April 1998
Air Force C-130 Crew From 1958 Laid To Rest In Arlington - September 1998
Air Force C-130 Crew Lost In 1970 Buried In Arlington - 1995
Air Force AC-130 Crew Lost In 1969 - Buried In Arlington In 1995
Air Force Helicopter Crew Laid To Rest In Arlington - October 1998

Arlington National Cemetery Map
Bat-21 Rescue Crew Laid To Rest After 25 Years
Blackjack, United States Army Horse
Capitol Police Officers Chestnut and Gibson Buried At Arlington
Gander, Newfoundland, Victims Buried At Arlington National Cemetery
Gravesite Photos - Many Are Courtesy Of Ron Williams
Jews Buried In Arlington National Cemetery
Laos Aircrew Laid To Rest In Arlington - March 1990
Naval Air Crew Buried In Arlington National Cemetery - 1957

The Old Guard Remembers JFK’s Funeral
Shuttle Challenger Crew
Special Remembrances

The Strange Case Of The Burial Of A Single Tooth
Terrorist Bombing Of USMC Barracks - Beirut, Lebanon

They Fought With Custer - Battle of the Little Big Horn, June 1876

Unknowns Buried At Arlington National Cemetery

USS Forrestal Casualties
USS Liberty Crewmembers - June 1967

USS Serpens Crew Buried At Arlington National Cemetery

World War II Crew Laid To Rest In Arlington - 1996
World War II Aircrew Laid To Rest In Arlington - August 1970
World War II Aircrew Laid To Rest In Arlington - January 1998
World War II Laid To Rest In Arlington - February 1998

World War II Crew Located And Buried In Arlington: April 1998

World War II Crew Laid To Rest In Arlington - December 1998
REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

The Amphitheater
Arlington National Cemetery
Washington, D.C.

11:31 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. General Foley, Chaplain O'Keefe -- (CAR HORN HONKING) -- that's a new form of honors there. (Laughter.) Secretary Brown, Deputy Secretary White, General Ralston, members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Let me say a special word of thanks to Mr. Jack Metzler for all of the work he has done on this magnificent cemetery and for the work that he and others have done to get the amphitheater ready again this year for a reopening. It is an extraordinarily beautiful place of honor for those who have served in our Armed Forces.

To all the members of the Armed Forces who are here, to the distinguished leaders of our veterans organizations, to all of you who are veterans and your families, my fellow Americans: We come together this morning, as we do every year, to honor those who gave their lives so that future generations of Americans might live in freedom. All across our wonderful country, in crowded cities and country towns, America bows its head today in thanks to our fallen heroes. With flags at half-mast, with flowers on a grave, with colorful parades, with quiet prayers, we take this time to remember their achievements and renew our commitment to their ideals.

Here on this peaceful hillside, the silent rows of headstones tell tales of service and sacrifice that are so much the story of our nation. Here lies the spirit that has guided our country for more than 200 years now. Nurses and drummer boys, scouts and engineers, warriors and peacemakers -- joined by a shared devotion to defend our nation, protect our freedom, keep America strong and proud.

As we honor the brave sacrifices in battle that grace our nation's history, let us also remember to honor those who served in times of peace, who preserve the peace, protect our interests and project our values. Though they are the best-trained, best-equipped military in the world, they, too, face their share of dangers.

Less than three weeks ago, two Marine Corps helicopters collided at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Fourteen fine young Americans were killed -- one from the Army, one from the Navy, 12 from the Marine Corps. We have lost more than 200 of our servicemen and women in training accidents or in the course of regular duty since last Memorial Day. And though we work hard on safety, the work they do defending us has inherent dangers, and about that many Americans in uniform give their lives for our freedom every single year.

These sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, mothers and
fathers -- they are American heroes, too, and we are all in their debt. On this special day, we pay our respects to all who gave their lives for America. We know our country is strong and great today because of them. We know to honor their truly extraordinary sacrifice, we must all resolve to keep the United States the world's leading force for peace and security, for prosperity and freedom. And we know that now, as ever, the burden of doing this job weighs heavily upon our men and women in uniform.

All around the world, from Korea to the Central African Republic, from the shores of Liberia to the skies over Iraq, our troops are standing watch on liberty's front lines. Their strength and skill gave the people of Haiti a chance to reclaim their democracy and their dreams. They stopped the slaughter of innocents in Bosnia and now are giving people exhausted by war the chance to create a lasting peace there for themselves; to restore stability to Europe and, in so doing, to make the future more secure for all the rest of us as well.

On this Memorial Day, let us draw inspiration from the spirit that surrounds us, to give those who still defend our freedom and security in the military today the support they need and deserve to fulfill their important mission.

And let us remember as we stand on eve of a bright new century, the origins of this commemoration. The practice of honoring America's fallen began near the close of the Civil War, the deadliest and most divisive conflict our nation has ever known. Today is a time to remember what joins us as one America.

Consider the service of just five brave Americans who have recently been buried in this hallowed ground. Marine Corporal Erik Kirkland, who dreamed of becoming an officer and was killed in a helicopter accident earlier this month at Camp Lejeune.

A brilliant member of my staff, Air Force Colonel Nelson Drew, who perished in Bosnia last August while working to end the suffering and the slaughter. A proud Army veteran, our Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, who was taken from us last month on a foggy mountainside in Croatia as he was leading a mission of peace and hope to restore a broken land. And in that terrible crash, we also lost Tech Sergeant Cheryl Ann Turnage, a member of the Air Force crew who hoped to pursue a career in law. And just last week, we said goodbye to the Navy's fiercest champion and most beloved sailor, Admiral Mike Boorda. These five were very different in their backgrounds and in their service. But they were joined in their love for America. Their lives reflect the spirit of our democracy, the strength of our diversity, the energy and opportunity that make our country so great.

We are descendants of a common creed -- one nation, under God. Partners with a common purpose; to keep our nation free and strong; a force for peace and progress; a place where people who work hard and take responsibility have the chance to make the most of their own lives, build good, strong families, and live out their dreams in dignity and peace.

May God bless the souls of our departed and always bless the country they gave everything to serve.

Thank you, and God bless you all. (Applause.)

END 11:38 A.M. EDT
Remarks at a Memorial Day Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia
May 31, 1993

Thank you very much. General Gordon, distinguished leaders of the armed services, the Defense Department, the Cabinet, the Congress, the leaders of our veterans organizations here, to all the veterans and their families who are here and to all those here who are family members of veterans buried in this cemetery or in any other place around the globe, and to my fellow Americans: We come together this morning, along with our countrymen and women in cities across the land, to honor those who died that we might live in freedom, the only way that Americans can ever truly live. Today we put aside our differences to better reflect on what unites us. The lines so often drawn between and among us, lines of region or race or partisanship, all those lines fall away today as we gaze upon the lines of markers that surround us on these hallowed hills. The lines of difference are freedom’s privilege. The lines of these markers are freedom’s cost.

Today Americans all across our land draw together in shared experience and shared remembrance. And whether it is an older veteran in Florida, or a teenager in New Mexico, or a mother in Wisconsin, all today will bow their heads and put hand to heart. And without knowing each other, still we will all be joined in spirit, because we are Americans and because we know we are equal shareholders in humanity’s most uplifting dream.

Today, as we fly the American flag, some will recall the pledge we began to recite daily as youngsters in grade school, with solemn faith and awkward salute, some lines before we learned the difference between our right and left hands. Others will remember the flag waving over public gatherings, large and very small. But on this day, in this serene and solemn setting, conscious of the past, conscious, too, of the perils all too present, what we see most vividly in that flag are the faces of American soldiers who gave their lives in battle and the faces of this generation of young service men and women, very, very much alive, still training and preparing for possible conflicts tomorrow. From the first militiaman downed at Lexington to today’s rawest recruit, the flag unites them, soldiers living and dead, and reminds the rest of us that we are all the inheritors of a sacred trust.

It is with that flag and that trust in mind that we resolve this May morning to keep America free, strong, and proud. We resolve in this era of profound change and continuing peril to be ever vigilant against any foe that could endanger us and against any undercurrent that might erode our security, including the economic security that is the ultimate foundation of our Nation’s strength. We resolve, as well, always to keep America’s Armed Forces the finest in the world. And we resolve that if we ask them to fight in our behalf, we will give them the clear mission, the means, and the support they need to win.

In honoring those who died in the defense of our country, we must never neglect to honor as well our living American veterans. The Nation owes a special debt to the millions of men and women who took up posts at home or abroad to secure our defenses or to fight for our freedom. Because of what they have done for us, their health and well-being must always be a cause for our special concern.

Here by the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, we renew our Nation’s solemn pledge also to the POW and MIA families from all wars, a pledge to provide not just the prayers and memorials but also to the extent humanly possible to provide the answers you deserve. And we vow, with the new Korean War Memorial project finally underway, that no future conflict, if conflict there must be, must ever be regarded as a forgotten war. The inscription on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier says that he is, quote, “Known only to God.” But that is only partly true. While the soldier’s name is known only to God, we know a lot about him. We know he served his country, honored his community, and died for the cause of freedom. And we know that no higher praise can be assigned to any human being than those simple words.

Today we are at peace, but we live in a troubled world. From that flag and from these, our honored dead, we draw strength and inspiration to carry on in our time the tasks of defending
and preserving freedom that were so nobly fulfilled by all those we come here to honor in this time. In that effort and in the presence of those buried all around us, we ask the support of all Americans in the aid and blessing of God Almighty. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:30 a.m. at the Memorial Amphitheater. In his remarks, he referred to Maj. Gen. F.A. Gordon, USA, commander of the Military District of Washington.

Remarks at a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial
May 31, 1993

Thank you very much. General Powell, General McCaffrey, and my good friend Lew Puller, whom I did not know was coming here today, I thank you so much.

To all of you who are shouting, I have heard you. I ask you now to hear me. I have heard you. Some have suggested that it is wrong for me to be here with you today because I did not agree a quarter of a century ago with the decision made to send the young men and women to battle in Vietnam. Well, so much the better. Here we are celebrating America today. Just as war is freedom's cost, disagreement is freedom's privilege, and we honor it here today. But I ask all of you to remember the words that have been said here today. And I ask you at this monument: Can any American be out of place? And can any Commander in Chief be in any other place but here on this day? I think not.

Many volumes have been written about this war and those complicated times. But the message of this memorial is quite simple: These men and women fought for freedom, brought honor to their communities, loved their country, and died for it. They were known to all of us. There's not a person in this crowd today who did not know someone on this wall. Four of my high school classmates are there. Four who shared with me the joys and trials of childhood and did not live to see the three score and ten years the Scripture says we are entitled to.

Let us continue to disagree, if we must, about the war. But let us not let it divide us as a people any longer. No one has come here today to disagree about the heroism of those whom we honor. But the only way we can really honor their memory is to resolve to live and serve today and tomorrow as best we can and to make America the best that she can be. Surely that is what we owe to all those whose names are etched in this beautiful memorial. As we all resolve to keep the finest military in the world, let us remember some of the lessons that all agree on. If the day should come when our service men and women must again go into combat, let us all resolve they will go with the training, the equipment, the support necessary to win, and most important of all, with a clear mission to win.

Let us do what is necessary to regain control over our destiny as a people here at home, to strengthen our economy and develop the capacities of all of our people, to rebuild our communities and our families where children are raised and character is developed. Let us keep the American dream alive.

Today, let us also renew a pledge to the families whose names are not on this wall because their sons and daughters did not come home. We will do all we can to give you not only the attention you have asked for but the answers you deserve.

Today I have ordered that by Veterans Day we will have declassified all United States Government records related to POW's and MIA's from the Vietnam war, all those records, except for a tiny fraction which could still affect our national security or invade the privacy of their families. As we allow the American public to have access to what our Government knows, we will press harder to find out what other governments know. We are pressing the Vietnamese to provide this accounting not only because it is the central outstanding issue in our relationship with Vietnam but because it is a central commitment made by the American Government to our people, and I intend to keep it.
You heard General Powell quoting President Lincoln: "With malice toward none and charity for all let us bind up the Nation's wounds." Lincoln speaks to us today across the years. Let us resolve to take from this haunting and beautiful memorial a renewed sense of our national unity and purpose, a deepened gratitude for the sacrifice of those whose names we touched and whose memories we revere, and a finer dedication to making America a better place for their children—and for our children, too.

Thank you all for coming here today. God bless you, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:07 p.m. at the memorial. In his remarks, he referred to Lewis B. "Puller, Jr., Vietnam veteran and Pulitzer prize-winning author.

Memorandum on Trade Agreements
May 31, 1993

Memorandum for the United States Trade Representative

Subject: Presidential Determination Under Section 1105(b)(1) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988

Section 1105(b)(1) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-48; 19 U.S.C. 2904(b)(1)) ("the Act"), provides that the President shall determine, before June 1, 1993, whether any major industrial country has failed to make concessions under trade agreements entered into under section 1102(a) and (b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2902(a) and (b)), which provide opportunities for the commerce of the United States in such country substantially equivalent to the competitive opportunities, provided by concessions made by the United States under trade agreements entered into under section 1102(a) and (b) of the Act, for the commerce of such country in the United States.

Since the United States has not entered into any agreements under section 1102(a) or (b) of the Act, I hereby determine that there has been no failure to make concessions thereunder.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Remarks to the Community in Milwaukee, Wisconsin
June 1, 1993

The President. Thank you very much. Senator Kohl, Congressman Barrett, Mayor Norquist, ladies and gentlemen, it's wonderful to be back in Wisconsin and back in Milwaukee again for the first time since I became President. I suppose I ought to begin by thanking the State of Wisconsin for your electoral votes. I'm very grateful for that. I'd also like to thank the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce and the Public Policy Forum for hosting this opportunity for me to visit with you, and through you, all the people of Wisconsin, about the economic issues facing our country.

I'd like to introduce some other people who are here, up there somewhere. I asked Senator Kohl where they were, and he said, "Up there somewhere." But it's dark. I can't see. I brought with me the former chancellor of the University of Wisconsin, now the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, Donna Shalala, who is here; the chairman of the Joint Economic Committee in the House, your Congressman, David Obey, is here with me somewhere there; and we were met at the airport by Congressman Gerry Kleczka, who is here, Gerry; and Congressman-elect Peter Barca, who is also here somewhere. Thank you.

You know, a lot of times when I get out in the country now, people who worked for me—or who didn't, who just feel like they can come up and talk—say, "Well, aren't you worried about getting isolated up there in Washing-
important to establish rel.
Ishmir ...
I employed ...
Confir for & from to inform inti
engage not just w/ govt w/ people
Civil society
Tolerance freedom
Press freedom — “independent media”
(will go to radio station afterwards)
Important of Russia
WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 30, 1994

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY WREATH CEREMONY

Arlington National Cemetery

11:33 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Mrs. McIntosh, for your fine introduction and for your service to our nation in Asia during the Second World War. To you and your husband, Professor Shriner, who sang so well, I could imagine him at the age of 24 singing again. To Katy Daley, all the others here; and General Gordon; distinguished leaders of our Armed Forces; the Congress and the administration; to the leaders of the veterans' organizations present here. To all of you who are veterans and your families, my fellow Americans.

This morning we join, as we always do on this day, to honor the sacrifices that have made our nation free and strong. All across our nation, small towns are holding quiet Memorial Day ceremonies. Proud veterans are pinning on their medals. Children are laying wreaths. Men and women in uniform everywhere stand a little bit taller today as they salute the Colors.

Here at Arlington, row after row of headstones, aligned in silent formation, reminds us of the high cost of our freedom. Almost a quarter of a million American rest here alone, from every war since the Revolution. Among them are many names we know: General Pershing, Audie Murphy, General Marshall and so many others.

But far more numerous are the Americans whose names are not famous, whose lives were not legend, but whose deeds were the backbone that secured our nation's liberty. Today we honor them. We honor them all as heroes -- those who are buried here and those who are buried all around the nation and the world.

If you look at the headstones, they don't tell you whether the people buried there are poor or rich. They make no distinction of race, or of age, or of condition. They simply stand, each of them, for one American. Each reminds us that we are descendants, whatever our differences, of a common creed -- unbeatable when we are united, one nation under God.

Fifty years ago, the world learned just what Americans are capable of when we joined in common cause in World War II. Later this week it will be my great honor to represent our nation in Europe at the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the World War II campaigns at Normandy and in Italy.

World War II was an era of sacrifice unequalled in our own history. Over 400,000 Americans died in the service of our nation. At D-Day alone, over 5,200 were killed or wounded in Normandy. But the battle that was fought there was not just between two armies; it was, as clearly as any conflict in all of human history, a battle between two ways of life.
The totalitarians whose tanks had overrun so much of the earth honestly believed democracies were too undisciplined to survive. Hitler believed a free people would never muster the unity of purpose to win the Second World War. But in the chaos of battle, it was the independence and the can-do confidence of the sons and daughters of America and the other democracies that won the day.

And all across our nation, in factories and farms and hospitals and blood banks, it was the energies of free people who turned the tide. General Eisenhower called it then "the fury of an aroused democracy," the self-reliant fury that took Omaha Beach and liberated much of the continent and, within a year, brought the war in Europe to an end.

Today, too many of our youngest Americans know too little about what the heroes of that war did. The children and grandchildren of that generation have not been taught enough about the meeting of Normandy or Anzio or Guadalcanal or Midway. And that's why the commemorative ceremonies this year are so very important to all of us; to honor, we must remember.

Today, somewhere in America a curious child, rummaging through an attic will stumble upon his grandfather's insignia patches, a pocket guide to France, a metal cricket, a black and white photo of a smiling young man in uniform. But learning about those times and those deeds must be more than accidental.

Fortunately, many of our fellow Americans understand that. Gail Thomas of Brentwood, Missouri was one of them. Her parents both served in World War II. She's a librarian at the Mark Twain Elementary School in her community. And every year she brings in veterans of D-Day and other battles to speak to the students. She says, the kids can't believe what those gray-haired men did when they were young. Then they understand that American is the way it is today because of what people gave up 50 years ago. That is the lesson we must all remember, not only for the veterans of World War II, but for all our veterans on Memorial Day, on Veterans Day, and every day.

The American veterans of World War II, though they fought in a terribly destructive conflict, at heart were builders. When they came home, they laid down the ribbons of interstate highways across this land; and through the G.I. Bill, those who had fought and won the war were educated so they could win the fruits of victory in peaceful cooperation. In countries ravaged by war, they helped to lift cities from rubble to renewal. They created the international institutions that have undergirded our security for a half a century.

Now, our generation honors them for what they did 50 years ago, knowing full well that the greatest honor we can give is to build for the future ourselves at home and abroad -- revitalizing our economy so that our people can live to their fullest capacities; strengthening the fabric of our communities and our families; putting our children first and giving them the values they need to do well in a difficult world; making our government work for all the people, for it took all the people to win the Second World War, and to keep this country going forward.

In this uncertain world, we must also remain vigilant against new threats. Today, American men and women in uniform stand sentry all around the globe -- in Europe, in the Adriatic, in Korea, and on bases here at home. They are the finest, best-trained, best-motivated fighting force the world has ever known. And our highest commitment must be to ensure that they remain exactly that. If they must be sent in harm's way, we owe them the support they need and
On this day, we honor those who died for our country. But let us also hold a special place for all of our living American veterans. We owe them a lasting debt of gratitude and their well being must be always the cause of our common concern. And let us recognize again our solemn obligation to find answers for those whose loved ones served, but were never accounted for.

A year ago today, just before I came to this hallowed place, I spoke at the Vietnam Memorial to honor those who died in that war. I was proud to be joined there by a remarkable man who became a friend of mine, Lewis Puller, Jr. This year, as virtually all of you must know, he rests here on this holy place. This morning when I got up I thought of Lew Puller and the countless heroes he has joined, and the terrible sacrifices men and women had been willing to make for this great land.

Every one of them -- no matter what war they served in or what battlefield they died on -- every one helped to build a nation we love. Let us remember them. Let us pray for their souls and those of their families and resolve to carry on the never-finished work of freedom.

Thank you and God bless you all.

END 11:42 A.M. EDT
May 29 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1995

as well. That, too, is an astonishing development in the history of warfare. And the American people are indebted to all of you who have played a role in this remarkable endeavor.

Thanks to our new relationship with Russia, we're also making progress on the MIA cases from World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam, and a number of cold war incidents. The U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW-MIA's has gained access to thousands of pages of once-classified documents, conducted hundreds of interviews in Russia and in the other New Independent States, received important information about the fate of American service personnel.

Those missing from the war in Korea, along with the MIA's from all our Nation's conflicts, will not be forgotten in the heart of America. Our work will go forward until we have done all there is to do. We owe it to them, to their families, and to our country to work on this until the job is done.

And we must remain true to our entire commitment to stand by all those who stood watch for freedom. Whether it is protecting benefits that veterans have earned or improving health care or breaking the cycle of despair for homeless veterans or confronting the legacy of Agent Orange or getting to the bottom of Gulf war-related illnesses, we must uphold our solemn obligation to our veterans, not for a few months or for a few years but for the entire lifetime of this Nation.

And we owe it to the legacy of our veterans to protect the national security in the future. We are working hard to end the legacy of the cold war. The United States and Russia are destroying nuclear arsenals. And I am proud that for the first time since the dawn of the nuclear age, there are no nuclear weapons pointed at the children of the United States of America.

I am proud that the United States and Russia joined together to secure the indefinite extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, so that more and more nations will be making and keeping a promise not to develop nuclear weapons.

But we know that we have challenges from other weapons as well, from biological and chemical weapons. We must work to contain them. And we know that we have the challenge not only of nations that still seek to do us and other freedom-loving peoples harm but also from terrorists around the world and here at home who would threaten our security and our way of life.

We must stand up to all these security threats as a way of honoring those who have sacrificed and served our country. They brought us to this point, and we owe it to them to give our children the opportunities we have all enjoyed.

So on this Memorial Day, I say to all of you, we honor the sacrifices of those who never came home, the sacrifices of those who were imprisoned but came home, the sacrifices of all who gave and all who serve. God bless you all, and God bless America.

And now, for the proper unveiling of this much-deserved stamp, let me introduce our very fine Postmaster General, Mr. Marvin Runyon, and thank him again for the outstanding job he has done.

Mr. Runyon.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:15 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House.
any better job than you did, and we thank you. This fine American was decorated by President Roosevelt with the Purple Heart for his action in combat on Iwo Jima. He later led an honor guard for President Truman. He represents the vital ties to the past that inspires us today, and we thank him and all others for their service.

Today we feel close to that past and to all those who stood fast when our freedom was in peril 50 years ago. We remember the valiant individuals from all of our wars who fell while defending our Nation. They fought so that we might have the freedom which too many of us take for granted but, at least on this day, we know is still our greatest blessing.

At this sacred moment, we put aside all that might otherwise divide us to recall the honor that these men and women brought to their families and their communities and the glory they bestowed upon our beloved Nation. All across our great country today, in cities and towns great and small, wreaths and flags adorn our cemeteries. Friends and family members and those who simply are grateful for their liberties will gather for a parade or visit the graves of some of these heroes, tell a new generation the stories of how America was kept free and strong. We must remember to do justice to their memories. We must remember that so we can go forward.

Especially in this last year, the 50th since World War II, we Americans have remembered and paid homage to the generation that fought that great struggle in ceremonies in Normandy, at Nettuno Beach in Italy, at Cambridge Cemetery in England, the Manila Cemetery in the Philippines, the Iwo Jima Memorial here in Arlington, and in Moscow.

As we look across the gulf of time and look at the veterans of that conflict who still are among us, we continue to draw strength from their marvelous achievement. We remember anew the indomitable power of free men and women united by a just cause.

Fifty years ago today, the war in Europe was over. American armed forces worked to restore order to a wrecked continent, taking charge of shattered communities, tending to the survivors of the awful concentration camps. But the celebration of victory was short because our battle-weary Nation was shifting troops and energies from one theater to another. Little was certain. Virtually every household still had someone in uniform, and no one could say even then who would survive.

In the Pacific war, fighting raged on in the Philippines. Okinawa, the bloodiest battle in the Far East, was already almost 2 months old and far, far from over. By the time it ended on June 22, that small island would claim the lives of more than 12,000 Americans.

Still, our forces never faltered. Half a world away from their homes, far from their families, they fought for their country, their loved ones, and for the ideals that have kept this country going now for more than 200 years. They knew their mission was unparalleled in human history: to fight for freedom, for democracy, and for human dignity all the world over. In those distant places and harrowing times, ordinary people performed extraordinary deeds.

Many who fell there are now here in Arlington, in this hallowed ground. We come here to honor their sacrifice, to give them thanks for safeguarding our homes and our liberties and for giving us another 50 years of freedom. But we also come here because we understand what they fought for. Here, among the dead, in the perfect rows of stone, we see the life of America for which they sacrificed so much.

Four graves around here today tell a good story. Right over there, down Grant Drive, is the grave of Colonel Justice Chambers of the United States Marine Corps Reserve. For his extraordinary courage in taking vital high ground during the landing on Iwo Jima, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Just next to him lies Lieutenant Commander Barbara Allen Rainey. She was the mother of two daughters and the Navy's first female aviator. She died in a plane crash in 1982. Further down the walk lies the grave of Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, Jr., known throughout the world as the first person ever to fly over the North Pole. And next to him lies General Daniel "Chappie" James, a Tuskegee Airman who flew nearly 200 combat missions, a pilot in Korea and Vietnam as well. He rose through the ranks to become the first African-American four-star general.

These four were very different in race and gender, service and generation. But they were united in their service to America. Together, their lives are proof of perhaps our greatest American truth: that a nation of many really can be brought forth as one. Together, they show the tremendous strength that not only our Armed Forces but our entire Nation has drawn
from our remarkable diversity. They remind us of the riches our democracy creates by bringing the benefits of liberty to all Americans, regardless of their race or gender or station in life. They remind us of why so many have sacrificed so much for the American ideal.

Today, more than ever, we rededicate ourselves to the vision for which they live. Generations before ours met challenges to democracy and freedom, defeated the threats of fascism and communism, and now it is for us to rise to the new challenges posed by the forces of darkness and disintegration in this age at home and abroad.

In an uncertain world, we still know we must maintain armed forces that are the best-trained, best-equipped, and best-prepared in the world. That is the surest guarantee of our security and the surest guarantee that we will not repeat the mistakes of the past, when America disarmed encouraged people to abuse the decent liberties we all are willing to fight for.

Now, we must finish the security work of the last 50 years by ending the nuclear threat once and for all. I am very proud of the fact, and I know all of you are, that today, we and the Russians are destroying the weapons of our nuclear arsenal and that for the first time since the dawn of the nuclear age, no Russian missiles are pointed at the people of the United States of America. I am proud of the fact that the nations of the world recently voted to extend indefinitely the Non-Proliferation Treaty and that Russia and the other states of the former Soviet Union and the United States were on the same side, asking countries to forswear ever developing nuclear weapons.

I know we have more to do in trying to stem the proliferation of biological and chemical weapons and to defeat the forces of terrorism around the world. No free country is immune from them. But we can do this, and we must.

In honor of all those who have fallen, from the dawn of our Nation to this moment, we resolve to uphold not only their memories but their ideals: the vision of America, free and strong, conferring the benefits of our beloved land on all our citizens. They sacrificed so that we could do this.

Our debt is, therefore, to continue freedom’s never-ending work, to build a Nation worthy of all those who fell for it, to pass to coming generations all that we have inherited and enjoyed. This must be our common purpose: to make sure all Americans are able to make the most of their freedoms and their God-given abilities and still, still, to reaffirm our conviction that we are, from many, one.

And so we go forth from this place today, remembering the lives of people like Chambers, Rainey, Byrd, and James. From their example, let us carry forth that passion and let us strengthen our national unity.

God bless you all, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:32 a.m. at Arlington National Cemetery.

Remarks on Clean Water Legislation
May 30, 1995

Thank you very much. This country would be better off if we had a few more little old ladies in tennis shoes, don’t you think, like Minny Pohlmann? [Applause] Thank you, Minny, for your introduction, and more importantly, thank you for the many years of work you have done to clean up the Potomac and to set an example about responsible environmentalism.

Secretary Babbitt; Administrator Browner; to the CEQ Chairman, Katie McGinty; George Frampton; Bob Stanton; Mike Brown; to Neal Fitzpatrick, the conservation director of the Audubon Naturalist Society; and the two young people who came up with me, Hannah and Michael—where are they, where are the young people who were with me? Thank you very much. And to all the schoolchildren who are here—I wish you could have heard what they were saying over there as I was looking at some of the species that live in this water, because it is still not as pure as it ought to be, and reading the sign over there. Have you all read the sign on the creek? "Fish from these waters