This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records
Subgroup/Office of Origin: Communications
Series/Staff Member: Don Baer
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 10140
FolderID:

Folder Title:
D Day Remarks: Arrivals/Toasts/Greetings

Stack: S
Row: 90
Section: 2
Shelf: 8
Position: 1
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE</th>
<th>SUBJECT/TITLE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>RESTRICTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>001. memo</td>
<td>From: Don Baer; RE: D-Day (2 pages)</td>
<td>05/18/1994</td>
<td>P5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>002. letter</td>
<td>Rockwell to Meyer; RE: Telephone number (partial) (1 page)</td>
<td>02/12/1989</td>
<td>P6/b(6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COLLECTION:**
Clinton Presidential Records
Communications
Don Baer
OA/Box Number: 10140

**FOLDER TITLE:**
D Day Remarks: Arrivals/Toasts/Greetings

**RESTRICTION CODES**

- Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]
  - P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
  - P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
  - P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
  - P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
  - P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
  - P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]
  - C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

- Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]
  - b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
  - b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
  - b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
  - b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
  - b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
  - b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
  - b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
  - b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

- PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
- RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.
Arrival o depends
statements / toasts / greetings
It is a pleasure to come to Brussels. As the headquarters of NATO and the European Union, Belgium has long been at the center of Europe’s progress toward greater security and prosperity. Now this city, which has played such an important role in Europe’s history, is about to do so again.

I have come to Brussels for a series of important meetings over the coming days with my colleagues in NATO and the European Union. But I have come for a larger purpose as well: to work with Europe to revitalize our trans-Atlantic partnership and define our new security at a moment of historic change.

For half a century, America and Europe stood shoulder to shoulder to defend against the threat of communist expansion. Today that threat is gone. The Cold War is behind us.

Yet now we face new challenges, such as addressing the rise of ethnic conflict in Eastern Europe. Above all, we face not only the opportunity but the obligation to build a durable democratic peace across a broader Europe.

My first purpose here will be to work with our 15 NATO partners to adapt history’s greatest military alliance for the challenges of this era. That is why I called the summit of NATO leaders that begins tomorrow. And that is why I will be proposing the creation of a Partnership for Peace, an evolutionary process to enlarge NATO without drawing new lines in Europe.

At the summit of the European Union, my colleagues and I will work to build on the momentum created by last month’s historic GATT agreement. Europe’s partnership, including Belgium’s leadership, was key to that success. Now we need to do more to renew our own economies and also to assist the nations to our east in their difficult transition to market economies.

Throughout my stay here I intend to underscore the urgency of our efforts to support the flowering of democracy throughout the new states of Europe’s east. The rebirth of these states as free nations over the last several years is one of history’s great moments. We must not let that moment slip by.

During my stay in Belgium, I will also meet with King Albert and Prime Minister Dehaene. America’s relationship with Belgium -- inspired by shared values, forged in battle, reinforced by commerce -- is one of our most important trans-Atlantic ties.

This glorious city has for centuries endured invasion by both armies and floodwaters. Indeed, Brussels stands like a "sacred isle," committed to freedom and peace in Europe, determined to weather the challenges that may come.

Today, with the same determination that marked our great alliance against both fascism and communism, our nations can begin to realize the full promise of a peacefully integrated Europe. I look forward to the work ahead of us in the coming days, and in the months and years ahead. Thank you.
I am delighted to be with you all today. As you know, my visit to Belgium has begun my first trip to Europe as President. Judging from the amount of work I know I’ve given many of you, you’re probably hoping that I’ll start my next visit by seeing some other great European capital.

I want to thank you not only for the work you have done to make my visit here such a success but also for the work you do every day to advance American interests.

You are fortunate to be serving at such a central post during such a critical time. Today, Brussels is at the vanguard of our efforts to build a durable democratic peace across a broader Europe. As the headquarters of both NATO and the European Union, this historic city is helping to lead Europe to a more promising future.

But that promise cannot be realized unless we act to seize the great opportunities before us. For half a century, America and Europe stood sentry against the threat of communist expansion and worked to create a close and vital community out of nations that had been at war. Now the Cold War is behind us. But we face new challenges, from economic renewal to the rise of ethnic conflict. That is why I have come to Europe: to work with our European partners to revitalize the trans-Atlantic community.

In particular, my purposes on this trip have been to help adapt NATO for the challenges of this new era; to encourage the European Union to join us in renewing our economic security; and to underscore the urgency of supporting democracy across Eastern and Central Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Whether you work at our embassy, or at the mission to the EU or at the mission to NATO, your efforts are critically important to the success of this agenda. I feel fortunate to have not just one but three able ambassadors here in Brussels: Alan Blinken, Stu Eizenstat and Bob Hunter. That’s an embarrassment of riches.

America’s bilateral relationship with Belgium -- based on shared values, forged in battle, reinforced by commerce -- is one our most trans-Atlantic ties. Our nations continue to cooperate closely on issues from reducing trade barriers to adapting NATO to peacekeeping. Thanks to your work, and the leadership of Ambassador Blinken, our ties are stronger than ever today.

At the same time, those of you who work with my friend Stu Eizenstat at the mission to the European Union have truly been "present at the creation" of a new Europe. You are not only witnesses to change but forces for progress. Your work during the Uruguay Round helped secure an agreement that will create hundreds of thousands of American jobs. Now we are building on that progress, as we work to renew our own economies and assist the nations to the east in their transition to market economies.

For those of you who serve your country at NATO Headquarters here, these are also exciting times. This mission has a proud
history. Today, under Bob Hunter's command, it is making history. For you are helping to adapt the world's greatest military alliance for the new security challenges facing Europe. The Partnership for Peace just approved at the NATO Summit yesterday [ck] will create a stable environment for the new democracies of the region to flourish. Your skillful work has helped make this proposal a reality.

Not far from here, countless rows of American soldiers lie in silent testimony to the strength of America's bonds to Europe. They died in war so that we might benefit from a lasting peace. Your service gives their sacrifice renewed meaning every day.

I know that even in so magnificent a city it is not always easy to be away from home or from those you love. But I want you to know that the work you do is important to me. And the contributions you make are helping shape history.

Thank you very much.
Ladies and gentlemen, citizens, friends:

It is a great pleasure to be with you here in the Eternal City -- a city that has inspired poets, artists, and all who love life. From classical antiquity through the Renaissance to our modern era, Rome and all of Italy have beckoned travellers and embraced them as their own. This year, thousands of Americans will return to revisit sites where they fought for Italy's liberation; many others will revisit ancestral homes. We will all be guests in your country; on behalf of all Americans, I thank you for your hospitality.

The Liberation of Rome and Europe

I also want to sound a special note of appreciation to Prime Minister Berlusconi and Mayor Rutelli for making this occasion possible. Standing atop this marvelous hill, surrounded by ancient glories and contemporary marvels, we touch the past -- and look brightly to the future.
I am particularly honored to be with you in this evocative setting as we celebrate the liberation of this city. From the landings in Sicily to Anzio and Salerno to the liberation of Rome, Florence, and the great cities of the north, Americans, British, and Italians fought -- and many died -- so that Italy could survive and prosper as a free and sovereign country dedicated to the welfare of its citizens. We in America are proud to have been part of that undertaking.

Here in Italy, as in Great Britain and France, I will commemorate the 50th anniversary of that final offensive which restored freedom throughout western Europe. Tomorrow, at the American military cemetery at Nettuno, I will pay tribute to the thousands of men and women who gave their lives for freedom. I appreciate the presence of President Scalfaro and Prime Minister Berlusconi there with me. Their presence is a powerful symbol of the unity of purpose that binds our nations.

We are particularly proud that our two countries share common ideals and principles -- and that as part of a transatlantic alliance we have put our treasuries and the lives of our citizens at the service of liberty and democracy. The best way to honor those who died for freedom fifty years ago is to rededicate ourselves today to that very same cause. In this way, our western alliance shall remain a beacon of liberty.
Italy's Renewal

Italy is a powerful flame of hope. Since the dark days of the Second World War and its aftermath, Italy has risen to the first ranks of industrial democracies. Through courage and hard work, you have achieved remarkable economic development and material prosperity. The Italian economic miracle stands next to that of Germany and Japan in demonstrating what a committed, industrious people can accomplish. Italian products, from high-technology goods to furniture and clothing are marks of excellence; Italian design and fashion are everywhere trendsetters.

But Italy's rejuvenation is not evident in economics alone. Italy has also, in a fundamental way, renewed itself in a civic sense. Over the past several years, the world has looked with admiration as Italians have undertaken dramatic reforms. Italian citizens' efforts to renew civic liberty and reinvigorate civic virtue have fired the imagination and inspired respect. Two millenia ago, there was no greater honor or privilege than in being able to say CIVIS ROMANUS SUM (chee-vees roh-mahn-oos soon). Today, Italy demonstrates to the world the special value of an involved democratic citizenry.
We in the United States have every confidence in the ability of the Italian people to chart a successful course to further strengthen Italian democracy and civic responsibility.

The Enlargement of Democracy

No visit to Italy would be complete without a visit to the Campidoglio (kAHmp-e-dohy-leo). There is no place in Italy more symbolic of our system of representative government than this hill with its two millennia of history. The very words that we use to describe our system of government -- people, senate, capitol -- have come down to us from the Latin popolo, Senatus, campidoglio (kAHmp-e-dohy-leo).

In being with you today, I am not the first American leader who has sought inspiration from this place. Thomas Jefferson named his home Monticello and drew from Filippo Mazzei (fee-LEE-poh mAHt-say) for his draft of the American Declaration of Independence.
Two centuries ago, democracies were rare and precious. Fifty years ago, our task was to restore democracy in Europe. For over 40 years, our task had been to consolidate democracies against totalitarian threats. Our task now is twofold. First, to refresh and renew our own democracies; Italy is a shining example of how citizens lead the way. Second, to enlarge the democratic community. Of course, roads to democracy are not easy -- as Russia, the newly independent states, eastern Europe countries and South Africa are discovering. But the enlargement of democracy is well underway. Encouraging and helping sustain this enlargement is a cornerstone of American policy.

Despite the evident difficulties involved in making the transition to a democratic society, what is truly remarkable today is that in a significant part of the world democratic values have triumphed. The moral and practical superiority of democracy is widely recognized. And, the right of people to choose their own leaders -- and the unique authority that free elections convey -- are universally accepted in principle if not in practice.
Today, one in six persons lives in a country where basic human values are respected. For the first time in history, democracies possess most of the world's economic and military power. And since democracies do not go to war with each other, governments in these states do not confront national life-and-death security issues. Unlike the past, power now depends on "the continuing triumph of quality over quantity, of brainpower over musclepower, of mind and imagination over physical resources, of the uncontrolled order of freedom over the rigid order of central control and planning." (SOURCE: Max Singer and Aaron Wildavsky, The New World Order)

Today, we understand that the way to wealth is not to amass large territories, huge populations or natural resources. The way to wealth is to educate people to operate freely and effectively in a complex information-intensive economy. Since wealth depends not only on resources but on imagination and increased productivity there is no limit to how rich a country can become. There is no reason why the world should be divided into zones of prosperity and poverty. Success comes to those who are creative and productive. Free societies and open markets are the dynamoes for political and economic well-being.
During the past century, millions of people died unnecessarily -- from starvation and disease, from war, and from government-sanctioned murder. We in Western Europe and the United States cannot prevent coups and revolutions, civil and international wars, and internal massacres and bloody repression from happening somewhere in the world. But we can -- we must -- help nations shorten the period of transition to democracy and prosperity. If we work together, we can reduce the risk of war. Through a judicious use of our remarkable productive capacity, we can save many of the hundreds of millions who would otherwise die of starvation and malnutrition. The institutions forged immediately after the Second World War -- NATO, the European Union, the UN -- are the crucial instruments for helping us spread the benefits of democracy to other European states and elsewhere in the world.

The battle that we must now wage is to extend the blessings of liberty to others. We must wage it with enthusiasm and zeal for we are fighting for the survival and the freedom of millions of men, women, and children who want to live like us. It is a battle that requires generosity, not hatred; sharing, not sacrificing; goodwill, not vengeance. From time to time, situations will arise when military might will be required to right wrongs and preserve peace. The United States and other democracies, working singly, in concert, and through the United Nations and other institutions, have that might. We must employ it wisely, judiciously, and usefully in serving democracy and peace.
The United States and other like-minded states have the means to help those who would shed the yoke of oppression and create democracies where the full capacities of every individual can be realized. Where a mother and father stand an even chance of living long enough to see their grandchildren born. Where they can worship in the way they choose. Where they can live out their lives free from the specter of hunger or violence or oppression.

As we stand together here on this hill, we look out not only on the past but on the future. It is appropriate that we dedicate ourselves to extending the benefits which we too often take for granted to those who do not yet have them. Working together, we the people of western democracies -- we the American and European descendents of Rome and its institutions -- can do it. In this way, we can pass the blessings of freedom and democracy to future generations.
U.S.-Italian Friendship

I would like to close by referring to one of the lions of the Second World War -- Winston Churchill. He once wrote:

In war, resolution; in defeat, defiance; in victory, magnanimity; in peace, goodwill.

It is that special quality -- goodwill -- that characterizes the relations between Italy and the United States. In celebrating Rome's liberation, we also pay tribute to the bonds -- and the goodwill -- between our peoples. To all Italians, both here in this united land and abroad, we say AUGURI (ah-GOO-ree), best wishes and good fortune.
PRESIDENT CLINTON'S REMARKS FOR DEGREE CEREMONY

AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Chancellor,

I am deeply honored to be made a Doctor of Civil Law here today ... though I've had to do some explaining back in the United States as to why I didn't get a degree when I was here twenty-five years. I think perhaps those of you privileged to live and study in Oxford do not require an explanation, for you know well the full measure of opportunities for intellectual and personal growth Oxford offers to each of its students, degree or no. For me, it was at Oxford that I was challenged to think hard and long about some of the issues that we still debate today: the relationship between citizen and government, between conscience and duty, between nation and nation. And it was here that I first reflected deeply on the complicated, rich web of threads that tie us, the United States and Great Britain, one to another.

My visit to Britain and the D-Day commemoration provides an opportunity to reflect on the course of U.S.-British relations over the past half-century. It provides a useful moment to reflect on where we are going together in post-Cold War Europe.
The story of the U.S.-UK relationship has been a story of commitment to the abiding values of freedom and democracy which we cherish and for which Americans and Britons have been prepared to fight and die.

World War II was a watershed. Together we fought a global war and then built a stable peace. Nothing symbolizes the closeness of our wartime cooperation more than Operation Overlord, the greatest amphibious movement of armed forces ever mounted.

This week we honor the commitment and sacrifice of the Americans and Britons who fought Fascism. Theirs was a bond of blood. They depended on each other for their very lives. Their victory laid the basis for the economic and political resurrection of Europe.

Throughout the Cold War we shared a commitment to resisting communist ideology and Soviet expansionism. We worked hard together to build up and maintain the viability of NATO, an alliance of free nations determined to maintain their freedom. And we succeeded.

Throughout the Cold War the U.S. and Britain pursued congruous strategic goals and developed exceptionally well-coordinated defense and security systems. This unique coordination endures today and is at the core of our respective national security policies.
This remarkable relationship did not mean we always saw things eye-to-eye. We have had our disagreements. We have also had some pretty tough private arguments over our approach and tactics to specific problems. In the end, however, when the chips were down, the U.S. and UK stood together on the crucial issues of war and peace: arm-in-arm at NATO, maintaining nuclear deterrence, fighting together during the Gulf War.

Today, our goals must be no different. We need to redouble our efforts to build a world of greater freedom, tolerance, and prosperity for all our people. But this will not be easy.

The problems of the post-Cold War era have proven to be incredibly complex and intractable. The euphoria engendered by the end of communism has given way to a profound sense of cynicism in some quarters.

While there are no easy solutions, we cannot accept the argument that we are condemned to live in a world where ethnic conflict goes unchecked, where hunger is not stopped, where free trade is stifled, where fragile democratic institutions are destroyed by cynical politicians. In such a world, our own survival as democratic nations would ultimately be at risk.

Now more than ever, we must work together to promote the goals of democracy and free markets which have formed the core of our common tradition.
We recognize that as a member of the European Union, Britain will be working more closely with its European partners. We welcome this trend. This is not a zero-sum game, and closer British ties to Europe do not mean that the transatlantic relationship must suffer. On the contrary, we continue to work closely on issues of fundamental, shared concern.

At NATO the U.S. and the UK seek to maintain the integrated military structure and to make the Partnership for Peace a reality.

In Russia and in Eastern Europe, we are supporting political reformers and market economics through the innovative British Know-How Fund and the imaginative U.S. Enterprise Funds.

On a global scale, we have championed together the expansion of free trade. Last year the Prime Minister and I worked closely in bringing the Uruguay Round talks to a successful conclusion, opening markets and eventually creating millions of new jobs.

Our efforts to stem ethnic conflict in Bosnia and elsewhere are rooted in a realistic appreciation of the challenges we face and a determination to pursue pragmatic solutions in areas where our efforts can be most effective.
This is not enough. We need new ideas and new efforts to build on the work of so many brilliant British and American statesmen of the past half century.

We must constantly renew the commitment that has formed the basis of the special relationship.

Earlier today Prime Minister Major and I discussed ways in which we can advance these goals of expanding democracy, creating freer and open markets and resolving conflicts.

We also need to look to the future -- to the next generation -- for ideas and effort in meeting these challenges. In this spirit, I welcome Prime Minister Major's initiative to host a number of American public servants each year on public policy fellowships. We will be looking for ways to join in and use this program to help do what is so important to both our countries: learn from each other. I hope this program will allow dynamic young professionals the same kind of opportunity I enjoyed here at Oxford: a chance to reflect on the most pressing issues facing our world, in the hope that they will be prepared to make a serious contribution to their resolution.
When I met Prime Minister Major at the White House in February, 1992, I pledged that the U.S.-UK special relationship would remain as long as I was President. I reiterate that promise today. I want to renew our commitment to the traditions of freedom and democracy that we cherish. I pledge my best efforts to continue to foster those ideals, in the spirit of the many Britons and Americans who gave their lives that others could share our freedom.
Mr. President, Mr. and Madame Deputies....

It is a privilege to be a guest in this august chamber, which has figured so prominently in the annals of French politics. Your warm welcome is gratifying.

It is a great pleasure to speak to you -- members of a renowned legislative body but, more importantly, representatives of the people of France. One of the reasons I came to Paris today was to salute the abiding friendship between the American and French peoples. Yesterday, in Normandy, I saw a tremendous outpouring of that friendship: U.S. veterans renewing acquaintances with French comrades; Normans offering hospitality to the families of soldiers whose graves they have tended for fifty years; young French and American military officers and enlisted men whose painstaking planning for the D-Day commemoration recalled the cooperation of their fathers and grandfathers on the same shores.
Yesterday's events were a moving tribute to the Allied forces who fought and died to help liberate France. Through your magnificent commemoration, you helped make sure that those sacrifices will not be forgotten. Speaking for all Americans, and especially our D-Day veterans, I say, you have honored us and we are grateful. The graves of our soldiers are a sign of America's enduring commitment to freedom and stability in Europe. As Europe is part of us, so we are part of Europe.

* * * * * * *

Over the past two days, I have spoken at length about the historic partnership between our two nations, a bond forged with shared democratic values and tempered through common struggle in war. Americans remember well how the French shed blood with us in our War of Independence -- the names of Lafayette and Yorktown still resonate clearly in my country. And fifty years ago, we joined together for the second time this century to risk the lives of our young -- our most cherished possession -- to defend our most cherished principle -- freedom. Working closely with General de Gaulle, General Leclerc and the French Resistance, the United States and other allies were victorious because of the righteousness of our cause and the unity of our effort.
And now we face a new challenge together, not unlike the one that faced Europe the last time a U.S. president addressed the French parliament. In January 1919, Woodrow Wilson, overwhelmed by the warm welcome accorded him in the Palace of Luxembourg, said:

"So I see in these welcomes not only hospitality....but purpose, a definite, clearly defined purpose...that all the sons of freedom are under a common oath to see that freedom never suffers this danger again."

Unfortunately, we failed to honor our common oath in 1919. Freedom did suffer again as America withdrew from Europe, new dictatorships emerged and disunity hobbled the democracies. The "war to end all wars" produced an uneasy peace that led to an even more terrible war.

Today, at the end of the Cold War -- as at the conclusion of the Great War -- we face the supreme challenge of bolstering emerging democracies, extending our sphere of stability and prosperity to the east, and stemming ethnic and religious conflict. The collapse of the Communist empire has given rise to a groundswell of liberty in the nations of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. That liberty is threatened by historic conflicts, but our new democratic partners are striving mightily to make sure that the seeds of freedom and prosperity take root and grow. They need our help.
We must not fail them. And we will not if we seek our inspiration from the epic events that we have just commemorated. Yesterday evening at the cemetery at Colleville, looking out over the Channel, I thought about the extraordinary unity that allowed the Allies to achieve the victory at Normandy. Operation Overlord demanded a staggering level of planning and minute-by-minute synchronization. The painstaking coordination -- between all of our nations' forces, between logistical and combat units, between regular forces and the underground Resistance, between military and civilians -- is one of the great stories of modern history.

This unity was sustained not just during a long, arduous military campaign across Europe, but also after the war, when the alliance was expanded to include our former adversaries. What emerged was a free, prosperous, increasingly unified Western Europe joined with North America in a solid transatlantic bond. The great institutions that took shape in Europe during this dynamic period -- the Marshall Plan, the Common Market and the Atlantic Alliance -- fostered reconciliation in the West, contained the Communist threat to the East, and channeled the creative energies of our people toward economic growth. By applying the spirit of Normandy to the task of reconstruction and reconciliation, we won the peace as well as the war.

* * * * * * * *
We must now apply that same spirit to win the peace of the post-Cold War era. Standing at one of history’s great turning points, we have an opportunity to re-shape the security of the entire European continent based on the principles of political and economic freedom. At a time when Western nations rightly are devoting enormous energy to internal economic difficulties and social problems, we must not lose sight of our historic duty in the East.

For the two challenges are related. Our own prosperity and security will be greatly enhanced by the success of reform in Eastern Europe, while the consequences of failure will sap our resources and our strength. In Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, we must do everything we can to bolster the hard-won independence and democratization of the revolutions of 1989. And we must spare no effort to integrate those countries into the community of Western security and economic institutions.
Fortunately, the same institutions that contributed so greatly to the peace and prosperity of Europe after World War II have adapted themselves to Europe's new challenges, extending a hand to the East. In January, at the NATO Summit, we launched the Partnership for Peace, the symbol and instrument of our commitment to end the division of Europe and foster integration. We have worked closely with the Allies to implement the Partnership quickly and respond to the Partner countries' desire for greater security cooperation. Fourteen states have now joined, and we are moving forward with plans for joint exercises and training, proving that the Partnership is an effective means to address common threats to European security.

Just as we have worked to extend the benefits of a collective security order to all of Europe, so we must expand the liberal trading system, which has been a pillar of prosperity for the West. The European Union has begun to embrace the East through accession agreements, increased trade and political consultations. We applaud this vital effort, which is doing so much to heal the continent. But we must all do more to widen access to Western markets and answer the eagerness of the new democracies for economic as well as political integration with the West.
In reaching out to the East, the European Union also has signalled its own enhanced unity, including in foreign and security policy. The United States strongly supports this trend, which owes a great deal to French initiative. We view a coherent, vigorous EU -- including its security component, the WEU -- as a valuable partner in our joint approach to post-Cold War challenges. Together, the European Union, NATO and CSCE form an interlocking structure of integration and support for the 27 nations of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Together, we have made a good start in drawing those countries closer to the West.

Yet, much remains to be done. The conflicts in Bosnia, Nagorno-Karabakh and Georgia have shown us how fragile the situation is and how great the risk of violence. History will render a harsh judgment if our commitment flags, but if we succeed, we will have paid the ultimate honor to those who died for our freedom a half century ago. And we will have gone far to answer our common cry: "No more war on this continent!"

* * * * * * * *
The nations of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union know that their security will be greatly affected by the course of events in Russia. So will our own. In a month, President Mitterrand and I will join the other G-7 leaders in Naples, where we will meet with President Yeltsin. We look forward to this opportunity to reiterate our support for political and economic reform in Russia.

Despite the obstacles that these changes have encountered, we should not ignore the gains that Russia has made: a freely elected President and parliament for the first time in Russian history; increasing independence of economic life from the government and Central Bank; a private sector that now employs forty percent of the work force; 50 million Russian shareholders in privatized companies.

The West must help Russia build upon these gains, accepting that there will be setbacks along the way. Encouraging Russia’s integration into the West -- and its respect for the independence and sovereignty of neighboring states -- is the best and least expensive investment we can make in the security of Europe.

* * * * * * * *
I would like to say a few words about our crucial economic challenges. When I took office I was -- and I remain -- determined to strengthen the United States abroad by improving our economic situation at home, because in an increasingly interdependent world there is no longer a neat distinction between domestic and foreign policy. We have undertaken many steps at home to revitalize our economy. These measures are already having an effect on the economies of Europe and other regions. I know that France, too, is taking bold steps to promote growth.

A key part of our common strategy is to stimulate trade. With the signing of the Uruguay Round agreement and the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement in our own hemisphere, international trade has received a tremendous boost that will stimulate growth and create jobs on both sides of the Atlantic and around the world. Despite our differences, we worked very closely with you and the European Union to conclude the Uruguay Round agreement. Now, let us all act in accordance with the Uruguay Round's vision of open markets as the key to innovation, growth and employment. This will require political courage from all of us, but in the end we will all benefit.
As we turn to the so-called "next generation" trade issues, I am pleased that France and the United States worked so closely together to place trade and labor standards on the World Trade Organization agenda. Let us continue this spirit of cooperation across the board on trade.

* * * * * * * *

In the past year, we have created the opportunities for a dramatic advance in democratic government and market economy. With the implementation of the Maastricht Treaty, the signing of the Uruguay Round agreement and the successful NATO Summit, we are poised to transform the 1990's into a decade of extraordinary progress, one of the major turning points in history. We must not let this opportunity slip through our hands. Let us move forward together so that at the end of the second millennium, we can look back and say that our generation was as wise as its post-War II predecessor in charting a new course for freedom and prosperity.
In this time of change, of risk and opportunity, the relationship between France and the United States assumes a special importance. We have lived through many ordeals together, and have fought shoulder-to-shoulder in four wars. We have been joined for generations by a shared tradition of democracy and the rule of law. As nations with global responsibilities and a historic partnership, we will continue to work closely together to address our mutual challenges in Europe and around the world.

* * * * * * * *

Once again, on behalf of the American people, I thank France for the moving commemorations in Normandy. In tribute to our soldiers who landed 50 years ago, let us make sure that the beachhead of freedom and prosperity they liberated is extended to all of Europe. France and the United States, working together with our other allies and new partners in the East, will realize that peaceful quest.
I wish to thank President Mitterrand, the French government and the French people for this warm welcome and for the extraordinary preparations you have made to honor the allied soldiers who fought in Normandy. These commemorations, like the D-Day invasion itself, symbolize the solid bonds that have joined France and the United States for over two hundred years. Today's events will reverberate throughout the United States as a stirring tribute to our common sacrifice and historic friendship.

Fifty years ago this morning, thousands of our intrepid soldiers swarmed upon these shores by air and sea -- surprising the enemy and securing major gains in the early hours of D-Day. Last night, aboard the USS George Washington, we recalled the first U.S. soldiers to land in Normandy: "pathfinders" who at midnight parachuted inland to mark drop zones for the 82nd and 101st airborne. Cloud cover frustrated those beacons, and thousands of paratroopers landed far from their target area. Many drowned in the English Channel or in fields purposely flooded to thwart an airdrop.
It was precisely because of the hazardous weather that General Eisenhower weighed cancelling the airdrops at the last minute. Some of his advisers urged him to do so. But he made the courageous decision to go ahead, and as he visited the 101st just before it took off on its mission, the paratroopers scolded him for worrying and assured him that they would carry the day.

And so they did -- with the mettle, resourcefulness, and calm under pressure for which the paratroopers are celebrated. By 4:30 a.m. the 505th Regiment of the 82nd airborne had already captured the key town of Sainte-Mere-Eglise (sant-mare-ayGLEEZ) and had begun securing the causeways that the landing troops would need to advance from Utah Beach later in the day.

At dawn, the 4th Infantry assaulted Utah Beach, advancing quickly despite heavy fire, deadly mine fields and widespread flooding of the inland areas. By evening, the 4th Infantry had landed 22,000 men and 1,800 vehicles on Utah Beach. The 4th and the airborne divisions had opened the beachhead that would allow U.S. troops to overrun the Cotentin peninsula and capture Cherbourg, the most important supply port for the Allied advance across Europe.
We also remember today a different type of soldier who helped carry the day at Utah Beach: the "shadow warriors" of the French Resistance. Inspired by Charles de Gaulle and others who refused to accept tyranny in their country, they supplied intelligence to the Allies -- risking their lives and those of their families. Just before the invasion, alerted by codes transmitted by radio, the Resistance leaped into action, destroying railroad tracks, cutting telephone lines and killing Nazi soldiers. The Resistance, working closely with the invading forces -- including the Free French Army -- contributed greatly to the general Nazi confusion and saved many allied lives.

Utah Beach, a great victory, was testimony to the courage, love of country and logistical brilliance that eventually would put over a million men in arms along these shores -- to fight, not for the conquest of territory but to free Europe from tyranny. The Normandy landings could not have succeeded without the extraordinary unity of all Allied forces and Resistance fighters.
Fortunately, this unity endured after the war when the allies reconciled with former-enemies to build freedom, prosperity and integration in Western Europe -- joined with North America in a solid transatlantic bond. Inspired by that example, it is our challenge today to secure freedom and extend prosperity to all of Europe.

Again, I thank the people and government of France for this warm welcome and moving ceremony. France and the United States will continue to work together, as we have for over two hundred years, to expand the frontier of liberty. We could pay no greater honor to the men who fought and died in Normandy.
The final resting place for 9,386 American soldiers killed in the first days of the Normandy invasion is both majestic and peaceful. That is fitting, for majestic describes their mission undertaken 50 years ago; peace in Europe the legacy of their victory. In honoring these brave men today, we redouble our commitment to peace and liberty, bestowing meaning on their sacrifice. There can be no finer monument to our fallen heroes.

From these cliffs, imagine the awesome spectacle that morning of 5,000 ships approaching the beaches of Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword. Hundreds of bombers, fighters, gliders and barrage balloons overhead. D-Day, an epic invasion, was launched not for conquest of land or treasure, but to free a continent from tyranny. In General Eisenhower's phrase, it was a "crusade for Europe." The Nazi defenders surely realized, as they watched the Allied ships approach, that the end was near for Hitler's mad dream.
The end did not come without tremendous cost to our soldiers. Rough seas, hundreds of thousands of mines, barbed wire, artillery batteries and machine gun nests all took their toll on the equipment-laden troops. Hitler's Atlantic Wall "must have seemed impregnable to the forces landing at "Bloody Omaha." Many had already braved the shores of North Africa, Sicily or Salerno, but few had encountered a no-man's land as formidable as this one.

And yet they prevailed. Losing comrades as they advanced, they scaled these heights -- including the legendary Pointe du Hoc -- to establish the beachhead from which the Allies would liberate France and push on to final victory.

What extraordinary unity of purpose led to their triumph! On the tombstones before us are crosses and Stars of David; inscriptions revealing every possible nationality and geographic origin. Regardless of race or creed, Americans stood in unison -- along with its allies -- against tyranny.
And what profound unity of purpose among the Allies! In this global war, there would have been no victory without unparalleled cooperation. That unity endured after the war. Western Europe, working closely with the United States, achieved reconciliation, restoration of democracy, economic vitality and a determined defense -- aided by the Marshall Plan and the birth of NATO. In the years since the war's end, we have thrived as a result of our vibrant transatlantic partnership.

Let me emphasize as we honor our D-Day soldiers this afternoon: the tombstones before us signal America's enduring commitment to freedom and stability in Europe and to our unshakable partnership. Among the graves here at Colleville, two of President Theodore Roosevelt's sons lie side-by-side. One, a World War I pilot, was killed in action over Belgium. The other, a World War II Brigadier General, led his soldiers in the first wave at Utah Beach and earned the Congressional Medal of Honor; he died of a heart attack a few weeks after the landing. America's commitment to Europe is historic and abiding.
NATO, which is proving its ability to adapt to changing circumstances and new missions, remains the central focus of U.S. engagement in Europe. And our vision of NATO's continuing critical role is matched by our continuing support for European Unity. We fully support the European Union as a friend with common values and a vigorous partner in meeting Europe's new challenges.

The most important challenge now before NATO and the EU is to provide poles of stability and opportunity for the new democracies in the east. Our commitment is to support the growth of democracy and market-based economies throughout an undivided continent -- indeed, throughout the area that stretches from 'Vancouver to Vladivostok.' That task and challenge emerge directly from the hopes and aspirations of those we honor here today.

History will judge us harshly if our commitment falters; if we succeed, we will have bestowed the ultimate honor on those who died for freedom a half century ago. And we will have pursued our shared dream: a permanent end to war on this continent.
To the people and government of France: we and the other Allies are deeply moved by the warm welcome you offer us this day. You pay a magnificent tribute to our nation's heroes, and we are grateful. For over two hundred years, France and the United States have stood shoulder to shoulder. We have bled together in battle, including here in Normandy when the Free French and underground Resistance joined with the allies to liberate their country.

Today, our nations remain shoulder to shoulder in addressing problems in Europe and around the globe. This is not simply cooperation between two governments; it involves the friendship and common ideals of our people. Why, for 50 years Norman families have cared for the graves of American soldiers, offered comfort to grieving families, and opened their homes to returning veterans.

On behalf of the American people, I thank you for honoring our veterans. Today's magnificent commemorations will echo throughout the United States as enduring signs of our common sacrifice and great friendship.
Finally, and most importantly, to America's Normandy veterans gathered here and listening around the world: all who love liberty owe you and your fallen comrades a debt that can never truly be repaid. Your victory changed history, rolling back a tide of tyranny that sought to suffocate democracy and obliterate law. By commemorating your epic deeds today, we hope that future generations will comprehend the sacrifices you made so that they could be free.
The lesson of Normandy is that nations motivated by the ideal of freedom, working in concert, can overcome seemingly unsurmountable obstacles. Against great odds, the allies marshalled all their military services, combat and logistical forces, regular units and resistance fighters, soldiers and civilians, to fight for a single goal: freeing "Fortress Europe" from tyranny.

Once that goal was achieved, North Americans and Europeans, including former adversaries, turned to the task of reconciliation and reconstruction -- succeeding so impressively that the post-war era is now viewed as a golden age of diplomacy and allied cohesion. Today, we need to apply that same spirit and common effort to complicated post-Cold War challenges.

No one knows this better than you, Mr. President, for you have dedicated yourself to building a unified Europe. We strongly support you in that critical endeavor and salute your success. Working together, Europe and the United States will continue to make great strides in promoting democracy, respect for human rights and economic prosperity -- which will help make sure that we never again have to send our young people into the cauldron they faced 50 years ago.
Mr. President, when you were in Washington last year, I emphasized that France is a critical partner for the United States as we face the new problems of a rapidly changing world. Your leadership within the European Union and the United Nations, your widespread participation in peacekeeping and other international missions, your strong voice for human rights -- all of these illustrate that France's contributions to international prosperity are felt throughout the world. I am very pleased at the close cooperation we have enjoyed over the past year-and-a-half, and want to underscore the importance of the enduring U.S.-French partnership.

Mr. President, your distinguished political career spans the entire history of post-war France, and I consider myself fortunate to be among the U.S. presidents who has sought your advice. I wish you the best and look forward to our continued close cooperation. Again, on behalf of all Americans -- especially our veterans -- I thank you and the French people for the great tribute you paid to us yesterday in Normandy.
From: Don Baer; RE: D-Day (2 pages)

DATE: 05/18/1994

RESTRICTION: P5

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
Communications
Don Baer
OA/Box Number: 10140

FOLDER TITLE:
D Day Remarks: Arrivals/Toasts/Greetings

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfiled defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]
Thank you for your warm welcome. Hillary and I have long looked forward to revisiting England. We feel especially privileged, and honored, to be here representing the American people as we commemorate that time fifty years ago when our two countries ventured greatly and sacrificed much to free Europe from fascism.

That partnership of fifty years ago was based on common interests and instincts, and on a readiness to act in support of our beliefs. These common values remain the bedrock of the Anglo-American relationship today. I look forward to meeting with Prime Minister Major tomorrow morning to review the many areas in which we cooperate closely. I also look forward to returning to Oxford, a place and a time in my life which played a large role in shaping my world view.

Most important, Hillary and I have come to England to remember the heroism and sacrifices of fifty years ago, and to reflect on their relevance today. We must remember history, lest we repeat it, and we must remember those who paid the ultimate price for our freedom, lest we forget to value it dearly.
In 1940, Winston Churchill predicted to the House of Commons, with typical British understatement, that Great Britain and the United States "will have to be somewhat mixed up together in some of their affairs for mutual and general advantage." He went on to profess no misgivings about this prospect. Indeed, he said, "I could not stop it if I wished; no one can stop it. Like the Mississippi, it just keeps rolling along. Let it roll," he said, "Let it roll on full flood ... to broader lands and better days."

Thanks to the wisdom and leadership of Churchill, of our own Franklin Roosevelt, and the sacrifice of many thousands of Britons and Americans, we defeated Fascism in Europe. We went on and met postwar challenges. We rebuilt Europe. We kept the peace during the Cold War.

And today we are continuing this remarkable journey together. We are dealing with a new set of challenges -- building a new world economy, supporting democracy in Russia, Eastern Europe, and South Africa, working to stem aggression and alleviate suffering in former Yugoslavia. These are difficult problems, not susceptible to quick or easy solutions. They require energy, creativity and perseverance -- the very qualities which were the hallmark of Churchill, Roosevelt and their generation. I am confident that we can do it. If today's Britons and Americans work together with the same dedication and enthusiasm as we did fifty years ago, we can meet the challenges that history has posed to our generation.
TO: Paul Meyer  
Room 197  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500  

FROM: Joe Dawson  
DATE: 28 May 1994  

Text of proposed introduction is as follows:  

In the face of crisis men rise above themselves to accomplish great things. Here on this hallowed ground is where the battle was joined. What better example than the men of Company, and the men of the assault elements of Company and Company, 16th Infantry, 1st Division, and the men of the 116th Regiment of the 29th who were our comrades here on Omaha Beach, June the 6th 1944.  

Today this battlefield has been transformed into a sanctuary that will stand forever for those who gave their lives for our country. Where in all the world can one find a more fitting tribute than the magnificent bronze "Spirit of Freedom" figure that immortalizes forever the men of D-Day.  

I cannot tell you what it means to me to stand on this spot where the path we took led us to where we are today. Where we landed at 0700 on the beach below was total chaos. Men lay dead or dying and the equipment and wreckage of battle was choking the shoreline. I recall how I was overwhelmed with a feeling of anger and hate, and I knew we had to get to the enemy before we were destroyed.  

Suddenly, I saw a path blocked with obstacles and obviously mined, leading toward the crest of this bluff that dominated the beach.  

Upon clearing the minefield we swiftly moved to engage the enemy entrenched here on the crest. By sheer luck, or perhaps by fate, we found the opening that became the first penetration of the enemy.  

This path that we cleared became the route for our comrades to follow, and was the only exit off the beach until later that day.  

On behalf of the soldiers of my company and all other Army warriors who stormed these beaches and bluffs and on behalf of our Navy, Coast Guard, and Air Force comrades who fought with us and for us on D-Day fifty years ago, and finally on behalf of all men and women who served their country in World War II; it is my special privilege and great honor to present the President of the United States.
We are here to recognize and to pay homage to those who shaped the course of history. Only one who holds the highest office in the land can express to you and the world the pride and gratitude to you, the veterans of D-Day.
Hillary and I are delighted to be back in Italy. We often fondly remember the friendliness of the Italian people we encountered while travelling through your beautiful country a few years ago when I was governor of Arkansas. We are glad to be back in Rome to renew the deep Italian-American partnership and to strengthen ties with a valued friend.

I look forward to my visit here and to my meetings with President Scalfaro, Prime Minister Berlusconi and other leaders. From bi-lateral relations to the G-7 Summit, to spurring global economic growth, to our common security interests -- we have much to discuss. We are also greatly anticipating the opportunity to see more of Italy's historic sites and rich cultural legacy.

I also look forward to meeting with Pope John Paul II. The Holy See and the United States share many common viewpoints, particularly on the need to encourage family stability and personal responsibility.

This visit is special for both Italy and the United States. Fifty years ago this week, Italian citizens celebrated as Allied troops entered Rome. We return now to salute all who served and honor those who fell in the pursuit of freedom. We must continue to persevere if we are to secure liberty and equal opportunity for future generations at home and abroad.

Italians can justifiably be proud of what they have accomplished in the past half century. You have transformed this once poor country into the fifth largest industrial democracy. Italy's more recent and equally impressive self-renewal has also captured world attention.

As we commemorate World War II events, we recall not only past accomplishments but also set our sights on the future. I am confident my discussions with Italy's leaders will help further strengthen our unified efforts in meeting the challenges before us.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Italian people for the warm reception we were given during our stay in Italy. This visit was too brief to take in much of your country’s rich culture, but Hillary and I look forward to our return in July for the G-7 summit in Naples.

This visit gave me the opportunity to convey to the Italian government and to the people of Italy the United States’ continued commitment to the close partnership between our countries.

It was a great pleasure for me to meet President Scalfaro, who has been so important in providing stability during Italy’s massive political changes. My first meeting with Prime Minister Berlusconi was equally valuable; his fresh ideas will unleash Italy’s productive energies. In my meeting with the Pope, we reaffirmed our commitment to a responsible international community dedicated to human dignity.

We leave now for United Kingdom and then France, where we will honor, as we did here at Nettuno, those men and women who helped liberate Europe in World War II. The dedication shown by these soldiers is something that my generation, and other generations to come, will be forever in debt to.

Again, thank you for the hospitality you have shown over the past few days.
Hillary and I are excited to be in the United Kingdom. I personally, have many fond memories of my days spent here as a student at Oxford. I am sure the warmth of your people, will make us feel welcome throughout our stay.

I am looking forward to the opportunities I will have to meet with Queen Elizabeth II and with Prime Minister John Major. These meetings will give us the chance to further strengthen the ties our nations have, and to work together on our mutual goals.

The circumstances which we are here under are somber, yet at the same time a celebration of the triumph of freedom and democracy. We come together to honor the men and women who fought and died in World War II. For their sacrifices, my generation and the generations to follow, owe an enormous debt. Our best effort to repay this is to work together to ensure that the battles these heroes fought were not fought in vain.

I am confident that in my meetings with both Queen Elizabeth and Prime Minister Major we will move forward in partnership to achieve our common goals.
President William Jefferson Clinton  
Remarks Upon Departure from the United Kingdom  
Brize Norton  
June 8, 1994

I would like to thank Queen Elizabeth, Prime Minister John Major and all the people of the United Kingdom for the gracious hospitality they have shown to Hillary and me over the past few days.

My meetings with Queen Elizabeth and Prime Minister Major were productive and gave us the chance to reaffirm our partnership as we move forward in confronting difficult issues, with the spirit of cooperation and unity.

The events of this past week have been profoundly moving for me and for all Americans. Together with our European friends, we celebrated the courage, and commemorated the loss of those who fought and those who died. We have seen the sacrifice of another generation -- and we have learned lessons that must be passed on to future generations.

I look forward to seeing Prime Minister Major again next month in Naples, when we gather for the G-7 conference, where we will continue to work together to achieve common goals.

Thank you again and God bless you.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE</th>
<th>SUBJECT/TITLE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>RESTRICTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>002. letter</td>
<td>Rockwell to Meyer; RE: Telephone number (partial) (1 page)</td>
<td>02/12/1989</td>
<td>P6/b(6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COLLECTION:**
Clinton Presidential Records  
Communications  
Don Baer  
OA/Box Number: 10140

**FOLDER TITLE:**
D Day Remarks: Arrivals/Toasts/Greetings

**RESTRICION CODES**

**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**
- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

**C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.**

**PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).**

**RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.**

**Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]**
- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(5) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(5) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
Mr. President, Mrs. Clinton and honored guests, I welcome you today. As our Commander-in-Chief you are a bona fide member of each of our Country's Armed Forces, but this morning we are the Navy. Thank you, Mr. President.

President Clinton, it was just about at this same spot off Omaha Beach 50 years ago today, almost to the hour, I first saw the shore of Normandy from the muck and gloom of stormy June morning. We are here now to re-dedicate to the contributions made by the men and women of the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine, as well as the U.S. Army and Air Force, on that historic day.

It was an awe-inspiring armada of over 6,000 ships and craft that carried the men and material to the French shore. I was fortunate to have had a small but important part in both the preparation for and the landing at Omaha Beach, so did turn from perception of 16,000 ships into reality to me. It was not until early AM, 6 June 5 when we were on our way to Normandy that the magnitude of the event hit me. The invasion forces of Omaha and Utah were landing east of the bay of the English Channel. At about the 7:45 AM, we were met by the British, Canadians and other Allied ships carrying invasion forces sailing about 200 miles to the beach. We made a 90 degree turn parallel to France and our faithful missions.

It was a dreary day with rain, foul clouds, a rough sea and only short range visibility. Suddenly, about 2 AM, the clouds failed, the sun appeared briefly, but long enough for me to see
ships, ships, ships to the horizon! At that moment the scope and magnitude of the exercise hit me. The die was cast; there'd be no turning back then.

Today we have the opportunity, yes, the responsibility, to remind the whole world that one half-century ago America spearheaded a military invasion whose magnitude had never been done before. It is unlikely to ever be equalled.

Tens, yes, hundreds of thousands of men and women took part. Many, many, many gave their lives to bring freedom to the people of Europe and to enable them all humankind to live in a free world.

It is of the utmost importance we commemorate this date and event, and not forget what was done. We have a debt and obligation to those 9896 Americans who lie under the White Crosses and Stars of David in the cemetery above Omaha Beach who paid the supreme sacrifice that we might be free and live today.

Mr. President, honored and delighted you have joined us here today. It is now my privilege and honor to introduce to you the other World War II veterans who have come for this special occasion.
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

30-May-1994 11:15pm

TO: Donald A. Baer
TO: Gabrielle M. Bushman
TO: Paul Meyer
TO: Carter Wilkie

FROM: Anne Walley
Appointments and Scheduling

SUBJECT: toast at Balladur lunch

It looks like we are having a toast at the lunch hosted by PM Balladur in Paris which will be in front of pool press. The scenario is that PM Balladur stands and toasts the President, and the President returns the toast while the pool press is in the Salle de Conseil where the lunch is being held.

Also, I have asked the lead advance in Paris to get clarification on the expected "toast" of Mitterrand at the dinner. Mitterrand's remarks are expected to last 10 to 15 minutes and I want to insure that you guys are on the same wavelength with what is expected for Potus.

Let me know if you need anything else.