# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

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<th>DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE</th>
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<td>001. diagram</td>
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**COLLECTION:**
Clinton Presidential Records  
First Lady's Office  
Speechwriting  
OA/Box Number: 8168  

**FOLDER TITLE:**

**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 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]
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- b(6) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(9) of the FOIA]
Operations in Italy, 1944

**ANZIO-RAPIDO CAMPAIGN**

**1944, January 5–15. Drive to the Rapido.** Stubborn assaults through the mountains, from the confluence of the Liri and Garigliano rivers north to the Apennines, advanced the Fifth Army nearly 7 miles to the final German Gustav Line along the Rapido, with Monte Cassino the key terrain obstacle in the bulge’s center. Alexander planned a frontal attack, assisted by an amphibious landing at Anzio (Operation “Shingle”), some 60 miles from the Rapido front. The Anzio force would then advance inland to cut the German communications line. Although the 2 operations were beyond mutual-support capabilities, it was believed the dual operation would force evacuation of the Gustav Line. The Eighth Army, meanwhile, would continue its advance on Pescara, on the Adriatic coast.

**1944, January 17–21. Rapido-Cassino Assaults.** The X Corps attacked across the Garigliano, attaining a bridgehead. On its right the II Corps U.S. 36th Division attempted to force the Rapido, but was repulsed with heavy loss (January 17–19). The French corps nibbled north of Cassino to make slight but costly gains. As expected, German reserves were drawn to the Rapido front, and the amphibious operation was launched from Naples (January 21).

**ANZIO OPERATIONS, JANUARY 22–FEBRUARY 29**

**1944, January 22. The Landings.** Major General John P. Lucas’ VI Corps—some 50,000 Anglo-American troops, with 5,200 vehicles—began landing without opposition. Forty-eight hours later, most of the troops were ashore, the initial objectives attained, and a beachhead established, 7 miles deep. Lucas, however, made no attempt to drive inland toward the Alban Hills—the vital terrain. Instead, he consolidated his position, awaiting the landing of heavy weapons, tanks, and additional supplies. General Clark, who was present, concurred. But Kesselring’s quick reaction brought German reinforcements from the north as well as from quiet sectors of the Gustav Line.

**1944, January 23–February 16. German Build-up.** Under General Hans Georg Mackensen the quickly extemporized Fourteenth Army pinned Lucas to his beachhead.

**1944, February 16–29. German Counterattacks.** A series of brutal blows drove back the outlying Allied units. Lucas was relieved (February 23) by Clark, Major General Lucius K. Truscott, Jr., U.S. 3rd Division commander, replacing him.

**1944, March–May. Stalemate.** The amphibious assault became a siege for 3 more months with all the elements of World War I trench warfare. All portions of the narrow beachhead were under continuous observation and fire, while the Luftwaffe swept the harbor area, disrupting supply and reinforcement efforts.

**1944, February–May. Operations on the Rapido.** Fifth Army battered at the Gustav Line. The U.S. 34th Division assault on Monte Cassino, the so-called First Battle of Cassino, was repulsed (February 12). The New Zealand Corps then tried, supported by aerial bombardment (General Bernard C. Freyburg mistakenly thought the Germans were using the monastery for observation), in the Second Battle of Cassino (February 15–18), and also failed. The Germans quickly occupied the ruined monastery and repulsed the New Zealanders. The most massive close air support attack attempted to date brought no different result in the Third Battle of Cassino (March 15–23).

**COMMENT.** Since the objective of the Anzio-Rapido operation was to pry the Germans out of the Gustav Line by utilizing Allied sea power to cut their line of communications, Anzio should have been the main effort, the Rapido merely a holding attack. But insufficient sea transportation (because of the demands of the 2 coming amphibious invasions of France) was available to ensure a sledge-hammer blow at Anzio. So the joint operation—and the responsibility must rest on Alexander—became a weak planning compromise: 2 main efforts, entirely incapable of mutual support, neither of them powerful enough to do the job alone. It can be argued that had Lucas immediately and boldly
pushed ahead to his final objective—the Alban Hills—the Gustav Line must have collapsed, with Rome quickly occupied. But Lucas’ commander, General Clark, was ashore on D day and concurred in the decision to consolidate before driving inland. Some 23,860 American and 9,203 British casualties were evacuated during the 4-month hell on the beachhead. In the end the Gustav Line collapsed only as a result of the very type of frontal attack the amphibious operation was designed to avoid.

1944, March 15–May 11. Operation “Strangle.” U.S. Major General Ira C. Eaker’s Anglo-American Mediterranean Allied Air Forces undertook a systematic air interdiction campaign to cut off supplies to German troops south of Rome. Despite severe punishment, the Germans did not withdraw as Allied air planners had hoped. However, the effect would soon be evident when intensive ground pressure was combined with the air interdiction campaign.

Rome Campaign

1944, May 11–25. Breakthrough. Regrouped to bring the weight of the 15th Army Group into his main effort, Alexander launched a full-scale surprise assault in the 20-mile zone between Cassino and the sea. The interdiction pressures of “Strangle” were intensified. In the combined air-ground offensive, “Diadem,” French, Polish, British, Canadian, and U.S. units smashed through the German lines. The Poles took Cassino (May 17–18). At Anzio the reinforced VI Corps attacked (May 23) toward the Alban Hills; contact was made between the two Allied forces two days later.

1944, May 26–June 4. Advance on Rome. General Clark’s shift of the Fifth Army toward Rome now saved the German Tenth Army from possible envelopment. Skillfully handled rear guards checked American advances at Valmontone and Velletri (May 28–June 2), while the remainder of the Tenth Army fell back. Rome was entered (June 4), hot on the heels of a general German retirement.

1944, June–August. Advance to the Arno. The Allies pushed rapidly up the peninsula. But withdrawals of troops—both ground and air—to mount the invasion of southern France (see p. 1212) reduced Alexander’s strength, while German reinforcements bolstered Kesselring. In a series of masterly delaying actions the Germans—despite Allied air superiority—retired to the Gothic Line, extending across the peninsula south of Bologna, its outposts running generally from Pisa, through Florence, to Ancona.

1944, August–December. Advance to the Gothic Line. The Fifth Army crossed the Arno (August 26). Leese’s Eighth Army took Rimini (September 21), and Clark, committing all his reserves, made an unsuccessful bid for Bologna (October 1–20). Another Italian winter settled on an exhausted Allied army group. Alexander, promoted to Supreme Allied Commander in place of Wilson (transferred to head the British military mission in Washington), was replaced by Clark. Truscott took over the Fifth Army and Lieutenant General Richard L. McCreery took over the Eighth from Leese.

The Allied Invasion of Western Europe

The Preliminaries, May 1943–May 1944

Allied Situation and Plans

At the Trident Conference (see p. 1193), President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill agreed on a major cross-Channel invasion of Europe in 1944. Planning was under Lieutenant General Sir Frederick Morgan; the target date was set as the first week of June 1944. A gigantic amphibious operation from southern England to France, with nearly 3 million men, was planned. After all possible landing sites were considered, the area east of the Cotentin
**CHRONOLOGY**

**March 15, 1944**
Liberation Committee comprising all Resistance groups created. Soviets cross Bug; Germans and Vichy Militia attack Gliers Partisans. March 19, 1944
Germans and Vichy Militia attack Gliers Partisans. March 25, 1944
Soviets cross Prut. Soviet capture Chernovtsy. March 30, 1944
Soviets capture Chernovtsy.

**April 2, 1944**
Asq massacre. Odessa liberated. April 10, 1944
All Crimea, except Sevastopol, liberated. April 11-18, 1944
Sevastopol liberated. Allies launch offensive toward Rome. May 9, 1944
Allies breach Gustav Line in southern Italy. May 12, 1944
British take Cassino, Poles take Monte Cassino.

**June 3, 1944**
Comité français de libération nationale ("French National Liberation Committee") renames itself Gouvernement provisoire de la République française ("Provisional Government of French Republic"). Allies enter Rome. June 4, 1944
Prince Umberto of Savoy named lieutenant general of Italian kingdom. June 5, 1944
Allies land in Normandy; general Resistance action launched in France, sabotage in Belgium, general strikes in Denmark, sabotage of communications in Norway. June 6, 1944
Leopold III and family taken to Germany; German massacre at Tulle. Bayeux liberated. June 7, 1944
Leopold III and family taken to Germany; German massacre at Tulle. Bayeux liberated.

**June 8, 1944**
SS massacre at Oradour-sur-Glane. June 10, 1944
First V-bombs launched against Britain. June 13, 1944
De Gaulle returns to France.

**June 14, 1944**

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COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONY

Presidents Clinton and Scalfaro will exit the museum room together, and be announced as they leave. While a 1000 start time is anticipated, it is the announcement of the two presidents which actually starts the ceremony sequence. A timeline is attached.

As the presidents come abreast the line of columns on the memorial, ruffles and flourishes will be sounded. The first note of "Hail to the Chief" should sound as they step to the podium. Music will be followed by a 21-gun salute. Immediately following the salute will be, first, the Italian national anthem, then, the United States national anthem. Ceremonial battalion will be at attention throughout this evolution, going to a position of parade rest upon conclusion of the anthems. The announcer will then introduce the veteran chaplain who will offer the non-denominational prayer. Guests will be seated after the prayer has been offered.

The announcer will then introduce Ambassador Bartholomew who, in turn, introduces President Scalfaro. Eight minutes have been allotted to remarks by President Scalfaro. Upon conclusion of his remarks, the announcer will introduce a campaign veteran who will introduce President Clinton. Two names have been mentioned. One is Dr. John Shirley of the 3rd Infantry Division and of Livermore, California. The other is John Tommasi, a Medal of Honor winner for actions in France. Both will be in attendance. Again eight minutes are allocated for remarks.

Upon conclusion of the President’s address, the announcer will ask guests to stand as memorial wreaths are laid. The ceremonial battalion will come to attention. The band will commence playing of the "Funeral March." The details bearing the wreaths will center from opposite sides of the memorial. When they reach the edge of the podium, the battalion commander will order present arms. This is the cue for the two presidents to turn, step off the back of the podium, and center themselves on the wreath of their nation. The presidents will follow the wreath bearers up the memorial’s steps. The detail will stop at the line of columns and assist as the presidents lay the wreaths. Stepping back, the presidents will observe a moment of silence, turn and walk back to the podium together. Music will stop when they mount the podium.
At this point Italian and American buglers will echo taps. As the last note dies away, a combined ceremonial firing detail will fire a 21-gun volley to honor the dead. As the last salvo is fired, a U.S. Air Force section of F16's will perform a missing-man formation flyover, followed by the Italian Frecce Tricolori flight demonstration team. Both sections will fly the mall axis (east-west). The announcer will then note the conclusion of the ceremony, thanking all for their attendance.

The maximum time allocated for the ceremony is 45 minutes from the time the President walks out onto the memorial.
CEREMONY AT NETTUNO, 03 JUNE 94

0930 - VETERANS, ODV'S REQUESTED TO BE IN PLACE.

0900 - PRESIDENT ARRIVES CEMETERY, PROGRAMMED STOPS, MOVES TO MONUMENT. GReETS PRESIDENT OF ITALY.

1000 - CEREMONY BEGINS. ARRIVAL HONORS AND SALUTES.

1008 - NATIONAL ANTHEMS

1014 - NON-DENOMINATIONAL PRAYER

1016 - INTRODUCTION OF PRESIDENT OF ITALY

1017 - REMARKS BY PRESIDENT OF ITALY

1025 - INTRODUCTION OF PRESIDENT OF U.S.

1026 - REMARKS BY PRESIDENT OF U.S.

1034 - JOINT WREATH-LAYING BY PRESIDENTS

1039 - PLAYING OF TAPS AND FLYOVER

1045 (APPROX) - CEREMONY CONCLUDES
Withdrawal/Redaction Marker
Clinton Library

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COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Speechwriting
OA/Box Number: 8168

FOLDER TITLE:

2012-1004-S
ms508

RESTRICTION CODES

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b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]
Fifty years ago, the United States and its Allies were engaged in a Crusade, a holy war. All across the globe, the soldiers of freedom grappled in uncompromising combat with a diabolical enemy whose tyranny had enslaved whole nations.

Liberty and human dignity were at stake from the jungles of New Guinea and Burma to the beaches of the Gilbert Islands, from the vast steppes of Russia to the cold, cruel waters of the Atlantic.

We are here today to honor one theater of war in particular -- the Mediterranean Theater.
When the Allies invaded North Africa in November 1942, we were blessed by Almighty God with having the French in Africa follow their consciences and join us in our Crusade. Three-quarters of the French homeland had been occupied since the Germans invaded it in 1940. After the return to the Allied side in 1942, the remainder of France was overrun.

In 1943, Providence blessed us again, when, in July, the Italians overthrew Mussolini and, in September, left the Fascist camp to join the Allies. As with France, the Nazis took over and continued the war as an occupying force.

It took a great deal of courage to turn against the Nazi oppressors like that. But of such courage is born the seeds of liberty. Without their help, many more would have died.
You veterans of that theater have come here today to remember your brave deeds. Returning to the land of Julius Caesar, of Leonardo da Vinci, of Michaelangelo, you are again surrounded by ghosts of historic figures whose lives forever changed the course of human events.

You are with your fallen comrades in arms.

Some say that Italy was a forgotten theater. The liberation of Rome on June 4th, 1944, was immediately overshadowed by the long-awaited invasion of France on June 6th.

I go tomorrow to England and then to France. But I do not want you to believe that I -- or the American public -- are unmindful of your great sacrifices and successes.
It was in Italy that the Allies first returned to the continent of Europe. You and your comrades braved the worst terrain and most horrible weather in all the fight against the Nazis. The mountains and valleys that are today so beautiful were peaks of slaughter and mudholes of hell.

Today, we cannot visualize or imagine in our most terrible nightmares what you suffered when you fought up the supposed "soft underbelly of Europe."

There was nothing soft about what you endured. Sheer cliffs, treacherous currents, and thunderous artillery. Deadly small arms fire, murderous bombings, and soul-wrenching hand-to-hand combat. Left in the lines so long that the thousand-yard stare took over, you had the guts and determination to see it through to the bitter end.
Fighting for justice and freedom, for personal honor and duty, your care for your comrades brought you ever into the fray. Never wanting to let you buddies down, you went forward again and again, against some of the most formidable fortifications in all of Europe. The Winter Line, the Gothic Line, and the Caesar Line. Names like Sicily, Salerno, Monte Cassino, and Anzio entered the annals of history forever...

Like Caesar, you came, you saw, and you conquered.

But your conquering -- and this point is most important -- was not the conquering of a greedy, power-hungry people. You did not come to Italy to make it part of the United States. You did not seek to annex any piece of Europe for your own. No. You came to set the people here free. You came to push the Nazi aggressor out of this country, and with the Italian and other allies, you did that.
Some of you even fought here and then went into Southern France and then into Germany. You fought on the side of justice, freedom, and truth. And you fought to make the towns and villages you liberated, forever free.

It is a sad truth that although you did not seek to annex any of the countries of Europe, some land was donated in perpetuity to the United States -- the countries of Europe have honored the brave fallen by giving land to the United States for internment of our heroic dead. We are here today on American soil to honor -- with the Italian government and the Italian people -- the men who gave their final measure of devotion -- their very life's breath -- to free Italy.

This small area does not add to our gross national product, does not enhance our military might abroad, does not oppress anyone.
No. But this cemetery does add honor to the brave men, living and dead, who fought for the cause of freedom and right. No war is without cost. No battle without casualties. No cause without sacrifice.

As we pray at this cemetery, let us remember we are in the presence of heroes. Let us remember not only those here, but those who fought throughout the Mediterranean Theater, from the shores of North Africa to the Italian Alps.

Let us remember that we fought not alone but with staunch Allies -- Belgians, Brazilians, British, Canadians, Cypriots, French, Algerians, Moroccans, Indians, Italians, Nepalese, New Zealanders, Poles, South Africans, Syro-Lebanese, and Yugoslavians.
Let us remember that within our own Army, we had men from all races, religions, and backgrounds, including a proud regiment of Japanese-Americans. with Japanese ancestry.

In the past fifty years, much has happened. We can look back from where we stand and see that World War II was a watershed in history. Where we are today, what we have been through in the past half century result from the course of the war. The Cold War -- its sides and its terrors -- came out of this war.

We stand again on a threshold.

The threat of nuclear destruction has been greatly reduced. Working with the Russians again as allies, we are reaching into the Twenty-First Century with justifiable hope.
As Pamela Harriman, our ambassador to France, has remarked, history will look upon the 20th Century as a century of war.

What we and our allies do in the next few years will determine if history will regard the 21st Century as the Century of Peace.

In honoring the past, we look to the future. We are still engaged as a nation across the globe. We must ensure our armed forces are maintained at their currently high state of training and readiness. We have cut back our defense budget, since the Cold War has ended, but there are still serious threats to our national security. The best strategy to protect our security and that of freedom-loving nations across the globe is to resist the temptation to cut our forces any further.

What will tomorrow bring? No one can say for sure. The Balkans are brewing and an easy solution has not been forthcoming. All over the globe, American interests are entwined with the interests
of her Allies. In that sense nothing has changed in the years since the Second World War.

So as we remember with deep gratitude what sacrifices you endured fifty years ago, let us pray that if called to, we can again join with our allies to depose tyranny from the throne and bring justice and human dignity into its proper place.
Remarks at Gatwick Airport Upon Leaving for Italy.

June 30, 1963

Prime Minister:
I want to express our very warm thanks to you and to Lady Dorothy for the shelter you have given us during the last 24 hours. As usual, we were able to accomplish a good deal in this meeting because of the strong basis of understanding which has existed between our two countries and which has existed to my great satisfaction since the period of my incumbency.

The most important matter, of course, which occupies our attention, and which will continue to occupy our attention, is our common hope that the mission of Governor Harriman and Lord Hailsham will be successful. I think the progress that we made during our discussions in coming to an agreement on the instructions of our emissaries, I think made this meeting particularly useful.

So from public and personal grounds both, I wish to express our warmest thanks to you, and to tell you that we look forward to your visiting the United States next time around.

NOTE: In his opening words the President referred to Prime Minister Macmillan and his wife, Lady Dorothy.

Remarks Upon Arrival at Fiumicino Airport, Rome.

July 1, 1963

Mr. President:
I want to express my appreciation to you for your generous welcome.

I come to this country and to this ancient city for a good many important reasons. Millions of my fellow countrymen left these shores. They occupy positions of the highest responsibility in the United States—member of the Cabinet, Members of the Congress, Governors; and most importantly, perhaps, of all, they have raised large families and have been productive and responsible citizens.

I am glad to be here also, Mr. President, because Italy occupies a position of strategic importance, vital to the security of Europe, vital to the security of the United States. In the heart of Europe, reaching down into the Mediterranean towards Africa, the maintenance of a free democracy here in Italy is of great interest, of vital interest, not only to your own people, but also to all of us who believe in freedom.

I come, Mr. President, to this very ancient country, but I come on the most modern business, and that is how the United States and Italy can continue in the important and changing years of the sixties to maintain the intimate friendship, the intimate association, the intimate alliance, which has marked our affairs in the last 15 years. Through NATO we are allies. Through necessity we are joined together. Through friendship we find that union to be most harmonious.

It is our task, I think, Mr. President, to make sure, in the interest of both of our countries, that that association remains as strong in the future as it has been in the past. We regard that of the first importance to my country.

And I am also glad, Mr. President, for personal reasons to be your guest. You have been to the United States since my incumbency. We value highly your leadership and, therefore, I feel myself not only in a country with which the United States has cordial relations, but also among friends.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:45 a.m. His opening words "Mr. President" referred to Antonio Segni, President of Italy.
288 Remarks at the Campidoglio in Rome. July 1, 1963

Mr. Mayor, ladies and gentlemen:

I want to bring to you, and through you, to the people of Italy, the warmest best wishes of my fellow countrymen, millions of whom are of Italian descent. In fact, as President of the United States, I represent two or three times as many Americans of direct Italian descent than the Mayor does.

So I bring you the greetings of 20 American cities named Florence, 15 American cities called Milan, 9 named Piedmont, 7 called Venice, 7 called Rome, and 1 even called Italy, Tex.

I have come to Europe, and I conclude my trip to Europe tomorrow, because I believe strongly that the Atlantic Ocean should be to all of us, on the east and the west side of it, a mare nostrum, that it should be a common bond, and that it is essential for the maintenance of freedom in both of our continents and, indeed, around the world that the United States and Canada, and Europe, should work in closest harmony.

For 18 years the United States and Italy and our other allies, have worked closely together. In many ways now, the cause of freedom is stronger in the world than it has been since 1945. I therefore believe it more essential than ever that Italy, the United States, the other members of NATO, and indeed, all people, recommit themselves to the cause of freedom, which I believe to be essential to the cause of progress.

Thank you for your welcome. I can tell you that your former countrymen who are now my countrymen are doing well and think of you often.

Thank you.

Note: In his opening words the President referred to Glauco Della Porta, Mayor of Rome.

289 Remarks to the American Embassy Staff at the Ambassador’s Residence in Rome. July 1, 1963

Mr. Secretary, Mrs. Reinhardt, Mr. Williamson, ladies and gentlemen:

I want to express my appreciation to all of you for your welcome and also to say how glad I am to see you here, how very important your work here is in Rome, and how very dependent we are upon your counsel, your great efforts for the United States, and the efforts for the United States, it seems to me, also serve Italy and the entire free world.

I know we have here today a combination of Italians and Americans. It is impossible to tell the difference. Whether that is because the Americans are becoming more Italian or the Italians more American—perhaps you could hold up your hands, all of you who are citizens of the United States. And all of you who are citizens of Italy.

Well, I want to express to both of you our thanks. I hope those of you who are Italians will feel that in working for the United States Government, as you do, that you also work in behalf of your own country. I think you do.

The great interest of the United States and Italy are wholly parallel. The great effort which we are both making serves not only our people, but all who depend upon us. In serving the United States in this capacity, it seems to me that you are fulfilling the highest responsibilities of your Italian citizenship in the same way that American citizens who work in the Italian Embassy in Washington, I think, also help the United States.

I want to say a special word of appreciation to all of you. This is not a hardship post exactly, but it is a post of the greatest responsibility. Ancient Rome had its mission, but so does modern Rome. Most especially, so does the United States. I have come on this trip to Europe, which is coming to an end, the great necessity to States, an United States merely widens into free world. The United States, as some people made a remark, now make of the world.

It is now.

I WISH my court to you, members of generous ways that in pose of convicts that the protection all of our glad who have in the one of the post.

In a press countr Treaty Nation own e United States.
Remarks at a Dinner Given in His Honor by President Segni.

July 1, 1963

I WISH to first express in behalf of all of my countrymen our very warm appreciation to you, Mr. President, Prime Minister, members of the Italian Government, for their generous reception of us. All roads have always led to Rome, and it is quite natural that in this trip through Europe, the purpose of which was to emphasize the strong convictions which my countrymen have that the maintenance of freedom, the protection of our mutual independence, strongly depends upon the close cooperation between all of our countries. And I am particularly glad, Mr. President, to be your guest, you who have played such a distinguished role in the Italian miracle, which I think has been one of the most remarkable phenomena in the postwar period.

In addition, Mr. President, I want to express our admiration for the role that this country has played in the last decade, in the Treaty of Rome, in NATO, in the United Nations, in its own internal efforts, in its own external efforts. It seems to me that Italy has been a very good neighbor of the United States and this friendship is strongly reciprocated.

...to an end, because I believe so strongly that the great power of Europe should be harnessed to the great power of the United States, and together both Europe and the United States should concern themselves not merely with the business of our own immediate interests, but with the business of the free world's interest all around the globe. The United States has carried the great burden of this struggle now for 18 years. In some places it carries it almost alone. It made a major effort here in Europe. It is now making a major effort in other sections of the globe.

It is my hope that the countries of Western Europe will, as their strength increases, and that strength is impressive, will more and more associate themselves as equal partners in the greatest of all struggles—the maintenance of freedom, the maintenance of peace. So I congratulate you on the part that you are playing in 1963 in serving the great Republic.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at the Villa Taverna, the Ambassador's residence in Rome. His opening words referred to Secretary of State Dean Rusk; Mrs. G. Frederick Reinhardt, wife of the United States Ambassador to Italy who was ill; and Francis T. Williamson, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires.
have come to Europe—that the United States will regard any threat to your peace and freedom as a threat to our own, and we will not hesitate to respond accordingly.

But now our ties are more than military. What has brought our two countries ever closer together in the postwar years has been our common recognition that freedom must mean more than an absence of tyranny; that it must have internal meaning as well; that it must provide not only for theoretical rights, but for solid economic and social progress towards the enjoyment of those rights by all of its citizens. As a result of these developments, Italy and the United States have attained a new harmony, not only in foreign affairs, but in domestic political outlook and concern.

[We both believe in the achievement of social justice and in progress for all our people. We both believe in democracy at what Americans call “the grass roots”—placing the individual ahead of the state, the community ahead of the party, and public interests ahead of private.

The growth of your nation’s economy, industry, and living standards in the postwar years has truly been phenomenal. A nation once literally in ruins, beset by heavy unemployment and inflation, has expanded its output and assets, stabilized its costs and currency, and created new jobs and new industries at a rate unmatched in the Western world. For this remarkable achievement, I salute all those who provided the labor, initiative, and vision to make it possible. But even more phenomenal than the recovery of your economy has been the recovery of your freedom—the reconstruction and renewal of a strong, progressive democracy after 21 years of dictatorship.

[Democracy involves delays and debate and dissension. It requires men to think as well as believe, to look ahead as well as back, to give up narrow views or interests that retard their nation’s progress. But given an opportunity to work, it completely contradicts and isolates the false appeals of the extremists who would destroy democracy.

[During the 1930’s, when despair and depression opened wide the gates of many nations to these archaic and harsh ideologies, my own nation adhered to the course of freedom under the leadership of Franklin Roosevelt. His administration introduced a higher degree of social, economic, and political reform than America had previously seen—including tax and budget reforms, land and agricultural reforms, political and institutional reforms. Workers were assured of a decent wage—older citizens were assured of a pension—farmers were assured of a fair price. Working men and women were permitted to organize and bargain collectively. Small businessmen, small investors, and small depositors in banks were given greater protection against the evils of both corruption and depression. Farms were electrified—rivers were harnessed—cooperatives were encouraged. Justice—social and economic justice as well as legal—became increasingly the right and the opportunity of every man, regardless of his means or station in life.

[I do not say that the battle for justice is over in my country, any more than you would say it is over in yours. The achievement of justice is an endless process—democracy must be a daily way of life. And there are still inequalities to be removed in the United States. We are striving to reduce geographic inequalities, in which some States and communities are not sharing in the general prosperity. We are striving to include health and hospital care among the financial disasters covered by social insurance, as your system, I am told, already provides. We are striving to increase jobs without increasing prices, in the benefits of abundance with the forces of inflation.

[Of great importance today to erase for all time the injustices of race and color in all Americans a fair chance of lives and their opportunity and as equal children of God conceal not accept the discrimination suffered by our Negro citizen of the country; and I am determined both public and private.

While progress remains the areas of social progress means that no totalitarian’s promise of solution. As you men have stressed, the process is not complete in any country ever be. The obstacles in it always look large; the effort of those with the seeming answers on the far right at always be great. But Italy and the United States are more closely together as is and the common dedication to social and the common ideals of dignity.

All this is not unrelated to the world at large. I set an example of vigorous, if we can achieve control inflation, reduce spread the blessings of our people, if we can need, not only for a fair day’s wages, but fair and housing and other family and the other lands. Together mansions of freedom, world can admire at
without increasing prices, in order to spread the benefits of abundance without unleashing the forces of inflation.

Of great importance today, we are trying to erase for all time the injustices and inequalities of race and color in order to assure all Americans a fair chance to fulfill their lives and their opportunity as Americans, and as equal children of God. I can neither conceal nor accept the discrimination now suffered by our Negro citizens in many parts of the country; and I am determined to obtain both public and private action to end it.

While progress remains to be made in all of the areas of social progress, the fact remains that no totalitarian system offers any promise of solution. As your own spokesmen have stressed, the process of free reform is not complete in any country, nor will it ever be. The obstacles in such a course will always look large; and the siren temptation of those with the seemingly swift and easy answers on the far right and the far left will always be great. But I am convinced that Italy and the United States will draw even more closely together as they share a common dedication to social justice and progress and the common ideals of human rights and dignity.

All this is not unrelated to our goals for the world at large. If our nations can set an example of vigorous freedom in action, if we can achieve full employment, control inflation, reduce inequalities, and spread the blessings of prosperity to all of our people, if we can fulfill each family’s need, not only for a full day’s wages at a fair day’s work, but for schools and hospitals and housing and other services—then we can more surely and strongly sustain our commitments to Western security, lay the foundation for a democratic Atlantic Community, and inspire freedom and hope in other lands. Together let us build sturdy mansions of freedom, mansions that all the world can admire and copy but that no tyrant can ever enter. It will not be easy. It is not easy to secure progress through democracy, but in my opinion it is the only way that progress can be assured.

If there is one fact, it seems to me, larger than any other, it is that the last decade has proved that those who sell their souls to the Communist system under the mistaken belief that the Communist system offers a quick and sure road to economic prosperity, have been proven wholly wrong. Berlin is an obvious example. Eastern and Western Europe are obvious contrasts. The Soviet Union and China versus the progress of the West offer other contrasts. The fact is that the last decade has conclusively proven that communism is a system which has outlived its time, that the true road to prosperity, the true road to progress, is by democratic means. This has been proven very clearly in Western Europe. It has been proven in my own country. It seems to me incumbent upon us all to make that promise bright in the remainder of the sixties; in short, to build not only military defenses for the West, but also in all of our own countries to provide the kind of progress for our people that makes freedom meaningful, that makes freedom understandable, that makes freedom worth fighting for.

This I think the Italian people, the Italian Government, has understood. The American people, the American Government, has understood it. I think that our prospects are bright for the future. I think that the great effort for the West still lies before us, but I think the great opportunities and promises of the West lie not too far over the horizon.

So, Mr. President, in this country which has done such an extraordinary job in the last years in attempting to carry out internally the great progress which you have made, and which we have made, I want to offer a toast to the people of this country upon whom so much of our hopes depend, the leadership of this country, whose help

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and friendship we seek, and most of all to you, Mr. President, who have given direction and meaning to the last years in your own country.

Ladies and gentlemen, to the President of Italy.

and the response of public assemblies, in observing the progress and the vitality of Europe's cities and citizens, I have been heartened by their increasing strength of purpose, and moved by their commitment to freedom.

Specifically, I shall return to Washington newly confirmed in my convictions regarding eight principal propositions:

First, it is increasingly clear that our Western European allies are committed to the path of progressive democracy-to social justice and economic reform attained through the free processes of debate and consent. I spoke of this last night in Rome, as I had earlier spoken of it in Germany. And I cite it again here to stress the fact that this is not a matter of domestic politics but a key to Western freedom and solidarity. Nations which agree in applying at home the principles of freedom and justice are better able to understand each other and work together in world affairs. And the more the nations of Western Europe commit themselves to democratic progress in their own countries, the more likely they are to cooperate sincerely in the construction of the emerging European community.

Second, it is increasingly clear that our Western European allies are determined to maintain and coordinate their military strength in cooperation with our own nation. In a series of military briefings and reviews, I have been impressed—less by NATO's weaknesses, which are so often discussed, and more by the quality of the men, their officers, their steadily more modern weapons, their command structure, and their dedica-
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To freedom and peace. Since 1955, NATO's strength has greatly increased. Annual defense expenditures for all members have been increased by nearly 40 percent—from $52.3 billion to $71.8 billion. NATO Europe alone increased its expenditures by roughly 47 percent. The number of army divisions in the central "shield" area has increased 50 percent—and their equivalents in all of NATO have increased by one-third. These divisions, moreover, are better organized, better integrated, better equipped, and of a higher quality.

While we can take heart from these accomplishments, we have much still to do. Important improvements and additions are still needed, and this is the time to slacken in our efforts. But if we continue to build up our strength at all levels, we can be increasingly certain that no attack will take place, at any level, against the territory of any NATO country.

Third, it is increasingly clear that our Western European allies are committed to peace. The purpose of our military strength is peace. The purpose of our partnership is peace. So our negotiations for an end to nuclear tests and our opposition to nuclear dispersal are fully consistent with our attention to defense—these are all complementary parts of a single strategy for peace. We do not believe that war is unavoidable or that negotiations are inherently undesirable. We do believe that an end to the arms race is in the interest of all and that we can move toward that end with injury to none. In negotiations to achieve peace, as well as preparation to prevent war, the West is united, and no ally will abandon the interests of another to achieve a spurious détente. But, as we arm to parley, we will not reject any path or refuse any proposal without examining its possibilities for peace.

Fourth, it is increasingly clear that our Western European allies are willing to look outward on the world, not merely in at their own needs and demands. The economic institutions and support of Western European unity are founded on the principles of cooperation, not isolation, on expansion, not restriction. The Common Market was not designed by its founders, and encouraged by the United States, to build walls against other Western countries—or to build walls against the ferment countries and hope of the developing nations. These nations need assistance in their struggle for political and economic independence. They need markets for their products and capital for their economies. Our allies in Europe, I am confident, will increase their role in this all-important effort—not only in lands with which they were previously associated but in Latin America and every area of need.

Fifth, it is increasingly clear that nations united in freedom are better able to build their economies than those that are repressed by tyranny. In the last 10 years, the gross national product of the NATO nations has risen by some 75 percent. We can do better than we are—but we are doing better than the party dictatorships to the East.

There was a time when some would say that this system of admitted dictatorship, for all its political and social faults, for all its denial of personal liberty, nevertheless seemed to offer a successful economic system—a swift and certain path to modernization, growth, and prosperity. But it is now apparent that this system is incapable in today's world of achieving the organization of agriculture, the satisfying of consumer demands, and the attainment of lasting prosperity. You only need to compare West Berlin with East Berlin; West Germany with East Germany; Western Europe with Eastern Europe.

Communism has sometimes succeeded as a scavenger but never as a leader. It has never come to power in any country that was not disrupted by war, internal repression, or both. Rejecting reform and diversity in freedom, the Communists cannot reconcile their ambitions for domination with other men's ambition for freedom. They cannot look with confidence on a world of diversity and free choice, where order replaces chaos and progress drives out poverty.
The increasing strains appearing within this once monolithic bloc—intellectual, economic, ideological, and agricultural—make it increasingly clear that this system, with all its repression of men and nations, is outmoded and doomed to failure.

Sixth, it is increasingly clear that the people of Western Europe are moved by a strong and irresistible desire for unity. Whatever path is chosen, whatever delays or obstacles are encountered, that movement will go forward; and the United States welcomes this movement and the greater strength it ensures. We did not assist in the revival of Europe to maintain its dependence on the United States; nor do we seek to bargain selectively with many and separate voices. We welcome a stronger partner. For today no nation can build its destiny alone; the age of self-sufficient nationalism is over. The age of interdependence is here. The cause of Western European unity is based on logic and common sense. It is based on moral and political truths. It is based on sound military and economic principles. And it is based on the tide of history.

Seventh, it is increasingly clear that the United States and Western Europe are tightly bound by shared goals and mutual respect. On both sides of the Atlantic, trade barriers are being reduced, military cooperation is increasing, and the cause of Atlantic unity is being promoted. There will always be honest differences among friends; and they should be freely and frankly discussed. But these are differences of means, not ends. They are differences of approach, not spirit. Our efforts and techniques of consultation must be improved. We must strengthen our efforts in such fields as monetary payments, foreign assistance, and agriculture. But, recognizing these and other problems, I return to the United States more firmly convinced than ever before that common ideals have given us a common destiny—that together we can serve our own people and all humanity—and that the Atlantic partnership is a growing reality.

Eighth, and finally, it is increasingly clear—and increasingly understood—that the central moving force of our great adventure is enduring mutual trust. I came to Europe to reassert—as clearly and persuasively as I could—that the American commitment to the freedom of Europe is reliable not merely because of good will, though that is strong—not merely because of a shared heritage, though that is deep and wide and not at all because we seek to dominate; we do not. I came to make it clear that this commitment rests upon the inescapable requirements of intelligent self-interest, a commitment whose wisdom is confirmed both by its absence when two great wars began and by its presence in 18 years of well-defended peace. The response which this message has evoked—from European citizens, from the press, and from leaders of the continent—makes it increasingly clear that our commitment—and its durability—are understood. And at the same time, all that I have seen and heard in these crowded days confirms me in the conviction—which I am proud to proclaim to my own countrymen—that the free men and free governments of free Europe are also firm in their commitment to our common cause. We have been able to trust each other now for nearly 20 years. And we are right to go on.

One hundred and fifteen years ago this month, Giuseppe Mazzini addressed a mass meeting in Milan with these words: "We are here ... to build up the unity of the human family, so that the day may come when it shall represent a single sheepfold with a single shepherd—the spirit of God. ... Beyond the Alps, beyond the sea, are other peoples now ... striving by different routes to reach the same goal—improvement, association and the foundations of an authority that shall put an end to world anarchy ... United with them—they will unite with you."

Today, Italy is united as a free nation and committed to unity abroad. And beyond the Alps in the capitals of Western Europe, beyond the sea in the capitals of North America, other nations are also striving for improvement. By the 20th of July, we have so often promised, we are stronger that can deter future plans. In time, therefore, free in the United States—

On July 2, 1961, President Kennedy delivered the following speech at the White House to the Italian President Segni and other leaders of the European Community:

"We are here ... to build up the unity of the human family, so that the day may come when it shall represent a single sheepfold with a single shepherd—the spirit of God. ... Beyond the Alps, beyond the sea, are other peoples now ... striving by different routes to reach the same goal—improvement, association and the foundations of an authority that shall put an end to world anarchy ... United with them—they will unite with you."

Today, Italy is united as a free nation and committed to unity abroad. And beyond the Alps in the capitals of Western Europe, beyond the sea in the capitals of North America, other nations are also striving for improvement. By the 20th of July, we have so often promised, we are stronger that can deter future plans. In time, therefore, free in the United States—

In the Rome that climate very close connections between men and women in the modern world is recognized as a natural and normal phenomenon. The exchange of knowledge and ideas, and the free flow of goods and services, are recognized as necessary for the future of our world and for the well-being of all its peoples. The Atlantic Alliance is a symbol of this new spirit of cooperation and unity among nations. It is a commitment to work together to achieve our common goals of peace, freedom, and progress for the benefit of all mankind. The leaders of the Atlantic countries have shown that they are willing to make sacrifices and take risks in order to maintain this partnership.

In this context, President Kennedy expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the Italian government in promoting the Atlantic Alliance. He acknowledged the importance of Italy as a key partner in the Alliance and recognized the contributions of Italian leaders such as Giuseppe Mazzini and Benito Mussolini. The President emphasized the need for continued cooperation and dialogue among the members of the Alliance in order to maintain the spirit of unity and cooperation that characterizes this partnership.

In conclusion, President Kennedy stated that the United States and Italy were united not only in words but also in action. He expressed his confidence that the Atlantic Alliance would continue to grow stronger and more effective as the nations of the community work together to achieve their common goals. The President ended his speech with a call for continued effort and cooperation, and a commitment to the principles of freedom, justice, and solidarity that form the foundation of the Atlantic Alliance.
America, other nations and other peoples are also striving for new association and improvement. By building Western unity, we are ending the sources of discord that have so often produced war in the past—and we are strengthening the ties of solidarity that can deter further wars in the future. In time, therefore, the unity of the West can lead to the unity of East and West, until the human family is truly a "single sheepfold" under God.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:30 p.m. The prepared text of his remarks, printed above as released by the White House, was shortened in delivery.

The President's opening words referred to President Antonio Segni, Prime Minister Giovanni Leone, Foreign Minister Attilio Piccioni, and Defense Minister Giulio Andreotti—all of Italy.

292 Joint Statement Following Discussion With President Segni in Rome.  July 2, 1963

ON JULY 1st and 2nd there took place the scheduled working visit to Italy of President Kennedy during which, in Rome, he was received by the President of the Republic, Segni, and, accompanied by Secretary of State Rusk, met with the President of the Council of Ministers Leone and the Vice President of the Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs Piccioni; and in Naples, he visited, together with President Segni, the headquarters of Allied Forces, Southern Europe.

In the Rome talks, which were carried out in that climate of cordial friendship and very close cooperation which characterizes Italian-American relations, there were examined the principal current international problems. In particular, the meetings provided the occasion for a useful and thorough exchange of views on the situation of East-West relations.

In this regard, both sides confirmed their firm intention of persevering in the search for appropriate means to alleviate international tensions. Furthermore, they expressed the conviction that in an atmosphere free from pressure and from threats, existing problems can be directed toward solutions, however partial, without at the same time altering that balance of forces which is guaranteed by the Atlantic Alliance, indispensable instrument for the consolidation of peace in freedom and security.

In this context, President Kennedy explained the position of the United States with respect to the possible development of a NATO multilateral nuclear force. On the Italian side, as a consequence of the agreement in principle formerly expressed by the Italian Government which was reported to the Chamber of Deputies immediately afterwards, there was expressed a favorable attitude toward participating in studies on this subject to be carried out subsequently among all the governments concerned.

In examining the developments of the Alliance, against the background of the current international situation, both parties again underlined the necessity of persevering in efforts to advance current negotiations for a controlled, gradual and balanced disarmament, of making every effort in order to reach an agreement in the field of nuclear test ban, and of preventing the proliferation of atomic arms.

As for the process of European unification, there was agreement as to its significant value, and on the Italian side, there was reaffirmed the will to encourage its development, increasing the efforts directed towards creation of an integrated Europe. In this connection, there was recalled the known attitude of the Italian Government favorable to European integration not only in the economic field but also in the political. Italian representatives found themselves in agreement with President Kennedy on the neces-
sity that European unity be achieved within the framework of the hoped-for inter-de­
pendence between U.S. and Europe.

Both sides agreed on the desirability of working towards cooperation among the various economic areas in order to promote a greater volume of trade between the areas themselves and to draw them increasingly closer together. In this context, there were examined the results achieved in the minis­
terial meeting held last May in Geneva in preparation for the GATT multilateral tariff negotiations which are scheduled to begin next year. Taking into account the com­plexity of the problems discussed in that meeting, the results achieved so far were considered encouraging. Particular emphasis was laid on the significance of the resolution approved at that time for expanding the commerce of the developing countries, inasmuch as such resolution provides the basis for a better coordination of the efforts of the democratic countries aimed at fostering the economic and social progress of the develop­
ing countries. This is in conformity with
the policies of both the United States and Italy, designed to promote the strengthening of the free world through a common pro­gram in which all nations which are really free can participate.

Both reaffirmed the staunch adherence of both countries to the principles of the United Nations organization; and the firm purpose to continue to carry out within the organi­zation constructive work particularly with regard to the problems of disarmament, the developing countries, and the maintenance of peace. They placed special stress on the role which, in this connection, the U.N. might play at such time in the hoped-for agreement on disarmament.

In such a spirit, on the American side as on the Italian side, there was underlined the desire to continue the work which the respective governments are carrying on for the strengthening of peace in the world and for the carrying out of their obligations to this end.

293 Remarks at Capodichino Airport in Naples Upon Leaving for the United States. July 2, 1963

Mr. President, Mr. Prime Minister, Mr. For­
eign Minister, Mr. Defense Minister, Am­
bassador:

On behalf of all the Americans who came on this journey into Europe this summer, I want to express our warmest thanks to you and particularly to the people of Naples who made us sorry to go and happy to come back. This has been a short visit to this great country. But I go now to my own people from whom I carried messages of good will to all of you, and I carry home to them a strong feeling that the efforts that they have made over the last 18 years are understood, are recognized, and that a great flood of friendship, particularly in this country, wells forward for all of my countrymen and for all that we are trying to do, all that we hope to be. And most of all, Mr. President, I want to express my thanks to you and your Government for all that you did to make this very short stay most productive.

Grazie.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7 p.m. His opening words referred to President Antonio Segni, Prime Minister Giovanni Leone, Foreign Minister Amilio Piccioni, and Defense Minister Giulio Andreotti—
all of Italy, and to Sergio Fenoaltea, Ambassador to
the United States from Italy.

The text of President Segni’s brief farewell remarks was also released.

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The forest seemed to rain fire and shrapnel. When the screaming Nazi mortars let up, the icy wind would take over, wailing through the forest like people dying.

And Mas Watanabe would wonder, "What the hell am I doing here?"

The answer is there in France's Vosges Forest and here in Seattle's Lake View Cemetery, where there are monuments to Watanabe's 442nd Regimental Combat Team and its part in one of World War II's most important campaigns.

With bayonets and blood, the foot soldiers of the 442nd broke the German hold on the rugged mountains that formed a formidable natural boundary with France, liberated three French villages and rescued a battalion of Texans trapped behind enemy lines.

The men of the 442nd were mostly Nisei sons of Japanese immigrants, Americans born on the West Coast or in Hawaii. Most volunteered from the internment camps where a mistrustful American government sent them after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

Suddenly, American as they were, they were the enemy.

They joined the war to prove their loyalty and because, as Watanabe says, "I just couldn't see myself living behind barbed wire."

About 400 survivors of the 442nd, in their 70s now, will meet Wednesday through Sunday in Hawaii for the 50th anniversary of the founding of their unit and a reunion with about 30 grateful French citizens from the villages they freed.

The people of the towns of Bruyeres, Biffontaine and Belmont have kept in close contact with the men of the 442nd. They have periodic reunions in France or the U.S., and continue to place flowers at the 6-foot granite monument in a battlefield cemetery in the Vosges.
The soldiers honored there spent more than a year of the war in the internment camps. They were listed 4-C in the draft - a hated designation for "enemy alien." They finally were allowed to volunteer for the U.S. Army in January 1943.

War Department records say about 33,000 Japanese-Americans came forward; 20,000 had been in the camps. Most were placed in the Army's 442nd or Military Intelligence Service.

By spring 1944, the 442nd was in Europe to join the 100th Battalion, a unit of 800 men from Hawaii that had had 600 casualties in fighting in southern Italy. The 100th was known as the "Purple Heart battalion."

In September, the Nisei regiment was sent on to France to join the U.S. 7th Army, which had pushed 300 miles into the Rhone Valley. It was to link up with Patton's 3rd Army, moving eastward from Normandy. Their immediate order: Take Bruyeres.

The 442nd adopted the motto, "Go for Broke," an old gambling term that now seems prophetic:

In 20 months of combat, through seven major campaigns in Italy, France and Central Europe, the 442nd earned 18,143 individual decorations, including a Congressional Medal of Honor. With a maximum strength of 4,500 men, the unit had 680 killed and 67 missing in action. The 442nd emerged from the war the most decorated military unit for its size and length of service in U.S. military history.

Mas Watanabe, 69, is retired from the Customs Service. He joined the 442nd from the Minidoka Camp in Hunt, Idaho. He'd just graduated from Broadway High School and was ready when the Army finally came for him. Reasons to Join

"There were four major reasons I joined," he says. "One was peer pressure. Quite a few of the friends I played baseball and basketball with volunteered together. Secondly, I didn't want to stay behind in that damned prison camp. Third, my mother was an invalid and they'd sent my father somewhere else. We figured with me gone there was a chance they might bring him back to take care of her.

"And lastly, we didn't have a choice. If we didn't fight, we wouldn't have had a country... I don't want to sound like Abraham Lincoln or something, but it was the only country we knew."

At first Watanabe resented being in an all Japanese-American unit. "I figured they just wanted us for cannon fodder. But as the war went on, I knew they wouldn't abandon me somewhere."
Watanabe says the Vosges Mountains are like the Cascades, where he used to ski as a young man. They fought there in dense forest. The autumn fog was so thick that in his memory everything happened in darkness.

While Bruyeres was celebrating liberation from the Germans, Watanabe was with his unit outside town, looking forward to a hot shower, dry clothes and brief rest.

It never happened. The unit was sent immediately to look for "The Lost Battalion."

When the men of the 442nd speak of the Lost Battalion and their commander, Gen. John Dahlquist, they still snort in contempt.

Dahlquist, in charge of the Vosges campaign, ordered about 800 Texans from the 141st Infantry, 36th Division, into a position that trapped them behind German lines. Other units of the 141st had fought to reach them. The Germans kept bringing in fresh troops who surrounded the Texans and squeezed them into a pocket 100 yards square.

When the 442nd got to them, they'd been eight days without food, water or ammunition. Only 270 were left.

The men of the 442nd could hardly celebrate. In 80 hours of battle, 1,400 troops were killed or wounded - five times the number they'd saved from the Lost Battalion. Only four men and one officer were left from I Company, which had started with 197 troops.

The men of the 442nd blamed Dahlquist. He didn't know what he was doing, Watanabe says. "For a commander to let his troops get so isolated is just plain dumb. I was madder than hell the whole time because we shouldn't have been up there to begin with. Dahlquist talked to all his men like we were all expendable."

After the war, an Army committee named the fight for the Vosges one of the 10 most important land battles in American history.

THE HEROES

The 442nd's reputation for heroism came from men like Frank Matsuda, now 71 and retired from an engineering firm.

Before Matsuda was interned at Hunt, he volunteered for the Marines, knowing that no branch of the military would take him then.

When Matsuda got to Europe with the 442nd he was issued an old Browning automatic rifle, a World War I leftover that weighed 20 pounds.

One of the first things he did was try to lighten his rifle by sawing off the handle. "It was some kind of Bakelite and it wouldn't cut, so I had to carry it. I remember it would get so hot when I fired it, it would steam. I worried the Germans would see the steam and know where I was."
Matsuda was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in battle on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1. According to a Seattle newspaper clipping, his K Company was pinned down and being counterattacked. Matsuda ran under grenade and machine-gun fire to meet the enemy head-on, killing four. The next day, he crawled 30 yards under sniper fire to wipe out a machine gunner.

After the battle to rescue the Lost Battalion, only 12 of K Company's 200 men were left, he says.

Matsuda still carries shrapnel in his back. It used to hurt when he lay down or coughed, but not anymore.

Matsuda, too, remembers Dahlquist with bitterness.

"In the thick of battle, everyone was shooting like mad," he says. "All of a sudden, a machine gun opened up and we hit the ground on our stomachs. I heard a voice. It was the general, and he said, 'You boys, when I come up here, I want to see you men on your feet and going forward.'"

"About that time there was another machine gun burst. We heard later the general's son or son-in-law got hit."

A Hawaiian sergeant - called Blondie for some reason - died in Matsuda's arms. "I remember he was crying for his mother."

PATCH HIM UP

Mack Shoji, now 70 and a retired mail carrier, was hit by shells six times during the war. Each time, he was sent to a field hospital, patched up and shipped back to the frontlines.

Shoji fought face to face in the Vosges against the Germans, using a bayonet attached to his rifle. His buddies tease him still, saying it was a pocketknife. But he doesn't laugh. "It's not nice. I don't want to talk about that part of it."

Like most of the others who fought in the Vosges, Shoji does talk about the mountain cold and the "treebursts" that dealt death from every direction.

The Germans were defending the mountain from above them. When their artillery rained down the hillsides, it wouldn't arc and strike as it did on more level ground. Instead, it would hit the treetops, exploding and sending deadly shrapnel up, down, sideways through the forest.

Neither helmets nor trenches offered protection.

For that, Shoji relied on an old Japanese custom also observed by the Japanese Imperialist Army in the Pacific.
Throughout the war, under his uniform, Shoji wore a cloth belt, a sen nin bari, Japanese for "1,000 people's wishes."

It was embroidered with red stitches sewn by friends and relatives in Seattle before Shoji went to war. At the top are Japanese characters; at the bottom, in English, a very American sentiment: "We wish you loads of luck."

At the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center on South King Street, about 150 Seattle war veterans display photographs of 62 buddies who died in battle.

They're understandably proud of their contribution.

"It's easy in hindsight to become a philosopher," Watanabe says. "But you know, we found those guys in the Lost Battalion in three days when other units had tried and tried with no success.

"I think it has something to do with our culture and upbringing and a lifetime of being the underdog. Our parents were so severely discriminated against, we were taught to endure.

"Somewhere along the line, a lot of us felt we were proving something. We let people know Americans come in lots of colors, that loyalty doesn't have anything to do with what color you are."

The people of Bruyeres and the neighboring villages put it another way on their memorial to the men who liberated them:

"To the men of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, U.S. Army, who re-affirmed an historic truth here - that loyalty to one's country is not modified by racial origin."

____________________________________________________ Long list of honors
Some of the decorations awarded members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team: X Congressional Medal of Honor: 1.
X Distinguished Service Crosses: 52.
X Distinguished Service Medal: 1.
X Silver Stars (including Oak Leaves for second award): 588. X Legion of Merit Medals: 22.
X Italian Medals for Military Valor: 2.
Associated Press

GRAPHIC: PHOTO 1) JIMI LOTT / SEATTLE TIMES: JAPANESE-AMERICAN SOLDIERS, MOST FROM THE 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM OF WORLD WAR II, VISIT A MONUMENT TO THE GROUP AT LAKE VIEW CEMETERY. FROM LEFT, MAS WATANABE, FRANCIS FUKUHARA, YOSHITO MIZUTA, MACK SHOJI,
KAUN ONODERA AND GEORGE K. SATO. > 2) JIMI LOTT / SEATTLE TIMES MACK SHOJI DISPLAYS THE BELT HE WORE IN FIGHTING. IT READS, "WE WISH YOU LOADS OF LUCK!"

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH
THEY WERE World War II veterans, and they came to this place where, with the fall of Japanese bombs, all the suffering, fighting and soul-searching began. They came from Los Angeles, Chicago and New York, from as far as Bruyeres, France, and as close as the Big Island of Hawaii.

They were white-haired men with hearing aids, prescription pills and heart conditions, and as they dined on mahimahi and toasted each other with maials they felt the weight of built-up memories from a half century ago.

They came to share stories of survival and battle, of how they watered down bouillon as a substitute for soy sauce, and how they feared the deadly shower of steel when shells burst in the trees above them. They came to remember fallen colleagues and greet old friends, some for the first time since the war, but many, in their minds, for the last time in this world.

They had been members of the 100th Battalion / 442nd Regimental Combat Team: the nearly all Japanese-American army unit formed mostly by volunteers who were out to prove their loyalty to a country that viewed them with suspicion. And they wanted to preserve their history for future generations, to make sure at least part of it isn't repeated.

"We never want to see the evacuation happen again," said California-born Rudy Tokiwa, who was sent during the war to an internment camp at Poston, Ariz., with his family when he was a teenager. Now 66 and living in Sunnyvale, Calif., he preserves the past by taking it to high school audiences and reliving it at reunions.

"This reunion was the last big blowout," said Tokiwa, who joined 3,000 veterans, their wives and guests in Honolulu last month to commemorate the fighting unit's 50th anniversary. It made the reunion even more poignant that the guests included a delegation from the French
town of Bruyères, which the 442nd liberated from the Nazis. "You turn around and you wonder how many of us are going to be left in another ten years or so," Tokiwa said. "It's very important to tell the legacy of the 442nd, because here we were, American citizens, and none of us had done anything wrong, and we were put into concentration camps because the U.S. government said they couldn't trust us."

That legacy was the talk of hospitality suites and banquet rooms, the reason for reminiscences between rounds of golf, film screenings and memorial services by men who were swelled with pride one minute and on the verge of tears the next. Former infantrymen, medics and field artillery personnel who had had trouble telling even their own children about fighting both the enemy and the prejudice were now drawn out by a week's worth of tributes and the sense that time was running out.

Their stories reflected the complexities, large and small, of being Japanese-American. Training at Camp Shelby in Mississippi, they didn't know whether to use toilets for "coloreds" or "whites." Some were still angry about how they were used during the war, saying they felt like "cannon fodder." Others insisted that the prejudice they faced was "water under the bridge."

The easy part was talking about how and why they went off to war.

William Toshio Yasutake was 18 when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, and FBI agents came that afternoon to pick up his father, an interpreter at the U.S. immigration office in Seattle, Wash. They searched the house, looked between the leaves of books and confiscated all the family movies his father had taken. "I didn't see him again for some time. At the immigration office there were jails where they put illegal immigrants. My father was jailed right above where his office used to be. They allowed my mother to visit him before he was sent to a camp in Missoula, Montana." The rest of the family was interned at Minidoka, Idaho, from where Yasutake enlisted.

"I had mixed emotions, but in the end I thought it'd probably help my dad's situation and prove I was an American," said Yasutake, now 70 and a retired research biologist in Bothell, Wash., as he sat on a tatami mat at a dinner for the 442nd medics.

Bronx-born Roy Fukushima - who would change his surname to Greene after the war because he wasn't sure how people would react - came home after the announcement of the attack to find his father crying in the bedroom. His father, he said, "died of a broken heart, because his mother country had declared war on his adopted country." Like other Nisei, Greene tried to enlist immediately but was rejected by the Army, the Navy, the Air Force - even the Merchant Marine. Half Japanese and half Irish, he received three draft notices between December, 1941, and March, 1943, "but it was the same thing each time as soon as they saw my name."

He still remembers the shock of seeing so many Japanese-Americans when he was finally accepted for the 442nd. "You know I hate that term, 'Japanese-American.' We're Americans of Japanese ancestry. We're Americans first, not Japanese. As far as I was
concerned, I was just another kid from the Bronx. I had never met Japanese boys before I got into the Army . . . When I got off the train at Camp Shelby, there were hundreds and hundreds of them. All these Japanese faces marching."

Harry Abe of Farmingdale, now 76 and a retired doctor, had graduated from Oregon State University with a degree in biochemistry and was working in a grocery store when he heard about the attack. He remembers that when companies like General Electric and Westinghouse came to the college to recruit, they often wouldn't bother interviewing Asian students, even though many excelled in math and science. And after Pearl Harbor, when the FBI came for his boss and closed the store, Abe knew "America would not be an easy place for a Japanese-American to live."

When his family was later interned, Abe was already in the Army and couldn't get leave to help them pack. "I was not outraged; most of us were very complacent. But I felt that my rights as an American citizen were being violated."

Although many of those in the internment camps said to themselves shikata ga nai ("It can't be helped"), others were less complacent. A few hundred young men resisted when asked to volunteer for the segregated 442nd, demanding that their civil rights be restored first. For years the "no no boys" were viewed as traitors by their own community.

"They made a bad name for the rest of us," said veterans like Jimmie Kanaya, 73, a 442nd medic who had enlisted from Portland, Ore., before America entered the war and now lives in Gig Harbor, Wash. "There shouldn't have been anybody against our country. A lot of us didn't come back." Kanaya, whose family was interned at Minidoka, was captured by the Germans as the 442nd made its way through France.

But others, including Bill Kochiyama of Harlem, 71, now offer the resisters their respect. Kochiyama talked about his feelings as he sat at a table of honor near a dais that included Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), who lost his right arm during the fighting in the Po Valley in Italy. "They fought for their constitutional rights. In many ways their battle was tougher than ours . . . it's like a spoke of a wheel. They fought on another battleground, but it was just as necessary. What was tragic was their own community ostracized them, when they should have been respected."

Throughout the week of remembrance, the veterans talked about the bonds of heritage and culture that overcame squabbles between easygoing islanders and reserved mainlanders. Small in build, the men had to scramble to find shoes and uniforms that fit. In the field, they traded potatoes for rice and constantly tried to supplement their K-rations with fresh food. And they surprised some German soldiers and French villagers who expected white Americans. Inouye said the 442nd's closeness stemmed simply from sharing "one deep-seated desire. To rid ourselves of that insulting and degrading designation - enemy alien."

"They were fighting with friends and cousins and brothers. There was an ethnic identity, and they felt more responsible for each other, like a family fighting together," said Dorothy Matsuo, whose husband is a 442nd veteran. She interviewed his fellow soldiers for six years
and wrote a book based on their oral history, "Boyhood to War" (1990, Mutual Publishing, Honolulu). It was harder for the veterans to describe the horrors of war, the pain of seeing their friends fall. In France they stood in freezing, mud-filled foxholes, tried to dry their socks under their armpits and were hospitalized for trenchfoot. In Italy, sun-bloated bodies turned into maggot-infested corpses.

"Before I joined the Army I only saw one dead person. I always wondered how I'd feel if I saw a whole bunch of dead bodies," said Kanaya. "And on the first day of combat, I was hungry. So I opened a can of C-rations and ate it among a whole field of dead bodies - German and American. I became completely immune to trauma."

Abe said he practiced lighting a match with his left hand, in case he lost his right arm. "The first or second day in combat, my first sergeant was standing by a well making plans. A German shell exploded right on top of him, killed him instantly. His captain, who was standing nearby, just went psycho."

Joe Shimamura of Honolulu was a former staff sergeant with K Company, which suffered heavy losses in rescuing the 36th Division's "Lost Battalion" - made up of 211 Texans - when it was cut off by the Germans. As Shimamura's platoon headed up a gully, the Germans began attacking. "It was so dark. We just hung on to each other's packs. To make matters worse, a tank came down the gully and from twenty-five to thirty yards away began firing point-blank at us. We started howling for the bazookas. I felt it was going to be my last night."

Companies K, I and L rotated positions as they pushed through the icy, pitch-black woods of the Vosges Mountains. Even on a day when K Company was in reserve, Shimamura lost four of the 11 men in his squad. "They were getting us in the forehead and the temple. The snipers were so good up there. They must have had crosshairs."

After aiding the Lost Battalion, the men were ordered to line up for review by Maj. Gen. John Dahlquist, commander of the 36th. Only eight riflemen were left in I Company, originally 205 strong. K Company had 17 men. When the full 442nd assembled and only a few hundred stood at attention, an officer explained to Dahlquist, in an emotion-choked voice, that was all that was left.

The men who lived to tell the stories in Hawaii last month mourned the same dead. "The last big battle we had, I think that's the first time I cried," said Greene, who now lives in Merrick. "We lost our medic to sniper fire. And five days later the war was over. Bill Imamoto was with us throughout the whole campaign. This man used to carry bottles and bottles of blood plasma. He was so loaded down he could hardly move. Bandages, powdered sulfur. I think the whole platoon cried that day."

Abe knew Imamoto well. "He was a Seventh Day Adventist from Tacoma, Washington, with G Company. He was wearing a helmet with a Red Cross, and they shot right through the Red Cross. If he'd run across the open field, he probably wouldn't have been hit. But he walked, because he had faith."
If speaking of the dead was difficult, the veterans found it even tougher to talk about the indignity and injustice they faced on their return. Some came home to bands playing "God Bless America." But many came home to find their families uprooted and their property gone, to be turned away from buying houses in certain neighborhoods, to be rejected from universities and taunted by people who could not or would not distinguish them - even in full uniform - from the enemy.

Abe returned to Fort Dix, N.J., on Dec. 15, 1945, to a 14-course dinner including steak, ice cream and apple pie. "We had the best meal of our life... we were ready to kiss the ground." But when he applied to New York Medical College, he was told that Japanese were not wanted. "I was angry. I went back to my alma mater and talked to my professor, who was very angry and called his alma mater, Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and told them what kind of student I was."

After graduating from Marquette, a Catholic university, Abe tried to get an internship. He applied to Brooklyn Methodist Hospital on the recommendation of his brother, a Methodist pastor at a Japanese church in Manhattan. "They said to my face that they had never accepted a Jap for an internship at Brooklyn Methodist Hospital and that they would not consider it now. They didn't even look at my credentials. They just looked at me... I eventually went to St. Mary's Hospital in Brooklyn, which was Catholic."

Greene joined the American Legion in the Bronx, along with his brother-in-law and the latter's brother. "It was 1946 or 1947. There was this black guy. We sponsored him. The membership turned him down. They said, 'We don't want no niggers in this outfit.' So the three of us quit on the spot."

Many of the veterans were Buddhist, but their gravestones bore crosses because the U.S. Army didn't allow the Buddhist "wheel of righteousness" on markers until 1952. While the survivors found they had to keep proving themselves, their presence at Dachau and their efforts to aid the Lost Battalion helped. Jewish and Texan support bolstered the redress movement, which in 1990 began paying $20,000 each to survivors of the internment.

Tokiwa, who tells his high school audiences how he returned in uniform and was refused service at a San Jose restaurant, says things have improved. "We had to volunteer, because we were looking out for the future of Japanese-Americans. If we hadn't volunteered, I think we'd still be third-class citizens today. I think we've come out ahead about sixty percent. But I think we've got forty percent more to go to be considered true Americans."

The men who made it home went on to become optometrists, engineers, dentists, musicians, teachers, even floral decorators who did Macy's windows at Easter. They married the women who waited for them, and they raised children, some of whom came to the reunion.

A few years ago, the Sons and Daughters of the 442nd was formed to preserve the past. "The exploits of the 442nd have been written about, but my daughter is in eighth grade at
I a public school in Honolulu, and in her history book all the internment deserved was a two-sentence paragraph," lamented Guy Koga, the president of the Sons and Daughters. "This reunion is the 442nd's last hurrah. They'll have individual get-togethers until the last one isn't around, but they'll be a lot smaller. . . . These guys followed what their country told them to do even though they thought they were treated wrong. The Sons and Daughters were formed to continue the legacy these guys have left behind, and it's one of endurance and personal pride."

Those who inherit that legacy, said author Dorothy Matsuo, will remind people "that it's not a matter of skin color or appearance. It's what you're made of inside."

The Nisei Soldiers

WHEN JAPAN attacked Pearl Harbor, Americans of Japanese ancestry found their lives irrevocably changed.

Like other American citizens, many tried to enlist, but they were turned away because of their race. Once eligible for the draft, they were now classified as "enemy aliens."

But out of the prejudice and discrimination they faced came the determination to prove their loyalty and the formation of the most decorated unit of its size in U.S. military history - the all-Nisei 100th Battalion / 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

After the attack on Dec. 7, 1941, FBI agents began arresting community leaders of Japanese ancestry. Two months later, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an order allowing the wholesale removal from the West Coast and incarceration of 120,000 Japanese-Americans, two thirds of them American citizens by birth.

On Hawaii, developments were different. Although some islanders were sent to the mainland internment camps, business groups supported Japanese-Americans, who contributed much to the local economy. And it helped that most of those who weren't detained responded to the attack by aiding the wounded, guarding the water supply and patrolling power plants - even though many had to wear black badges describing their status as "restricted."

Some 1,565 Japanese-Americans were already serving in the Hawaii National Guard. Delos C. Emmons, commanding general of the Army in Hawaii, had already discharged all Japanese-Americans from the Hawaii Territorial Guard, made up of ROTC students from the University of Hawaii, and he was pressured to do the same with the National Guard.

Instead, Emmons recommended the formation of the Japanese-American Hawaiian Provisional Battalion, which was established in May, 1942, with 1,300 men and 29 officers. In June, it was activated in California as the 100th Battalion and sent to train at Camp McCoy, Wis., and later at Camp Shelby, Miss.

The performance of the 100th Battalion in Europe helped support calls for the federal
government to reinstate the draft for Japanese-Americans. In February, 1943, Roosevelt reversed his earlier order and authorized the all-Nisei combat team, writing to Secretary of War Henry Stimson: "Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."

Thousands of Japanese-Americans volunteered. On April 4, 1943, 25 officers and 2,855 enlisted men left Hawaii for training at Camp Shelby. They were joined by 1,181 volunteers from the internment camps, and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team was born.

The 100th Battalion went on to fight in North Africa and in Italy, where it became known as the "Purple Heart Battalion." The 100th and the 442nd first fought together in June, 1944, and were officially merged two months later.

There were never more than 4,500 men in the merged unit at one time, but over the course of the war more than 10,000 members of the 442nd were killed, wounded or captured. Its members earned 18,143 individual decorations, including one Congressional Medal of Honor, 47 Distinguished Service Crosses and 3,600 Purple Hearts.

The 442nd is most famous for the rescue of the so-called "Lost Battalion" - 211 Texans belonging to the 36th Infantry Division who had been cut off by the German army in the Vosges Mountains of France. The 442nd had just lost more than a quarter of its force after four days of hand-to-hand combat in liberating the French town of Bruyeres. Another 800 men were killed or wounded in the rescue of the Lost Battalion.

Forward observers of the unit's 522nd Field Artillery Battalion were among those who liberated the Nazi concentration camps at Dachau. The irony was not lost on those whose families were imprisoned in such places as Poston, Ariz.; Rohwer, Ark.; and Topaz, Utah.

Many of the Japanese-American GIs who enlisted from the West Coast returned home after the war to find their families uprooted and their belongings sold or lost. Only in 1988 did the federal government apologize - and two years later begin making redress payments - for what the Japanese-American community calls "the years of infamy." - Fan

GRAPHIC: 1) Cover Photo by Christiaan Phleger- Bill and Mary Kochiyama of New York attend a memorial service at the reunion in Honolulu. 2) Cover Photo- Right: Kochiyama (standing) with fellow soldier Joe Shimamura during the war. Photos by Christiaan Phleger- 3) Charles Ikehara at the grave of his brother, killed in Italy, at the National Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu; 4) above, reunion smiles between William Yasutake and Harry Abe. 5) Ted Matsuo lines up former medics for a picture at the 50th-anniversary reunion last month in Honolulu of the 100th Battalion/ 442nd Regimental Combat Team. 6) Newsday Photo by Ken Spencer- Roy Fukushima (now Roy Greene of Merrick), third from left, and 442nd buddies on furlough in New York, winter '43-'44

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH
MEMORANDUM

To: Don Baer
From: Paul Meyer
Date: May 20, 1994
Subject: William Blythe

According to records from the National Personnel Records Center, William Blythe served in the U.S. Army from 5/3/43 to 12/7/45.

His rank was Technician Third Grade.

He was awarded the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal; Good Conduct Medal; and World War II Victory Medal.

He served with the 3030th Company of the 125th Ordnance Base Auto Maintenance Battalion. He also served with the 3155th Company of the 605th Ordnance Base Auto Maintenance Battalion.

According to the U.S. Army Center for Military History, the 3030th served in Egypt from 10/31/42 until 4/29/44 and in Caserta, Italy from 6/25/44 until 10/25/44.

The 3155th served in Casablanca, Morocco and Oran, Algeria from 2/19/43 until early 1944. The Company served in Bagnoli and Leghorn, Italy from early 1944 until 6/30/46.

Since both companies served in Italy, there is a possibility that men from the 3030th or 3155th are buried at Nettuno. We might contact officials at Nettuno Cemetery to find out.
This United States hosted event will commemorate the U.S. landings at Sicily, Salerno, and Anzio. It is to honor those veterans, living and dead, who fought in the Italian Campaigns. One thousand veterans and family members are expected to return for the ceremony and participate in the event.

Nettuno Cemetery is located near the town of Nettuno, east of Anzio, and 38 miles south of Rome. The Cemetery covers 77 acres and contains 7,862 graves. Majority of dead killed in operations preceding the Liberation of Rome.

American Legion, AMVETS, DAV, and VFW senior representatives will attend.
This ceremony commemorates the Allied liberation of Rome, Italy. It will be held at the Victor Emmanuel Monument.

Ceremony will honor the veterans who liberated Rome and is not a Presidential event. It will be a bilateral ceremony with the Italian Government and the senior U.S. official will be Mr. Panetta.

Over 600 veterans and their families will be attending.

Senior American Legion, DAV, AMVET, and VFW delegations will attend.
HISTORICAL INFORMATION OF THE ITALIAN CAMPAIGN TO THE LIBERATION OF ROME

1.

The Trident conference held in Washington, D.C., during the latter part of May 1943 resulted in a directive to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to plan operations calculated to eliminate Italy earlier from the war and to contain the maximum number of German divisions. Available to him would be 19 British and Allied, 4 U.S. and 4 French divisions in the Mediterranean and middle east. The Allies moved swiftly to take advantage of their African victory. On July 10, 1943, Gen. Sir Harold Alexander’s 15th Army Group landed on Sicily. During the fighting, Mussolini fell from power, and, on July 25, Marshal Pietro Badoglio became premier of Italy. The Allies occupied all of Sicily on August 17, after a 39-day campaign.

2.

Following heavy air preparation against Axis airfields, batteries and communications in the “toe” of Italy, the British 13th Corps (Canadian first infantry division and British 5th infantry division) swarmed ashore at 4:30 a.m. on September 3, 1943. Negligible resistance was encountered, and the Strait of Messina was opened to shipping on September 6. On September 12 Crotone was in Allied hands.

Marshal Pietro Badoglio had earlier established contact with Eisenhower on August 19 in an effort to negotiate a surrender without the knowledge of the Germans. The combined chiefs instructed Eisenhower to accept the unconditional surrender of Italy (which was signed at Cassibile in Sicily on September 3) and then to obtain the maximum military advantage from this development.

Responding to Badoglio’s plea that the capital be seized to prevent the capture of the king and government, Eisenhower offered to fly an air-borne division into the Rome area provided that the Italians would seize the necessary airfields and silence the anti-aircraft batteries. The 82nd air-borne division was alerted to make this drop.

Meanwhile, Allied air forces had intensified their blows against the Axis. Pisa, Benevento, Salerno, Foggia and the German Brenner pass were among the many places heavily attacked. Field Marshal Albert Kesselring’s headquarters at Frascati, south of Rome, were bombed out. Axis fighter opposition progressively decreased.

On September 8 the unconditional surrender of Italy was announced. That day Badoglio reported that he was unable to guarantee the Rome airdromes for the air-borne landings. It was now too late to put the 82nd division on its original objective, the Volturino river, where it was to have guarded the north flank to the Salerno landings. Thus, it was rendered inactive at a critical moment.

(Cont.)
3.

At 3:30 a.m. on September 9 General Mark Clark’s U.S. 5th army landed on the beaches at Salerno. As the Italian battle fleet vacated Taranto on the same day, the port was occupied by the British fleet carrying the British 1st airborne division, which two days later occupied Brindisi. Also on September 9, three Italian battleships, six cruisers and 13 destroyers from Spezia and Genoa, steaming southward to surrender, were bombed by German aircraft, which sank the battleship “Roma.” The remainder of the fleet escaped to the Balearic Islands and to Bone. From Bone the Italian fleet moved on to Malta, where it was joined by other surrendering elements. Only a small proportion, 320 planes, of the Italian air force complied with the surrender terms by flying over to the Allies. The Italian army made apathetic resistance to the Germans; because of its lack of leadership Rome was denied to the Allies for many months to come.

On September 12 Capri and other islands in the Bay of Naples surrendered. Four days later patrols of the 5th and 8th armies met 40 miles southeast of Salerno, uniting Alexander’s 15th army group into a single front. On September 18 the axis evacuated Sardinia to the French, and on October 6 Corsica followed suit.

The 5th and 8th armies now moved forward abreast. Bari fell on September 13. On September 28 the 8th army occupied the Foggia airfields and on October 1 the 15th occupied Naples and its harbour. Repairs to the demolished post structures were immediately begun, and on October 14 unloading ceased over the Salerno beaches, where, during the period September 9 - September 26, a total of 108,000 tons of supplies, 30,000 motor vehicles and 189,000 troops had been landed.

At 4 p.m. on October 13, Italy declared war on Germany. One outstanding advantage brought by this cobelligerency was to obviate the need for the Allies to establish a military government.

New divisions now arrived to join the Allied forces, while the Germans hastily reinforced their own defense. On the night of October 12-13, the U.S. 2nd and 6th Corps forced a crossing of the Volturno river in hard fighting. Destroying every bridge and culvert en route, the Germans withdrew to their winter line athwart the peninsula which they had been preparing since the Allied landings on the mainland. This deep position generally followed the lines of the Garigliano and Sangro rivers. The 5th Army’s efforts to gain control of the lower Garigliano began on November 6; the 8th army crossed the Sangro two weeks later.

Communications were almost nonexistent, winter was coming on and heavy rains and snows added to the handicaps. To deal with Axis defenses, Allied artillery was heavily reinforced by batteries of the heaviest field pieces produced in the United States; 240-mm. howitzers and 8-in guns were rushed to Italy. The 5th Army continued to shove the Axis from the succession of mountains which still barred the Cassino corridor to Rome and finally, in December, they arrived at its entrance. In the same month the first of eight French infantry and armoured divisions which the United States had agreed to equip arrived in Italy.

(Cont.)
4.

The build-up of Allied ground forces was delayed by the necessity for using shipping to import not only the huge quantities of equipment, supplies and personnel to establish and man the air bases, but also the foodstuffs to keep the Italian civil population from starvation. A setback was suffered on December 2 when a German air attack confused Allied radar detectors at Bari and sank or damaged 22 freighters. At this time Adriatic ports were unloading 70,000 tons and Naples 80,000 tons weekly.

On December 5, 1943, the combined chiefs of staff vested in General Eisenhower responsibility for all operations in the Mediterranean other than strategic bombing. On December 10 he was appointed supreme allied commander for the cross-channel invasion, and on January 8, 1944, Gen. Sir Henry Maitland Wilson succeeded him as supreme commander in the Mediterranean, while Lieut. Gen. Jacob L. Devers became Wilson's deputy. Lieut. Gen. Sir Oliver W. H. Leese took command of the 8th Army, Gen. Ira C. Eaker assumed command of the Mediterranean air force.

Early in January Gen. Alphonse Juin's French corps took over the right sector of the 5th Army from the U.S. 6th Corps, which was withdrawn to prepare for the Anzio landing.

5.

In order to disrupt communications in the rear of the German forces in the Cassino area, the 6th Corps landed on the beaches near Anzio on January 22, 1944; its troops included the U.S. 3rd Division, the British 1st Division and U.S. rangers. To divert the attention of the local Axis forces, the 5th army had mounted a series of local operations. The British 10th Corps on January 17 gained a bridgehead over the Garigliano but made no further progress. The U.S. 2nd Corps (36th Division) on January 20-21 unsuccessfully attempted to force the Rapido. East of Cassino the French corps made considerable gains.

Kesserling's German forces reacted swiftly to the Anzio landings and by the end of January the 6th Corps had been sealed in by strong forces which were able to deliver persistent and accurate artillery fire throughout the Allied beachhead (18 miles long by 9 miles deep) and against ships off shore.

Axis counterattacks reached the peak of their intensity on February 17, but the beachhead was held. During the four months of its existence the beachhead was reinforced by the U.S. 1st armoured, the 34th, 36th and 45th division and by the British 5th and 56th-the last being later withdrawn.

Further south the 5th Army offensive had been halted before the strong defenses of Cassino, where raged some of the bitterest fighting of the war. The U.S. 34th Division in early February and the New Zealand corps for four weeks thereafter tried unsuccessfully to capture the site. Despite pulverizing attacks by air and artillery the German defenders held on.

6.

As spring approached the Allied air forces systematically destroyed all important Axis railroad yards south of Florence. Then, after thoroughly regrouping their forces, the 5th and 8th Armies launched a coordinated offensive on May 11. As the attack gained momentum the U.S. 6th Corps on May 23 broke out from the Anzio beachhead. Cassino was finally taken. In a swift advance over the mountains west of the Liri river, the U.S. corps on the left of the French corps joined hands with the beachhead forces.

The Italians at this time declared Rome an "open city" (citta' aperta), announcing that they would not defend it. On June 4, 1944, Rome fell to the forces of the 5th Army.
Strategy

The Sicily Campaign emerged from the Casablanca Conference and the Allied victory in Tunisia. The practical but controversial decision led to Allied control of the central Mediterranean and to the Italian campaign, but it ended any possibility of an Allied invasion of northwest Europe in 1943.

During the North Africa campaign, Roosevelt, Churchill, and the Combined Chiefs of Staff met in Casablanca Jan. 14-23, 1943. Gen. Marshall, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, wanted the Allies to carry out RONDUP, a projected 1943 cross-channel invasion directly against German forces in northwest Europe. Roosevelt, however, agreed with Churchill to follow the expected Allied victory in Tunisia by invading Sicily. The theater Allied Supreme Commander, Gen. Eisenhower, also believed the Allies still unready to launch a cross-channel invasion in 1943 and advocated continued action in the Mediterranean.

Eisenhower's deputy commanders for this combined operation were all British: Adm. Cunningham for naval forces, Air Chief Marshal Tedder for air forces, and Gen. Alexander for ground forces. Early planning for operation HUSKY projected amphibious landings of Sicily's southeastern and western tips in order to seize enemy airfields and to gain sea ports for logistical resupply. It was rejected because it would disperse the two landing forces. The plan as implemented by Alexander’s 15th Army Group was to invade the southeastern tip, with Gen. Patton’s Seventh Army on the left and Gen. Montgomery’s British Eighth Army on the right, D-Day was July 10, 1943.

Hitler faced tremendous problems that summer. After the successful German defeat at Stalingrad in February, a limited German attack July 5 was designed to thwart any Russian offensives that year. Instead, a massive Russian attack during the Battle of Kursk in mid-July threw the Germans thereafter on the defensive in the German-Russian war. American and British strategic bombing of Germany and the Allied success in the Battle of the Atlantic were demonstrating Allied strength in the west. Hitler was fooled into expecting Allied invasions of Greece and Sardinia by a British intelligence operation which placed fake invasion plans on a corpse washed ashore in Spain. Later, ULTRA secrets also helped the Allies recognize Axis ground weaknesses on Sicily itself.

Air Operations

Concepts of air operations were evolving during the Sicily campaign. Tedder’s new Mediterranean Allied Air Forces exercised complete planning and operational independence, which was intensely criticized by naval and army commanders. Amidst differing operational concepts within Tedder’s command, an Allied air plan unfolded. There would be three phases: preliminary strategic bombing, support of the landing assaults, and establishment of Allied air bases to support the ongoing conquest of Sicily.

After the Tunisian victory in mid-May, Allied bombers from Malta and North Africa launched a strategic offensive against airfields in Sicily and throughout southern Italy. On July 2 (D minus 8) the pre-HUSKY intensive bombing of Sicily began to destroy enemy airfields and air strength near the landing sites. During the ground assault and breakthrough, the Allied air sorties concentrated on attacking enemy air forces, heavier than anticipated, instead of providing close air support to the Allied ground units. Few Axis aircraft remained in Sicily by July 17 and none after July 22, as the Allies gained full air superiority in Sicily.

Allied Armies Operations

Field Marshal Kesseling, Commander-in-Chief of Axis forces in the Mediterranean theater, originally believed Italian territory could be defended. On Sicily were six local, unreliable Italian coastal divisions, four Italian mobile divisions, and two German divisions. The Axis plan dispersed these six latter divisions to counterattack the Allied landing. Seven Allied divisions landed July 10, the largest amphibious operation in history (five divisions landed at Normandy in 1944). Both Patton’s Seventh Army and Montgomery’s Eighth Army also used airborne units, though with heavy losses in the air due to inexperienced and high winds. A quickly planned and inadequately
coordinated second drop of remaining 82nd Airborne units resulted in tragedy. Navy gunners, who had just fought off German air attacks, fired at the air transport planes, shooting down 23 and seriously damaging 37 planes. Yet the Allies secured their positions and the Axis began a delaying withdrawal.

Alexander's original strategy was for Montgomery's Eighth Army to make the main offensive northward up Sicily's eastern coast. Patton's Seventh Army was to secure the left flank. Following Patton's insistence, the Seventh Army was allowed to move boldly to capture western Sicily and the port of Palermo, which it did by July 22 against light resistance, and then push on line with the Eighth Army to Messina. Two more German divisions were sent into Sicily. Mussolini's Fascist government collapsed July 25, following months of Axis defeats in Africa, the Mediterranean, the invasion of Sicily, and an Allied air attack on important rail yards in Rome. Field Marshal Kesselring now planned to evacuate his best forces from Sicily, uncertain of continued cooperation by Italy's new royalist-military dictatorship.

Sicily Taken

By early August Axis forces began evacuating across the narrow two-and-a-half-mile Straits of Messina into the toe of Italy. Allied strategic planners were unwilling to risk resources for any bold effort to trap the Axis forces in Sicily. The Allies relied primarily on air bombing of Messina port facilities and some Axis shipping. Faced with combat fatigue and with other simultaneous strategic bombing missions throughout the central Mediterranean, the Allied air forces did not concentrate exclusively on the prevention of Axis evacuation from Sicily. With Patton arriving shortly before the British, both the Seventh and Eighth Armies entered Messina Aug. 17 to end the Sicily campaign. During the six weeks operation, the Allies captured well over 100,000 Axis soldiers, mostly Italian. The Axis forces, however, had successfully evacuated almost 40,000 German troops, 70,000 Italian troops, and much of their equipment.

Results

* The victory in Sicily achieved the original goals of the Combined Chiefs of Staff:
  --helped secure the Allied lines of communications in the Mediterranean;
  --diverted some German forces from the Russian front;
  --applied increased pressure on Italy.
* The Allies' Mediterranean operations led to the collapse of Mussolini's Fascist government and the subsequent Italian surrender to the Allies Sept. 3, 1943.
* The success in Sicily led to the invasion of Italy Sept. 3, 1943.
* The Seventh Army gained significant experience; it was the first American field army to fight as a unit in World War II.
* Important experience was gained in the successful joint army-navy-Coast Guard amphibious operations which was later applied in Normandy, and Southern France.

Allied Naval Ships, Landing Craft in Operation Husky

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. Navy, Coast Guard</th>
<th>1,704</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Royal Navy</td>
<td>1,496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Allies</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,281</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimated Troop Strength

**July 10, 1943**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allies</th>
<th>500,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Axis: 350,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Army and Navy Casualties

**July 10-Aug. 17, 1943**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. Army &amp; Air Force</th>
<th>9,195</th>
<th>2,237</th>
<th>5,946</th>
<th>1,012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Navy</td>
<td>1,084</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total U.S.</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,259</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,237</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,946</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,012</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth Army</td>
<td>11,843</td>
<td>2,062</td>
<td>7,137</td>
<td>2,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Navy</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total British</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,672</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,376</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,548</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,648</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total German</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>5,000*</td>
<td>4,444</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Italian</strong></td>
<td><strong>144,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>137,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All figures are based on official sources when available.
Some inconsistencies are analyzed in D'Este, Bitter Victory, appendices.

SOURCES

History of the Medical Department of the United States Navy Vol. 3. GPO, 1950.
**Allies Land at Salerno**

For the United States, World War II on the European mainland began south of Naples, Italy, Sept. 9, 1943, at Salerno. U.S. and British strategies for defeating Nazi Germany differed fundamentally. The Americans believed that an attack across the English Channel, through France and into Germany itself, was the quickest road to victory. The British, on the other hand, preferred attacks on the periphery, particularly in the Mediterranean. In the case of Italy, they argued that neutralizing this Fascist ally would thin German military resources.

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill convinced President Franklin D. Roosevelt to commit American forces to campaigns in North Africa and Sicily, where the outnumbered Germans fought a determined campaign. More than 100,000 German and Italian soldiers escaped across the Straits of Messina to the Italian mainland. However, they suffered significant losses for which they were unable to recover in time for Salerno. The mainland was exactly where Churchill proposed to follow them, and the British obtained U.S. approval of this plan. On July 26, 1943, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was given the go ahead for the planning of Operation AVALANCHE.

**Mussolini’s Government Falls**

The invasion of Sicily disheartened the Italian people. Fascist leader Benito Mussolini’s decision to fight with Adolph Hitler was unpopular with many Italians, and for two years Italian casualties from the Russian Front, North Africa and the Balkans mounted. As Allied bombers based on Sicily brought the war home to the Italian mainland, political discontent rose. Mussolini’s government fell July 25, 1943. Field Marshal Pietro Badoglio, the principle instigator of Mussolini’s downfall, assumed the title of prime minister.

**Operation Avalanche Begins**

As a secret armistice was being signed Sept. 3, Operation AVALANCHE was beginning. For the invasion of the Italian mainland, some 450 U.S. and British cruisers, destroyers, transports and various types of landing craft, massed in North Africa and Sicily. It carried assault troops of the Fifth U.S. Army, an Allied force of 100,000 British and 69,000 U.S. troops.

Fifth Army's U.S. VI Corp was to assault the southern beaches of the Bay of Salerno, near the ancient Greek temple at Paestum, with the as-yet-untried 36th Infantry Division, from the Texas National Guard. Salerno’s northern beaches would be the responsibility of the British X Corps, which in addition to its two veteran infantry divisions, the 46th and 56th, contained three U.S. Ranger battalions and two British commando forces.

As the invasion force assembled, Sir Bernard Law Montgomery’s 8th Army crossed the Straits of Messina to the lee of the Italian boot. But the Germans did not concentrate their forces on this landing. Although German air reconnaissance had seen the invasion fleet forming, Field Marshal Albert Kesselring was unable to determine where the major blow would fall.

The Germans were not surprised when Eisenhower’s headquarters announced the Italian armistice Sept. 8. Hitler approved plans for withdrawal and establishment of defensive positions across the Italian Peninsula.

The Fifth Army commander, U.S. Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, hoped to surprise the Germans at Salerno and did not subject the landing beaches to pre-invasion naval bombardment. Clark was strongly resisted in this by Vice Adm. H. Kent Hewitt, commander of the Allied Fleet’s Southern Task Force, who argued that there was no chance for surprise. Hewitt was right, and the U.S. infantry and engineers would pay the price for Clark’s misjudgment.

**Landing in Italy**

In the pre-dawn darkness of Sept. 9, landing craft carrying the men of the 141st and 142nd Infantry Regiments, 36th Infantry Division, were about 300 yards from shore when the German shells began falling. Many of the troops were shocked; they had cheered the previous day’s announcement of Italy’s surrender, thinking their landings would be unopposed.

From the heights above the beach, the 16th German Panzer Division, many of whom were veterans of the Russian Front, raked the invaders with witheringly accurate fire. In the water, landing craft took direct hits, spewing their human cargo into the water.
American beaches allowed the 36th division to regroup. Part of the VI Corps floating reserve, the 157th and 179th Infantry Regiments from the 45th Infantry Division, also a National Guard units, were landed.

As the Allies prepared to move inland, the Germans pulled units from Rome and the Calabrian Peninsula and sent them to Salerno. On Sept. 12, during the heaviest fighting yet seen, Allied intelligence identified elements of six Panzer divisions facing the Salerno invaders. The Germans drove the British from Battipaglia, which they had taken the day before, and the 142nd Infantry was pushed off Hill 424, a crucial piece of high ground behind the town of Altavilla. The next 48 hours were days of crisis for the Allies. Many Allied units were all but decimated in savage fighting to repel several German counterattacks. When the light Battalion, 157th Infantry, failed to stop a large German armored column, it turned south, toward the American beachhead at Paestum. The only force to oppose the 21 tanks were the 45th Infantry Division's 158th and 189th Field Artillery Battalions. Assisted by every clerk, cook, bandsman, and stray GI their officers could find, these batteries as well as a destroyed bridge stopped the German armor. A worried Clark told his staff to begin planning for the evacuation of the U.S. beachhead.

**Airborne Operations Boost Morale**

Evacuation plans were dropped however, as Allied fortunes improved. The morale of exhausted Allied troops was boosted by the airdrop of the 82nd Airborne Division's 504th Parachute Infantry from Sicily on the night of Sept. 13/14. The next day, 2,000 more 82nd Airborne and 1,500 British paratroopers jumped in. Planned by division commander Matthew Ridgway, this was one of the most successful airborne operations of World War II.

General Eisenhower ordered Allied aircraft into the air Sept. 14, and together, with the offshore guns of the British and U.S. navies, helped force a German withdrawal. Element of Montgomery's Eighth Army linked up with Clark's Fifth Sept. 16, and Eisenhower arrived to confer with his commanders the next day. The beachhead was now secure, but the campaign to drive the Germans out of Italy had just begun. To buy time for construction of the Winter Line, Kesselring withdrew his forces north of Naples, to the first of a series of planned defensive positions, the Gustav Line. What U.S. troops came to call the battle for the Winter Line began in November.

Salerno, from the difficult terrain to the intelligence of the German commanders and the fighting qualities of their troops, was a preview of how difficult the war in Italy would be. For the next 21 months, the Allies attacked toward the high ground, paying dearly for each hilltop and mountain top. The Germans withdrew skillfully, using natural barriers such as streams and rivers as well as blown bridges to slow the Allies.

**Major U.S. Army Units, Salerno**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Casings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Ranger Battalion</td>
<td>213th Coast Artillery Regiment (Antiaircraft)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Ranger Battalion</td>
<td>337th Engineer General Service Regiment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Ranger Battalion</td>
<td>540th Engineer Combat Regiment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Infantry Division</td>
<td>504th Parachute Infantry Regiment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34th Infantry Division</td>
<td>509th Parachute Infantry Regiment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36th Infantry Division</td>
<td>45th Infantry Division</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Casualties**

Throughout the fighting at Salerno, the Americans suffered 727 killed, 2,720 wounded and 2,423 missing while the British suffered 5,500 killed, wounded and missing. The Germans also suffered 3,500 casualties.

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**SOURCES**


Approved by U.S. Army Center of Military History
May 31 / Administration of Ronald Reagan, 1984

Proclamation 5206—D-day National Remembrance

May 31, 1984

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On Tuesday, June 6, 1944, General Dwight D. Eisenhower made a dramatic announcement from London: "People of Western Europe: A landing was made this morning on the coast of France by troops of the Allied Expeditionary Force... The hour of your liberation is approaching:"

Operation Overlord, the invasion of Adolph Hitler's "Fortress Europe" forty years ago, thrust approximately 130,000 American and Allied troops under General Eisenhower's command onto beaches now known to history as Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, and Sword along the coast of Normandy, France. Another 23,000 British and American airborne forces were parachuted or taken by glider to secure critical inland areas. Some 11,000 sorties were flown by allied aircraft, and innumerable sabotage operations were carried out by Resistance forces behind the lines.

On that day and in the ensuing weeks, the soldiers, sailors, and airmen of the assault forces, and the men and women who supported the landing, displayed great skill, unwavering tenacity, and courage. The Americans who landed at Omaha Beach—where sharp bluffs, strong defenses, and the presence of a powerful German division produced enormous difficulties—wrote an especially brave and noble chapter in the military history of the United States.

Opposed by bitter enemy resistance, the landing forces gained the beaches at great sacrifice, pushed inland, and expanded their beachheads. Feats of leadership and courage by individuals and small groups turned the tide. The great battles of 1944 that followed, from the hedgerows to the Ardennes, hold a place of highest honor in the tradition of the United States Armed Forces. The brave, often heroic deeds of our fellow Americans and others in the Allied Armed Forces set in motion the liberation of Europe and brought unity and pride to all free people.

Welded by the experiences of war, the old world and the new formed an enduring alliance which shared the rebuilding of Europe and forged a shield that has kept the peace in Europe for almost forty years. A common dedication to remain strong can continue that peace which these brave men and women fought so hard to secure.

In recognition of the fortieth anniversary of this historic event, the Congress, by H.J. Res. 487, has designated June 6, 1984, as "D-day National Remembrance" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of that day.

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim June 6, 1984, as D-day National Remembrance, a national day commemorating the fortieth anniversary of D-day. I call upon the people of the United States to commemorate the valor of those who served in the D-day assault forces with appropriate ceremonies and observances.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 31st day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

RONALD REAGAN

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 4:35 p.m., May 31, 1984]
Radio Address to the Nation on the Trip to Europe

June 2, 1984

My fellow Americans:

Top o' the mornin' to you. I'm speaking from a small town named Cong in western Ireland, first stop on a 10-day trip that will also take Nancy and me to France and England.

We're in an area of spectacular beauty overlooking a large lake filled with islands, bays, and coves. And those of you who, like me, can claim the good fortune of Irish roots, may appreciate the tug I felt in my heart yesterday when we saw the Emerald Isle from Air Force One. I thought of words from a poem about Ireland:

A place as kind as it is green,
The greenest place I've ever seen.

I told our welcoming hosts that to stand with them on the soil of my ancestors was, for this great-grandson of Ireland, a very special moment. It was a moment of joy.

Earlier today we were in Galway, a coastal city celebrating its 500th anniversary. Legend has it Columbus prayed at a church there on his way to the New World. For a thousand years, Ireland was considered the western edge of civilization and a place that continued to revere learning during a time of darkness on the continent of Europe.

That reverence earned Ireland its reputation as the Island of Saints and Scholars. I was pleased to address representatives of University College in Galway to speak to them of Ireland's many contributions to America and to give thanks for those great, great forces of faith and love for liberty and justice that bind our people.

The president of that institution, Dr. O'hEocha, also chaired a group called the New Ireland Forum, which has sought to foster a spirit of tolerance and reconciliation in Northern Ireland, so the spiral of violence that has cast so many innocent lives there—or cost so many, I should say, can be finally ended.

Ireland is a beautiful, proud, and independent land with a young and talented population. But they have an employment problem. By the strength of our economy, and by the presence of some 300 U.S. firms here, Americans can and will help our Irish cousins create jobs and greater opportunities. And, of course, what helps them will help us, too.

Tomorrow, Nancy and I will travel to Ballyporeen for a nostalgic visit to the original home of the Reagan clan. On Monday, we'll be in Dublin, where I'll have the honor of addressing a joint session of the Irish Parliament, as John Kennedy did here 21 years ago.

When we leave Ireland, we'll be participating in two events that mark America's determination to help build a safer, more prosperous world.

On June 6th, I'll join former U.S. Army Rangers at the historic battlefield of Pointe du Hoc and, later, President Mitterrand and other American veterans at Omaha Beach and Utah Beach on the Normandy coast of France. Together we'll commemorate the 40th anniversary of D-day, the great Allied invasion that set Europe on the course toward liberty, democracy, and peace.

That great battle and the war it helped
bring to an end mark the beginning of nearly 40 years of peace in Europe—a peace preserved not by good will alone, but by the strength and moral courage of the NATO alliance. On June 6th I will reaffirm America’s faithful commitment to NATO. If NATO remains strong and unified, Europe and America will remain free. If NATO can continue to deter war, Europe and America can continue to enjoy peace—40 more years of peace.

And let me make one thing very plain: A strong NATO is no threat to the Soviet Union. NATO is the world’s greatest peace movement. It never threatens; it defends. And we will continue trying to promote a better dialog with the Soviet Union. The Soviets could gain much by helping us make the world safer, particularly through arms reductions. That would free them to devote more resources to their people and economy.

Growth and prosperity will occupy our attention when we return to London for the annual economic summit of the major industrialized countries. And we’ll be marking another important anniversary: 50 years ago, America’s leaders had the vision to enact legislation known as the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1934. It helped bring an end to a terrible era of protectionism that nearly destroyed the world’s economies.

We’ll talk about how best to maintain the recent progress that has lifted hopes for a worldwide recovery for our common prosperity. You can be proud that the strength of the United States economy has led the way. I believe continued progress lies with freer trade and more open markets. Less protectionism will mean more progress, more growth, more jobs, a bigger slice of the pie for everyone.

As we meet in Normandy and London, we’ll have much to be thankful for, much to be optimistic about, but still much to do.

Till next week, thanks for listening, and God bless you.

Note: The President spoke at 5:06 p.m. from Ashford Castle in Cong, County Mayo, Ireland.
Text of Remarks to the French People on the 40th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion, D-day

June 5, 1984

This year, thousands of Americans are returning to the Normandy shores to revisit the scene of that momentous landing 40 years ago. This week hundreds are, like myself, guests in your country as we join in remembering that day. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you for your gracious hospitality.

Franco-American friendship has a long and proud past. Indeed, one of the great heroes of American history is a Frenchman. Many towns, streets, and squares—even a college—in America bear his name. A beautiful park that I look out upon each day—directly across the street from the White House in Washington—is named in honor of him. He was the Marquis de Lafayette, and he served with George Washington as a general in the American Revolutionary Army. Yet despite the importance of Lafayette's military skill, he took a step as a legislator that had perhaps even greater significance for the two centuries of friendship and alliance between your country and mine.

On July 11th, 1789, as a Deputy in the French National Assembly, Lafayette introduced a bill calling for the passage of a Declaration of the Rights of Man. Formally adopted by the assembly 6 weeks later, the Declaration appeared as the Preamble to the French Constitution of 1791. This Declaration of the Rights of Man embodied the same fundamental beliefs about human liberty as those expressed in the American Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights. Together, these French and American documents proclaim that all men are endowed with equal and sacred rights, that among these, in the words of the American Declaration, are "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." It is this shared commitment to human freedom that has formed the bedrock on which our fast friendship has been built. And it was in the name of this human freedom that so many brave men risked their lives on the beaches of Normandy 40 years ago.

Those courageous men, living and dead, gave us a priceless legacy of peace and prosperity in Europe—a legacy that has endured now for two generations. To preserve that legacy of peace, those of us who cherish liberty must continue to labor together.

Your country and mine belong to an alliance committed to democracy, individual liberty, and the rule of law. Of course, membership in the alliance imposes its burdens. To demonstrate the American commitment to this continent, thousands of American troops are stationed here in Europe, far from their homes and families. France, the United States, and all the alliance nations, must spend more on defense than any of us like to do in peacetime. But the burdens we bear in defending our freedom are far less than the horrors we would have to endure if we lost that freedom.

I believe that the best way we can honor those who gave so much 40 years ago, is by rededicating ourselves today to the cause for which they fought: freedom—freedom for ourselves, freedom for our children, and freedom for generations yet unborn.

Thank you, and God bless you.

Note: The remarks were broadcast on French television (FR-3).
Just recently in Washington, I met with 16 Foreign Ministers that make up the alliance. And I couldn't help but think, as we sat around the table, there has never in history been such an alliance, dedicated to the preservation of peace and freedom.

With wisdom and courage, peace and freedom will not be lost again. They can and will be preserved. We can live up to Winston Churchill's vision of freedom in 1941. He looked at the past and saw light which flickered; he looked at his time and saw "a light which shines over all the land and sea." He had another statement. He said that "When great forces are on the move in the world, we learn that we are spirits, not animals, and that there is something going on in time and space and beyond time and space which, whether we like or not, spells duty."

Well, I thank all of you very much, and I feel greatly honored. God bless all of you.

Note: The President spoke at 11:33 a.m. at Winfield House, where he met with a group of 25 Conservative Members of Parliament, who presented him with a letter demonstrating their support for the U.S. commitment to the NATO alliance.

Peter Viggers is the Conservative Party spokesman for defense affairs.

As printed above, this item follows the text of the White House press release.

Remarks at a Ceremony Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion, D-day  
June 6, 1984

We're here to mark that day in history when the Allied armies joined in battle to reclaim this continent to liberty. For 4 long years, much of Europe had been under a terrible shadow. Free nations had fallen, Jews cried out in the camps, millions cried out for liberation. Europe was enslaved, and the world prayed for its rescue. Here in Normandy the rescue began. Here the Allies stood and fought against tyranny in a giant undertaking unparalleled in human history.

We stand on a lonely, windswept point on the northern shore of France. The air is soft, but 40 years ago at this moment, the air was dense with smoke and the cries of men, and the air was filled with the crack of rifle fire and the roar of cannon. At dawn, on the morning of the 6th of June, 1944, 225 Rangers jumped off the British landing craft and ran to the bottom of these cliffs. Their mission was one of the most difficult and daring of the invasion: to climb these sheer and desolate cliffs and take out the enemy guns. The Allies had been told that some of the mightiest of these guns were here and they would be trained on the beaches to stop the Allied advance.

The Rangers looked up and saw the enemy soldiers—the edge of the cliffs shooting down at them with machineguns and throwing grenades. And the American Rangers began to climb. They shot rope ladders over the face of these cliffs and began to pull themselves up. When one Ranger fell, another would take his place. When one rope was cut, a Ranger would grab another and begin his climb again. They climbed, shot back, and held their footing. Soon, one by one, the Rangers pulled themselves over the top, and in seizing the firm land at the top of these cliffs, they began to seize back the continent of Europe. Two hundred and twenty-five came here. After 2 days of fighting, only 90 could still bear arms.

Behind me is a memorial that symbolizes the Ranger daggers that were thrust into the top of these cliffs. And before me are the men who put them there.

These are the boys of Pointe du Hoc. These are the men who took the cliffs. These are the champions who helped free a continent. These are the heroes who helped end a war.

Gentlemen, I look at you and I think of
the words of Stephen Spender’s poem. You are men who in your “lives fought for life—and left the vivid air signed with your honor.”

I think I know what you may be thinking right now—thinking “we were just part of a bigger effort; everyone was brave that day.” Well, everyone was. Do you remember the story of Bill Millin of the 51st Highlanders? Forty years ago today, British troops were pinned down near a bridge, waiting desperately for help. Suddenly, they heard the sound of bagpipes, and some thought they were dreaming. Well, they weren’t. They looked up and saw Bill Millin with his bagpipes, leading the reinforcements and ignoring the smack of the bullets into the ground around him.

Lord Lovat was with him—Lord Lovat of Scotland, who calmly announced when he got to the bridge, “Sorry I’m a few minutes late,” as if he’d been delayed by a traffic jam, when in truth he’d just come from the bloody fighting on Sword Beach, which he and his men had just taken.

There was the impossible valor of the Poles who threw themselves between the enemy and the rest of Europe as the invasion took hold, and the unsurpassed courage of the Canadians who had already seen the horrors of war on this coast. They knew what awaited them there, but they would not be deterred. And once they hit Juno Beach, they never looked back.

All of these men were part of a rollcall of honor with names that spoke of a pride as bright as the colors they bore: the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, Poland’s 24th Lancers, the Royal Scots Fusiliers, the Screaming Eagles, the Yeomen of England’s armored divisions, the forces of Free France, the Coast Guard’s “Matchbox Fleet” and you, the American Rangers.

Forty summers have passed since the battle that you fought here. You were young the day you took these cliffs; some of you were hardly more than boys, with the deepest joys of life before you. Yet, you risked everything here. Why? Why did you do it? What impelled you to put aside the instinct for self-preservation and risk your lives to take these cliffs? What inspired all the men of the armies that met here? We look at you, and somehow we know the answer. It was faith and belief; it was loyalty and love.

The men of Normandy had faith that what they were doing was right, faith that they fought for all humanity, faith that a just God would grant them mercy on this beachhead or on the next. It was the deep knowledge—and pray God we have not lost it—that there is a profound, moral difference between the use of force for liberation and the use of force for conquest. You were here to liberate, not to conquer, and so you and those others did not doubt your cause. And you were right not to doubt.

You all knew that some things are worth dying for. One’s country is worth dying for, and democracy is worth dying for, because it’s the most deeply honorable form of government ever devised by man. All of you loved liberty. All of you were willing to fight tyranny, and you knew the people of your countries were behind you.

The Americans who fought here that morning knew word of the invasion was spreading through the darkness back home. They fought—or felt in their hearts, though they couldn’t know in fact, that in Georgia they were filling the churches at 4 a.m., in Kansas they were kneeling on their porches in prayer, and in Philadelphia they were ringing the Liberty Bell.

Something else helped the men of D-day: their rockhard belief that Providence would have a great hand in the events that would unfold here; that God was an ally in this great cause. And so, the night before the invasion, when Colonel Wolverton asked his parachute troops to kneel with him in prayer he told them: Do not bow your heads, but look up so you can see God and ask His blessing in what we’re about to do. Also that night, General Matthew Ridgway on his cot, listening in the darkness for the promise God made to Joshua: “I will not fail thee nor forsake thee.”

These are the things that impelled them; these are the things that shaped the unity of the Allies.

When the war was over, there were lives to be rebuilt and governments to be returned to the people. There were nations to be reborn. Above all, there was a new peace to be assured. These were huge and
daunting tasks. But the Allies summoned strength from the faith, belief, loyalty, and love of those who fell here. They rebuilt a new Europe together.

There was first a great reconciliation among those who had been enemies, all of whom had suffered so greatly. The United States did its part, creating the Marshall plan to help rebuild our allies and our former enemies. The Marshall plan led to the Atlantic alliance—a great alliance that serves to this day as our shield for freedom, prosperity, and for peace.

In spite of our great efforts and successes, not all that followed the end of the war was happy or planned. Some liberated countries were lost. The great sadness of this loss echoes down to our own time in the streets of Warsaw, Prague, and East Berlin. Soviet troops that came to the center of this continent did not leave when peace came. They're still there, uninvited, unwanted, unyielding, almost 40 years after the war. Because of this, allied forces still stand on this continent. Today, as 40 years ago, our armies are here for only one purpose—to protect and defend democracy. The only territories we hold are memorials like this one and graveyards where our heroes rest.

We in America have learned bitter lessons from two World Wars: It is better to be here ready to protect the peace, than to take blind shelter across the sea, rushing to respond only after freedom is lost. We've learned that isolationism never was and never will be an acceptable response to tyrannical governments with an expansionist intent.

But we try always to be prepared for peace; prepared to deter aggression; prepared to negotiate the reduction of arms; and, yes, prepared to reach out again in the spirit of reconciliation. In truth, there is no reconciliation we would welcome more than a reconciliation with the Soviet Union, so, together, we can lessen the risks of war, now and forever.

It's fitting to remember here the great losses also suffered by the Russian people during World War II: 20 million perished, a terrible price that testifies to all the world the necessity of ending war. I tell you from my heart that we in the United States do not want war. We want to wipe from the face of the Earth the terrible weapons that man now has in his hands. And I tell you, we are ready to seize that beachhead. We look for some sign from the Soviet Union that they are willing to move forward, that they share our desire and love for peace, and that they will give up the ways of conquest. There must be a changing there that will allow us to turn our hope into action.

We will pray forever that some day that changing will come. But for now, particularly today, it is good and fitting to renew our commitment to each other, to our freedom, and to the alliance that protects it.

We are bound today by what bound us 40 years ago, the same loyalties, traditions, and beliefs. We're bound by reality. The strength of America's allies is vital to the United States, and the American security guarantee is essential to the continued freedom of Europe's democracies. We were with you then; we are with you now. Your hopes are our hopes, and your destiny is our destiny.

Here, in this place where the West held together, let us make a vow to our dead. Let us show them by our actions that we understand what they died for. Let our actions say to them the words for which Matthew Ridgway listened: "I will not fail thee nor forsake thee."

Strengthened by their courage, heartened by their value [valor], and borne by their memory, let us continue to stand for the ideals for which they lived and died.

Thank you very much, and God bless you all.

Note: The President spoke at 1:20 p.m. at the site of the U.S. Ranger Monument at Pointe du Hoc, France, where veterans of the Normandy invasion had assembled for the ceremony.

Following his remarks, the President unveiled memorial plaques to the 2d and 5th Ranger Battalions. Then, escorted by Phil Rivers, superintendent of the Normandy American Cemetery, the President and Mrs. Reagan proceeded to the interior of the observation bunker. On leaving the bunker, the President and Mrs. Reagan greeted each of the veterans.

Other Allied countries represented at the
ceremony by their heads of state and government were: Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom, Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands, King Olav V of Norway, King Baudouin I of Belgium, Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg, and Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau of Canada.

Interview With Walter Cronkite of CBS News in Normandy, France June 6, 1984

Mr. Cronkite. Mr. President, it's quite a day out here. We're observing the fact that American soldiers can do the impossible as represented here at Pointe du Hoc when they're commanded to, but, on the other hand, at a terrible cost, isn't it?

The President. Yes. As I said in my remarks, 225 of them came up those cliffs, and 2 days later, there were only 90 of them able to take part in combat.

Mr. Cronkite. Mr. President, you know, this war—World War II, that is—was called a popular war, as opposed to the actions we've had recently—Vietnam, Lebanon, Grenada, I suppose. What are the conditions it takes to have a popular war, for heaven sakes?

The President. Well, I doubt that any war can be—if we really describe it, can be popular. No one wants it. But here was a case in which the issues of right and wrong were so clearly defined and delineated before we even got into the war. And then we didn't choose to pull the trigger; the trigger was pulled at us. And we were in a war as of a Sunday morning, December 7th, in the Pacific.

And I've always remembered my first assignment as a reserve officer called to active duty was at the port of embarkation in San Francisco. And it was a job as liaison officer loading the convoys for out in the Pacific. And standing at the foot of the gangplank one day as they—coming along full pack and gear and everything, ready to go up the gangplank—and one of them—there was a pause, a hitch in the line—one standing there, just a youngster. And I said, "How do you feel?"

"Well," he said, "I don't want to go." He said, "None of us want to go." But he said, "We all know, the shortest way home is through Tokyo."

Mr. Cronkite. You know, now we're in the nuclear age, and as terrible as this war was, is it possible in a nuclear age that we would have another war that could be restricted to anything as horrible as this even?

The President. Walter, I have said, and will continue to say, a nuclear war cannot be won. It must never be fought. And this is why the goal must be to rid the world once and for all of these weapons.

Mr. Cronkite. You don't think we could fight a strategic war like this without invoking nuclear weapons?

The President. Well, this we don't know. But if it was ever to resort to those weapons—we did, in World War II, we saw the power of deterrence. All the nations had chemical warfare, had gas. But it was never used, because everyone had it. Maybe the same thing would apply in—with regard to nuclear war. But why take that chance? If everybody is having the weapons as a deterrent to the other, then let's do away with the deterrents.

Mr. Cronkite. Do you—you had some remarks prepared. I don't think you got a chance to deliver them in a foreshortened speech in Ireland in which you said that you were optimistic that perhaps we could get nuclear limitation talks going again with the Soviets. What gives you cause for that optimism?

The President. I just think common sense. I think right now the Soviet Union is—well, there was an article in The Economist that sort of described it. They're hibernating. We're so used to thinking that they're always in the midst of some kind of devious plan. I just don't think they have any answers right now, and they're sort of hunkered down trying to decide.

Mr. Cronkite. Do we have a plan?
The President. What?
Mr. Cronkite. Do we have a plan?
The President. Yes, and the plan is to—we have maintained contact. We’re negotiating other things of mutual interest to the two countries, making some progress on them. But on those talks—my idea of the goal is if we can once start down the road of achieving reductions in the armaments, I just have to believe that we’ll see the common sense in continuing down the road and eliminating them.

Mr. Cronkite. Have you had a chance with your busy schedule on this tour to catch up with the fact that the Soviets on this anniversary, the 40th anniversary of D-day, are making much of the fact that they’ve cited before—a fact. I mean, by their token, of the fiction that we deliberately delayed this landing by 2 years in order that the Germans would eat up the Soviets by attrition, and that we came ashore virtually unopposed because of connivance with the Germans. Have you heard that they’re repeating that all over Europe?
The President. Oh, I know that. As a matter of fact, recently, our ceremony for the funeral of the unknown soldier from Vietnam, they referred to that as “a militaristic orgy.” I sometimes wonder—
Mr. Cronkite. No reference to Afghanistan, huh?
The President. I wonder sometimes, when they talk about heated rhetoric coming from me, doesn’t anyone listen to what they’re saying? But how anyone could say that this was an almost unopposed landing, we know better. And the evidence is right here; and the survivors, many of them, are right here.

They had not won the war, and we had not delayed for any reason of that kind. I have some reason for saying that, because my own war service was spent in a unit that was directly under Air Corps Intelligence, and we had access to all the intelligence information about things, even including this. And there was an awful lot of war to be fought.

Mr. Cronkite. Yes. As a matter of fact, you know, 40,000 airmen gave their lives over Europe. I covered the Air Force as a correspondent, and I think of that. When you talk about 10,000 dying here on D-day, 40,000 died in order to get the Luftwaffe out of the skies before D-day—
The President. Yes.
Mr. Cronkite. —or this wouldn’t have been possible.

Let me ask you one more question before you have to go. Speaking of wars and political campaigns, what’s your plan for D-day against Mondale, Hart, or whoever it is?
The President. Just tell them what we’ve done and what we’re going to do and pretend they’re not there. [Laughter]

Mr. Cronkite. Well, you may have to climb a hundred-foot cliff, but I guess you’ve got your weapons—[laughter]—at your ready.
The President. Yes.
Mr. Cronkite. Thank you very much, Mr. President.
The President. Well, it’s good to see you again.
Mr. Cronkite. Thank you.

Note: The interview began at 2:50 p.m. at Pointe du Hoc. At the conclusion of the interview, the President and Mrs. Reagan departed Pointe du Hoc and traveled to Omaha Beach.

Remarks at a United States-France Ceremony Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion, D-day

June 6, 1984

Mr. President, distinguished guests, we stand today at a place of battle, one that 40 years ago saw and felt the worst of war. Men bled and died here for a few feet of—
or inches of sand, as bullets and shellfire cut through their ranks. About them, General Omar Bradley later said, "Every man who set foot on Omaha Beach that day was a hero."

No speech can adequately portray their suffering, their sacrifice, their heroism. President Lincoln once reminded us that through their deeds, the dead of battle have spoken more eloquently for themselves to the living than any of the living could. But we can only honor them by rededicating ourselves to the cause for which they gave their last full measure of devotion.

Today we do rededicate ourselves to that cause. And at this place of honor, we're humbled by the realization of how much so many gave to the cause of freedom and to their fellow man.

Some who survived the battle of June 6, 1944, are here today. Others who hoped to return never did.

"Someday, Lis, I'll go back," said Private First Class Peter Robert Zanatta, of the 37th Engineer Combat Battalion, and first assault wave to hit Omaha Beach. "I'll go back, and I'll see it all again. I'll see the beach, the barricades, and the graves."

Those words of Private Zanatta come to us from his daughter, Lisa Zanatta Henn, in a heart-rending story about the event her father spoke of so often. "In his words, the Normandy invasion would change his life forever," she said. She tells some of his stories of World War II but says of her father, "the story to end all stories was D-day."

"He made me feel the fear of being on that boat waiting to land. I can smell the ocean and feel the seasickness. I can see the looks on his fellow soldiers' faces—the fear, the anguish, the uncertainty of what lay ahead. And when they landed, I can feel the strength and courage of the men who took their first steps through the tide to what must have surely looked like instant death."

Private Zanatta's daughter wrote to me: "I don't know how or why I can feel this emptiness, this fear, or this determination, but I do. Maybe it's the bond I had with my father. All I know is that it brings tears to my eyes to think about my father as a 20-year-old boy having to face that beach."

The anniversary of D-day was always special for her family. And like all the families of those who went to war, she describes how she came to realize her own father's survival was a miracle: "So many men died. I know that my father watched many of his friends be killed. I know that he must have died inside a little each time. But his explanation to me was, 'You did what you had to do, and you kept on going.'"

When men like Private Zanatta and all our allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy 40 years ago they came not as conquerors, but as liberators. When these troops swept across the French countryside and into the forests of Belgium and Luxembourg they came not to take, but to return what had been wrongly seized. When our forces marched into Germany they came not to prey on a brave and defeated people, but to nurture the seeds of democracy among those who yearned to be free again.

We salute them today. But, Mr. President, we also salute those who, like yourself, were already engaging the enemy inside your beloved country—the French Resistance. Your valiant struggle for France did so much to cripple the enemy and spur the advance of the armies of liberation. The French Forces of the Interior will forever personify courage and national spirit. They will be a timeless inspiration to all who are free and to all who would be free.

Today, in their memory, and for all who fought here, we celebrate the triumph of democracy. We reaffirm the unity of democratic peoples who fought a war and then joined with the vanquished in a firm resolve to keep the peace.

From a terrible war we learned that unity made us invincible; now, in peace, that same unity makes us secure. We sought to bring all freedom-loving nations together in a community dedicated to the defense and preservation of our sacred values. Our alliance, forged in the crucible of war, tempered and shaped by the realities of the postwar world, has succeeded. In Europe, the threat has been contained, the peace has been kept.

Today the living here assembled—officials, veterans, citizens—are a tribute to what was achieved here 40 years ago. This land is secure. We are free. These things
are worth fighting and dying for.

Lisa Zanatta Henn began her story by quoting her father, who promised that he would return to Normandy. She ended with a promise to her father, who died 8 years ago of cancer: "I'm going there, Dad, and I'll see the beaches and the barricades and the monuments. I'll see the graves, and I'll put flowers there just like you wanted to do. I'll feel all the things you made me feel through your stories and your eyes. I'll never forget what you went through, Dad, nor will I let anyone else forget. And, Dad, I'll always be proud."

Through the words of his loving daughter, who is here with us today, a D-day veteran has shown us the meaning of this day far better than any President can. It is enough for us to say about Private Zanatta and all the men of honor and courage who fought beside him four decades ago: We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we may always be free.

Thank you.

Note: The President spoke at 4:33 p.m. at the Omaha Beach Memorial at Omaha Beach, France. In his opening remarks, he referred to President François Mitterrand of France.

Following the ceremony, President Reagan traveled to Utah Beach.

Remarks by Telephone to the Crew of the U.S.S. Eisenhower

Following D-day Ceremonies in Normandy, France

June 6, 1984

Greetings to all of you, the officers and men of the U.S.S. Eisenhower. Believe me, all of us up here are inspired by the sight of your magnificent ship and the battle group which accompanied you to the coast of Normandy.

We're returning from a commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the D-day landing—the heroic operation that was planned and commanded by General Dwight D. Eisenhower. The memory of "Ike," our great allied leader, still inspires heroic efforts on both sides of the Atlantic.

Today, as 40 years ago, our Navy and all of our Armed Forces are advancing the cause of peace and freedom. The dedication of you, our sailors and marines, particularly during your recent deployment in the Eastern Mediterranean, is in the highest tradition of the service.

The American people and our allies in Europe and beyond are all more secure because men of your caliber are on station when and where needed. Admiral Flatley, Captain Clexton, officers and men of the "Ike"—I salute you for your devoted service to the cause of freedom.

You know, I'm up here hoping that you've been able to hear me. I'll just say, God bless you all, and if it wouldn't be too demoralizing, wave, and I'll know whether you've heard this.

Thank you. Thank you all. Good sailing, and God bless you.

Note: The President spoke at 7:10 p.m. on board Marine One during the flight from Utah Beach, France, to London.

As printed above, this item follows the text of the White House press release.
THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 25, 1994

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY GRADUATION CEREMONY

U.S. Naval Academy
Annapolis, Maryland

10:28 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Secretary Dalton, for those fine remarks. Admiral Lynch, thank you for your comments and your leadership here at the Academy. Admiral Owens, Admiral Boorda, General Mundy, proud parents and family members, faculty and staff of the Academy, brigade of the midshipmen: It's a great honor for me to join you at this moment of celebration. I'm delighted to be back here on the eve of the Academy's 150th year.

Since 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy has provided superb leadership for our Navy, for our Marine Corps, and for our entire nation. And I cannot imagine a more valuable contribution.

The last time I was here, I joined some of you for lunch at King Hall. And ever since then, whenever people have asked me what I liked best about my visit to the Naval Academy I try to think of elevated things to say, but part of my answer is always pan pizza and chicken tenders. (Laughter)

In memory of that luxurious meal -- (laughter) -- I have today a small graduation present. In keeping with longstanding tradition I hereby grant amnesty to all midshipmen who received demerits for minor conduct offenses. (Laughter and applause.) See, today the interest group is in the stands, not on the field. (Laughter.)

Next week I will have the proud responsibility to represent our nation in Europe in the ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of D-Day, the invasion of Italy and World War II. That war marked the turning point of our century, when we joined with our allies to stem a dark tide of dictatorship, aggression, and terror; and to start a flow of democracy and freedom that continues to sweep the world down to the present day.

That war also marked an era of sacrifice almost unequalled in our entire history. Some 400,000 of our fellow countrymen and women lost their lives. Over half a million more were wounded.

Today we have among us many who took part at Normandy and the other great battles of World War II, such as retired Commander Alfred McKowan, Academy class of 1942, who served aboard
the U.S.S. Quincy off Utah Beach on D-Day. They're a great reminder of what our armed services have done for America. And I would ask all the veterans of that war to stand now so that the rest of us might honor them. (Applause.)

To the members of the class of 1994, my parents' generation and your grandparents' generation did not end their work with the liberation of Europe and victory in the Pacific. They came back to work wonders at home. They created the G.I. Bill so that freedom's heroes could reenter civilian life and succeed and build strong families and strong communities. They built our interstate highway system. They turned our economy into a global wonder. They forged the tools of international security and trade that helped to rebuild our former allies and our former enemies so that we could ultimately win the Cold War. It brought us decades of peace and prosperity.

Today we have come to celebrate your graduation from this Academy and your commission as officers of the United States Navy and Marine Corps. As we do, the question which hangs over your head is the question of what your generation will accomplish, as the generation of World War II accomplished so much.

Lately, there have been a number of books written, not about you, of course, but about your generation that says that so many people your age are afflicted with a sense of fatalism and cynicism, a sort of Generation X that believes America's greatest days are behind us and there are no great deeds left to be done. Well, this class, this very class is a rebuke to those cynics of any age.

Look at the extraordinary effort you have made to become leaders in service to America -- formation at dawn, classes at 8:00 a.m., rigorous mandatory PT, parading on Worden Field, summers spent aboard ship or down at Quantico. Most college students never go through anything like it. It's a routine that turns young men and women into officers, and that has taken your basketball team to the NCAA Tournament. (Applause.)

I deeply respect your decision to serve our nation. Your service may take many forms in the years ahead -- commanding ships in combat, training aviators for flight, running a business, perhaps one day even sitting in the Oval Office. Your career, regardless of its past, will require sacrifices, time away from loved ones, and potentially service in the face of danger. But regardless of where your careers take you, you clearly understand the imperative of civic duty. There's no brighter badge of citizenship than the path you have chosen and the oath you are about to take.

You just heard Secretary Dalton speak of President Kennedy's wonderful speech here at the Naval Academy when he was here. I read that speech carefully before I came here. And among other things, President Kennedy said, along the lines that Secretary Dalton quoted, that if someone asked you what you did with your life, there's not a better answer than to say, I served as an officer in the United States Navy. (Applause.)

The challenge for your generation is to remember the deeds of those who have served before you, and now to build on their work in a new and very different world. The world wars are over, the
Cold War has been won. Now it is our job to win the peace.

For the first time in history, we have the chance to expand the reach a democracy and economic progress across the whole of Europe and to the far reaches of the world. The first step on the mission is to keep our own nation secure. And your very graduation today helps ensure that. Today the American people have 874 new leaders, 874 new plates of battle armor on our ship of state, 874 reasons to sleep better at night.

The past four years have been a time of challenge and exertion for each of you, a time of challenge and exertion, too, for the U.S. Navy and for this Academy. The Navy has had to confront the difficulty of the Tailhook scandal. And this year the Academy had to confront improper conduct regarding an academic examination. These are troubling events, to be sure, because our military rests on honor and leadership. But, ultimately, the test of leadership is not constant flawlessness. Rather it is marked by a commitment to continue always to strive for the highest standards, to learn honestly when one falls short, and to do the right thing when it happens.

I came here today because I want America to know there remains no finer Navy in the world than the United States Navy, and no finer training ground for naval leadership than the United States Naval Academy. (Applause.) You have my confidence. You have America’s confidence.

These are challenging times to be in the Navy because it’s a new era in world affairs. When this class entered the Academy in June of 1990, think of this -- Israel and the PLO were sworn enemies; South Africa lived under apartheid; Moscow, Kiev and Riga all were still part of the Soviet Union; and the United States and the Soviet Union still pointed their nuclear weapons in massive numbers at each other. But now Nelson Mandela is the President of his nation. (Applause.) There is genuine progress toward peace in the Middle East between Israel and the PLO and the other parties. (Applause.) Where the Kremlin once imposed its will, a score of new free states now grapples with the burden of freedom. And the United States and Russia at last no longer aim their nuclear weapons at each other. (Applause.)

These amazing transformations make our nation more secure. They also enable us to devote more resources to the profound challenges we face here at home -- from providing jobs for our people to advancing education and training for all of them, to making our streets safer, to ensuring health care for all of our citizens, and in the end, building an economy that can compete and win well into the 21st century.

But the world’s changes also can create uncertainty for those who have committed their careers to military service. Indeed, they create uncertainty for the United States. And in this time of uncertainty they tempt some to cut our defenses too far.

At the end of the Cold War it was right to reduce our defense spending. But let us not forget that this new era has many dangers. We have replaced a Cold War threat of a world of nuclear gridlock with a new world threatened with instability, even abject chaos, rooted in the economic dislocations that are inherent in the
change from communism to market economics; rooted in religious and 
economic battles long covered over by authoritarian regimes now gone; 
rooted in tribal-slaughters, aggravated by environmental disasters, 
by abject hunger, by mass migration across tenuous national borders. 
And with three of the Soviet Union’s successor states now becoming 
non-nuclear and the tension between the U.S. and Russia over nuclear 
matters declining, we still must not forget that the threat of 
weapons of mass destruction remain in the continuing disputes we have 
over North Korea, and elsewhere with countries who seek either to 
develop or to sell or to buy such weapons.

So we must -- we must do better. For this generation to 
expand freedom’s reach, we must always keep America out of danger’s 
reach.

Last year I ordered a sweeping review -- we called it 
the Bottom-Up Review -- to ensure that in this new era we have a 
right-sized Navy, Marine Corps, Army and Air Force for the post-Cold 
War era. That is especially important for our naval forces. For 
even with all the changes in the world, some basic facts endure: We 
are a maritime nation. Over 60 percent of our border is sea coast. 
Over 70 percent of the world is covered by water. And over 90 
percent of the human race lives within our Navy’s reach from the sea. 
Now, as long as these facts remain true, we need naval forces that 
can dominate the sea, project our power and protect our interests.

We’ve known that lesson for over 200 years now, since 
the time Admiral John Paul Jones proclaimed, "Without a respectable 
Navy, alas, America."

The right-size defense costs less, but still costs quite 
a bit. That is why this year I have resisted attempts to impose 
further cuts on our defense budget. (Applause.)

I want you to understand this clearly. It is important 
for your generation and your children to bring down this terrible 
debt we accumulated in recent years. And I have asked the Congress 
to eliminate outright over 100 programs, to cut over 200 others. 
We’ve presented a budget that cuts discretionary domestic spending 
for the first time since 1969. That will give us three years of 
deficit reduction in a row for the first time since Harry Truman was 
President of the United States right after World War II. But we 
should not cut defense further. And I thank the Congress this week 
for resisting the calls to do so. (Applause.)

That enables us to answer John Paul Jones’s cry. Today 
you can see the importance of our naval forces all around the world. 
Right now, at this very moment as you sit here, the USS Saratoga and 
her battle group are steaming in the Adriatic to help enforce the no­ 
fly zone and to protect the safe havens in Bosnia. At this very 
moment, the USS Carl Vinson is in the Persian Gulf to help enforce 
sanctions on Iraq. Right now, the USS Independence is patrolling the 
waters of Northeast Asia to protect our allies and interests in 
Japan, Korea and throughout the Asian-Pacific region.

As we adjust our forces to a new era, our motto should 
still be: Reduce where we should, but strengthen as we must. That’s 
why we’re investing in new weapons, such as the next carrier, CVN-76; 
our new Sea Wolf attack submarine; new AEGIS ships, like the DDG-51; 
new air capabilities, like F-18 upgrades and the Joint Advanced
Strike Technology. It's why we're improving our weapons systems, and making the technology that won Operation Desert Storm even better -- Tomahawk missiles with increased accuracy and target area; and better night-fighting capabilities for our Harrier jump jets and other aircraft, so we can not only own the night today, but dominate the night tomorrow.

We have been able to afford a right-sized military at lower cost, but this year we must continue to fight any deeper cuts to defense. I want to emphasize how important it is that the House of Representatives and the Senate do that. I want to thank Congressman Gilchrest who is here; and Congressman Machtley from Rhode Island, a graduate of the Naval Academy, also here; and their colleagues for their support for the C-17 vote and for their continuing support for an adequate military. This is a bipartisan issue, it knows no party. We have done all we should do, and we now must support and adequate defense.

We are working to safeguard the quality of the most important defense asset of all -- you; and the more than one million other men and women in uniform, who stand sentry over our security. Today our armed forces are clearly and without dispute the best trained, the best equipped, the best prepared and the best motivated military on the face of the Earth. As long as I am President, that will continue to be the truth. (Applause.)

The question of our security in this era still ultimately depends upon our decisions about where to bring our military power to bear. That is what makes it possible for our enormous economic strength to assert itself at home and around the world. And there is no decision any President takes more seriously than the decision to send Americans into harm's way.

History teaches us that there is no magic formula, nor should a President ever try to draw the line so carefully that we would completely rule out the use of our military in circumstances where it might later become important. After all, the mere possibility of American force is itself a potent weapon all around the world. But this is clear: We must be willing to fight to defend our land and our people, first and foremost. That's why we responded forcefully when we discovered an Iraqi plot to assassinate former President Bush. And the Tomahawks we fired that day were fired by the Navy.

We must be willing to fight to protect our vital interests. And that's why we've adopted a defense strategy for winning any two major regional conflicts nearly simultaneously. We must be willing to fight to protect our allies. That's why we deployed Patriot missiles to South Korea, and working with others -- working with others -- we must be willing to use force when other American interests are threatened. And that's why we sought a stronger role for NATO in Bosnia.

The hardest cases involve the many ethnic and religious conflicts that have erupted in our era. The end of the superpower standoff lifted the lid from a cauldron of long-simmering hatreds. Now the entire global terrain is bloody with such conflicts, from Rwanda to Georgia. We cannot solve every such outburst of civil strife or militant nationalism simply by sending in our forces. We cannot turn away from them. But our interests are not sufficiently
at stake in so many of them to justify a commitment of our folks.

Nonetheless, as the world's greatest power, we have an obligation to lead and, at times when our interests and our values are sufficiently at stake, to act.

Look at the example of the former Yugoslavia. For centuries, that land marked a tense and often violent fault line between empires and religions. The end of the Cold War and the dissolution of that country into so many new republics surfaced all those ancient tensions again, triggering Serb aggression, ethnic cleansing, and the most brutal European conflict since the second world war.

Whether we get involved in any of the world's ethnic conflicts in the end must depend on the cumulative weight of the American interests at stake. Now, in Bosnia, we clearly have an interest in preventing the spread of the fighting into a broader European war; in providing that NATO can still be a credible force for peace in the post-Cold War era, in this first ever involvement of NATO outside a NATO country; in stemming the incredibly destabilizing flow of refugees from the conflict and in helping to stop the slaughter of innocents.

These interests do not warrant our unilateral involvement, but they do demand that they help to lead a way to a workable peace agreement if one can be achieved; and that, if one can be achieved, we help to enforce it. Our administration is committed to help achieve such a resolution, working with others such as NATO, the United Nations and Russia.

Those efforts have not been easy or smooth, but we have produced results. By securing NATO enforcement of the no-fly zone over Bosnia, we kept the war from escalating into the air. We inherit -- initiated humanitarian air drops, and have now participated in the longest humanitarian air lift in history. We secured NATO enforcement of the exclusion zones around Sarajevo and Garazde, and as a result, the people of Sarajevo have experienced over three months of relative calm and Garazde is no longer being shelled. And by stepping up diplomatic engagement, we have worked with others to foster a breakthrough agreement between the Croats and the Bosnians, signed here in Washington, which I believe eventually will lead to a broader settlement.

One of the dreams of World War II was that after the war, through the United Nations and in other ways, the United States might be able to cooperate with others to help resolve the most difficult problems of our age -- not always to have its own way, not always to be able to prescribe every move, but in order to help resolve the problems of the world without having the commit the lives of our own soldiers where they should not be committed, and still being able to play a positive role. That is what we are attempting to work out in Bosnia. And if it can be done -- if it can be done -- we'll be on the way to managing some of this incredible chaos that has threatened to engulf the world in which you will raise your children.

Today I want to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of Admiral Mike Boorda which were made to our efforts in Bosnia. His stunning leadership there, his clarity of thought and
resolve of purpose is one of the key reasons I named him to be our new Chief of Naval Operations. Thank you, Admiral Boorda.

(Applause.)

At every turn, we have worked to move the parties there toward a workable political solution. This is one of those conflicts that can only end at the negotiating table, not on the battlefield. They can fight for another 100 years and not resolve it there. At every turn we have rejected the easy out of simplistic ideas that sound good on bumper stickers but that would have tragic consequences. The newest of these is that we should simply unilaterally break the United Nations arms embargo on Bosnia and the other former Yugoslav states.

I do not support that arms embargo, and I never have. We worked with our allies and tried to persuade all them that we should end it. Now some say we should simply violate the embargo on our own because it was a bad idea to impose it in the first place. Well, if we did that, it would kill the peace process; it would sour our relationships with our European allies in NATO and in the U.N.; it would undermine the partnership we are trying to build with Russia across a whole broad range of areas; it would undermine our efforts to enforce U.N. embargoes that we like such as those against Sadaam Hussein, Colonel Gadhafi and General Cedras in Haiti.

We simply must not opt for options and action that sound simple and painless and good, but which will not work in this era of interdependence where it is important that we leverage American influence and leadership by proving that we can work with others, especially when others have greater and more immediate stakes and are willing to put their soldiers in harm’s way.

Our administration will not walk away from this Bosnian conflict. But we will not embrace solutions that are wrong. We plan to continue the course we have chosen -- raising the price on those who pursue aggression, helping to provide relief to the suffering, and working with our partners in Europe to move the parties to a workable agreement. It is not quick; it is not neat; it is not comfortable. But I am convinced in a world of interdependence where we must lead by working with others, it is the right path. It is the one that preserves our leadership, preserves our treasure and commits our forces in the proper way.

The world’s most tearing conflicts in Bosnia and elsewhere are not made in a day. And one of the most frustrating things that you may have to live with throughout your life is that many of these conflicts will rarely submit to instant solutions. But remember this: It took years after D-Day to not only end the war, but to build a lasting peace. It took decades of patience and strength and resolve to prevail in the Cold War.

And as with generations going before, we must often be willing to pay the price of time, sometimes the most painful price of all. There is no better source of the courage and constancy of our nation that we will lead in this era than this Academy and our armed forces. This Academy has prepared you to lead those armed forces. As you take your place in the Navy and the Marine Corps, always bear in mind the heroism, the sacrifice, the leadership of those who have served before you.
I think, in particular, of one of the stories that comes out of D-Day, June 6th, 1944. On that gray dawn, as U.S. Rangers approached Pointe du Hoc, they were raked by German fire from the cliff above. One landing craft was sunk, others were endangered. But then, an American destroyer, the USS Satterlee, along with a British destroyer, came to the rescue. They came in perilously close to the shore, and opened fire with all their guns at the Germans who were raining fire down on the Rangers. By its actions, the Satterlee saved American lives and enabled the Rangers to carry out their now-famous mission. Forty-eight years later, a Ranger platoon leader said, "Someday I’d love to meet up with somebody from Satterlee so I can shake his hand and thank him."

The valor of those who proceeded you is the stuff of inspiration. A great country must always remember the sacrifices of those who went before and made our freedom possible. But even greater accomplishments lie ahead if you can make them happen. For remember this: When our memories exceed our dreams, we have begun to grow old. It is the destiny of America to remain forever young.

As the guardians of your generation’s freedom and our future, may you never know directly whose lives you have saved -- you may not -- whose future you have improved. You may never hear their thanks, or get to shake their hands. But they’ll be out there. We’ll all be out there, aware of your courage, impressed by your dedication, grateful for your service to God and country. You can keep America forever young.

Good luck and God bless you. (Applause.)

END 10:28 A.M. EDT
In January 1943, American and British planners met in Casablanca to determine where to strike after victory in North Africa was complete. The Combined General Staff agreed to attack Sicily and secure the Mediterranean for Allied shipping.

The invasion of Sicily July 10, 1943, led to the downfall of Mussolini July 26, 1943. The Allies pressed the advantage with the British Eighth Army chasing the German Army across the Strait of Messina onto the toe of Italy. Italy surrendered to the Allies Sept. 8, the day before the U.S. Fifth Army made an amphibious landing at Salerno. The Germans, now abandoned by Italy, stiffened their resistance and used the rugged mountains to their full advantage. The tortuous terrain favored the defense and restricted the Allies to a few obvious avenues of approach which the Germans could block with relative ease.

German Field Marshall Albert Kesselring’s main position south of Rome became known as the Gustav Line. Anchored on the natural fortress at Monte Cassino, the Line extended from the impassable mountains on the east to the Adriatic Sea on the west. The Fifth Army reached the Gustav Line in mid-January 1944. On Jan. 22, 1944, the U.S. VI Corps made an end run around the German defenses by landing an amphibious force at the small port of Anzio, 35 miles south of Rome. The operation was code-named, "Shingle."

**Objective**

The amphibious landing at Anzio was a flanking movement around strongly-held German positions astride southern Italy. It was intended to cut Highways 6 and 7, and the rail lines supplying German forces on the Gustav Line.

**Operation**

The landing at Anzio caught the Germans by surprise. Opposition was light. Nevertheless Maj. Gen. John P. Lucas, the VI Corps commander, hesitated to advance before he had adequate armor and artillery. Ten crucial days were spent getting reserve troops, equipment and supplies ashore and consolidating the beachhead. The delay gave Field Marshall Kesselring ample time to rush eight divisions from France, Germany and Yugoslavia to trap the Allies on the beach. Attempts made to break out and cut German supply routes ended in disaster. On Jan. 31, a battalion of 767 American Rangers reached the outskirts of Cisterna but the unit was decimated in an ambush. Only six returned.

Every square foot of the beachhead at Anzio, including field hospitals, was within range of the German artillery. During the four hard winter months of stalemate, the Allies suffered 30,000 combat casualties. Another 39,000 died of exhaustion, disease and the stress of combat. Were it not for Allied air cover and limits to ammunition for German artillery, there would have been many more Allied combat casualties. The Spring Offensive (Operation Diadem) began May 11. Gen. Alphonse Juin’s French Expeditionary Corps attacked through trackless mountains and captured Monte Maio which controlled the road network leading into the Liri Valley, the primary avenue of approach to Rome. German defenses began to crumble and the Allies crossed the Gargliano and Rapido Rivers May 12. The Americans moved up the Tyrrenian coast to link up with the VI Corps at Anzio.

Juin’s stunning victory exerted enough pressure that the Germans holding Cassino were pulled back to avoid capture. On May 18 Monte Casino fell to Polish and British troops.

- Gen. Mark Clark had been ordered to cut off the German retreat at Valmontone. He ordered one third of his force to Valmontone with the balance racing for Rome, and entered the city June 4, just two days before the world’s attention turned to
Within the peristyle of the memorial, a single Roman pine (*pinus pinea*) shades the "Brothers-in-Arms" statue. Dense plantings of Roman pine (*pinus pinea*) form a backdrop for the memorial.

The informal garden south of the memorial contains planters filled with annual flowers and surrounded by panicled goldenrain trees (*koetreuteria paniculata*) and pink crepe myrtle (*lagerstroemia indica rosea*). Gazanica Varicolor compliments the Orpheus statue. The more formal garden north of the memorial is planted with beds of polyantha roses, geraniums, white oleander, purple bougainvillea and other flowers in parterre arrangements.

Cedars of Lebanon, Monterey cypress (*cupressus macrocarpa*), eucalyptus and oleanders predominate the plantings outside of the service road around the perimeter of the cemetery.

---

*SYLVESTER ANTOLAK*  
Sgt 15 Inf 1 Div  
OHIO MAY 24 1944

*MEDAL OF HONOR*

*Headstone of Medal of Honor Recipient*
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**COLLECTION:**
Clinton Presidential Records  
First Lady's Office  
Speechwriting  
OA/Box Number: 8168

**FOLDER TITLE:**

**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]
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- 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)]

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- b7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
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two months, preventing their deployment against Allied troops in Normandy.

Beginning in mid-June 1944, U.S. and French divisions were successively pulled from the lines in Italy, in preparation for the southern France landings. Air bombardment aimed at disrupting vital communications and installations in southern France commenced in July and increased in intensity. As the convoys assembled to bring the preponderance of the assault troops from Italy, and others from as far away as Algiers, the U.S. Twelfth and Fifteenth Air Forces struck at enemy beach defenses, and the bridges across the Rhône River in an effort to isolate the battle area.

During the night of 14 August, specially-trained assault units landed to protect the flanks of the invasion areas. Then, shortly before dawn, U.S. and British troops of the 1st Airborne Task Force dropped near Le Muy to seize vital highway junctions.

At 0800 hours on 15 August 1944, under the cover of heavy naval bombardment by the Western Naval Task Force, the 3d, 35th and 45th Divisions of the U.S. VI Corps stormed ashore from St. Tropez to St. Raphael. Breaking through the steel and concrete fortifications, they advanced inland so rapidly that they were able to establish contact with the airborne units by nightfall. On the following day, as the U.S. troops pursued the retreating enemy, French divisions landed and began moving westward toward the ports of Toulon and Marseille.

The U.S. 3d Division on the left flank drove directly up the Rhône Valley, as the other VI Corps units of the U.S. Seventh Army advanced northward. Within ten days, Grenoble was liberated and a U.S. task force was moving westward to meet the U.S. 3d Division attacking up the valley. By 28 August, the defile at Montrèmin had been seized, cutting off large numbers of the retreating enemy, and Toulon and Marseille had been liberated by French troops.

The advance of the U.S. VI Corps continued without pause, while the U.S. Twelfth Air Force harassed the retreating enemy from the air. Lyon was liberated on 3 September and by 7 September U.S. troops had reached Besançon. On 11 September at Somberon west of Dijon, U.S. Seventh Army units met patrols from the U.S. Third Army advancing from Normandy. In less than one month U.S. forces had advanced 400 miles from the beaches of southern France, isolating all remaining units in southwestern France. Ten days later the U.S. Seventh and Third Armies joined in strength near Epinal and established a solid line extending to the Swiss frontier.

SICILY-ROME CEMETERY lies at the north edge of the town of Nettuno, Italy, which is immediately east of Anzio, 38 miles south of Rome.

The cemetery site covers 77 acres, rising in a gentle slope from a broad pool with an island and cenotaph flanked by groups of Italian cypress trees. Beyond the pool is the immense field of headstones of 7,862 of our military Dead arranged in gentle arcs which sweep across the broad green lawns beneath rows of Roman pines. The majority of these men died in the operations preceding the liberation of Rome.

At the head of the wide central mall stands the memorial, a building rich in works of art and architecture expressing America's remembrance of the Dead. It consists of a chapel to the south, a peristyle and a museum room to the north. On the white marble wall of the chapel are engraved the names of 3,096 of the Missing, whose remains were never recovered or identified. The museum room contains a bronze relief map and four fresco maps depicting the military operations in Sicily and Italy. At each end of the memorial are ornamental Italian gardens.

HISTORY

On 10 July 1943, just two months after the victorious North African campaign, Allied forces landed in strength on the southern and eastern shores of the island of Sicily. Despite vigorous resistance by the enemy, infantry and airborne troops of the U.S. Seventh Army thrust inland under cover of gunfire from the Western Naval Task Force. Five days later, the Allied beachheads were joined and a continuous line established. While the British Eighth Army on the right was advancing northeast toward Mount Etna against stiff resistance, the U.S. Seventh Army was driving rapidly to the northwest. Advancing 100 miles in four days, the U.S. Seventh Army occupied the port city of Palermo and then swung toward Messina in the northeast.
NORTH AFRICA CEMETERY is located in close proximity to the site of the ancient city of Carthage, Tunisia, destroyed by the Romans in 146 B.C., and lies over part of the site of Roman Carthage. It is 10 miles from the city of Tunis.

At this cemetery, 27 acres in extent, rest 2,841 of our military Dead. Their headstones are set in straight lines subdivided into 9 rectangular plots by wide paths, with decorative pools at their intersections. Along the southeast edge of the burial area is the long Wall of the Missing, with its sculptured figures, bordering the tree-lined terrace leading to the memorial. On this wall are engraved the names of 3,724 of the Missing. Most of these, like those who rest in the cemetery, gave their lives in the service of their Country in military activities ranging from North Africa to the Persian Gulf. The chapel and the memorial court, which contain large maps in mosaic and ceramic depicting the operations and supply activities of American Armed Forces across Africa to the Persian Gulf, were designed to harmonize with local architecture. The chapel interior is decorated with polished-marble, flags and sculpture.

HISTORY

In 1942, matters also were going badly for the British in the Mediterranean area along the coast of North Africa in Libya and Egypt, the area known as the Western Desert. There, where the fighting had been swinging back and forth for nearly two years, the combined German-Italian force known as the Afrika Korps had forced the British Eighth Army back farther into Egypt, and was closer to Alexandria than ever before. Additional Axis advances in Egypt and the Caucasus posed a threat to the entire Middle East.

The Allies sorely needed an offensive operation that would lessen the pressure on the British Eighth Army in Egypt. The only operation that could be undertaken with a reasonable chance of success was an assault in French
proportions, and the most worrisome problem facing the commanders was not their enemy but morale.

What made Anzio so different from other campaigns for the Allied soldiers who fought there was that it was a place where everyone was exposed to death—where the usual distinctions between front-line and rear-area-support troops simply did not exist. In the so-called rear area the soldier who baked bread in a quartermaster bakery, the ordnance mechanic who repaired vehicles, or the dentist who fixed teeth was as likely to be wearing a Purple Heart as someone at the front. As one American division commander noted, "All of us were in the same boat. We were to stay or die...I have never seen anything like it in the two World Wars of my experience. There was at Anzio a confidence in unity, an unselfish willingness among troops to help one another, that I never saw again."

At Anzio, artillery was king, and to counter the invasion the Germans massed the largest guns in their arsenal and pounds the beachhead day and night. Movement during daylight hours was suicidal. The\n
As of 10 March 1944,\n
Many survivors of Anzio are still haunted by their horrific experiences. Nurse Grace Newton served in the 93d U.S. Evacuation Hospital, and she vividly recalls:

the shattering of artillery, the explosions and resulting fires signifying that bombs had found their targets; the breathtaking display of vermillion nick-nick tracers in the night sky, the sight of ambulances weaving their way through grain fields to bring the dead and injured to the nearest hospital; the tight-lipped faces of men in pain trying to hide the fact, as if we couldn't see the beads of sweat on their brow and the clutched fists, as if they thought they must act out a charade of bravery—even when dying; I can't ever forget one young soldier whose bow was collapsed in a last desperate cry as the medical orderlies walked away, unable to do anything more to save him. "Nurse, don't let me die." Kneeling beside his cot, I could only hold him as he died. What little we had to offer sometimes only a prayer that God would grant a quick death."

Famed correspondent Ernie Pyle covered every major campaign in the Mediterranean and European theaters of war, but he never reported from a more godforsaken place than Anzio. Pyle barely escaped death early one morning when the Luftwaffe raided the Anzio waterfront.
THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314

TEL #: 202-272-0532-33

FAX #: 202-272-1375

FA X CO V E R S H E E T

Receiver Name: Lissa Muscatine
Speech Writer

ORGANIZATION: The White House

Sender Name: COL Kenneth S. Pond
Director of Personnel and Administration

SUBJECT: Sicily-Rome American Cemetery

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**COLLECTION:**
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NETTUNO

Introduce POTUS

John Shirley
3rd Infantry

John Shirley joined the 15th Infantry Regiment of the Third Division as a replacement Sergeant in April of 1944 on the Anzio beachhead. He participated in the battles to breakout of the beachhead and liberate Rome. He lead his rifle squad in the invasion of Southern France in 1944 and he served as Platoon Sergeant as the Third Division became the first American Division to reach the Rhine River. After being wounded on the battlefield, he returned to fight in the final battles in Southern Germany. He received a Silver Star and two Bronze Stars.

A retired veterinarian who attended University of California at Davis on the GI Bill, Shirley currently serves as President of the Society of the Third Infantry Division.

Contact: [Contact Information]
MEMORANDUM

TO: Lissa Muscatine
FROM: Jason Berger
RE: Quotations for Anzio/Nettuno remarks
DATE: May 27, 1994

"I consider it no sacrifice to die for my country. In my mind we came here to thank G-D that men like this have lived rather than to regret that they have died."
General George S. Patton, Jr. November 11, 1943, speech at an allied cemetery in Italy, quoted in Semmes Portrait of Patton.

"We Polish soldiers for our freedom and yours, have given our souls to G-D, our bodies to Italy and our hearts to Poland."
Inscription at the Polish cemetery, Cassino

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."
Lawrence Binyon, For the Fallen

Caesar: " Cowards die many times before their deaths, the valiant never taste death but once."
William Shakespeare, Julius Caesar 2. 2. 32
Mr. Prime Minister, thank you for honoring us today with this -- at this service. We gather today to mark Memorial Day in America, to honor the thousands of young men and women buried here and elsewhere, who put themselves in harm's way so that others might live in freedom.

As we gather, it's dawn in America, Memorial Day weekend, first days of summer. And soon, the screen doors will slam, parks are going to sound with the crack of the baseball bat, children's voices will rise in the summer breeze pungent with the scent of barbecue smoke, and the rites of summer are marked by American traditions.

As morning comes to Indianapolis, the smells of coffee and gasoline will mingle in the heat rising off that sun-baked raceway. And further west, there is going to be another race, as the blast of a ship's whistle sends the riverboats Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer steaming down the Mississippi, off the docks of St. Louis -- Memorial Day Weekend. By the time today's ceremony concludes, the first rays of sunlight will streak across the Potomac, flashing first atop the monument to the founder of our republic, then reaching down to touch the silent rows of white markers on the green Virginia hillside that is Arlington Cemetery. And soon the gathering light will reveal a lone figure, a man in uniform, standing guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier -- around the clock vigil unbroken in more than 50 years.

Another moment, and the dawn will flood the park that lays beneath the gaze of Lincoln, embracing the candles that flicker each night along the walls of the Vietnam Memorial, and soon, the plaintive sound of Taps will rise in the wind in cities and hamlets all across America, heard by veterans of four wars as they gather to salute the fallen.

In town after town, the ritual at sunrise will be the same as first the flag is raised, then slowly lowered to half-mast. The thoughts of some will turn eastward, toward the sun, across the ocean, across four decades to this grassy plain above the shores of the Mediterranean, where 45 years ago the US Third Infantry Division, among the most decorated in World War II, led the bloody advance toward the liberation of Rome. And on that Memorial Day weekend 1944, I wasn't yet 20 years old, flying torpedo bombers off the USS San Jacinto on the other side of the world, as she headed from Wake Island to Saipan.

But like Americans everywhere, the men aboard our ship had eagerly followed the news of the Italian campaign, and during four long months of 1944, the combatants of World War II were locked near Nettuno in a deadly embrace. But before the week was out, the face of the world's greatest conflict would be changed, and the fate of the enemy sealed.

On June 4th, American troops entered Rome, the streets lined by cheering Italians, and by midnight General Mark Clark's Fifth Army stood on the banks
The first brother, Donald, was killed when the two bombers collided on maneuvers in New Mexico and their mother grieved. Preston, the second brother, died just south of here in Sicily shortly after Patton’s successful invasion and their mother was overcome once again. And ten days later, the third brother, William, went down during a dangerous bombing mission over the mountains of central Italy. On the day of his death, his mother received a letter from him urging her not to worry. When the third telegram came, she couldn’t bring herself to go to the door. William and Preston Kaspivik are buried here in soil that they helped free.

Brothers in life, brothers in arms, brothers in eternity. Their mother died 20 years ago, but back home in Quincy the extraordinary sacrifice of this ordinary American family is still remembered and today, as they do every year, the VFW and the American Legion will honor Quincy’s fallen natives with a hometown parade down Main Street high above the banks of the Mississippi.

As we gather today, it is dawn in America, Memorial Day weekend. And as the sun rises and the summer begins, the images both here and at home are of countries that are prosperous and secure, countries confident of their place in the world, and aware of the responsibility that comes with that place. Soon that lone soldier at Arlington will resume his paces, 21 steps in each direction, the changing of the guard precisely on the half hour, and at Gettysburg the school children will scatter flowers on other unknown graves, blue and gray, side by side, Americans.

On Memorial Day, we give thanks for the blessings of freedom and peace, and for the generations of Americans who have won them for us. We also pray for the same strength and moral reserve demonstrated by these veterans as well as for the true and lasting peace found in a world were liberty and justice prevail.

And with that prayer, I ask that you join in your own silent prayers as we place a wreath to commemorate the sacrifice of those buried here at Nettuno and the sacrifice of all men and women who have given their lives for freedom. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH
the invasion at Normandy, Kesselring, through a brilliant lateral withdrawal, escaped with his army to fight on for another year.

**Lessons Learned**

- In most cases it is better to bypass the enemy strongpoint, penetrate its rear echelons and cut off its supply lines, than to batter against in frontal attacks.
- Attacking well-fortified positions in mountainous terrain is costly. An entire campaign consisting of repeated attacks against a series of well-defended positions is extremely costly.
- If surprise is achieved, the advantage must be exploited before the enemy recovers.
- The tactical advantage in destroying historic and/or culturally significant edifices is rarely worth the long-term loss to civilization.
- Communication of the allied group commander's precise objective to the operational commander is essential.

**Statistics**

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied strength by June 1944 (lineup)</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied combat casualties at Anzio</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied non-combat casualties at Anzio</td>
<td>37,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German casualties at Anzio</td>
<td>28-30,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In April 1944, Strategic Air Forces flew 21,000 sorties against the Gustav line.

**Sources**


*Men and equipment coming ashore on Anzio beaches. The first assault craft hit the beaches at 2 a.m., Jan. 22, 1944. There was practically no opposition to the landings as the enemy had been caught by surprise.*

*Statistics*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allied Troops landing at Anzio (Jan. 22, 1944)</td>
<td>36,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied troops at Anzio as of Feb. 1, 1944</td>
<td>61,000</td>
</tr>
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<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
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*In April 1944, Strategic Air Forces flew 21,000 sorties against the Gustav line.*

*B-26 bombing roads in the Liri Valley behind the Gustav Line Jan. 22, 1944, in order to hamper the enemy in sending troops to the Anzio area.*