Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: Roberts, John G.: Files

Folder Title: JGR/Presidential Remarks, [Statements, & Addresses] (03/04/1986-03/12/1986)

Box: 42

To see more digitized collections visit: https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit: https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing

National Archives Catalogue: https://catalog.archives.gov/

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name Roberts, John: Files Withdrawer

KDB 8/4/2005

File Folder JGR/PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS [STATEMENTS AND

FOIA

ADDRESSES] (03/04/1986-03/12/1986)

2005-139

Box Number

SUPERBOWL TAPE (W/NOTATIONS)

COOKE

ID Doc Type Document Description No of Doc Date Restrictions

Pages

19527 CABLE RE PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON

3 3/4/1986

B1

R 6/22/2006

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

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA] B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 5, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR W. ROBERT PEARSON

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

AND DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Presidential Statement on Superbowl Tape

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced Presidential statement and finds no objection to it from a legal perspective.

cc: David L. Chew

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

□ 10 - OUTGOING	Figure Sept. Comment	The second secon	· • · · ·	
□ H -INTERNAL				
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD)				
Name of Correspondent:	n Quinn			
☐ MI Mail Report	User Codes: (A)		(B)(C)
Subject: Presidential	Statement	on.	Superbour	
tape				
ROUTE TO:	AC	TION	DISPOS	ITION
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Co	Completion Date de YY/MM/DD
cutou	ORIGINATOR	96 103 105	The second of th	
Wat 18	Referral Note:	(<u>1866)</u>		
<u> Mat 18</u>	B	86103105		86 103 1 05
	Referral Note:			
		<u> </u>	_	
The second secon	Referral Note:	The second secon		
			THE STATE OF THE S	Terminal Control of the Control of t
	Referral Note:	1 1		
	Referral Note:			
ACTION CODES: A · Appropriate Action C · Comment/Recommendati D · Draft Response F · Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure	S - For Signature X - Interim Reply	ction Necessary	DISPOSITION CODES: A - Answered B - Non-Special Referral FOR OUTGOING CORRESPO	C - Completed S - Suspended
Comments: Confidente			Type of Response = Initi Code = "A" Completion Date = Dat	ials of Signer

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.

Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).

Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.

Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

	DEPARTM	ENT OF STATE	
TERREMENT IN STATE		UNCLASSIFED UPON REJACY/L	P 7 23
ESSAGE NO	05695 CLASSIFICA	The state of the s	No. Pages
ROM: KEN GUINN		8448 (Extension)	7224 Indiana numberi
NSC // gen ty/	DELIVER TO: ROBERT PEARSON EXECUTIVE SECRE Kaux		Room No.
	MCDGMI Fielding, & INCE X INFORMATION OF THE PROVIDE CLEARANCE RE	Jene young Mayor 12	0
	Please call to Cathy & Cathy Millis	t clearance	

RETURN TIME-STAMPED COVERSHEET TO SIS

CONFEDENTIAL

0324

EAP/C:GEMARTIN
03/04/86 EXT. X2656
EAP/C:RWILLIAMS

MSC: BLAUX

\$/\$

INMEDIATE BEIJING

FOR AMBASSADOR LORD

E.O. 12356: BECL:OADR

TAGS:

SCUL, CH, US

: T)3LBUZ

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON SUPERBOUL TAPE

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. YOU MAY RECALL EARLIER MESSAGES IN LATE JANUARY SOLICITING EMBASSY VIEWS ON THE APPROPRIATENESS OF REQUESTING THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN BO A ONE-MINUTE VIBEOTAPE MESSAGE TO THE CHINESE PEOPLE INTRODUCING A CHINESE LANGUAGE BUBBED TAPE OF THE SUPER BOWL FOOTBALL GAME SCHEDULED TO BE SHOWN ON CHINESE MATIONAL TELEVISION MARCH 9. THIS HAD TENTATIVELY BEEN SCHEDULED FOR THE PRESIDENT'S JANUARY 3D VIDEOTAPE SESSION, AND WAS SO ANNOUNCED BY LARRY SPEAKES THAT DAY, BUT IT WAS CANCELLED WHEN IT WAS LEARNED AT THE LAST MINUTE THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT APPROVED IT.

3. IN THE LAST FEW DAYS THE WHITE HOUSE WAS NOTIFIED BY THE CHINESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND BY THE CHICAGO FIRM DOING THE SUPERBOWL VIDEOTAPE THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAD APPROVED THE IDEA. UNFORTUNATELY, BECAUSE OF THE LATE MOTIFICATION, IT WAS UNABLE TO BE SCHEDULED FOR THE PRESIDENT'S FEBRUARY 28 VIDEOTAPE SESSION AND THERE WILL NOT BE ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY BEFORE THE MARCH 9 SHOWING.

DECLASSIFIED NLS F05-139/1#19527

CONFIDENTIAL

BY LOT , NARA, DATE 6/22/05

THE SECOCCC

THE STAGE TO THE CHINESE PEOPLE.

ALTHOUGH NEITHER THE WHITE HOUSE NOR STATE HAVE SEEN THE FINAL PRODUCT, WE ARE INFORMED BY RELIABLE SOURCES IN CHICAGO, PLUENT IN CHINESE, THAT THE FINAL, EDITED VERSION OF THE VIDEOTAPE IS A GOOD PRODUCT, WORTHY OF PRESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION. ESSENTIALLY WE SEE THIS AS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PRESIDENT TO CONVEY A GOODWILL MESSAGE TO THE CHINESE PEOPLE WHICH WILL BE SEEN AND HEARD BY AN AUDIENCE ESTIMATED TO BE OVER 200 MILLION PEOPLE. THE VIDEOTAPE WAS MADE THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE, AND THE ILLINOIS AND CHICAGO STATE AND CITY GOVERNMENTS. IT CONTAINS ADVERTISEMENTS BY MCDONNELL-BOUGLAS, HEWLETT-PACKARD, AND MIKE SHOES, BUT IN THE OPINION OF WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL. THE TAPE IS SO CONSTRUCTED THAT THE PLACE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS CLEARLY MAKE THEM A GOODWILL INTRODUCTORY MESSAGE TO THE CHINESE PEOPLE AND NOT AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE FIRMS OR PRODUCTS ADVERTISED.

b. THE FIRM INVOLVED IS TLI INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION OF 233 EAST-WACKER DRIVE IN CHICAGO HEADED BY MS. LYRIC MUGHES. MS. HUGHES IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN BEIJING FRIDAY, MARCH 7 AT 9:00 PM ON CAAC FLIGHT 1302 AND WILL STAY AT THE GREAT WALL HOTEL. SHE WILL CONTACT THE EMBASSY ON ARRIVAL TO REACH YOU ABOUT YOUR AVAILABILITY FOR A VIDEOTAPING SESSION SATURDAY, MARCH 8. THE TEXT THE PRESIDENT WOULD HAVE USED FOLLOWS. WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD HAVE THE FLEXIBILITY TO CHANGE IT SOMEWHAT AND ADJUST YOUR PRESENTATION ACCORDING TO YOUR OWN VIEWS OF HOW BEST TO PRESENT THE PRESIDENT AND INTRODUCE THE GAME OF ROOTBALL. YOU MAY WISH TO HAVE THE CHINESE LANGUAGE TRANSLATION OF YOUR REMARKS READY BEFORE MS. HUGHES!

7. BEGIN TEXT: GREETINGS FROM THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES. IT IS A PLEASURE, TODAY, TO SHARE WITH YOU ONE OF AMERICA'S MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS. AT THE SUPERBOWL, THE TWO BEST FOOTBALL TEAMS IN THE US CHALLENGE EACH OTHER FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP. EACH TEAM HAS SPENT FIVE MONTHS COMPETING AGAINST ALL OTHERS AND, AT THE SUPERBOWL, THEY FACE EACH OTHER, THE ULTIMATE TEST.

FOOTBALL IS A SPORT UNIQUE TO NORTH AMERICA AND IT IS EXTREMELY POPULAR AMONG THE PEOPLE IN THE US. CHILDREN BEGIN PLAYING IT IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND CONTINUE

(

C

CONFIRENTIAL

C

 \mathbf{C}

De DISCAS CAD

CONFIDENTIAL

THROUGH UNIVERSITY. MANY OF THE BEST PLAYERS THEN GO ON TO PLAY PROPESSIONALLY. IT IS A RUGGED SPORT WHICH BEVELOPS BOTH A SPIRIT OF TEAM WORK AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION. ALSO, EACH TEAM IS BASED IN A MAJOR CITY. ALTHOUGH THE SPORT IS A PROFIT-MAKING BUSINESS AND EACH TEAM IS PRIVATELY OWNED, THE PEOPLE OF EACH CITY TAKE GREAT PRIBE IN THEIR LOCAL TEAM. ALL OF THIS, OF COURSE, ADDS TO THE EXCITEMENT. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE GAME.

WE ALSO WANT TO WISH ALL OF YOU A PLEASANT AND PROSPEROUS YEAR OF THE TIGER. I AM CONFIDENT THE GROWING TIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES AND PEOPLE WILL FURTHER PROSPER DURING THE COMING YEAR.

8. WE HAVE NOTIFIED THE CHINESE EMBASSY HERE OF THIS SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE TO A PRESIDENTIAL VIDEOTAPE.

CONFIDENTIAL

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 7, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND

DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks: Presentation of

National Medals of Science and Technology

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

cc: David L. Chew

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

O - OUTGOING					
□ H · INTERNAL					
I - INCOMING Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) I					
Name of Correspondent:	Chew	* **			
□ MI Mail Report Use	r Codes: (A)		B)	_ (C)_	
Subject: Phendential Re	machi	· Preser	Mation	af	
nutrinal medals		cienci	c sec	Lna	logy
				Se .	
	4-51				
ROUTE TO:	AC	TION 4.5.3	DIS	POSITI	ON .
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
CUHOU	ORIGINATOR	86103107			11.
	Referral Note:	3 .33-3		-	
Cuat 18	R	86,03,07		51	36103110
	Referral Note:				llam
		1 1			1 1
	Referral Note:				
		11			11
	Referral Note:				
					11.
	Referral Note:				
ACTION CODES:			DISPOSITION CODES	• 14.000	
A - Appropriate Action I - C - Comment/Recommendation R - D - Draft Response S -	Info Copy Only/No A Direct Reply w/Copy For Signature Interim Reply		A - Answered IB - Non-Special Ref	lerral S	
			Type of Response Code Completion Date	≠ "A"	
Comments:					
	1.4				

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.

Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).

Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.

Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

management of the second of th			
Document No.			
DOCUMENTAL.			

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE:	3/7/86	ACTION	CONCURREN	CE/COMN	MENT DUE BY:	11:00	a.m.	3/10/8	36

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL MEDALS OF

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

	ACTION	FYI,		ACTION	I FYI
VICE PRESIDENT		1	LACY		
REGAN			POINDEXTER	1	
MILLER	٥,		RYAN		
BALL	1		SPEAKES		1
BUCHANAN	٥,		SPRINKEL		
CHAVEZ	d		SVAHN	1	, 🗆
CHEW	□₽	SS	THOMAS	1	
DANIELS	0 /		TUTTLE		
FIELDING			ELLIOTT		V
HENKEL				0	
HICKS	- ,				
KINGON	\checkmark				

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Ben Elliott by 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 10th, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

(Gilder/BE) March 7, 1986 11:30 a.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL MEDALS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1986

Thank you and welcome to the White House. To paraphrase an earlier President: This must be one of the most extraordinary collections of talent and human intelligence that has ever come together in one room in the White House, with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone.

You know, one of the first times the White House played host to an event concerning science and technology was back in '76 -- 1876, that is. A demonstration of a recently invented device was put on here for President Rutherford B. Hayes. "That's an amazing invention," he said, "but who would ever want to use them?" He was talking about the telephone. I thought at the time he might be mistaken.

We've come a long way from those times, but I sometimes feel that, just like President Hayes, some of the journalists who cover our everyday political affairs here in Washington have a tendency to miss the real news, the transforming discoveries and achievements that you and your colleagues are making every day. I remember just a little over 5 years ago when all the headlines were of shortages. Every morning it seemed we read some new scare story telling us that the Earth's resources were about to run out for good, leaving our world poorer and shrinking our hopes for the future.

But at the same time, scientists, inventors and entrepreneurs were mining the most abundant resource in the

world -- the human mind and imagination. Men such as you, with the spirit of discovery, enterprise, and achievement, have been opening up new worlds of possibility and transforming all our lives for the better.

Whole industries have sprung up around what were, only a few years ago, merely ideas in the minds of inventors. New grains and agricultural techniques have alleviated hunger, new vaccines have conquered some of mankind's most dreaded enemies. Quantum leaps in technology are making possible greater prosperity and personal fulfillment than mankind has ever known.

In the computer industry, for instance, miraculous advances in productivity are now almost commonplace. Let me give you an example, although I'm sure you could provide many more. In one semiconductor plant in Pennsylvania in 1957, each worker produced five transistors a day for \$7.50 apiece. Today, each worker produces over a million semiconductors every day -- each one costing a fraction of a penny.

They say that about 90 percent of all scientific knowledge has been generated in the last 30 years alone, and we'll likely double it by the end of the century. Such an explosion of knowledge creates an unprecedented opportunity to expand the global economy — to bring prosperity and hope to those corners of the world that for too long have known only deprivation and want. The United States must take the lead in making this happen.

You, who are on the cutting edge of human achievement, understand that freedom is not a luxury, but a necessity.

Freedom to think, freedom to imagine and create -- these are not privileges, but the very source of our life's bread and the hope of mankind's future.

How can Government aid the cause of human progress? We invest over \$13 billion a year in universities and Government laboratories -- many times more than any other country. This is an important role, but it is even more vital to knock down the barriers to progress that Government itself has created. That's why we've rolled back needless Government regulations, cut tax rates -- and we plan to cut them again.

Our tax cuts revitalized the entrepreneurial economy, creating over \$20 billion in new venture capital, over \$25 billion in new public stock offerings and an explosion of new business creation, with over 600,000 new companies forming every year for the last 3 years in a row.

This represents the application of knowledge to human needs on a massive scale -- much of it made possible by the breakthroughs of you and your colleagues. But as we look at the record of scientific achievement, there remains one area crying out for attention.

I believe that our nuclear dilemma presents us with some of the major unfinished business of science. We have begun research on a non-nuclear defense against nuclear attack. As I said before, yesterday's impossibilities have become commonplace realities today. Why should we start thinking small now? In protecting mankind from the peril of nuclear destruction, we must be ambitious. We can't lock ourselves into a fatalistic acceptance of a world held in jeopardy.

In this area, most especially, we must approach the future with vision and hope that reach for the greatest possibilities.

Only if we try can we succeed.

You know, people who say it can't be done remind me of a story. (At my age, practically everything reminds one of a story.) Back in 1842, the royal astronomer in Great Britain studied Charles Babbage's new "analytical engine" -- the forerunner of the modern computer -- and pronounced it worthless. His foresight was almost equaled a half century later, when the head of the U.S. Patent Office advised President McKinley to abolish the Patent Office, because, he said, "everything that can be invented has already been invented."

If science has taught us anything, it's taught us not to be modest in our aspirations. That fact, I have to confess, is my secret agenda for bringing you all here today. After lunch is over, I'm going to ask all of you to turn your attention to the budget problem.

Well, congratulations. You are all heroes in the cause of human progress. God bless you all.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 12, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND

DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks: View Display of

Confiscated Weapons at State Department

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

cc: David L. Chew

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

□ O - OUTGOING □ H - INTERNAL □ 1 - INCOMING □ Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD)				
Name of Correspondent:	are chew	The state of the s		
□ MI Mail Report Subject: PUSUALITUAL Confiscated	User Codes: (A) Remarks: Wapons	meio at	B) disple State &	4 at Epartmen
ROUTE TO:	AC	TION	DIS	POSITION
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date Code YY/MM/DD
Curtou	ORIGINATOR	86,03,11		
cust 18	Referral Note: Referral Note:	81/03/11		5 86,03,12 10am
	Referral Note:			1 1
	Referral Note:	1 1		1 1 =
	Referral Note:	American Action		
ACTION CODES: A - Appropriate Action C - Comment/Recommendat D - Draft Response F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure	S - For Signature X - Interim Reply	ction Necessary	Code	C - Completed terral S - Suspended RRESPONDENCE: = Initials of Signer
Comments:				

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.

Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).

Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.

Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

Received 50

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: VIEW DISPLAY OF CONFISCATED WEAPONS AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1986

Secretary Shultz, Assistant Secretary Abrams, and you gentlemen. Thank you for this eye-opening presentation. Thomas Jefferson once said, "If the people know all the facts, the people will never make a mistake." Well, it's frustrating at times that information like what we have heard today does not seem to be percolating through to the public. Even some well-intentioned elected officials seem to be operating under outrageously false assumptions.

These captured weapons are much more than just proof of Nicaraguan complicity in crimes against its neighbors. These weapons suggest the magnitude of a sophisticated Communist effort to deceive. Rifles, machine guns, and grenade launchers left by the United States in Vietnam did not just miraculously appear in the hands of the insurgents in El Salvador. Those who supplied these weapons wanted the American people to believe the big lie: That the guerrillas in El Salvador and other Central American countries are independent of any Communist strategy of expansion. The purpose behind providing these American weapons was obviously to convince Americans, especially journalists, that the insurgents were arming themselves by picking up weapons left by fleeing El Salvadoran troops.

One doesn't need to be privy to secret information to see what's been happening. What we've been hearing and seeing today is public information and can lead to only one conclusion. The

Nicaraguan Communists, while proclaiming their total innocence, are using their country as a staging area for aggression against their neighbors. Their campaign of internal repression and external aggression is being aided and abetted by the Soviet Union, Vietnam, Cuba, Libya, and others. No single country, especially the fledgling democracies of Central America, can stand alone against this kind of concerted international Communist effort.

If nothing is done to counter this subversive aggression,
Americans will, in the not too distant future, look to the South
and see a string of anti-American Communist dictatorships. If
that happens, it will do no good to ask who is to blame. It will
be an irreparable disaster. That is what we are asking
responsible Members of Congress in both parties to prevent.

America needs to hear the testimony of individuals like the ones we have with us today who were on the inside of the other side. Senor Castellanos was a former rebel comandante in El Salvador. He offers first-hand knowledge of the vicious crime the Communist regime in Managua is perpetrating on the people of El Salvador. Alvaro Baldizon, a former member of Nicaragua's State Security forces, was disillusioned by the repression and the shroud of lies in which the Communists draped themselves. These two, and the others with us today, are only a few of the many who deserve to be heard by decision makers. I would hope that all Members of Congress who have not had a chance to speak with them will take the time to do so.

What we heard from these brave men confirms that the Communists have been waging one of the most professionally managed campaigns of lies, distortion, and manipulation in memory. The masters of deceit have outdone themselves, but Americans can and will see through the smoke screen. Their goal is to paralyze us, to prevent us from doing what is necessary to save Central America, but they will not succeed. Ultimately, in a free society the truth will be heard. Today, I think we've got before us some facts that the American people need to hear. Thank you.