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Description of document: Department of the Treasury (USDT) Emails containing the word TUBMAN in the offices of: each Counselor to the Secretary of the Treasury, the Chief of Staff, each Deputy Chief of Staff, the White House Liaison, the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs and the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, January 1, 2019 - 2020

Requested date: 26-May-2019

Release date: 28-June-2023

Posted date: 08-July-2024

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request
Department of the Treasury
Departmental Offices (DO)
Director, FOIA and Transparency
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20220
Email: FOIA@treasury.gov?subject=FOIA Request Treasury FOIAXpress PAL Request FOIA.gov

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

6/28/2023

RE: Your FOIA Request to Treasury, Case Number 2019-05-152

This is an interim response of the Department of the Treasury (Treasury) to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated 5/26/2019. You have requested access to the following records:

“A copy of each email containing the word TUBMAN in the mail account of the following individuals during the time period January 1, 2019 to the present, using an electronic search: - each Counselor to the Secretary of the Treasury - the Chief of Staff - each Deputy Chief of Staff - the White House Liaison - the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs - the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.”

Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552. A reasonable search was conducted for records responsive to your request. In response to the search, 138 pages were located within the Departmental Offices of Treasury. After carefully considering these records, I am releasing 133 pages in full and five (5) pages in part. The withheld information is protected from disclosure under the FOIA pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(6).

Exemption (b)(6), Permits withholding of records and information about individuals when disclosure would be a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Treasury has considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing the records and applying these exemptions.

There are no fees assessed at this time since allowable charges fell below \$25.

You have the right to appeal this decision within 90 days from the date of this letter. By filing an appeal, you preserve your rights under FOIA and give the agency a chance to review and reconsider your request and the agency's decision. Your appeal must be in writing, signed by you or your representative, and should contain the rationale for your appeal. Please also cite the FOIA reference number noted above. Your appeal should be addressed to:

FOIA Appeal
FOIA and Transparency
Office of Privacy, Transparency, and Records
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

If you submit your appeal by mail, clearly mark the letter and the envelope with the words “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.” Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days from the date of this letter.

If you would like to discuss this response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison for assistance via email at FOIAPL@treasury.gov, or via phone at (202) 622-8098. A FOIA Public Liaison is a supervisory official to whom FOIA requesters can raise questions or concerns about the agency’s FOIA process. FOIA Public Liaisons can explain agency records, suggest agency offices that may have responsive records, provide an estimated date of completion, and discuss how to reformulate and/or reduce the scope of requests in order to minimize fees and expedite processing time.

If the FOIA Public Liaison is unable to satisfactorily resolve your question or concern, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) also mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. If you wish to contact OGIS, you may contact the agency directly by email at OGIS@nara.gov, by phone at (877) 684-6448, by fax at (202) 741-5769 or by mail at the address below:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Please note that contacting any agency official (including the FOIA analyst, FOIA Requester Service Center, FOIA Public Liaison) and/or OGIS is not an alternative to filing an administrative appeal and does not stop the 90-day appeal clock

You may reach me via telephone at 202-622-0930, extension 2; or via e-mail at FOIA@treasury.gov. Please reference FOIA case number 2019-05-152 when contacting our office about this request.

Sincerely,



Shirley Brown
Senior FOIA Specialist
for Mark Bittner
Director, FOIA and Transparency
Office of Privacy, Transparency, and Records

Enclosures

Responsive document set (138 pages)

From: White House Press Office
Sent: Sat, 4 Jul 2020 03:35:37 +0000
To: McGuire, BrianDisabled
Subject: Executive Order on Building and Rebuilding Monuments to American Heroes

**** Caution:** External email. Pay attention to suspicious links and attachments. Send suspicious email to suspect@treasury.gov **



Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 3, 2020

EXECUTIVE ORDER

- - - - -

BUILDING AND REBUILDING MONUMENTS TO AMERICAN HEROES

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Purpose. America owes its present greatness to its past sacrifices. Because the past is always at risk of being forgotten, monuments will always be needed to honor those who came before. Since the time of our founding, Americans have raised monuments to our greatest citizens. In 1784, the legislature of Virginia commissioned the earliest statue of George Washington, a "monument of affection and gratitude" to a man who "unit[ed] to the endowment[s] of the Hero the virtues of the Patriot" and gave to the world "an Immortal Example of true Glory." I Res. H. Del. (June 24, 1784). In our public parks and plazas, we have erected statues of great Americans who, through acts of wisdom and daring, built and preserved for us a republic of ordered liberty.

These statues are silent teachers in solid form of stone and metal. They preserve the memory of our American story and stir in us a spirit of responsibility for the chapters yet unwritten. These works of art call forth gratitude for the accomplishments and sacrifices of our exceptional fellow citizens who, despite their flaws, placed their virtues, their talents, and their lives in the service of our Nation. These monuments express our noblest ideals: respect for our ancestors, love of freedom, and striving for a more perfect union. They are works of beauty, created as enduring tributes. In preserving them, we show reverence for our past, we dignify our present, and we inspire those who are to come. To build a monument is to ratify our shared national project.

To destroy a monument is to desecrate our common inheritance. In recent weeks, in the midst of protests across America, many monuments have been vandalized or destroyed. Some local governments have responded by taking their monuments

down. Among others, monuments to Christopher Columbus, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Francis Scott Key, Ulysses S. Grant, leaders of the abolitionist movement, the first all-volunteer African-American regiment of the Union Army in the Civil War, and American soldiers killed in the First and Second World Wars have been vandalized, destroyed, or removed.

These statues are not ours alone, to be discarded at the whim of those inflamed by fashionable political passions; they belong to generations that have come before us and to generations yet unborn. My Administration will not abide an assault on our collective national memory. In the face of such acts of destruction, it is our responsibility as Americans to stand strong against this violence, and to peacefully transmit our great national story to future generations through newly commissioned monuments to American heroes.

Sec. 2. Task Force for Building and Rebuilding Monuments to American Heroes. (a) There is hereby established the Interagency Task Force for Building and Rebuilding Monuments to American Heroes (Task Force). The Task Force shall be chaired by the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary), and shall include the following additional members:

(i) the Administrator of General Services
(Administrator);

(ii) the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA);

(iii) the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH);

(iv) the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP); and

(v) any officers or employees of any executive department or agency (agency) designated by the President or the Secretary.

(b) The Department of the Interior shall provide funding and administrative support as may be necessary for the performance and functions of the Task Force. The Secretary shall designate an official of the Department of the Interior to serve as the Executive Director of the Task Force, responsible for coordinating its day-to-day activities.

(c) The Chairpersons of the NEA and NEH and the Chairman of the ACHP shall establish cross-department initiatives within the NEA, NEH, and ACHP, respectively, to advance the purposes of the Task Force and this order and to coordinate relevant agency operations with the Task Force.

Sec. 3. National Garden of American Heroes. (a) It shall be the policy of the United States to establish a statuary park named the National Garden of American Heroes (National Garden).

(b) Within 60 days of the date of this order, the Task Force shall submit a report to the President through the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy that proposes options for the creation of the National Garden, including potential locations for the site. In identifying options, the Task Force shall:

(i) strive to open the National Garden expeditiously;

(ii) evaluate the feasibility of creating the National Garden through a variety of potential avenues, including existing agency authorities and appropriations; and

(iii) consider the availability of authority to encourage and accept the donation or loan of statues by States, localities, civic organizations, businesses, religious organizations, and individuals, for display at the National Garden.

(c) In addition to the requirements of subsection 3(b) of this order, the proposed options for the National Garden should adhere to the criteria described in subsections (c) (i) through (c) (vi) of this section.

(i) The National Garden should be composed of statues, including statues of John Adams, Susan B. Anthony, Clara Barton, Daniel Boone, Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, Henry Clay, Davy Crockett, Frederick Douglass, Amelia Earhart, Benjamin Franklin, Billy Graham, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, Martin Luther King, Jr., Abraham Lincoln, Douglas MacArthur, Dolley Madison, James Madison, Christa McAuliffe, Audie Murphy, George S. Patton, Jr., Ronald Reagan, Jackie Robinson, Betsy Ross, Antonin Scalia, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Harriet Tubman, Booker T. Washington, George Washington, and Orville and Wilbur Wright.

(ii) The National Garden should be opened for public access prior to the 250th anniversary of the proclamation of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026.

(iii) Statues should depict historically significant

Americans, as that term is defined in section 7 of this order, who have contributed positively to America throughout our history. Examples include: the Founding Fathers, those who fought for the abolition of slavery or participated in the underground railroad, heroes of the United States Armed Forces, recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor or Presidential Medal of Freedom, scientists and inventors, entrepreneurs, civil rights leaders, missionaries and religious leaders, pioneers and explorers, police officers and firefighters killed or injured in the line of duty, labor leaders, advocates for the poor and disadvantaged, opponents of national socialism or international socialism, former Presidents of the United States and other elected officials, judges and justices, astronauts, authors, intellectuals, artists, and teachers. None will have lived perfect lives, but all will be worth honoring, remembering, and studying.

(iv) All statues in the National Garden should be lifelike or realistic representations of the persons they depict, not abstract or modernist representations.

(v) The National Garden should be located on a site of natural beauty that enables visitors to enjoy nature, walk among the statues, and be inspired to learn about great figures of America's history. The site should be proximate to at least one major population center, and the site should not cause significant disruption to the local community.

(vi) As part of its civic education mission, the National Garden should also separately maintain a collection of statues for temporary display at appropriate sites around the United States that are accessible to the general public.

Sec. 4. Commissioning of New Statues and Works of Art. (a) The Task Force shall examine the appropriations authority of the agencies represented on it in light of the purpose and policy of this order. Based on its examination of relevant authorities, the Task Force shall make recommendations for the use of these agencies' appropriations.

(b) To the extent appropriate and consistent with applicable law and the other provisions of this order, Task Force agencies that are authorized to provide for the commissioning of statues or monuments shall, in expending funds, give priority to projects involving the commissioning of publicly accessible statues of persons meeting the criteria described in section 3(b)(iii) of this order, with particular preference for statues of the Founding Fathers, former Presidents of the United States, leading abolitionists, and individuals involved in the discovery of America.

(c) To the extent appropriate and consistent with applicable law, these agencies shall prioritize projects that will result in the installation of a statue as described in subsection (b) of this section in a community where a statue depicting a historically significant American was removed or destroyed in conjunction with the events described in section 1 of this order.

(d) After consulting with the Task Force, the Administrator of General Services shall promptly revise and thereafter operate the General Service Administration's (GSA's) Art in Architecture (AIA) Policies and Procedures, GSA Acquisition Letter V-10-01, and Part 102-77 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, to

prioritize the commission of works of art that portray historically significant Americans or events of American historical significance or illustrate the ideals upon which our Nation was founded. Priority should be given to public-facing monuments to former Presidents of the United States and to individuals and events relating to the discovery of America, the founding of the United States, and the abolition of slavery. Such works of art should be designed to be appreciated by the general public and by those who use and interact with Federal buildings. Priority should be given to this policy above other policies contained in part 102-77 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, and revisions made pursuant to this subsection shall be made to supersede any regulatory provisions of AIA that may conflict with or otherwise impede advancing the purposes of this subsection.

(e) When a statue or work of art commissioned pursuant to this section is meant to depict a historically significant American, the statue or work of art shall be a lifelike or realistic representation of that person, not an abstract or modernist representation.

Sec. 5. Educational Programming. The Chairperson of the NEH shall prioritize the allocation of funding to programs and projects that educate Americans about the founding documents and founding ideals of the United States, as appropriate and to the extent consistent with applicable law, including section 956 of title 20, United States Code. The founding documents include the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Federalist Papers. The founding ideals include equality under the law, respect for inalienable individual rights, and representative self-government. Within 90 days of the conclusion of each Fiscal

Year from 2021 through 2026, the Chairperson shall submit a report to the President through the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy that identifies funding allocated to programs and projects pursuant to this section.

Sec. 6. Protection of National Garden and Statues Commissioned Pursuant to this Order. The Attorney General shall apply section 3 of Executive Order 13933 of June 26, 2020 (Protecting American Monuments, Memorials, and Statues and Combating Recent Criminal Violence), with respect to violations of Federal law regarding the National Garden and all statues commissioned pursuant to this order.

Sec. 7. Definition. The term "historically significant American" means an individual who was, or became, an American citizen and was a public figure who made substantive contributions to America's public life or otherwise had a substantive effect on America's history. The phrase also includes public figures such as Christopher Columbus, Junipero Serra, and the Marquis de La Fayette, who lived prior to or during the American Revolution and were not American citizens, but who made substantive historical contributions to the discovery, development, or independence of the future United States.

Sec. 8. General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of

Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

DONALD J. TRUMP

THE WHITE HOUSE,
July 3, 2020.

###

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The White House · 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW · Washington, DC 20500-0003 · USA · 202-456-1111

From: White House Press Office
Sent: Wed, 5 Feb 2020 04:56:20 +0000
To: McGuire, Brian
Subject: Remarks by President Trump in State of the Union Address

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Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 4, 2020

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TRUMP
IN STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C.

9:06 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Vice President, members of Congress, the First Lady of the United States -- (applause) -- and my fellow citizens:

Three years ago, we launched the great American comeback. Tonight, I stand before you to share the incredible results. Jobs are booming, incomes are soaring, poverty is plummeting, crime is falling, confidence is surging, and our country is thriving and highly respected again. (Applause.) America's enemies are on the run, America's fortunes are on the rise, and America's future is blazing bright.

The years of economic decay are over. (Applause.) The days of our country being used, taken advantage of, and even scorned by other nations are long behind us. (Applause.) Gone too are the broken promises, jobless recoveries, tired platitudes, and constant excuses for the depletion of American wealth, power, and prestige.

In just three short years, we have shattered the mentality of American decline, and we have rejected the downsizing of America's destiny. We have totally rejected the downsizing. We are moving forward at a pace that was unimaginable just a short time ago, and we are never, ever going back. (Applause.)

I am thrilled to report to you tonight that our economy is the best it has ever been. Our military is completely rebuilt, with its power being unmatched anywhere in the world -- and it's not even close. Our borders are secure. Our families are flourishing. Our values are renewed. Our pride is restored. And for all of these reasons, I say to the people of our great country and to the members of Congress: The state of our Union is stronger than ever before. (Applause.)

The vision I will lay out this evening demonstrates how we

are building the world's most prosperous and inclusive society -- one where every citizen can join in America's unparalleled success and where every community can take part in America's extraordinary rise.

From the instant I took office, I moved rapidly to revive the U.S. economy -- slashing a record number of job-killing regulations, enacting historic and record-setting tax cuts, and fighting for fair and reciprocal trade agreements. (Applause.) Our agenda is relentlessly pro-worker, pro-family, pro-growth, and, most of all, pro-American. (Applause.) Thank you. We are advancing with unbridled optimism and lifting our citizens of every race, color, religion, and creed very, very high.

Since my election, we have created 7 million new jobs -- 5 million more than government experts projected during the previous administration. (Applause.)

The unemployment rate is the lowest in over half a century. (Applause.) And very incredibly, the average unemployment rate under my administration is lower than any administration in the history of our country. (Applause.) True. If we hadn't reversed the failed economic policies of the previous administration, the world would not now be witnessing this great economic success. (Applause.)

The unemployment rate for African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asian Americans has reached the lowest levels in history. (Applause.) African American youth unemployment has reached an all-time low. (Applause.) African American poverty has declined to the lowest rate ever recorded. (Applause.)

The unemployment rate for women reached the lowest level in almost 70 years. And, last year, women filled 72 percent of all new jobs added. (Applause.)

The veterans unemployment rate dropped to a record low. (Applause.) The unemployment rate for disabled Americans has reached an all-time low. (Applause.)

Workers without a high school diploma have achieved the lowest unemployment rate recorded in U.S. history. (Applause.) A record number of young Americans are now employed. (Applause.)

Under the last administration, more than 10 million people were added to the food stamp rolls. Under my administration, 7 million Americans have come off food stamps, and 10 million people have been lifted off of welfare. (Applause.)

In eight years under the last administration, over 300,000 working-age people dropped out of the workforce. In just three years of my administration, 3.5 million people -- working-age people -- have joined the workforce. (Applause.)

Since my election, the net worth of the bottom half of wage earners has increased by 47 percent -- three times faster than the increase for the top 1 percent. (Applause.) After decades of flat and falling incomes, wages are rising fast -- and, wonderfully, they are rising fastest for low-income workers, who have seen a 16 percent pay increase since my election. (Applause.) This is a blue-collar boom. (Applause.)

Real median household income is now at the highest level ever recorded. (Applause.)

Since my election, U.S. stock markets have soared 70 percent, adding more than \$12 trillion to our nation's wealth, transcending anything anyone believed was possible. This is a record. It is something that every country in the world is looking up to. They admire. (Applause.) Consumer confidence has just reached amazing new highs.

All of those millions of people with 401(k)s and pensions are doing far better than they have ever done before with increases of 60, 70, 80, 90, and 100 percent, and even more.

Jobs and investments are pouring into 9,000 previously neglected neighborhoods thanks to Opportunity Zones, a plan spearheaded by Senator Tim Scott as part of our great Republican tax cuts. (Applause.) In other words, wealthy people and companies are pouring money into poor neighborhoods or areas that haven't seen investment in many decades, creating jobs, energy, and excitement. (Applause.) This is the first time that these deserving communities have seen anything like this. It's all working.

Opportunity Zones are helping Americans like Army veteran Tony Rankins from Cincinnati, Ohio. After struggling with drug addiction, Tony lost his job, his house, and his family. He was homeless. But then Tony found a construction company that invests in Opportunity Zones. He is now a top tradesman, drug-free, reunited with his family, and he is here tonight. Tony, keep up the great work. Tony. (Applause.) Thank you, Tony.

Our roaring economy has, for the first time ever, given many former prisoners the ability to get a great job and a fresh start. This second chance at life is made possible because we passed landmark criminal justice reform into law. Everybody said that criminal justice reform couldn't be done, but I got it done, and the people in this room got it done. (Applause.)

Thanks to our bold regulatory reduction campaign, the United States has become the number one producer of oil and natural gas anywhere in the world, by far. (Applause.) With the tremendous progress we have made over the past three years, America is now energy independent, and energy jobs, like so many other elements of our country, are at a record high. (Applause.) We are doing numbers that no one would have thought possible just three years ago.

Likewise, we are restoring our nation's manufacturing might, even though predictions were, as you all know, that this could never, ever be done. After losing 60,000 factories under the previous two administrations, America has now gained 12,000 new factories under my administration, with thousands upon thousands of plants and factories being planned or being built. (Applause.) Companies are not leaving; they are coming back to the USA. (Applause.) The fact is that everybody wants to be where the action is, and the United States of America is indeed the place where the action is. (Applause.)

One of the biggest promises I made to the American people was to replace the disastrous NAFTA trade deal. (Applause.) In fact, unfair trade is perhaps the single biggest reason that I decided to run for President. Following NAFTA's adoption, our

nation lost one in four manufacturing jobs. Many politicians came and went, pledging to change or replace NAFTA, only to do so, and then absolutely nothing happened. But unlike so many who came before me, I keep my promises. We did our job. (Applause.)

Six days ago, I replaced NAFTA and signed the brand-new U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement into law. The USMCA will create nearly 100,000 new high-paying American auto jobs, and massively boost exports for our farmers, ranchers, and factory workers. (Applause.) It will also bring trade with Mexico and Canada to a much higher level, but also to be a much greater degree of fairness and reciprocity. We will have that: fairness and reciprocity. And I say that, finally, because it's been many, many years that we were treated fairly on trade. (Applause.)

This is the first major trade deal in many years to earn the strong backing of America's labor unions. (Applause.)

I also promised our citizens that I would impose tariffs to confront China's massive theft of America's jobs. Our strategy has worked. Days ago, we signed the groundbreaking new agreement with China that will defend our workers, protect our intellectual property, bring billions and billions of dollars into our treasury, and open vast new markets for products made and grown right here in the USA. (Applause.)

For decades, China has taken advantage of the United States. Now we have changed that, but, at the same time, we have perhaps the best relationship we've ever had with China, including with President Xi. They respect what we've done because, quite

frankly, they could never really believe that they were able to get away with what they were doing year after year, decade after decade, without someone in our country stepping up and saying, "That's enough." (Applause.) Now we want to rebuild our country, and that's exactly what we're doing. We are rebuilding our country.

As we restore -- (applause) -- American leadership throughout the world, we are once again standing up for freedom in our hemisphere. (Applause.) That's why my administration reversed the failing policies of the previous administration on Cuba. (Applause.)

We are supporting the hopes of Cubans, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans to restore democracy. The United States is leading a 59-nation diplomatic coalition against the socialist dictator of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro. (Applause.) Maduro is an illegitimate ruler, a tyrant who brutalizes his people. But Maduro's grip on tyranny will be smashed and broken.

Here this evening is a very brave man who carries with him the hopes, dreams, and aspirations of all Venezuelans. Joining us in the Gallery is the true and legitimate President of Venezuela, Juan Guaidó. (Applause.) Mr. President, please take this message back to your homeland. (Applause.) Thank you, Mr. President. Great honor. Thank you very much.

Please take this message back that all Americans are united with the Venezuelan people in their righteous struggle for freedom. Thank you very much, Mr. President. (Applause.) Thank you very much.

Socialism destroys nations. But always remember: Freedom unifies the soul. (Applause.)

To safeguard American liberty, we have invested a record-breaking \$2.2 trillion in the United States military. (Applause.) We have purchased the finest planes, missiles, rockets, ships, and every other form of military equipment, and it's all made right here in the USA. (Applause.)

We are also getting our allies, finally, to help pay their fair share. (Applause.) I have raised contributions from the other NATO members by more than \$400 billion, and the number of Allies meeting their minimum obligations has more than doubled.

And just weeks ago, for the first time since President Truman established the Air Force more than 70 years earlier, we created a brand-new branch of the United States Armed Forces. It's called the Space Force. (Applause.) Very important.

In the Gallery tonight, we have a young gentleman. And what he wants so badly -- 13 years old -- Iain Lanphier. He's an eighth grader from Arizona. Iain, please stand up.

Iain has always dreamed of going to space. He was the first in his class and among the youngest at an aviation academy. He aspires to go to the Air Force Academy, and then he has his eye on the Space Force. As Iain says, "Most people look up at space. I want to look down on the world." (Laughter and applause.)

But sitting behind Iain tonight is his greatest hero of them

all. Charles McGee was born in Cleveland, Ohio, one century ago. Charles is one of the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen -- the first black fighter pilots -- and he also happens to be Iain's great-grandfather. (Applause.) Incredible story.

After more than 130 combat missions in World War Two, he came back home to a country still struggling for civil rights and went on to serve America in Korea and Vietnam. On December 7th, Charles celebrated his 100th birthday. (Applause.) A few weeks ago, I signed a bill promoting Charles McGee to Brigadier General. And earlier today, I pinned the stars on his shoulders in the Oval Office. General McGee, our nation salutes you. Thank you, sir. (Applause.)

From the pilgrims to the Founders, from the soldiers at Valley Forge to the marchers at Selma, and from President Lincoln to the Reverend Martin Luther King, Americans have always rejected limits on our children's future.

Members of Congress, we must never forget that the only victories that matter in Washington are victories that deliver for the American people. (Applause.) The people are the heart of our country, their dreams are the soul of our country, and their love is what powers and sustains our country. We must always remember that our job is to put America first. (Applause.)

The next step forward in building an inclusive society is making sure that every young American gets a great education and the opportunity to achieve the American Dream. Yet, for too long, countless American children have been trapped in failing government schools. To rescue these students, 18 states have

created school choice in the form of Opportunity Scholarships. The programs are so popular that tens of thousands of students remain on a waiting list.

One of those students is Janiyah Davis, a fourth grader from Philadelphia. Janiyah. (Applause.) Janiyah's mom, Stephanie, is a single parent. She would do anything to give her daughter a better future. But last year, that future was put further out of reach when Pennsylvania's governor vetoed legislation to expand school choice to 50,000 children.

Janiyah and Stephanie are in the Gallery. Stephanie, thank you so much for being here with your beautiful daughter. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

But, Janiyah, I have some good news for you, because I am pleased to inform you that your long wait is over. I can proudly announce tonight that an Opportunity Scholarship has become available, it's going to you, and you will soon be heading to the school of your choice. (Applause.)

Now I call on Congress to give one million American children the same opportunity Janiyah has just received. Pass the Education Freedom Scholarships and Opportunities Act -- because no parent should be forced to send their child to a failing government school. (Applause.)

Every young person should have a safe and secure environment in which to learn and to grow. For this reason, our magnificent First Lady has launched the BE BEST initiative to advance a safe, healthy, supportive, and drug-free life for the next generation - - online, in school, and in our communities. Thank you, Melania,

for your extraordinary love and profound care for America's children. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

My administration is determined to give our citizens the opportunities they need regardless of age or background. Through our Pledge to American Workers, over 400 companies will also provide new jobs and education opportunities to almost 15 million Americans.

My budget also contains an exciting vision for our nation's high schools. Tonight, I ask Congress to support our students and back my plan to offer vocational and technical education in every single high school in America. (Applause.)

To expand equal opportunity, I am also proud that we achieved record and permanent funding for our nation's historically black colleges and universities. (Applause.)

A good life for American families also requires the most affordable, innovative, and high-quality healthcare system on Earth. Before I took office, health insurance premiums had more than doubled in just five years. I moved quickly to provide affordable alternatives. Our new plans are up to 60 percent less expensive -- and better. (Applause.)

I've also made an ironclad pledge to American families: We will always protect patients with pre-existing conditions. (Applause). And we will always protect your Medicare and we will always protect your Social Security. Always. (Applause.)

The American patient should never be blindsided by medical

bills. That is why I signed an executive order requiring price transparency. (Applause.) Many experts believe that transparency, which will go into full effect at the beginning of next year, will be even bigger than healthcare reform. (Applause.) It will save families massive amounts of money for substantially better care.

But as we work to improve Americans' healthcare, there are those who want to take away your healthcare, take away your doctor, and abolish private insurance entirely.

AUDIENCE: Booo --

THE PRESIDENT: One hundred thirty-two lawmakers in this room have endorsed legislation to impose a socialist takeover of our healthcare system, wiping out the private health insurance plans of 180 million very happy Americans. To those watching at home tonight, I want you to know: We will never let socialism destroy American healthcare. (Applause.)

Over 130 legislators in this chamber have endorsed legislation that would bankrupt our nation by providing free taxpayer-funded healthcare to millions of illegal aliens, forcing taxpayers to subsidize free care for anyone in the world who unlawfully crosses our borders. These proposals would raid the Medicare benefits of our seniors and that our seniors depend on, while acting as a powerful lure for illegal immigration. That is what is happening in California and other states. Their systems are totally out of control, costing taxpayers vast and unaffordable amounts of money.

If forcing American taxpayers to provide unlimited free

healthcare to illegal aliens sounds fair to you, then stand with the radical left. But if you believe that we should defend American patients and American seniors, then stand with me and pass legislation to prohibit free government healthcare for illegal aliens. (Applause.)

This will be a tremendous boon to our already very strongly guarded southern border where, as we speak, a long, tall, and very powerful wall is being built. (Applause.) We have now completed over 100 miles and have over 500 miles fully completed in a very short period of time. Early next year, we will have substantially more than 500 miles completed.

My administration is also taking on the big pharmaceutical companies. We have approved a record number of affordable generic drugs, and medicines are being approved by the FDA at a faster clip than ever before. (Applause.) And I was pleased to announce last year that, for the first time in 51 years, the cost of prescription drugs actually went down. (Applause.)

And working together, Congress can reduce drug prices substantially from current levels. I've been speaking to Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa and others in Congress in order to get something on drug pricing done, and done quickly and properly. I'm calling for bipartisan legislation that achieves the goal of dramatically lowering prescription drug prices. Get a bill on my desk, and I will sign it into law immediately. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: H.R.3! H.R.3! H.R.3!

With unyielding commitment, we are curbing the opioid

epidemic. Drug overdose deaths declined for the first time in nearly 30 years. (Applause.) Among the states hardest hit, Ohio is down 22 percent, Pennsylvania is down 18 percent, Wisconsin is down 10 percent -- and we will not quit until we have beaten the opioid epidemic once and for all. (Applause.)

Protecting Americans' health also means fighting infectious diseases. We are coordinating with the Chinese government and working closely together on the coronavirus outbreak in China. My administration will take all necessary steps to safeguard our citizens from this threat.

We have launched ambitious new initiatives to substantially improve care for Americans with kidney disease, Alzheimer's, and those struggling with mental health. And because Congress was so good as to fund my request, new cures for childhood cancer, and we will eradicate the AIDS epidemic in America by the end of this decade. (Applause.)

Almost every American family knows the pain when a loved one is diagnosed with a serious illness. Here tonight is a special man, beloved by millions of Americans who just received a Stage 4 advanced cancer diagnosis. This is not good news, but what is good news is that he is the greatest fighter and winner that you will ever meet. Rush Limbaugh, thank you for your decades of tireless devotion to our country. (Applause.)

And, Rush, in recognition of all that you have done for our nation, the millions of people a day that you speak to and that you inspire, and all of the incredible work that you have done for charity, I am proud to announce tonight that you will be receiving our country's highest civilian honor, the Presidential

Medal of Freedom. (Applause.)

I will now ask the First Lady of the United States to present you with the honor. Please. (Applause.)

(The Medal of Freedom is presented.) (Applause.)

Rush and Kathryn, congratulations. Thank you, Kathryn.

As we pray for all who are sick, we know that America is constantly achieving new medical breakthroughs. In 2017, doctors at St. Luke's Hospital in Kansas City delivered one of the earliest premature babies ever to survive. Born at just 21 weeks and 6 days, and weighing less than a pound, Ellie Schneider was a born fighter. Through the skill of her doctors and the prayers of her parents, little Ellie kept on winning the battle of life. Today, Ellie is a strong, healthy two-year-old girl sitting with her amazing mother Robin in the Gallery. Ellie and Robin, we are glad to have you with us tonight. (Applause.)

Ellie reminds us that every child is a miracle of life. And thanks to modern medical wonders, 50 percent of very premature babies delivered at the hospital where Ellie was born now survive. It's an incredible thing. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

Our goal should be to ensure that every baby has the best chance to thrive and grow just like Ellie. That is why I'm asking Congress to provide an additional \$50 million to fund neonatal research for America's youngest patients. (Applause.)

That is why I'm also calling upon members of Congress here

tonight to pass legislation finally banning the late-term abortion of babies. (Applause.) Whether we are Republican, Democrat, or independent, surely we must all agree that every human life is a sacred gift from God.

As we support America's moms and dads, I was recently proud to sign the law providing new parents in the federal workforce paid family leave, serving as a model for the rest of the country. (Applause.)

Now I call on the Congress to pass the bipartisan Advancing Support for Working Families Act, extending family leave to mothers and fathers all across our nation. (Applause.)

Forty million American families have an average \$2,200 extra thanks to our child tax credit. (Applause.) I've also overseen historic funding increases for high-quality child care, enabling 17 states to help more children, many of which have reduced or eliminated their waitlists altogether. (Applause.) And I sent Congress a plan with a vision to further expand access to high-quality child care, and urge you to act immediately. (Applause.)

To protect the environment, days ago I announced that the United States will join the One Trillion Trees Initiative, an ambitious effort to bring together government and private sector to plant new trees in America and all around the world. (Applause.)

We must also rebuild America's infrastructure. (Applause.) I ask you to pass Senator John Barrasso's highway bill to invest in new roads, bridges, and tunnels all across our land.

I'm also committed to ensuring that every citizen can have access to high-speed Internet, including and especially in rural America. (Applause.)

A better tomorrow for all Americans also requires us to keep America safe. That means supporting the men and women of law enforcement at every level, including our nation's heroic ICE officers. (Applause.)

Last year, our brave ICE officers arrested more than 120,000 criminal aliens charged with nearly 10,000 burglaries, 5,000 sexual assaults, 45,000 violent assaults, and 2,000 murders.

Tragically, there are many cities in America where radical politicians have chosen to provide sanctuary for these criminal illegal aliens.

AUDIENCE: Booo --

THE PRESIDENT: In sanctuary cities, local officials order police to release dangerous criminal aliens to prey upon the public, instead of handing them over to ICE to be safely removed.

Just 29 days ago, a criminal alien freed by the sanctuary city of New York was charged with the brutal rape and murder of a 92-year-old woman. The killer had been previously arrested for assault, but under New York's sanctuary policies, he was set free. If the city had honored ICE's detainer request, his victim would still be alive today.

The state of California passed an outrageous law declaring

their whole state to be a sanctuary for criminal illegal immigrants -- a very terrible sanctuary -- with catastrophic results.

Here is just one tragic example. In December 2018, California police detained an illegal alien with five prior arrests, including convictions for robbery and assault. But as required by California's Sanctuary Law, local authorities released him.

Days later, the criminal alien went on a gruesome spree of deadly violence. He viciously shot one man going about his daily work. He approached a woman sitting in her car and shot her in the arm and in the chest. He walked into a convenience store and wildly fired his weapon. He hijacked a truck and smashed into vehicles, critically injuring innocent victims. One of the victims is -- a terrible, terrible situation; died -- 51-year-old American named Rocky Jones.

Rocky was at a gas station when this vile criminal fired eight bullets at him from close range, murdering him in cold blood. Rocky left behind a devoted family, including his brothers, who loved him more than anything else in the world. One of his grieving brothers is here with us tonight. Jody, would you please stand? Jody, thank you. (Applause.) Jody our hearts weep for your loss, and we will not rest until you have justice.

Senator Thom Tillis has introduced legislation to allow Americans like Jody to sue sanctuary cities and states when a loved one is hurt or killed as a result of these deadly practices. (Applause.)

I ask Congress to pass the Justice for Victims of Sanctuary Cities Act immediately. The United States of America should be a sanctuary for law-abiding Americans, not criminal aliens. (Applause.)

In the last three years, ICE has arrested over 5,000 wicked human traffickers. And I have signed nine pieces of legislation to stamp out the menace of human trafficking, domestically and all around the globe. My administration has undertaken an unprecedented effort to secure the southern border of the United States. (Applause.)

Before I came into office, if you showed up illegally on our southern border and were arrested, you were simply released and allowed into our country, never to be seen again. My administration has ended catch and release. (Applause.) If you come illegally, you will now be promptly removed from our country. (Applause.)

Very importantly, we entered into historic cooperation agreements with the governments of Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. As a result of our unprecedented efforts, illegal crossings are down 75 percent since May, dropping eight straight months in a row. (Applause.) And as the wall rapidly goes up, drug seizures rise, and the border crossings are down, and going down very rapidly.

Last year, I traveled to the border in Texas and met Chief Patrol Agent Raul Ortiz. Over the last 24 months, Agent Ortiz and his team have seized more than 200,000 pounds of poisonous narcotics, arrested more than 3,000 human smugglers, and rescued more than

2,000 migrants. Days ago, Agent Ortiz was promoted to Deputy Chief of Border Patrol, and he joins us tonight. Chief Ortiz, please stand. (Applause.) A grateful nation thanks you and all of the heroes of Border Patrol and ICE. Thank you very much. Thank you. (Applause.)

To build on these historic gains, we are working on legislation to replace our outdated and randomized immigration system with one based on merit, welcoming those who follow the rules, contribute to our economy, support themselves financially, and uphold our values. (Applause.)

With every action, my administration is restoring the rule of law and reasserting the culture of American freedom. (Applause.) Working with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell -- thank you, Mitch -- (applause) -- and his colleagues in the Senate, we have confirmed a record number of 187 new federal judges to uphold our Constitution as written. This includes two brilliant new Supreme Court justices, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh. Thank you. (Applause.) And we have many in the pipeline. (Laughter and applause.)

My administration is also defending religious liberty, and that includes the constitutional right to pray in public schools. (Applause.) In America, we don't punish prayer. We don't tear down crosses. We don't ban symbols of faith. We don't muzzle preachers and pastors. In America, we celebrate faith, we cherish religion, we lift our voices in prayer, and we raise our sights to the Glory of God.

Just as we believe in the First Amendment, we also believe in another constitutional right that is under siege all across

our country. So long as I am President, I will always protect your Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms. (Applause.)

In reaffirming our heritage as a free nation, we must remember that America has always been a frontier nation. Now we must embrace the next frontier, America's manifest destiny in the stars. I am asking Congress to fully fund the Artemis program to ensure that the next man and the first woman on the Moon will be American astronauts -- (applause) -- using this as a launching pad to ensure that America is the first nation to plant its flag on Mars. (Applause.)

My administration is also strongly defending our national security and combating radical Islamic terrorism. (Applause.)

Last week, I announced a groundbreaking plan for peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Recognizing that all past attempts have failed, we must be determined and creative in order to stabilize the region and give millions of young people the chance to realize a better future.

Three years ago, the barbarians of ISIS held over 20,000 square miles of territory in Iraq and Syria. Today, the ISIS territorial caliphate has been 100 percent destroyed, and the founder and leader of ISIS -- the bloodthirsty killer known as al-Baghdadi -- is dead. (Applause.)

We are joined this evening by Carl and Marsha Mueller. After graduating from college, their beautiful daughter Kayla became a humanitarian aid worker. She once wrote, "Some people find God in church. Some people find God in nature. Some people find God in love. I find God in suffering. I've known

for some time what my life's work is, using my hands as tools to relieve suffering." In 2013, while caring for suffering civilians in Syria, Kayla was kidnapped, tortured, and enslaved by ISIS, and kept as a prisoner of al-Baghdadi himself. After more than 500 horrifying days of captivity, al-Baghdadi murdered young, beautiful Kayla. She was just 26 years old.

On the night that U.S. Special Forces Operations ended al-Baghdadi's miserable life, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Mark Milley, received a call in the Situation Room. He was told that the brave men of the elite Special Forces team that so perfectly carried out the operation had given their mission a name: "Task Force 8-14." It was a reference to a special day: August 14th -- Kayla's birthday. Carl and Marsha, America's warriors never forgot Kayla -- and neither will we. Thank you. (Applause.)

Every day, America's men and women in uniform demonstrate the infinite depth of love that dwells in the human heart.

One of these American heroes was Army Staff Sergeant Christopher Hake. On his second deployment to Iraq in 2008, Sergeant Hake wrote a letter to his one-year-old son, Gage: "I will be with you again," he wrote to Gage. "I will teach you to ride your first bike, build your first sand box, watch you play sports, and see you have kids also. I love you son. Take care of your mother. I am always with you. Daddy."

On Easter Sunday of 2008, Chris was out on patrol in Baghdad when his Bradley Fighting Vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb. That night, he made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Sergeant Hake now rests in eternal glory in Arlington, and his wife Kelli

is in the Gallery tonight, joined by their son, who is now a 13-year-old and doing very, very well. To Kelli and Gage: Chris will live in our hearts forever. He is looking down on you now. Thank you. (Applause.) Thank you very much. Thank you both very much.

The terrorist responsible for killing Sergeant Hake was Qasem Soleimani, who provided the deadly roadside bomb that took Chris's life. Soleimani was the Iranian regime's most ruthless butcher, a monster who murdered or wounded thousands of American service members in Iraq. As the world's top terrorist, Soleimani orchestrated the deaths of countless men, women, and children. He directed the December assault and went on to assault U.S. forces in Iraq. Was actively planning new attacks when we hit him very hard. And that's why, last month, at my direction, the U.S. military executed a flawless precision strike that killed Soleimani and terminated his evil reign of terror forever. (Applause.)

Our message to the terrorists is clear: You will never escape American justice. If you attack our citizens, you forfeit your life. (Applause.)

In recent months, we have seen proud Iranians raise their voices against their oppressive rulers. The Iranian regime must abandon its pursuit of nuclear weapons; stop spreading terror, death, and destruction; and start working for the good of its own people.

Because of our powerful sanctions, the Iranian economy is doing very, very poorly. We can help them make a very good and short-time recovery. It can all go very quickly, but perhaps they are

too proud or too foolish to ask for that help. We are here. Let's see which road they choose. It is totally up to them. (Applause.)

As we defend American lives, we are working to end America's wars in the Middle East.

In Afghanistan, the determination and valor of our warfighters has allowed us to make tremendous progress, and peace talks are now underway. I am not looking to kill hundreds of thousands of people in Afghanistan, many of them totally innocent. It is also not our function to serve other nations as law enforcement agencies. These are warfighters that we have -- the best in the world -- and they either want to fight to win or not fight at all. We are working to finally end America's longest war and bring our troops back home. (Applause.)

War places a heavy burden on our nation's extraordinary military families, especially spouses like Amy Williams from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and her two children -- six-year-old Elliana and three-year-old Rowan. Amy works full-time and volunteers countless hours helping other military families. For the past seven months, she has done it all while her husband, Sergeant First Class Townsend Williams, is in Afghanistan on his fourth deployment in the Middle East. Amy's kids haven't seen their father's face in many months. Amy, your family's sacrifice makes it possible for all of our families to live in safety and in peace, and we want to thank you. Thank you, Amy. (Applause.)

But, Amy, there is one more thing. Tonight, we have a very special surprise. I am thrilled to inform you that your husband

is back from deployment. He is here with us tonight, and we couldn't keep him waiting any longer. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: USA! USA! USA!

THE PRESIDENT: Welcome home, Sergeant Williams. Thank you very much.

As the world bears witness tonight, America is a land of heroes. This is a place where greatness is born, where destinies are forged, and where legends come to life. This is the home of Thomas Edison and Teddy Roosevelt, of many great generals including Washington, Pershing, Patton, and MacArthur. This is the home of Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Amelia Earhart, Harriet Tubman, the Wright Brothers, Neil Armstrong, and so many more. This is the country where children learn names like Wyatt Earp, Davy Crockett, and Annie Oakley. This is the place where the pilgrims landed at Plymouth and where Texas patriots made their last stand at the Alamo -- (applause) -- the beautiful, beautiful Alamo.

The American nation was carved out of the vast frontier by the toughest, strongest, fiercest, and most determined men and women ever to walk on the face of the Earth. Our ancestors braved the unknown; tamed the wilderness; settled the Wild West; lifted millions from poverty, disease, and hunger; vanquished tyranny and fascism; ushered the world to new heights of science and medicine; laid down the railroads, dug out the canals, raised up the skyscrapers. And, ladies and gentlemen, our ancestors built the most exceptional republic ever to exist in all of human history, and we are making it greater than ever before. (Applause.)

This is our glorious and magnificent inheritance. We are Americans. We are pioneers. We are the pathfinders. We settled the New World, we built the modern world, and we changed history forever by embracing the eternal truth that everyone is made equal by the hand of Almighty God. (Applause.)

America is the place where anything can happen. America is the place where anyone can rise. And here, on this land, on this soil, on this continent, the most incredible dreams come true.

This nation is our canvas, and this country is our masterpiece. We look at tomorrow and see unlimited frontiers just waiting to be explored. Our brightest discoveries are not yet known. Our most thrilling stories are not yet told. Our grandest journeys are not yet made. The American Age, the American Epic, the American adventure has only just begun.

Our spirit is still young, the sun is still rising, God's grace is still shining, and, my fellow Americans, the best is yet to come. (Applause.)

Thank you. God Bless You. And God Bless America. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

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2018 Newsletter Logo: Day Ahead

BY ELEANOR MUELLER

DRIVING THE DAY

President Donald Trump is sending Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin and economic aide Larry Kudlow to meet with Senate Republicans today as the coronavirus continues to spread.

"Congressional leaders face an increasingly irreconcilable challenge: insulating the nation from the fallout of the coronavirus epidemic while protecting themselves from contracting the illness," [our Heather Caygle and Kyle Cheney report](#). "There are unanswered questions about whether Congress could take steps to convene remotely amid a public health crisis, but top lawmakers seem loath to take that step — which was considered and rejected after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001."

"Meanwhile, House Speaker [Nancy Pelosi](#) and her leadership team are working

on a legislative package that could help contain any widespread economic turmoil as a result of the coronavirus. Pelosi will meet several House committee chairmen — Reps. [Richard Neal](#) (D-Mass.), [Frank Pallone](#) (D-N.J.), [Nita Lowey](#) (D-N.Y.) and [Bobby Scott](#) (D-Va.) — Monday night to discuss a future stimulus package. Although the House is scheduled to leave for recess later this week, several senior aides told POLITICO they didn't expect lawmakers to leave until some kind of economic package cleared the chamber."

Across the dias, White House national security officials on Tuesday will brief all House members on election security.

"A Democratic aide said the presenters — according to a notice sent last week and confirmed with others — include FBI Director Christopher Wray; acting DHS Secretary Chad Wolf; CISA Director Chris Krebs; and Army Gen. Paul Nakasone, head of NSA and Cyber Command," [our Tim Starks and Eric Geller report](#). "A House Intelligence Committee election security briefing last month reportedly angered President Donald Trump, leading to or contributing to a change of command at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, with Richard Grenell replacing Joseph Maguire as acting director."

Back in committee, it's business as usual: The secretaries of the Commerce, Agriculture and Interior departments, along with acting OMB Russell Vought, testify on the Hill on Trump's fiscal 2021 budget request.

WELCOME BACK TO DAY AHEAD. It's Tuesday, March 10. [Happy Harriet Tubman Day!](#) On Wednesday, your host hands the reins to the valiant Allie Bice as I get ready for a long-anticipated, albeit untimely, trip to Madrid and Valencia. Any recommendations? Send them my way: [@eleanor_mueller](#) and emueller@politico.com. Let's get started.

[Sign up for POLITICO Nightly: Coronavirus Special Edition](#), your daily update on how the illness is affecting politics, markets, public health and more.

HOUSE FLOOR

The House meets at noon for legislative business.

Lawmakers will consider [four bills](#) under suspension of the rules, including [H.](#)

Res. 756 (116), which would implement recommendations from the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress.

SENATE FLOOR

The Senate meets at 10 a.m.

Lawmakers will resume consideration of S. 2657 (116), the vehicle for the chamber's bipartisan energy package. They will then recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:10 p.m. for party lunches, before voting between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

MARKUP SPOTLIGHT

9:30 a.m. House Agriculture Committee markup of two resolutions and its fiscal 2021 Budget Views and Estimates. *1300 Longworth.*

10 a.m. House Energy and Commerce Communications and Technology Subcommittee markup of pending legislation, including H.R. 4855 (116), which would require the public auction of coveted 5G-friendly airwaves known as the C-band, and H.R. 451 (116), which would aim to safeguard the T-band airwaves that police and firefighters rely on in bigger metro areas. *2322 Rayburn.*

2 p.m. House Rules Committee markup to prep the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2486 (116), the vehicle for consideration of the NO BAN Act and the Access to Counsel Act, and S.J. Res. 68 (116), which would restrict U.S. action against Iran, for floor action. *H-313, U.S. Capitol.*

HEARING HIGHLIGHTS

9:30 a.m. Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on DoD nominations. *G-50 Dirksen.*

9:30 a.m. House Appropriations Interior-Environment Subcommittee Member Day hearing. *H-309, U.S. Capitol.*

10 a.m. Senate Appropriations Financial Services Subcommittee hearing on the FCC's fiscal 2021 budget. *562 Dirksen.*

10 a.m. Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee hearing on the CFPB's semi-annual report. *538 Dirksen.*

10 a.m. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing on Interior Department's fiscal 2021 budget. Interior Secretary **David Bernhardt** testifies. *366 Dirksen.*

10 a.m. Senate Judiciary Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee hearing on digital tech competition. *226 Dirksen.*

10 a.m. House Armed Services Committee hearing on the Middle East and Africa. *2118 Rayburn.*

10 a.m. House Budget Committee hearing on DoD's fiscal 2021 budget. *210 Cannon.*

10 a.m. House Financial Services Committee hearing on Wells Fargo. *2128 Rayburn.*

10 a.m. House Appropriations Agriculture-FDA Subcommittee hearing on the Agriculture Department's fiscal 2021 budget. Agriculture Secretary **Sonny Perdue** testifies. *2362-A Rayburn.*

10 a.m. House Appropriations Financial Services Subcommittee hearing on OMB's fiscal 2021 budget. Acting OMB Director **Russ Vought** testifies. *2008 Rayburn.*

10 a.m. House Appropriations Labor-HHS Subcommittee hearing on CDC's fiscal 2021 budget. *2358-C Rayburn.*

10 a.m. House Agriculture Livestock and Foreign Agriculture Subcommittee hearing on agricultural trade. *1300 Longworth.*

10 a.m. House Natural Resources National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands Subcommittee hearing on the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. *1324 Longworth.*

10 a.m. House Transportation and Infrastructure Coast Guard and Maritime

Transportation Subcommittee hearing on the international role of the Coast Guard. *2167 Rayburn.*

10 a.m. House Veterans' Affairs Economic Opportunity Subcommittee hearing on pending legislation. *HVC-210, U.S. Capitol.*

10:30 a.m. House Appropriations Military Construction-VA Subcommittee Member Day hearing. *HT-2, U.S. Capitol.*

10:30 a.m. House Appropriations Commerce-Justice-Science Subcommittee hearing on the Commerce Department's fiscal 2021 budget. Commerce Secretary **Wilbur Ross** testifies. *2362-B Rayburn.*

11 a.m. Senate Rules and Administration Committee hearing on the nomination of **James Trainor** to be a member of the FEC. *301 Russell.*

11:30 a.m. House Small Business Committee hearing on the coronavirus. *2360 Rayburn.*

1:30 p.m. House Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee hearing on the U.S. Coast Guard's fiscal 2021 budget. *2359 Rayburn.*

2 p.m. House Appropriations Military Construction-VA Subcommittee Public Witness Day hearing. *HT-2, U.S. Capitol.*

2 p.m. House Armed Services Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee hearing on DoD aircraft acquisition and modification programs. *2118 Rayburn.*

2 p.m. House Appropriations Energy-Water Subcommittee hearing on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation's fiscal 2021 budgets. *2362-B Rayburn.*

2 p.m. House Homeland Security Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery Subcommittee hearing on the coronavirus. *310 Cannon.*

2 p.m. House Natural Resources Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee hearing on Interior Department bureaus. *1324 Longworth.*

2 p.m. House Veterans' Affairs Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee hearing on pending legislation. *HVC-210, U.S. Capitol.*

2:15 p.m. Senate Appropriations State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee hearing on fragility in the Sahel. *138 Dirksen.*

2:30 p.m. Senate Judiciary Intellectual Property Subcommittee hearing on international copyright policy. *226 Dirksen.*

3 p.m. House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee hearing on the Army's fiscal 2021 budget. *H-140, U.S. Capitol.*

POTUS HAPPENINGS

4:30 p.m. Trump presents the Presidential Medal of Freedom to retired Gen. **Jack Keane**, former vice chief of staff of the Army. *East Room.*

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS TRUMP'S CABINET?

No member of Trump's Cabinet released a public schedule for today.

ON THE HORIZON

SENATE WEIGHS TAX RELIEF MEASURES: Senate Finance Chairman Chuck Grassley is considering tax relief measures to stem the financial hemorrhaging caused by the coronavirus. "A spokesperson for the Iowa Republican said he couldn't yet discuss what's being considered," our Toby Eckert reports. "While Trump has floated the idea of a payroll tax cut, other top administration officials have touted more targeted approaches aimed at specific industries. Grassley is considering the latter approach."

VA SUSPENDS GI BENEFITS FOR SOME SCHOOLS: The VA is suspending GI benefits for new students at five universities over allegedly false or misleading advertising or enrollment practices. "VA officials plan to suspend the payment of GI Bill education benefits for the enrollment of new students at the University of Phoenix, two schools owned by Career Education Corporation — Colorado Technical University and American InterContinental University — as well as Bellevue University based in Bellevue, Neb., and Temple University in

Philadelphia," [our Michael Stratford reports](#). "The sweeping action is one of the most aggressive ever taken by the VA against institutions of higher education. The University of Phoenix is one of the nation's largest for-profit colleges and the second-largest recipient of GI Bill funding, according to the most recently released federal data."

OFFICIALS SKETCH OUT U.S.-EU TRADE AGREEMENT: Officials are closing in on what a "mini trade deal" between the U.S. and the EU could look like. "The EU is ready to lower barriers for U.S. agricultural exports such as GMOs as part of a mini trade agreement, but is not looking at bigger concessions such as cutting tariffs or changing EU laws," [our Eddy Wax reports](#). "EU officials already told POLITICO that the bloc could speed up approvals of genetically modified organisms imported into the EU from the United States in the mini-deal, but this is the first time an EU civil servant has confirmed it on the record. ... Speaking to journalists earlier today, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said the deal was a "work in progress.""

ON THE CALENDAR


8:30 a.m. The International Association of Fire Fighters holds [its annual Legislative Conference](#). *Hyatt Regency Washington*.

9 a.m. The National League of Cities holds [its annual Congressional City Conference](#). House Speaker **Nancy Pelosi** delivers remarks. *Marriott Wardman Park*.

1 p.m. The National Parent Teacher Association holds [its annual Legislative Conference](#). First lady **Melania Trump** delivers remarks. *Westin Alexandria Old Town*.

Check out *POLITICO Pro's [calendar](#)* for additional committee activity, events and more.

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From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thu, 13 Feb 2020 16:32:07 -0600
To: McGuire, Brian; Blum, Jonathan; (b)(6) Nunnally, Lauren; Pinter, Kimberly; (b)(6) Eck, Andrew; DiRoma, Michael; (b)(6)
Subject: Night Note 2.13.2020

Hi Brian,

Please see the night note below:

Thursday, February 13, 2020

Jon

- Transmitted TA on Sen. Young blockchain legislation. Setting up a call w/ Fiscal team to discuss their ongoing efforts w/ the technology.
- Reached out to banking on GSE call. Crapo staff indicated they are reaching out to Brown to set up a meeting "shortly".
- Setting up call w/ Ohio delegation on Hardest Hit Fund for next week.

Lauren

- Tomorrow afternoon Treasury FY21 budget briefing with 4-corners appropriations staff – taking Eisner and company to the Hill
- Working on updating the USSS ROM move cost table with a more specific \$20m breakout and IG costs
- Working on House FSGG appropriations hearing tracker
- Rep. Meeks introduced a Commemorative Coin Bill in recognition of the Bicentennial of Harriet Tubman's birth (2022), awaiting bill text on congress.gov

(b)(6)

- Responded to Rep. Perlmutter request for FTZ application update
- Worked with Will on hearing get-backs → sent consolidated list to Kimberly
- Updated White House OLA on 199A
- Working on TA request from Thune's office on an enhanced Lifetime Learning Credit for qualified job training programs

Andy

- Followed up with SSCI staff on due outs from Izzy's briefing
- Scheduled Rep. Hill's pre-brief with Izzy for next week

(b)(6)

- Organized notes from SFC FY2021 budget hearing
 - Identified get-backs from hearing

Michael

- Met with governor of Guam to discuss Treasury's assistance with WWII reparation payments, pending federal legislation
- Called HFSC/Waters's staff director to touch base on IFC negotiations before Geoffrey's trip. We will reconvene with them next week while Geoffrey is away.
- Wrapped up efforts with USDA on Stabenow/Menendez Brazilian wildfires letter; both Departments are now clearing the response letter.

(b)(6)

- Lauren, Will, GCFO, and I participated in call re: recent inquiries sent to USSS and status of legislation.
- STM meeting has been calendared for 2:15pm tomorrow.

Kimberly

- Responded to several stakeholder requests.
- Received and forwarded several Hill requests.
- Set up NEC-requested DST meeting.
- Setting up conference calls with Hill staff.
- Checked on timing of 45Q and 199A guidance.

Have a great rest of your night!

(b)(6)

Legislative Affairs

U.S. Department of the Treasury

(b)(6)@treasury.gov

(b)(6)

From: White House Press Office
Sent: Wed, 5 Feb 2020 02:20:42 +0000
To: McGuire, Brian
Subject: President Donald J. Trump's State Of The Union Address: Remarks As Prepared For Delivery

This message is from an EXTERNAL SENDER - be CAUTIOUS of links and attachments. THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK.



Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 4, 2020

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE UNTIL CONCLUSION OF REMARKS

PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS
Remarks as prepared for delivery

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

Madam Speaker, Mr. Vice President, Members of Congress,
the First Lady of the United States, and my fellow citizens:

Three years ago, we launched the great American
comeback. Tonight, I stand before you to share the incredible
results. Jobs are booming, incomes are soaring, poverty is
plummeting, crime is falling, confidence is surging, and our

country is thriving and highly respected again! America's enemies are on the run, America's fortunes are on the rise, and America's future is blazing bright.

The years of economic decay are over. The days of our country being used, taken advantage of, and even scorned by other nations are long behind us. Gone too are the broken promises, jobless recoveries, tired platitudes, and constant excuses for the depletion of American wealth, power, and prestige.

In just 3 short years, we have shattered the mentality of American decline, and we have rejected the downsizing of America's destiny. We are moving forward at a pace that was unimaginable just a short time ago, and we are never going back!

I am thrilled to report to you tonight that our economy is the best it has ever been. Our military is completely rebuilt, with its power being unmatched anywhere in the world -- and it is not even close. Our borders are secure. Our families are flourishing. Our values are renewed. Our pride is restored. And for all these reasons, I say to the people of our great country, and to the Members of Congress before me: The State of our Union is stronger than ever before!

The vision I will lay out this evening demonstrates how we are building the world's most prosperous and inclusive society -- one where every citizen can join in America's unparalleled success, and where every community can take part in America's extraordinary rise.

From the instant I took office, I moved rapidly to revive the United States economy -- slashing a record number of job-

killing regulations, enacting historic and record-setting tax cuts, and fighting for fair and reciprocal trade agreements. Our agenda is relentlessly pro-worker, pro-family, pro-growth, and, most of all, pro-American. We are advancing with unbridled optimism and lifting high our citizens of every race, color, religion, and creed.

Since my election, we have created 7 million new jobs -- 5 million more than Government experts projected during the previous administration.

The unemployment rate is the lowest in over half a century.

Incredibly, the average unemployment rate under my Administration is lower than any administration in the history of our country. If we had not reversed the failed economic policies of the previous administration, the world would not now be witness to America's great economic success.

The unemployment rates for African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, and Asian-Americans have reached the lowest levels in history. African-American youth unemployment has reached an all-time low.

African-American poverty has declined to the lowest rate ever recorded.

The unemployment rate for women reached the lowest level in almost 70 years -- and last year, women filled 72 percent of all new jobs added.

The veterans' unemployment rate dropped to a record low.

The unemployment rate for disabled Americans has reached an all-time low.

Workers without a high school diploma have achieved the lowest unemployment rate recorded in United States history.

A record number of young Americans are now employed.

Under the last administration, more than 10 million people were added to the food stamp rolls. Under my Administration, 7 million Americans have come off of food stamps, and 10 million people have been lifted off of welfare.

In 8 years under the last administration, over 300,000 working-age people dropped out of the workforce. In just 3 years of my Administration, 3.5 million working-age people have joined the workforce.

Since my election, the net worth of the bottom half of wage-earners has increased by 47 percent -- 3 times faster than the increase for the top 1 percent. After decades of flat and falling incomes, wages are rising fast -- and, wonderfully, they are rising fastest for low-income workers, who have seen a 16 percent pay-increase since my election. This is a blue collar boom.

Real median household income is now at the highest level ever recorded!

Since my election, United States stock markets have soared 70 percent, adding more than \$12 trillion to our Nation's wealth,

transcending anything anyone believed was possible -- this, as other countries are not doing well. Consumer confidence has reached amazing new heights.

All of those millions of people with 401(k)s and pensions are doing far better than they have ever done before with increases of 60, 70, 80, 90, and even 100 percent.

Jobs and investment are pouring into 9,000 previously-neglected neighborhoods thanks to Opportunity Zones, a plan spearheaded by Senator Tim Scott as part of our great Republican tax cuts. In other words, wealthy people and companies are pouring money into poor neighborhoods or areas that have not seen investment in many decades, creating jobs, energy, and excitement. This is the first time that these deserving communities have seen anything like this. It is all working!

Opportunity Zones are helping Americans like Army Veteran Tony Rankins from Cincinnati, Ohio. After struggling with drug addiction, Tony lost his job, his house, and his family -- he was homeless. But then Tony found a construction company that invests in Opportunity Zones. He is now a top tradesman, drug-free, reunited with his family, and he is here tonight. Tony: Keep up the great work.

Our roaring economy has, for the first time ever, given many former prisoners the ability to get a great job and a fresh start. This second chance at life is made possible because we passed landmark Criminal Justice Reform into law. Everybody said that Criminal Justice Reform could not be done, but I got it done, and the people in this room got it done.

Thanks to our bold regulatory reduction campaign, the United States has become the number one producer of oil and natural gas in the world, by far. With the tremendous progress we have made over the past 3 years, America is now energy independent, and energy jobs, like so many elements of our country, are at a record high. We are doing numbers that no one would have thought possible just 3 years ago.

Likewise, we are restoring our Nation's manufacturing might, even though predictions were that this could never be done. After losing 60,000 factories under the previous two administrations, America has now gained 12,000 new factories under my Administration with thousands upon thousands of plants and factories being planned or built. We have created over half a million new manufacturing jobs. Companies are not leaving; they are coming back. Everybody wants to be where the action is, and the United States of America is, indeed, where the action is.

One of the single biggest promises I made to the American people was to replace the disastrous NAFTA trade deal. In fact, unfair trade is perhaps the single biggest reason that I decided to run for President. Following NAFTA's adoption, our Nation lost one in four manufacturing jobs. Many politicians came and went, pledging to change or replace NAFTA -- only to do absolutely nothing. But unlike so many who came before me, I keep my promises. Six days ago, I replaced NAFTA and signed the brand new United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) into law.

The USMCA will create nearly 100,000 new high-paying American auto jobs, and massively boost exports for our farmers, ranchers, and factory workers. It will also bring trade with

Mexico and Canada to a much higher degree, but also to a much greater level of fairness and reciprocity. This is the first major trade deal in many years to earn the strong backing of America's labor unions.

I also promised our citizens that I would impose tariffs to confront China's massive theft of American jobs. Our strategy worked. Days ago, we signed the groundbreaking new agreement with China that will defend our workers, protect our intellectual property, bring billions of dollars into our treasury, and open vast new markets for products made and grown right here in the United States of America. For decades, China has taken advantage of the United States, now we have changed that but, at the same time, we have perhaps the best relationship we have ever had with China, including with President Xi. They respect what we have done because, quite frankly, they could never believe what they were able to get away with year after year, decade after decade, without someone in our country stepping up and saying: Enough. Now, we want to rebuild our country, and that is what we are doing.

As we restore American leadership throughout the world, we are once again standing up for freedom in our hemisphere. That is why my Administration reversed the failing policies of the previous administration on Cuba. We are supporting the hopes of Cubans, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans to restore democracy. The United States is leading a 59-nation diplomatic coalition against the socialist dictator of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro. Maduro is an illegitimate ruler, a tyrant who brutalizes his people. But Maduro's grip of tyranny will be smashed and broken. Here this evening is a man who carries with him the hopes, dreams, and aspirations of all

Venezuelans. Joining us in the gallery is the true and legitimate President of Venezuela, Juan Guaidó. Mr. President, please take this message back to your homeland. All Americans are united with the Venezuelan people in their righteous struggle for freedom! Socialism destroys nations. But always remember, freedom unifies the soul.

To safeguard American Liberty, we have invested a record-breaking \$2.2 trillion in the United States Military. We have purchased the finest planes, missiles, rockets, ships, and every other form of military equipment -- all made in the United States of America. We are also finally getting our allies to help pay their fair share. I have raised contributions from the other NATO members by more than \$400 billion, and the number of allies meeting their minimum obligations has more than doubled.

And just weeks ago, for the first time since President Truman established the Air Force more than 70 years earlier, we created a new branch of the United States Armed Forces, the Space Force.

In the gallery tonight, we have one of the Space Force's youngest potential recruits: 13-year-old Iain Lanphier, an eighth grader from Arizona. Iain has always dreamed of going to space. He was first in his class and among the youngest at an aviation academy. He aspires to go to the Air Force Academy, and then, he has his eye on the Space Force. As Iain says, "most people look up at space, I want to look down on the world."

Sitting beside Iain tonight is his great hero. Charles McGee was born in Cleveland, Ohio, one century ago. Charles is

one of the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen -- the first black fighter pilots -- and he also happens to be Iain's great-grandfather. After more than 130 combat missions in World War II, he came back to a country still struggling for Civil Rights and went on to serve America in Korea and Vietnam. On December 7th, Charles celebrated his 100th birthday. A few weeks ago, I signed a bill promoting Charles McGee to Brigadier General. And earlier today, I pinned the stars on his shoulders in the Oval Office. General McGee: Our Nation salutes you.

From the pilgrims to our Founders, from the soldiers at Valley Forge to the marchers at Selma, and from President Lincoln to the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Americans have always rejected limits on our children's future.

Members of Congress, we must never forget that the only victories that matter in Washington are victories that deliver for the American people. The people are the heart of our country, their dreams are the soul of our country, and their love is what powers and sustains our country. We must always remember that our job is to put America first!

The next step forward in building an inclusive society is making sure that every young American gets a great education and the opportunity to achieve the American Dream. Yet, for too long, countless American children have been trapped in failing government schools. To rescue these students, 18 States have created school choice in the form of Opportunity Scholarships. The programs are so popular, that tens of thousands of students remain on waiting lists. One of those students is Janiyah Davis, a fourth grader from Philadelphia. Janiyah's mom Stephanie is a single parent. She

would do anything to give her daughter a better future. But last year, that future was put further out of reach when Pennsylvania's Governor vetoed legislation to expand school choice for 50,000 children.

Janiyah and Stephanie are in the gallery this evening. But there is more to their story. Janiyah, I am pleased to inform you that your long wait is over. I can proudly announce tonight that an Opportunity Scholarship has become available, it is going to you, and you will soon be heading to the school of your choice!

Now, I call on the Congress to give 1 million American children the same opportunity Janiyah has just received. Pass the Education Freedom Scholarships and Opportunity Act -- because no parent should be forced to send their child to a failing government school.

Every young person should have a safe and secure environment in which to learn and grow. For this reason, our magnificent First Lady has launched the "Be Best" initiative -- to advance a safe, healthy, supportive, and drug-free life for the next generation, online, in school, and in our communities. Thank you, Melania, for your extraordinary love and profound care for America's children.

My Administration is determined to give our citizens the opportunities they need regardless of age or background. Through our Pledge to American Workers, over 400 companies will also provide new jobs and education opportunities to almost 15 million Americans.

My Budget also contains an exciting vision for our Nation's high schools. Tonight, I ask the Congress to support our students and back my plan to offer vocational and technical education in every single high school in America.

To expand equal opportunity, I am also proud that we achieved record and permanent funding for our Nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

A good life for American families also requires the most affordable, innovative, and high-quality healthcare system on Earth. Before I took office, health insurance premiums had more than doubled in just 5 years. I moved quickly to provide affordable alternatives. Our new plans are up to 60 percent less expensive. I have also made an ironclad pledge to American families: We will always protect patients with pre-existing conditions -- that is a guarantee. And we will always protect your Medicare and your Social Security.

The American patient should never be blindsided by medical bills. That is why I signed an Executive Order requiring price transparency. Many experts believe that transparency, which will go into full effect at the beginning of next year, will be even bigger than healthcare reform. It will save families massive amounts of money for substantially better care.

But as we work to improve Americans' healthcare, there are those who want to take away your healthcare, take away your doctor, and abolish private insurance entirely. One hundred thirty-two lawmakers in this room have endorsed legislation to impose a socialist takeover of our healthcare system, wiping out the private health insurance plans of 180 million Americans. To

those watching at home tonight, I want you to know: We will never let socialism destroy American healthcare!

Over 130 legislators in this chamber have endorsed legislation that would bankrupt our Nation by providing free taxpayer-funded healthcare to millions of illegal aliens, forcing taxpayers to subsidize free care for anyone in the world who unlawfully crosses our borders. These proposals would raid the Medicare benefits our seniors depend on, while acting as a powerful lure for illegal immigration. This is what is happening in California and other States -- their systems are totally out of control, costing taxpayers vast and unaffordable amounts of money. If forcing American taxpayers to provide unlimited free healthcare to illegal aliens sounds fair to you, then stand with the radical left. But if you believe that we should defend American patients and American seniors, then stand with me and pass legislation to prohibit free Government healthcare for illegal aliens!

This will be a tremendous boon to our already very-strongly guarded southern border where, as we speak, a long, tall, and very powerful wall is being built. We have now completed over 100 miles and will have over 500 miles fully completed by early next year.

My Administration is also taking on the big pharmaceutical companies. We have approved a record number of affordable generic drugs, and medicines are being approved by the FDA at a faster clip than ever before. I was pleased to announce last year that, for the first time in 51 years, the cost of prescription drugs actually went down.

And working together, the Congress can reduce drug prices substantially from current levels. I have been speaking to Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa and others in the Congress in order to get something on drug pricing done, and done properly. I am calling for bipartisan legislation that achieves the goal of dramatically lowering prescription drug prices. Get a bill to my desk, and I will sign it into law without delay.

With unyielding commitment, we are curbing the opioid epidemic -- drug overdose deaths declined for the first time in nearly 30 years. Among the States hardest hit, Ohio is down 22 percent, Pennsylvania is down 18 percent, Wisconsin is down 10 percent -- and we will not quit until we have beaten the opioid epidemic once and for all.

Protecting Americans' health also means fighting infectious diseases. We are coordinating with the Chinese government and working closely together on the Coronavirus outbreak in China. My Administration will take all necessary steps to safeguard our citizens from this threat.

We have launched ambitious new initiatives to substantially improve care for Americans with kidney disease, Alzheimer's, and those struggling with mental health challenges. And because the Congress funded my request, we are pursuing new cures for childhood cancer, and we will eradicate the AIDS epidemic in America by the end of the decade.

Almost every American family knows the pain when a loved one is diagnosed with a serious illness. Here tonight is a special man, someone beloved by millions of Americans who just received a Stage 4 advanced cancer diagnosis. This is not good news, but

what is good news is that he is the greatest fighter and winner that you will ever meet. Rush Limbaugh: Thank you for your decades of tireless devotion to our country. Rush, in recognition of all that you have done for our Nation, the millions of people a day that you speak to and inspire, and all of the incredible work that you have done for charity, I am proud to announce tonight that you will be receiving our country's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I will now ask the First Lady of the United States to please stand and present you with the honor. Rush, Kathryn, congratulations!

As we pray for all who are sick, we know that America is constantly achieving new medical breakthroughs. In 2017, doctors at St. Luke's hospital in Kansas City delivered one of the earliest premature babies ever to survive. Born at just 21 weeks and 6 days, and weighing less than a pound, Ellie Schneider was born a fighter. Through the skill of her doctors -- and the prayers of her parents -- little Ellie kept on winning the battle for life. Today, Ellie is a strong, healthy 2-year-old girl sitting with her amazing mother Robin in the gallery. Ellie and Robin: We are so glad you are here.

Ellie reminds us that every child is a miracle of life. Thanks to modern medical wonders, 50 percent of very premature babies delivered at the hospital where Ellie was born now survive. Our goal should be to ensure that every baby has the best chance to thrive and grow just like Ellie. That is why I am asking the Congress to provide an additional \$50 million to fund neo-natal research for America's youngest patients. That is also why I am calling upon the Members of Congress here tonight to pass legislation finally banning the late-term abortion of babies.

Whether we are Republican, Democrat, or Independent, surely we must all agree that every human life is a sacred gift from God!

As we support America's moms and dads, I was recently proud to sign the law providing new parents in the Federal workforce paid family leave, serving as a model for the rest of the country. Now, I call on the Congress to pass the bipartisan Advancing Support for Working Families Act, extending family leave to mothers and fathers all across the Nation.

Forty million American families have an average \$2,200 extra thanks to our child tax credit. I have also overseen historic funding increases for high-quality child care, enabling 17 States to serve more children, many of which have reduced or eliminated their waitlists altogether. And I sent the Congress a plan with a vision to further expand access to high-quality childcare and urge you to act immediately.

To protect the environment, days ago, I announced that the United States will join the One Trillion Trees Initiative, an ambitious effort to bring together Government and the private sector to plant new trees in America and around the world.

We must also rebuild America's infrastructure. I ask you to pass Senator Barrasso's highway bill -- to invest in new roads, bridges, and tunnels across our land.

I am also committed to ensuring that every citizen can have access to high-speed internet, including rural America.

A better tomorrow for all Americans also requires us to keep America safe. That means supporting the men and women of law enforcement at every level, including our Nation's heroic ICE officers.

Last year, our brave ICE officers arrested more than 120,000 criminal aliens charged with nearly 10,000 burglaries, 5,000 sexual assaults, 45,000 violent assaults, and 2,000 murders.

Tragically, there are many cities in America where radical politicians have chosen to provide sanctuary for these criminal illegal aliens. In Sanctuary Cities, local officials order police to release dangerous criminal aliens to prey upon the public, instead of handing them over to ICE to be safely removed.

Just 29 days ago, a criminal alien freed by the Sanctuary City of New York was charged with the brutal rape and murder of a 92-year-old woman. The killer had been previously arrested for assault, but under New York's sanctuary policies, he was set free. If the city had honored ICE's detainer request, his victim would be alive today.

The State of California passed an outrageous law declaring their whole State to be a sanctuary for criminal illegal immigrants -- with catastrophic results.

Here is just one tragic example. In December 2018, California police detained an illegal alien with five prior arrests, including convictions for robbery and assault. But as required by California's Sanctuary Law, local authorities released him.

Days later, the criminal alien went on a gruesome spree of deadly violence. He viciously shot one man going about his daily work; he approached a woman sitting in her car and shot her in the arm and the chest. He walked into a convenience store and wildly fired his weapon. He hijacked a truck and smashed into vehicles, critically injuring innocent victims. One of the victims of his bloody rampage was a 51-year-old American named Rocky Jones. Rocky was at a gas station when this vile criminal fired eight bullets at him from close range, murdering him in cold blood. Rocky left behind a devoted family, including his brothers who loved him more than anything. One of his grieving brothers is here with us tonight. Jody, would you please stand? Jody, our hearts weep for your loss -- and we will not rest until you have justice.

Senator Thom Tillis has introduced legislation to allow Americans like Jody to sue Sanctuary Cities and States when a loved one is hurt or killed as a result of these deadly policies. I ask the Congress to pass the Justice for Victims of Sanctuary Cities Act immediately. The United States of America should be a sanctuary for law-abiding Americans -- not criminal aliens!

In the last 3 years, ICE has arrested over 5,000 wicked human traffickers -- and I have signed 9 pieces of legislation to stamp out the menace of human trafficking, domestically and around the globe.

My Administration has undertaken an unprecedented effort to secure the southern border of the United States.

Before I came into office, if you showed up illegally on our

southern border and were arrested, you were simply released and allowed into our country, never to be seen again. My Administration has ended Catch-and-Release. If you come illegally, you will now be promptly removed. We entered into historic cooperation agreements with the Governments of Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. As a result of our unprecedented efforts, illegal crossings are down 75 percent since May -- dropping 8 straight months in a row. And as the wall goes up, drug seizures rise, and border crossings go down.

Last year, I traveled to the border in Texas and met Chief Patrol Agent Raul Ortiz. Over the last 24 months, Agent Ortiz and his team have seized more than 200,000 pounds of poisonous narcotics, arrested more than 3,000 human smugglers, and rescued more than 2,000 migrants. Days ago, Agent Ortiz was promoted to Deputy Chief of Border Patrol -- and he joins us tonight. Chief Ortiz: Please stand -- a grateful Nation thanks you and all the heroes of Border Patrol.

To build on these historic gains, we are working on legislation to replace our outdated and randomized immigration system with one based on merit, welcoming those who follow the rules, contribute to our economy, support themselves financially, and uphold our values.

With every action, my Administration is restoring the rule of law and re-asserting the culture of American freedom. Working with Senate Majority Leader McConnell and his colleagues in the Senate, we have confirmed a record number of 187 new Federal judges to uphold our Constitution as written. This includes two brilliant new Supreme Court Justices, Neil Gorsuch, and Brett Kavanaugh.

My Administration is also defending religious liberty, and that includes the Constitutional right to pray in public schools. In America, we do not punish prayer. We do not tear down crosses. We do not ban symbols of faith. We do not muzzle preachers and pastors. In America, we celebrate faith. We cherish religion. We lift our voices in prayer, and we raise our sights to the Glory of God!

Just as we believe in the First Amendment, we also believe in another Constitutional right that is under siege all across our country. So long as I am President I will always protect your Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms.

In reaffirming our heritage as a free Nation, we must remember that America has always been a frontier nation. Now we must embrace the next frontier, America's manifest destiny in the stars. I am asking the Congress to fully fund the Artemis program to ensure that the next man and the first woman on the moon will be American astronauts -- using this as a launching pad to ensure that America is the first nation to plant its flag on Mars.

My Administration is also strongly defending our national security and combating radical Islamic terrorism. Last week, I announced a groundbreaking plan for peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Recognizing that all past attempts have failed, we must be determined and creative in order to stabilize the region and give millions of young people the change to realize a better future.

Three years ago, the barbarians of ISIS held over 20,000

square miles of territory in Iraq and Syria. Today, the ISIS territorial caliphate has been 100 percent destroyed, and the founder and leader of ISIS -- the bloodthirsty killer Al-Baghdadi -- is dead!

We are joined this evening by Carl and Marsha Mueller. After graduating from college, their beautiful daughter Kayla became a humanitarian aid worker. Kayla once wrote, "Some people find God in church. Some people find God in nature. Some people find God in love; I find God in suffering. I've known for some time what my life's work is, using my hands as tools to relieve suffering." In 2013, while caring for suffering civilians in Syria, Kayla was kidnapped, tortured, and enslaved by ISIS, and kept as a prisoner of Al-Baghdadi himself. After more than 500 horrifying days of captivity, Al-Baghdadi murdered young Kayla. She was just 26 years old.

On the night that United States Special Forces Operators ended Al-Baghdadi's miserable life, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Mark Milley, received a call in the Situation Room. He was told that the brave men of the elite Special Forces team, that so perfectly carried out the operation, had given their mission a name -- "Task Force 8-14." It was a reference to a special day: August 14th -- Kayla's birthday. Carl and Marsha, America's warriors never forgot Kayla -- and neither will we.

Every day, America's men and women in uniform demonstrate the infinite depths of love that dwells in the human heart.

One of these American heroes was Army Staff Sergeant Christopher Hake. On his second deployment to Iraq in 2008,

Sergeant Hake wrote a letter to his 1-year-old son, Gage: "I will be with you again," he wrote to Gage. "I will teach you to ride your first bike, build your first sand box, watch you play sports and see you have kids also. I love you son, take care of your mother. I am always with you. Dad." On Easter Sunday of 2008, Chris was out on patrol in Baghdad when his Bradley Fighting Vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb. That night, he made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Sergeant Hake now rests in eternal glory in Arlington, and his wife Kelli is in the gallery tonight, joined by their son, who is now 13 years old. To Kelli and Gage: Chris will live in our hearts forever.

The terrorist responsible for killing Sergeant Hake was Qasem Soleimani, who provided the deadly roadside bomb that took Chris's life. Soleimani was the Iranian Regime's most ruthless butcher, a monster who murdered or wounded thousands of American service members in Iraq. As the world's top terrorist, Soleimani orchestrated the deaths of countless men, women, and children. He directed the December assault on United States Forces in Iraq, and was actively planning new attacks. That is why, last month, at my direction, the United States Military executed a flawless precision strike that killed Soleimani and terminated his evil reign of terror forever.

Our message to the terrorists is clear: You will never escape American justice. If you attack our citizens, you forfeit your life!

In recent months, we have seen proud Iranians raise their voices against their oppressive rulers. The Iranian regime must abandon its pursuit of nuclear weapons, stop spreading terror,

death, and destruction, and start working for the good of its own people. Because of our powerful sanctions, the Iranian economy is doing very poorly. We can help them make it very good in a short period of time, but perhaps they are too proud or too foolish to ask for that help. We are here. Let's see which road they choose. It is totally up to them.

As we defend American lives, we are working to end America's wars in the Middle East.

In Afghanistan, the determination and valor of our warfighters has allowed us to make tremendous progress, and peace talks are underway. I am not looking to kill hundreds of thousands of people in Afghanistan, many of them innocent. It is also not our function to serve other nations as a law enforcement agency. These are warfighters, the best in the world, and they either want to fight to win or not fight at all. We are working to finally end America's longest war and bring our troops back home!

War places a heavy burden on our Nation's extraordinary military families, especially spouses like Amy Williams from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and her 2 children -- 6-year-old Elliana and 3-year-old Rowan. Amy works full time, and volunteers countless hours helping other military families. For the past 7 months, she has done it all while her husband, Sergeant First Class Townsend Williams, is in Afghanistan on his fourth deployment to the Middle East. Amy's kids have not seen their father's face in many months. Amy, your family's sacrifice makes it possible for all of our families to live in safety and peace - - we thank you.

As the world bears witness tonight, America is a land of heroes. This is the place where greatness is born, where destinies are forged, and where legends come to life. This is the home of Thomas Edison and Teddy Roosevelt, of many great Generals, including Washington, Pershing, Patton, and MacArthur. This is the home of Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Amelia Earhart, Harriet Tubman, the Wright Brothers, Neil Armstrong, and so many more. This is the country where children learn names like Wyatt Earp, Davy Crockett, and Annie Oakley. This is the place where the pilgrims landed at Plymouth and where Texas patriots made their last stand at the Alamo.

The American Nation was carved out of the vast frontier by the toughest, strongest, fiercest, and most determined men and women ever to walk the face of the Earth. Our ancestors braved the unknown; tamed the wilderness; settled the Wild West; lifted millions from poverty, disease, and hunger; vanquished tyranny and fascism; ushered the world to new heights of science and medicine; laid down the railroads, dug out canals, raised up the skyscrapers -- and, ladies and gentlemen, our ancestors built the most exceptional Republic ever to exist in all of human history. And we are making it greater than ever before!

This is our glorious and magnificent inheritance.

We are Americans. We are the pioneers. We are the pathfinders. We settled the new world, we built the modern world, and we changed history forever by embracing the eternal truth that everyone is made equal by the hand of Almighty God.

America is the place where anything can happen! America is the place where anyone can rise. And here, on this land, on this

soil, on this continent, the most incredible dreams come true!

This Nation is our canvas, and this country is our masterpiece. We look at tomorrow and see unlimited frontiers just waiting to be explored. Our brightest discoveries are not yet known. Our most thrilling stories are not yet told. Our grandest journeys are not yet made. The American Age, the American Epic, the American Adventure, has only just begun!

Our spirit is still young; the sun is still rising; God's grace is still shining; and my fellow Americans, the best is yet to come!

Thank you. God Bless You. God Bless America.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
February 4, 2020.

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From: White House Press Office
Sent: Mon, 6 Jul 2020 20:47:55 +0000
To: McGuire, BrianDisabled
Subject: Press Briefing by Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany | 7/6/2020, #20

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Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 6, 2020

PRESS BRIEFING
BY PRESS SECRETARY KAYLEIGH MCENANY

James S. Brady Press Briefing Room

1:29 P.M. EDT

MS. MCENANY: All right. Hello, everyone. Over the holiday weekend, President Trump delivered two defining, unifying, and patriotic speeches, which drew widespread praise by those who cherish our values, honor our history, and seek to advance policies that lift up all Americans.

The President outlined a vision for the future. The President outlined a vision for stronger and safer communities. President Trump said, "After all, what do we want? We want a strong military, great education, housing, low taxes, law and order." He went on to say, "We want safety, we want equal justice, we want religious liberty, we want faith and family, and living in the great communities and happy communities and safe communities. And we want great jobs, and we want to be respected by the rest of the world, not taken advantage of by the rest of the world." He went on to say, "We should all want the same thing. How can it be any different than those things?"

This message is now more important and more timely than ever. Radical left-wing mobs seek to tear down our monuments and our memorials -- everyone from George Washington to Abraham Lincoln to Frederick Douglass, and even Gandhi. Misguided movements, such as "Defund the Police," seek to leave our communities more vulnerable than ever. Case in point: This weekend alone, in New York, there were 44 shootings with 11 killed; in Chicago, 75 people were shot with 13 killed; and tragically, at least five of these individuals were children who were killed in cities across the country. An absolutely devastating loss, and we grieve for those families. Crimes such as this is dark and it is divisive.

This July 4th, the President said, "Our movement is based on lifting all citizens to reach their fullest God-given potential. Never forget: We are one family and one nation...We will teach our children to cherish and adore their country so...they can build its future."

This vision is not a culture war, as the media seeks to falsely proclaim; it's an embrace of our American family, our values, our freedom, and our future.

And with that, I'll take questions.

Peter.

Q Kayleigh, I want to ask you just a couple questions. The first one: Why is the President so supportive of flying the Confederate flag?

MS. MCENANY: So I think you're referring to a tweet this morning. Is that right?

Q Correct.

MS. MCENANY: Well, I think you're mischaracterizing the tweet. The tweet was aimed at pointing out that the FBI report of the alleged hate crime at NASCAR concluded that the garage door pull, which had been there since last fall, was obviously not targeted at a specific individual because, in fact, it was a garage pull and, in fact, it was there since last fall, long before these 43 teams arrived. And it was concluded by the FBI that this was, quote, "not an intentional racist act."

Q For clarity, I'm asking you about the Confederate flags. My question is: Why is the President so supportive of flying the Confederate flag?

MS. MCENANY: The President never said that. Again, you're taking his tweet completely out of context.

Q The President said that NASCAR saw bad ratings because they took down the Confederate flag, banned the Confederate flag. Does he believe NASCAR should fly the Confederate flag? And why don't they fly it here?

MS. MCENANY: The whole point of the tweet was to note the incident, the alleged hate crime that, in fact, was not a hate crime. At the very end, the ban on the flag was mentioned in the broader context of the fact that he rejects this notion that somehow NASCAR men and women who go to these sporting events are racist when, in fact, as it turns out, what we saw with the FBI report and the alleged incident of a hate crime -- it was a complete indictment of the media's rush to judgment once again, calling this a hate crime when the FBI completely dismissed that.

Q Let me ask you about some of the President's comments this weekend. The President said that 99 percent of coronavirus cases are totally harmless. Which members of the White House Coronavirus Task Force agree with that statement?

MS. MCENANY: So what the President was pointing to -- and I'm glad you brought it up -- was a factual statement, one that is rooted in science and one that was pointing out the fact that mortality in this country is very low. And I have two charts that we'll pull up to illustrate that.

The first chart is the case fatality rate in the United States. And as you can see, the mortality rate has gone like this -- (motions downward) -- the case fatality rate. And also, in the second chart you'll see -- hopefully they have it up behind me -- but the case rate -- fatality rate in this country

vis-à-vis other European countries is much lower than, let's say, France and Italy. And what that speaks to is the great work of this administration with therapeutics and remdesivir and dexamethasone. And that's what the President was pointing out.

Q So I want to get back to --

MS. MCENANY: Jon.

Q -- just to follow up quickly, though. So if you don't die, is it not harmless?

MS. MCENANY: The President was noting the fact that the vast majority of Americans who contract coronavirus will come out on the other side of this. Of course, he takes this very seriously. Of course, no one wants to see anyone in this country contract COVID, which is why the administration has fought hard to make sure that's not the case with our historic response effort.

Jon.

Q Kayleigh, to follow on Peter's question, what is the President's position? Does he think NASCAR made a mistake by banning the Confederate flag?

MS. MCENANY: So he said he -- I spoke to him this morning about this, and he said he was not making a judgment one way or the other. The intent of the tweet was to stand up for the men and women of NASCAR and the fans and those who have gone, and this rush to judgment of the media to call something a hate crime when, in fact, the FBI report concluded this was not an

intentional racist act. And it very much mirrors other times when there have been a rush to judgment, let's say with the Covington boys or with Jussie Smollett.

Q But let's drill down on the Confederate flag. Does he think it was a mistake for NASCAR to ban it?

MS. MCENANY: The President said he wasn't making a judgment one way or the other. You're focusing on --

Q But what is his position on it?

MS. MCENANY: -- one word at the very bottom of a tweet that's completely taken out of context and neglecting the complete rush to judgment on this.

Q Wasn't he saying that NASCAR's rating were down because they banned the flag? That's what he said.

MS. MCENANY: The President was noting the fact that, in aggregate, this notion that NASCAR men and women who have gone and who are being demeaned and called racist, and being accused in some venues of committing a hate crime against an individual, those allegations were just dead wrong.

Q Does he think --

MS. MCENANY: Paula.

Q Does he think his supporters should not take the flag to Trump rallies? Has he considered banning the Confederate flag from Trump rallies?

MS. MCENANY: Well, at Trump rallies, all flags that are not official campaign gear are banned.

Yes.

Q Kayleigh, why is it Bubba Wallace's responsibility to apologize for an investigation into a noose that he didn't report and he never even saw? It was NASCAR that found this, that reported this. And even the FBI referred to it as a noose, even if they said it wasn't a specific crime against Mr. Wallace. Why is the President even suggesting that Mr. Wallace should apologize?

MS. MCENANY: Well, look, the FBI, as I noted, concluded that this was not a hate crime, and he believes it'd go a long way if Bubba came out and acknowledged that as well --

Q He has.

MS. MCENANY: This was not --

Q He has.

MS. MCENANY: -- a hate crime, as noted --

Q In interviews, he's been very clear that --

MS. MCENANY: -- by the FBI. So, the President --

Q -- the FBI found this was not intentional.

MS. MCENANY: One of the things --

Q Why is he directing this at Mr. Wallace?

MS. MCENANY: So one of the things that --

Q He was a victim of a suspected hate crime.

MS. MCENANY: One of -- this is where the President comes from, and this is where the President stands, and he actually hinted at this in his July 4th speech: "To those in the media who falsely and consistently label their opponents as racist, who condemn patriotic citizens who offer a clear and truthful defense of American unity, we want a clear and faithful defense of American history and unity. And when you level false charges, you not only slander me, you slander the American people." He believes --

Q Who was charged? It was an open investigation, Kayleigh --

MS. MCENANY: -- the American people are good. And the allegations --

Q -- into a noose. The FBI said --

MS. MCENANY: -- and the rush to judgement --

Q -- it was a noose.

MS. MCENANY: -- with Jussie Smollett and the Bubba Wallace case and with the Covington Catholic boys, we shouldn't be so

quick to jump onto those narratives. Those are just three examples of those --

Q But you're suggesting that Mr. Wallace --

MS. MCENANY: that have been proven false.

Yes.

Q -- should apologize for an investigation that someone else initiated, suggesting he was possibly the victim of a hate crime?

MS. MCENANY: (Calls on next reporter.) Yes.

Q The Governor of South Dakota flew back on Air Force One after having contact with somebody who had tested positive for the virus. Why was that allowed to happen? Did she have contact with the President on the trip back? And has the President continued to test negative since that interaction?

MS. MCENANY: Yes, the President is tested constantly, has tested negative, and those around him are tested as well.

Q But why -- the original question is: Why was she to allowed to fly back on Air Force One with the President, when it was known that she had had contact with somebody who had tested positive for the virus?

MS. MCENANY: Yeah, I'd have to refer you to Secret Service on that. But I'll tell you this: They take the President's health very seriously. They would never put him in a situation

that would put him in harm's way.

Q And just one follow-up, please.

MS. MCENANY: Yes.

Q On executive orders, the President has set a pretty brisk pace on those this year. And as a candidate, he had been critical of President Obama's use of executive orders, but he seems to have really stepped up the pace on these. And I wanted to ask, you know, what does he find -- what is the strategy behind issuing more than one a week so far this year? And I know he's getting ready to issue more in the coming weeks.

MS. MCENANY: Well, he will use the powers in his executive toolkit to further the agenda of the American people. That's his intent with these executive orders. And I would just note that, with regard to the DACA decision, the Supreme Court has suggested he has pretty wide discretion to act.

Yes, Jeff.

Q Hi, Kayleigh. With regard to the President's reference about the 99 percent being harmless, does the President worry at all that by downplaying the severity of the virus, that it will lead Americans to be less careful?

MS. MCENANY: The President isn't downplaying the severity of the virus. What the President is noting is that, at the height of this pandemic, we were at 2,500 deaths per day. We are now at a place where, on July 4th, there were 254; that's a tenfold decrease in mortality. On July 5th, 209 individuals,

down 23 percent from last Sunday and the lowest Sunday since March 28th.

The President has made clear: We grieve when just one life is lost, but he wants to note the progress that we've made in treating this very serious virus when we have therapeutics like convalescent plasma, remdesivir, dexamethasone. Convalescent plasma, in particular, was spearheaded by this administration.

He's used -- he's pulled down bureaucracy and allowed us to get to a place where we can have this declining mortality rate.

Q And just to follow up on the NASCAR thing: You were saying that we're taking the tweet out of context, but this is what he tweeted. He says, "Has @BubbaWallace apologized to all of those great NASCAR drivers & officials who came to his aid, stood by his side, & were willing to sacrifice everything for him, only to find out that the whole thing was just another HOAX? That & Flag decision has caused lowest ratings EVER!"

How -- how are we misinterpreting that?

MS. MCENANY: I've explained to you -- this is, I guess, the fourth attempt, but we'll try it again -- in aggregate, what he was pointing out is this rush to judgment to immediately say that there is a hate crime, as happened in this case, as happened with Jussie Smollett, as happened with the Covington Catholic boys. In an aggregate, those actions made it seem like NASCAR men and women were racist individuals who were roving around and engaging in a hate crime.

The President's intent was to say, no, most American people

are good, hardworking people, and we should not have this rush to judgment, kneejerk reaction before the facts come out. The FBI did their job and determined there was no hate crime.

Mario.

Q Is the President comparing Smollett to Wallace?

Q Hold on. Hold on. Just that one thing it wasn't clear in your response -- and that's why I asked about it again, and it follows up on Paula's question -- is: Why should Mr. Wallace have to apologize for that when his whole team and all of these colleagues came around him to show support?

MS. MCENANY: Yeah, and that's the best of America, is coming around when the media alleged a hate crime; coming around and supporting Bubba Wallace as they should have done. I think that shows how loving NASCAR fans are and the fellow drivers.

But I think it's important that we point out the fact that there was no hate crime; the FBI concluded that. And President Trump was merely saying that Mr. Wallace should agree with that consensus.

Yes, Mario.

Q No, he's saying he has to apologize.

MS. MCENANY: Mario, yes.

Q He's saying he has to apologize. That's what we're trying to ask you, Kayleigh, is --

MS. MCENANY: Mario, yes.

Q -- why should he have to apologize about that?

MS. MCENANY: I'm not going to answer a question a sixth time.

Mario.

Q But you haven't answered that question. I mean, you've been asked it, but you haven't answered it.

Q You haven't answered it.

MS. MCENANY: Mario, go ahead.

Q Kayleigh, on the Confederate part: Why would the President not praise NASCAR for removing the Confederate flag, particularly given the history of that flag, the symbol that it has for African Americans, and also what it represents in terms of just the treasonous acts and the insurrection against the Republic?

MS. MCENANY: So --

Q Why would he not praise them for taking that down, even if it's a ratings (inaudible)?

MS. MCENANY: The President takes great offense when Americans -- our kneejerk reaction summed up as racist. And in aggregate, the picture being painted here in this instant --

incident seemed to be that there was that suggestion there, when, in fact, what we're seeing across the nation is this vast cancel culture where we're going to tear down our monuments, we're going to tear down Gandhi, we're going to tear down George Washington, we're going to tear down Lincoln.

It's really quite appalling what we've seen happen across the country, and the President wants no part in cancel culture. He wants to no part in the tearing down and defacing of Matthias Baldwin, an abolitionist; Philadelphia Civil War soldiers; John Greenleaf Whittier vandalized, an abolitionist. He wants no part in this, and he stands against the demonization of Americans, and he stands firmly on the side of preserving our history.

Yes.

Q But, Kayleigh, the Confederate flag is a different issue.

MS. MCENANY: He's not -- I said from the very top of this briefing: He has not given an opinion one way or the other on that. I just spoke to him this morning.

Yes.

Q Kayleigh, why -- what exactly does the President see as positive or uniting then about the Confederate flag? Why does he -- why did he decide to tweet about it then, this morning?

MS. MCENANY: The President never used those words. Those are the words of a reporter, not that of the President of the

United States.

Q And, Kayleigh, to follow up --

MS. MCENANY: Yes, Phil.

Q Thank you. The President argued on Friday, and then again on Saturday, that many of the problems the country faces stem from, quote, "extreme indoctrination and bias" in the education system. If that's the case, is he working with Secretary DeVos to address what he sees as a major problem?

You know, what -- what steps is he taking to (inaudible) this? And could you give us an example?

MS. MCENANY: Yeah, I'd have to inquire about that, about specific steps that he's taken. I'm not aware of his conversations with Secretary DeVos, but I will certainly follow up.

But, look, we've got a real problem in this country. When you have rioters who -- I have listed off some of the examples of abolitionists -- there seems to be zero understanding of history when you're defacing the statue of Matthias Baldwin and John Whittier and Ulysses S. Grant.

There seems to be a lack of understanding and historical knowledge when the Armenian Genocide Memorial, remembering victims of all crimes against humanity including slavery, is vandalized.

There seems to be a lack of understanding of history when

the first responders sculpture is damaged, when the Polish war hero statue, the World War I Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, the World War II Memorial, and absolutely the Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Regiment ~~Washington~~ [Massachusetts] Memorial that honored African American soldiers who fought valiantly in the Civil War was damaged in Boston. We need to have a better historical understanding.

And I'll follow up with you about specific conversations.

Yes, Toluse.

Q Thank you, Kayleigh. I have question about masks. The President has, sort of, equivocated on the issue of masks, and we know that a number of Republicans are starting to say that it's the single-most important thing that Americans can do to protect each other. What is the President's message to Americans who hear those messages and say that they simply don't want to wear a mask? What does the President say to those (inaudible)?

MS. MCENANY: Well, the President was very clear last week that if he were in a situation where he wasn't tested daily and he was in close proximity and unable to social distance, that he would wear a mask. So he has made that clear. At his rally this weekend in New Hampshire, masks are not only handed out but they are recommended.

Yes.

Q Thank you, Kayleigh. I wanted to say, first off, point of fact: Bubba Wallace did not make any kind of false report. And I'm wondering, in general, why the President thinks

that issue is worth his time and focus right now in the midst of a deadly pandemic? And then also, you've said he has no opinion on the Confederate flag. Why can't this White House unambiguously state whether or not it supports displays of the Confederate flag and --

MS. MCENANY: No, I said --

Q -- Confederate monuments, which are much more --

MS. MCENANY: I said in his --

Q -- a part of this question than Gandhi?

MS. MCENANY: Yeah, I said that, you know, he was -- his tweet was not to indicate approval or disapproval of that particular policy of NASCAR. It was in aggregate to stand against the rush to judgment to call something a hate crime before the facts were out, when clearly the media was wrong about this, when clearly --

Q But you said Bubba Wallace made a false report; he didn't.

MS. MCENANY: I never said that. Perhaps one of the reporters said that, but I certainly did not.

But he believes that we should be -- that the truth matters and that the truth was: The FBI did a thorough investigation, and what was concluded -- that there was no hate crime here. And we should all be grateful for that; grateful that NASCAR fans came together in a great display of American unity around Mr.

Wallace. But then we should also be equally unequivocal about the truth of this situation here and that most Americans are great, hardworking people.

Yes.

Q But why is this cultural stuff worth his time and --

MS. MCENANY: Yes.

Q -- focus during the pandemic?

MS. MCENANY: Yes, he's focused on two things at once, something we're all capable of doing.

Q And what about on an unambiguous statement on the Confederate flag? Are we capable of doing that?

MS. MCENANY: Look, the President has made clear he was not taking a position one way or the other in that tweet.

Q Exactly. But why not?

MS. MCENANY: Yes. Yes.

Q Thanks, Kayleigh. Two quick questions, if I may. Does the President support the Cleveland Indians and the football team here in Washington considering changing their names?

MS. MCENANY: I haven't spoken to the President on that.

Q And the other question: Who came up with the list of

historical figures that the President wants honored in his -- in his garden of statues that he put out this executive order about? Who came up with the list of people to be included?

MS. MCENANY: So, I don't know exactly who came up with that list. I can ask about it, but it's a pretty extraordinary list of people. I think we can all agree on the fact that great American heroes are people like Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass and Booker T. Washington and Martin Luther King, Jr. -- these are incredible men and women in our history -- Susan B. Anthony and Billy Graham. So I think we can all pretty much widely acknowledge that these are American heroes.

Yes.

Q Thank you, Kayleigh. The President signed the Payroll Protection Program extension over the weekend. There's \$132 billion in the pot. What does the President think that that money should be used for if it's still there after August 8th? And then, in a CARES 4, specifically, what should be there to help small businesses?

MS. MCENANY: Yeah, so I don't have any updates on phase four. I've mentioned that the payroll tax is something of great interest to the President because it would help low -- low- and middle-income Americans most. PPP funding -- they've done an extraordinary job with that. Small businesses across the country have gotten this, and we've kept people on payroll. So he's very pleased with the progress that's been made there and the continuing functioning of the PPP.

Yes.

Q Would he veto a bill then that did not have the payroll tax relief in it?

MS. MCENANY: Yeah, I don't want to set parameters or conditions. That'll be up to the President when the bill arrives on his desk.

Yes.

Q Thank you, Kayleigh, so much. As President Trump wants to reopen the country, what will be the criteria to cancel the travel bans? Because we know that the bans are still in place for European countries where the situation is under control. And, on the other hand, there is no ban on hotspots like Russia, India, or Mexico, for example. So what is the criteria?

MS. MCENANY: Yeah, so I don't have specific criteria to give you. I'd have to refer you to the State Department and Secretary Pompeo, and his remarks on the topic during his last press conference, as where we currently stand.

But President Trump and the administration have taken bold, decisive, and frequent action to secure our homeland, and a big part of that has been these travel restrictions. And we're working with countries around the world, and we hope to have a day where international travel is open. But right now, this is about putting America first.

And I want to say this --

Q Kayleigh, can I ask one more question?

MS. MCENANY: Yes.

Q European countries, and now the UK, are starting to open for touring visitors, but the U.S. is still banned. How do you think the world is looking at the United States right now?

MS. MCENANY: I think the world is looking at us as a leader in COVID-19, because the chart I showed you, where you have mortality rate -- and Italy and UK up here and across Europe, and you have the United States at a low case mortality rate -- it's because of the extraordinary work that we've done on therapeutics and getting PPE and leading on ventilators and having excess ventilators that we were able to deploy around the world and help other countries. So that's what I would have to say on COVID.

And finally, I'd end with this: You know, I was asked probably 12 questions about the Confederate flag. This President is focused on action, and I'm a little dismayed that I didn't receive one question on the deaths that we got in this country this weekend. I didn't receive one question about New York City shootings doubling for the third straight week. And over the last seven days, shootings skyrocketed by 142 percent. Not one question. I didn't receive one question about five children who were killed.

And I'll leave you with this remark by a dad -- it broke my heart -- a dad of an eight-year-old lost in Atlanta this weekend: "They say black lives matter...you killed a child. She didn't do nothing to nobody," was his quote.

We need to be focused on securing our streets, making sure no lives are lost because all black lives matter -- that of David Dorn and that of this eight-year-old girl.

Thank you.

END

1:51 P.M. EDT

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From: (b)(6)
Sent: Mon, 27 Jan 2020 17:38:29 -0500
To: McGuire, Brian
Subject: RE: Night Note 1.27.2020

Lauren

- Mint meeting went well, there is a compromise on the table. I'll work on the Memo tomorrow.
- Expecting a Harriet Tubman 2022 Commemorative Coin Bill to be introduced in the House this week.
- Spoke with Jean Kwon on House SFOPs about their request for a pre-brief, they agreed a briefing after the budget is released is fine, Michael and I will coordinate with relevant IA DAS to schedule this.
- Scheduled IRS 4-corners budget briefing
- PA has the FY21 budget letter to use for testimony for upcoming hearings
- I have a coordinating call tomorrow with ASM, USSS, and DHS on scheduling matters – budget briefings and hearings – this will be a weekly call until the process is complete

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 5:33 PM
To: McGuire, Brian <Brian.McGuire@treasury.gov>; Blum, Jonathan <Jonathan.Blum@treasury.gov>; (b)(6)@treasury.gov; Nunnally, Lauren <Lauren.Nunnally@treasury.gov>; Pinter, Kimberly <Kimberly.Pinter@treasury.gov>; (b)(6)@treasury.gov; Eck, Andrew <Andrew.Eck@treasury.gov>; DiRoma, Michael <Michael.DiRoma@treasury.gov>; (b)(6)@treasury.gov
Subject: Night Note 1.27.2020

Hi Brian,

Please see the night note below:

Monday, January 27, 2020

Andy

- Spoke with CIA leg affairs about the Banking briefing and planning on Feb. 6 with John.
- NSC pre-call on Wednesday ahead of Thursday's Senate Narcotics Caucus staff briefing, Treasury briefer is OFAC Assistant Director Adam Hensel-Briscoe.

(b)(6)

- Met with HSFC majority staff regarding prioritizing request items.
- Met with GCFO and PA regarding pending issues. Alexandra Gaiser and Brett Sisto in GCFO are good POCs this week for letters/inquiry items that are in progress.

Jon

- Worked with Brady on Kranbuhl nomination.

- Spoke with Homeland Committee, they are going to “take back” our availability and alternate date offer re: OCCIP hearing.
- Going to miss staff meeting tomorrow for biweekly LIBOR meeting.

Michael

- Met with Philippe, the Head of the IFC, to prep him for his meeting with Chairwoman Waters on Wed
- Coordinated a call with Menendez staff and Treasury MDB and Africa deputates to discuss upcoming vote on a \$500 million World Bank loan for a Secondary Education Quality Improvement Project for Tanzania

Brady

- Kipp had a good hearing prep session today.
- Jessie meeting with Ranking Member Brown at 9:30 tomorrow.

Kimberly

- Met with Dave Kautter and OTP staff on section 199A farmers coop regulations.
- Setting up call with NEC on 199A.
- Responded to inquiry from Dr. Marshall’s (Kansas-1) office on 199A.
- Setting up meeting with OTP on budget hearing prep for tomorrow morning.

(b)(6)

- Met with Krishna to review a few Hill requests
- Attended weekly Exec. Sec, OTP, and regs. meetings

Enjoy the rest of your night!

(b)(6)

Legislative Affairs

U.S. Department of the Treasury

(b)(6)@treasury.gov

(b)(6)

From: White House Press Office
Sent: Fri, 28 Feb 2020 21:07:32 +0000
To: McGuire, Brian
Subject: Remarks by President Trump at a Reception for African American History Month

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Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 28, 2020

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TRUMP
AT A RECEPTION FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

East Room

February 27, 2020

6:57 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: Four more years! Four more years! Four more years!

THE PRESIDENT: We love you. Thank you very much, everybody.

I want to just -- first of all, a person that's doing an unbelievable job -- loves everybody in this room. She's got tremendous heart. She's been through a lot and she handles it better than anybody I know: our great First Lady. And she -- (applause) -- she heard you were all here, so she just wanted to come down and say hello. And we just want to thank you, honey, because you've done an incredible job. You love this country and we appreciate it too. Okay? (Applause.)

Well, thank you. And we're thrilled to welcome you to the White House as we proudly celebrate African American History Month.

In every generation, African Americans have enriched our culture, deepened our faith, strengthened our community, sustained our values, raised up our conscience, and called our nation to greatness. And that's exactly what's happened and it's incredible and people are really starting to recognize it.

We're pleased to be joined today by -- Ben Carson is around here someplace. Where's Ben? (Applause.) A friend of mine and an incredible -- he's doing an incredible job.

Alex Azar -- and he's working very hard on a thing called the virus. (Applause.) How's it going? Do you have anything to

report to us, Alex?

SECRETARY AZAR: (Inaudible.)

THE PRESIDENT: Do you want to come up and talk about it? Come up for a second, Alex. Come on. We might as well learn something about -- it's a hot topic. Come on. You got a lot of press back there, Alex. Good luck.

SECRETARY AZAR: We had one or two last night. (Laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: Go ahead.

SECRETARY AZAR: So I just want to report to everybody that, thanks to the President's historically aggressive containment efforts, we have really been able to keep the risk to Americans low right now, so that everyday Americans don't need to be worried. But that can change and that's why it's important for all of us to prepare. That's why the President is leading a whole-of-government effort.

He's put the Vice President in charge of our entire government, getting prepared and making sure our state and local communities also are prepared. And so the President really deserves incredible credit because he got on this within days and weeks of learning from China about this and took action that people attacked him for. People attacked him for these actions on controlling our borders and quarantining people.

But it's kept America safe. It's bought us time. So thank you, Mr. President. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Yeah, really, we're doing well. We have incredible professionals like Alex and we appreciate it very much. Say hello to everybody over there, Alex. I appreciate it.

Steve Mnuchin, from a place called Treasury. Where is Steve? Hi, Steve. (Applause.) Hi, Steve. Hi, Steve.

And a person who has done a fantastic job, incredible job -- Small Business Administrator Jovita Carranza. (Applause.) I see you there.

Surgeon General Jerome Adams. Jerome. (Applause.)

And Jared Kushner, who you know. (Applause.) Jared has done a great job on criminal justice reform. Jared did a fantastic job. Thank you very much, Jared.

From the very beginning of our republic, African American heroes poured out their blood, sweat, heart, and soul to protect American freedom and to realize our founding promise that we are all made equal by the hand of Almighty God, right? (Applause.)

The very first person to give his life in our nation's struggle for independence was an African American patriot, Crispus Attucks. You know that? Did you know that?

Black soldiers fought beneath the Star Spangled Banner at Fort McHenry and gave their lives to eradicate slavery in the Civil War. And that was some fight.

At Pearl Harbor, it was an African American sailor, Doris Miller, who was among the first to return enemy fire. Last month, the Navy announced that the next American aircraft carrier will bear the proud name of "USS Doris Miller." That's pretty good. (Applause.) They won't give me that honor. That's a big boat. That's a big ship.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: One day.

THE PRESIDENT: All right. One day, maybe. But then, in the meantime -- (laughs) -- you're right. One day, maybe.

That's -- congratulations, that really is a big deal. Aircraft carrier. Doesn't get bigger than that. It's going to be one of the biggest ships in the world.

Hundreds of thousands of courageous African Americans defend our flag today. We are proudly and profoundly grateful to be joined by several members of the United States military this evening. We salute your tireless devotion and all of the great work you do for our nation. We want to thank you very much. It's incredible, the job you do. Thank you all very much -- military people. (Applause.)

Also with us is a young -- very young, frankly -- handsome man that I just met: 15-year old Alphonso Hill. He's an Eagle Scout from Hubert, North Carolina. I'll be going to North Carolina soon. (Applause.) Where is he? Last year, Alphonso decided he wanted to build a flagpole for his church to honor all of those who have served our military.

At the base is a plaque dedicated to our warriors. It says,

"Thank you for yesterday and thank you for the days to come." That's -- that's pretty good. Did you write that, up Al -- where is Alphonso? Come on up here, Alphonso. We want to thank you for the incredible job you've done. Come on up. Say a few words. Good-looking guy. Thank you. (Applause.)

MR. HILL: Thank you, Mr. President. It is an honor and a privilege to stand before you today. My -- my ability is, I'm not here to come by my own doing. I'd like to thank God, my family, and mentors for their continued support throughout my journey.

As stated before, my Eagle Scout project was designed to showcase and reflect the patriotism that is within our country. It has also allowed for an opportunity to honor the men and women who are serving, will continue to serve, and who have served this great nation.

Today's recognition is a memory that I'll cherish for a lifetime. I hope that whoever is watching sees that through encouragement, focus, and passion, anything is possible. Again, thank you and God bless. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Good job. He'll be in politics someday, right? (Laughter.) You might be standing here someday. That's great. Thank you, Alphonso. Beautiful job. Thank you very much. All those medals he's got. Wow. (Laughter.) Impressive.

We have a man who makes pillows. Did you ever hear of this guy? He makes pillows. And I don't know, for whatever reason, he just -- I do like his pillows, but I don't think that's -- but he's been such a great supporter, especially in Minnesota, where

he runs Minnesota now for us. He's the guy -- so if I lose Minnesota, we shouldn't -- I can blame you. (Laughter.) I'll say, "Never buy one of..." --

AUDIENCE MEMBER: (Inaudible.)

THE PRESIDENT: Huh? One of the great, great -- and, by the way, thank you for everything. We really appreciate it. Okay? Thank you. Thank you, man. (Applause.) He's doing a good job. Built a -- started from nothing, with a small company, and now he does -- what are your sales now?

MR. LINDELL: Well, we have 46 million My Pillows.

THE PRESIDENT: That's fantastic. That's fantastic. And putting a lot of people to work, too.

MR. LINDELL: Sixteen hundred people in Minnesota.

THE PRESIDENT: Sixteen hundred. Sixteen hundred in Minnesota. Fantastic job. Fantastic. (Applause.) That's a good product too, by the way. (Applause.) Thank you. Proud of you.

As a token of our gratitude, I'd like to give Alphonso a special gift that we can have him take back to his church. Can we do that, Alphonso? It's a flag flown on board Marine One. And we're going to get that flag and I want to thank you, throughout our history, all of the great work that African Americans have done. (Applause.)

Alphonso, you've battled for equality and justice and

liberty and we really do revere all of the great fighters. He's going to be another one, I can see it. Did you ever hear of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, and Thurgood Marshall? And this may be the next one. Although I think, Alphonso, we have a lot of people in the in au- -- in the offing right here. (Laughter.) We have a lot of people that might beat you to it, but you'll be there someday. I'll bet you are. Come on over here, Alphonso. (Applause.)

(A flag is presented.) (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: That's pretty good, huh?

MR. HILL: Yes, sir.

THE PRESIDENT: He'll be here. It's only a question: Will somebody be there first, right? It's a lot of people.

You know, we have some. I think I'm going to read out some of the names because they've been incredible. You know, Kay Coles James who's been incredible. (Applause.) Where is Kay? She's been so great and I appreciate it.

Herman Cain -- the great Herman Cain. Where is he? (Applause.) Herman Cain. What a great man he is and a great friend. He was leading for the -- in the presidential race a few years ago -- not so long ago. And he had a tax plan "9-9-9". Did anybody ever hear -- (laughter) -- and, man, did that capture everybody's attention. Nobody knew what it meant, but that's okay. (Laughter.) It worked. Herman Cain.

Alveda King. And she's now -- (applause) -- she is now with her great -- I say "relative" but, really, essentially, it's, as far as we're concerned, it's your daughter. That's your daughter. That's what we're saying.

And I want to congratulate you, Angela. Okay? Angela, congratulations. (Applause.) We just gave Angela a pardon and she's going to lead the greatest life, right? (Applause.) And she has somebody on her side named Alveda.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's right!

THE PRESIDENT: And you can't get a better reference, I'll tell you that.

A friend of mine, he's a pastor but he's one of the toughest human beings I've ever seen. I think he's almost too tough to be a pastor, but we won't say. And I used to watch him rip apart the CNN people. Now, they won't put him on anymore because they didn't win. (Laughter.) They only put people on that say bad stuff.

But he would take people or -- I mean, he's just very legit. He's an incredible guy. He's an unbelievable person to have as a friend. Pastor Darrell Scott. (Applause.) Where is he? Where is he? Yep. Thank you, Pastor. Great guy.

Somebody that's incredible that's really become popular, become a real star in so many ways: Candace Owens. (Applause.) Where is Candace? Where is our Candace? Thanks, Candace. She's something.

Terrence Williams, are you here? Terrence. Oh, Terrence. I watched him the other night. Oy-yi-yi, I felt so sorry for the other side. (Laughter.)

Two people that I hope are making a fortune because they deserve it.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: (Inaudible.)

THE PRESIDENT: Huh? Are they making a lot? Diamond and Silk. (Applause.) They're great people. First Lady said -- five years ago now, can you believe it? -- said, "You have to watch. There's two people on the Internet. They're unbelievable." (Laughter.) I said, "I don't want to watch two people on the Internet." (Laughter.) She said, "Please." You know, she said, "You go to watch." That means you have to watch, right?

And I watched. That was the first time I saw them. I said, "They're going to be stars." And they have been -- just been incredible. And they've been with me for -- almost before I even announced. They were there right at the beginning. Thank you both very much.

MS. HARDAWAY AND MS. RICHARDSON: (In unison.) We love you. (Laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: It's a great honor.

And Ben Caron's incredible wife, Candy, thank you for being here. (Applause.) Thank you.

A friend of Pastor Darrell, a friend of mine: Kareem Lanier. Where are -- where is Kareem? Kareem. Yeah, thank you, Kareem. (Applause.) Kareem is our good man.

And, Angela, thank you for being here. That's -- enjoy your life.

MS. STANTON-KING: Thank you!

THE PRESIDENT: Somebody that's on television speaking so well, so brilliant, so sharp, and she's on our side: Deneen Borelli. Deneen, where are you? (Applause.) Thanks, Deneen. You -- you speak the word. It's incredible. When you're there, nobody plays games with you, right? Thank you very much.

David Harris, Jr. became very famous. (Applause.) He walks through an airport and he's an Internet sensation, right? I don't know, you'll have to tell us about that. Thank you, David.

Robert Smith. Robert, thank you. Thank you, Robert. (Applause.)

Somebody that is really -- somebody that I just have liked from the beginning. He's -- he was with us from the beginning. I didn't know him from the beginning, but he was there. And nobody speaks more beautifully, nobody says it more beautifully: Paris Dennard. (Applause.) Paris. Thank you, Paris. Where is Paris? He's there. Thank you. Thank you, Paris. Thank you. Thank you. What a job. You're getting close to your people back there, (inaudible). (Laughter.) You're

getting per- -- Paris, thank you very much.

Is CNN back there? I can't see them.

AUDIENCE: Boo --

THE PRESIDENT: A man who is a great fighter, who I've watched over the years -- I like the fights. And he won, I think, 42 fights and lost very few. He had great speed. I'm larger than him, but I said, "Do you think I could take you in a fight?" And he looked at me and he goes, "Is he serious?" (Laughter.) And I agree with what he said.

Andre Berto. Where is Andre? Andre? Great, job, Andre. (Applause.) He's got a lot of wins. Forty-two wins. Forty-two wins. That's a lot, right? It's a lot of fighting. And he's sharp as a tack.

Jack Brewer, a great player. (Applause.) Where is Jack? A great NFL player. Jack, thank you. And I loved what you said before. I don't know if they were listening -- the media. They don't want to hear those words, Jack, you know. But what you said --

MR. BREWER: It's true!

THE PRESIDENT: -- I know they are, and I appreciate you saying them too. But you -- really, that was beautiful.

And where is Derrick Gradenigo? Derrick, what you said -- so beautiful. We won't forget it. Thank you, Derrick. Thank you, Derrick. (Applause.)

Marc Little is here. Marc, thank you. Thank you, Marc. (Applause.) Thank you, Marc.

Bruce LeVell. He really had a spell. (Applause.) He had a spell. Thank you, Bruce. Boy, you did a job. They turned those cameras off so fast. (Laughter.)

And somebody that really is special and an incredible woman: Stacy Washington. (Applause.) Thank you, Stacy.

And Katrina is around here someplace. Where is Katrina? Where is she? (Applause.) Where is she? She's been - - she's been there from the beginning. Almost from before the beginning.

In 1955, one champion of civil rights was a student taking a train from Nashville to Houston when the conductor ordered her to leave the seat immediately because of the color of her skin, if you can believe that. Gertrude Jane Holliday Stone refused. Her belongings were stolen and she was threatened with arrest, but she -- she just sat and she defied this horrible order and grave injustice. She did not give up her seat. She wouldn't give it up.

And I just met her, by the way, and I say, they had a lot of problems. They had a lot of problems. They weren't going to win that.

Later in life, Gertrude went on to integrate a major department store, she became the first African American to chair the Houston Public Library Board, and she is here with us

today. She's an incredible woman, an incredible success, and a nice person. Gertrude Jane, America is forever in your debt and we appreciate your being here. Please come up. Please come up and say a few words. Gertrude. (Applause.) Come on up.

And her son -- her loving son. That's very nice. Thank you very much. Please.

MS. STONE: Thank you, Mr. President, for inviting me here. And my son had to bring me because I'm almost 90 years old. (Applause.)

In 1955, I boarded the train from Tennessee to Texas for the Christmas holidays to visit my parents. The conductor got on the train and he looked at my ticket and he says, "You've got to move to the Jim Crow coach." And I looked at him and I said, "I'm not moving."

Shortly after that, he got another man -- I suppose the brakeman -- to come. And now these two men are over me, screaming and hollering and saying unkind things, telling me to move to the Jim Crow coach. And I told both of them, "I'm not moving."

When we got to Lake Charles, Louisiana, he had the city policeman to board the train. And now the three of them are telling me to move to the Jim Crow coach. They took all of my belongings. It's wintertime. They even took my coat. And I said, "I'm not moving."

There was an educator by the name of Horace Mann. He was also a congressman. And he said, "Refuse to die until you have

done something for humanity." (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Very inspirational.

MS. STONE: Mr. Trump, I thank you for all that you do for humanity. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. (Inaudible.)

MS. STONE: I don't believe in abortions and he doesn't either. (Applause.) Let me tell you, you might be killing an Einstein. You might be killing a Nobel Laureate. And you might be killing somebody that's going to find the cure for the coronavirus. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you so much. Thank you.

MS. STONE: Thank you, President Trump. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Thank you. Wait, let me take you back.

Beautiful woman. Thank you very much. Thanks, Gertrude. (Applause.)

The African American community has made every aspect of our national lives richer, better, and brighter. This week, we remember the renowned NASA mathematician Katherine Johnson, who recently passed away at the age of 101. Right? (Applause.) Great, great woman. Our nation will forever honor her soaring legacy in helping American astronauts to win the war on space. And we're just doing now another --

we're doing the space, you know, we're going to be heading to space because that's where it's at now. And we have to do that and we're going to have another branch of the United States military.

So we have Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines. We have Coast Guard. And we have now -- I just call it "Space." That's what we want. We want "Space." And that's where it's at. That's where it's at, in terms of so many other things.

And we're also -- we'll be heading to the Moon soon. We're going to have our first female on the Moon. And then, from the Moon, I don't know if people know this, you have to -- you need to land on the Moon in order to go to Mars. It's a launching pad for Mars. So it's going to be great. But we're really doing tremendous things at NASA.

Brilliant scientists, scholars, lawyers, and inventors, from George Washington Carver to Marie Daly to Clarence Thomas -- and by the way, Clarence Thomas, who I really know well -- incredible, man. He's an incredible man. (Applause.) Incredible man.

I was introducing people and they were saying, "Who's your favorite member of the Supreme Court?" It is a big group -- 4-or 5,000 people. And Clarence -- I said, "Clarence Thomas is great." This was two years ago. The place went crazy. I've never forgotten. Every time I see him, I tell him that story. And he always likes that story. (Laughter.) But they went -- they went wild. They love him. But they've improved society for all Americans.

The artistic genius of icons like Ella Fitzgerald, Sammy Davis -- who I knew a little bit; he was a wild man. I won't tell the stories about Sammy because there's too much. Billie Holiday. They transformed American music, right?

Millions around the world have been inspired by towering legends like Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, Muhammad Ali, Jim Brown, and Tiger Woods -- who just got the Presidential Medal. You saw that. Just got it recently, a few months ago. Incredible guy.

Recently, our entire nation was saddened by the tragic death of Kobe Bryant and his 13-year-old, beautiful daughter. Kobe was one of the greatest competitors of all time. I'll tell you, I watched him play a lot of basketball. He was incredible. Just incredible and respected. Our nation continues to hold his family in our hearts and prayers.

In every field, every generation, and every calling, African Americans have lifted up our nation to new heights and, like all citizens, you're entitled to a government that puts your needs, your interests, and your families first. And that's what we're doing. We're doing that for everyone. Our country is doing so well.

We'll get this one problem -- it just shows you what can happen. Everything can be perfect, and then you hear, "Gee, there's a bug. There's a flu. There's a virus. They didn't know what it was in China." And I said, "Uh oh. That doesn't sound good." And, fortunately, we made the early moves and we closed our borders and it was a big thing. (Applause.) But I will say that things happen in life that are -- if they would

have said, "What are -- give me 10 bad things that you think could happen," that wouldn't have been on the list, right? But you never know.

But it's working out very professionally. We're doing a tremendous job and our people are doing a tremendous job. We have the greatest experts in the world. Our nation is in the midst of the great American comeback. That's what it is. In just over three years, we've created 7 million brand-new jobs -- something that would have been unthinkable to even say. I wouldn't have been able to get away with it. They would have stopped me. They would have said, "That's not realistic. You're exaggerating." I would have never said "7 million" because even I didn't think we could reach that number -- 7 million new jobs.

We've created 1.3 million new jobs for African Americans. (Applause.) Black American unemployment has reached an all-time low in the history of our country. It's the best -- best we've ever done. (Applause.) Black youth unemployment has reached a record low. (Applause.) African American poverty rate has plummeted to the lowest level in the history of our country. These are good numbers. I don't know. I mean, I should be at 100 percent. I hate to tell you, right? No, we have incredible --

Wages for African American workers have increased by \$2,400 per year. That's a record increase. Young people nationwide have seen their wages increase by more than 10 percent.

My administration is fighting for the great jobs, great schools, great healthcare, and truly great future for African Americans and for all Americans. And we're doing it in record

numbers.

We signed legislation that achieved permanent funding for historically black colleges and universities. (Applause.) And I just told the story to a group that were in the Oval Office. Most of them, I think, are here, I think, for the most part.

But every year from the time I'm -- you know, I'm now here, can you believe it, more than three years? How time flies.

I first came here and I stood with my wife -- and right opposite the Lincoln Bedroom -- it was the first night. And I said, "Do you believe this? This is unbelievable." And then, all of a sudden, time flies and now you're more than three years. And now I have to get people working so that we win Minnesota, right? (Applause.) You'll do it.

But, but time does fly. And, you know, when you look at what's going on -- the incredible things that we've done for everybody -- it's been really -- it's been really -- I don't like to say a "miracle" because it's something I always said we could do, but it's been pretty incredible for everybody. And I think maybe even especially for the people in this room, because you've really been big beneficiaries of people that are smart.

You know, a very special senator from South Carolina -- you know this. You know who I'm talking about? Tim. Right? Tim Scott. He came to me with an idea for a thing called "Opportunity Zones." And -- and he said -- and, you know, over the years, they've had many of these. They've had many different ideas. They have ideas. And so -- they never work. And I liked the idea. And I said, "Let's see if we could do it, Tim." We

got it passed. It went through Congress. And they are employing thousands and thousands of people. And they're taking areas that were -- there was no investment. And people are putting money into those areas, and jobs are being created.

And Opportunity Zones is -- a lot of people aren't talking about it, but Opportunity Zones are one of the great things that have happened to the black community, to a lot of communities, when you think. But I would say the biggest beneficiary is the black, Hispanic community. It's been an incredible success and I'm very proud of it. I'm very proud of Tim Scott for bringing it to me. And I'm glad I said I liked that idea. You never know. You know, you try things and sometimes they work and sometimes they don't work as well. But this has been one of the great stories -- the whole thing with the Opportunity Zones. So it's been really incredible.

And the other thing that's been a great story is criminal justice reform. (Applause.) And, as you know, they've been trying to -- it was -- it's been very unjust. Maybe a real spokesman or person, you might say -- in the old days, you'd say "spokesman," now you say "spokeswoman" or "spokesperson" -- but Alice Johnson, who's been -- (applause) -- she was in jail for 22 years. And she was in jail for -- think of it -- 22 years and she had a long time to go -- almost 20 years to go -- for something that was just not a fair situation.

And she admits -- she said, "Oh, she shouldn't have made a phone call..." and something. But 22 years. And she's an incredible -- and she's actually recommended -- I said, "How many people are like you in the prison?" And she said -- she said, "Quite a few." I said, "Are they all innocent?" "No." I'm glad

she that. (Laughter.) She said, "No, some are very bad." I said, "Good. So at least you're not just saying everybody's perfect, right?" She said, "No, some are very bad." But she said, "You have a lot of people that are great people that were treated very unfairly."

So we have criminal justice reform that was done -- which is really most helpful -- by far, frankly -- to the black community. And it's something that was a great honor. Jared Kushner, who stands right over here, he was pushing it very hard. (Applause.) He was pushing it very hard.

Late at night I'd get calls about criminal justice reform. I'd say, "What's that, please?" And he was explaining about fairness and unfairness. We understand what fairness -- I get treated unfairly, too. We all get treated unfair. (Laughter.) And all we have to do -- you know when you get treated unfairly, you know what you have to do? Just keep winning. Win, win, win. Right? (Applause.) Keep winning. That's what you've been doing. That's what you've been doing. So we got criminal justice reform done. So many things. It was just incredible.

I was going to tell you before -- the black colleges, universities -- so every year, they'd come to see me. And they'd come up, and they'd say, "Hello." I say, "Good." Then, after two years, I said, "Huh. Why are they coming back? That's strange." And I said, "Why are you coming back?" "Well, we have to because we don't have funding. We have to come back every year and ask for it." He said, "I feel like a beggar." This is the dean of a great school. And I said, "I understand that." And I sort of let it go.

And then the next year, they came in -- not so long ago. And I think it was about 35 people -- the heads of the school, the top people at these different schools. Many of them I knew. Great schools -- Howard, a lot of great schools. And I said, "You're back." The same man. I said, "You're back." And he said, "Yeah, we're back. We're back begging for money." I said, "You shouldn't have to do this. Not fair." And I had passed legislation that takes care of your historically black colleges and universities for the long term so you don't have to come back. (Applause.) Thanks.

And Ben Carson helped me a lot, I have to say. Right, Ben? Ben Carson. I said, "Take off your housing hat for a little while. We have to take care of this." And the only bad thing -- I said, "I'm not going to see you people anymore. I won't see you coming up to the White House every year." But they appreciated it, and nobody could have got it done but us. I'll say "us" because I'm trying to be modest, you know. I want to be modest. But nobody could have gotten that done but us. And it's a great thing. They do an incredible job. Such an important job.

Every day, I will not rest, I will not stop, I will never give up until we've delivered equal and abundant opportunity to every neighborhood all across our land. Together, we will bring hope to every family, justice to every citizen, and pride to every loyal American heart. Because of your courage and your devotion, we will make America stronger and safer and prouder and freer and greater than it ever was before. (Applause.)

And I just want to congratulate the black community because

what you've done and the progress you've made over the last three years is also record setting. It's record setting. There's never been anything like it. And the word is out. You know, the word is out. People know. People know what we've done all together.

But I just want to thank you all. You're really -- incredible job you've done. You go back a long time, this country would not be this country without the incredible job that your ancestors have done, that you've done, and you can be very proud of it. You can be very proud of it. (Applause.)

So, I want to say thank you and God bless you all. God bless you all. We're with you all the way. Thank you. (Applause.)

END

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Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 4, 2020

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TRUMP
AT SOUTH DAKOTA'S 2020 MOUNT RUSHMORE
FIREWORKS CELEBRATION

Keystone, South Dakota

8:50 P.M. MDT

THE PRESIDENT: Well, thank you very much. And Governor Noem, Secretary Bernhardt -- very much appreciate it -- members

of Congress, distinguished guests, and a very special hello to South Dakota. (Applause.)

As we begin this Fourth of July weekend, the First Lady and I wish each and every one of you a very, very Happy Independence Day. Thank you. (Applause.)

Let us show our appreciation to the South Dakota Army and Air National Guard, and the U.S. Air Force for inspiring us with that magnificent display of American air power -- (applause) -- and of course, our gratitude, as always, to the legendary and very talented Blue Angels. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

Let us also send our deepest thanks to our wonderful veterans, law enforcement, first responders, and the doctors, nurses, and scientists working tirelessly to kill the virus. They're working hard. (Applause.) I want to thank them very, very much.

We're grateful as well to your state's Congressional delegation: Senators John Thune -- John, thank you very much -- (applause) -- Senator Mike Rounds -- (applause) -- thank you, Mike -- and Dusty Johnson, Congressman. Hi, Dusty. Thank you. (Applause.) And all others with us tonight from Congress, thank you very much for coming. We appreciate it.

There could be no better place to celebrate America's independence than beneath this magnificent, incredible, majestic mountain and monument to the greatest Americans who have ever lived.

Today, we pay tribute to the exceptional lives and

extraordinary legacies of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Teddy Roosevelt. (Applause.) I am here as your President to proclaim before the country and before the world: This monument will never be desecrated -- (applause) -- these heroes will never be defaced, their legacy will never, ever be destroyed, their achievements will never be forgotten, and Mount Rushmore will stand forever as an eternal tribute to our forefathers and to our freedom. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: USA! USA! USA!

THE PRESIDENT: We gather tonight to herald the most important day in the history of nations: July 4th, 1776. At those words, every American heart should swell with pride. Every American family should cheer with delight. And every American patriot should be filled with joy, because each of you lives in the most magnificent country in the history of the world, and it will soon be greater than ever before. (Applause.)

Our Founders launched not only a revolution in government, but a revolution in the pursuit of justice, equality, liberty, and prosperity. No nation has done more to advance the human condition than the United States of America. And no people have done more to promote human progress than the citizens of our great nation. (Applause.)

It was all made possible by the courage of 56 patriots who gathered in Philadelphia 244 years ago and signed the Declaration of Independence. (Applause.) They enshrined a divine truth that changed the world forever when they said: "...all men are created equal."

These immortal words set in motion the unstoppable march of freedom. Our Founders boldly declared that we are all endowed with the same divine rights -- given [to] us by our Creator in Heaven. And that which God has given us, we will allow no one, ever, to take away -- ever. (Applause.)

Seventeen seventy-six represented the culmination of thousands of years of western civilization and the triumph not only of spirit, but of wisdom, philosophy, and reason.

And yet, as we meet here tonight, there is a growing danger that threatens every blessing our ancestors fought so hard for, struggled, they bled to secure.

Our nation is witnessing a merciless campaign to wipe out our history, defame our heroes, erase our values, and indoctrinate our children.

AUDIENCE: Booo --

THE PRESIDENT: Angry mobs are trying to tear down statues of our Founders, deface our most sacred memorials, and unleash a wave of violent crime in our cities. Many of these people have no idea why they are doing this, but some know exactly what they are doing. They think the American people are weak and soft and submissive. But no, the American people are strong and proud, and they will not allow our country, and all of its values, history, and culture, to be taken from them. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: USA! USA! USA!

THE PRESIDENT: One of their political weapons is "Cancel

Culture" -- driving people from their jobs, shaming dissenters, and demanding total submission from anyone who disagrees. This is the very definition of totalitarianism, and it is completely alien to our culture and our values, and it has absolutely no place in the United States of America. (Applause.) This attack on our liberty, our magnificent liberty, must be stopped, and it will be stopped very quickly. We will expose this dangerous movement, protect our nation's children, end this radical assault, and preserve our beloved American way of life. (Applause.)

In our schools, our newsrooms, even our corporate boardrooms, there is a new far-left fascism that demands absolute allegiance. If you do not speak its language, perform its rituals, recite its mantras, and follow its commandments, then you will be censored, banished, blacklisted, persecuted, and punished. It's not going to happen to us. (Applause.)

Make no mistake: this left-wing cultural revolution is designed to overthrow the American Revolution. In so doing, they would destroy the very civilization that rescued billions from poverty, disease, violence, and hunger, and that lifted humanity to new heights of achievement, discovery, and progress.

To make this possible, they are determined to tear down every statue, symbol, and memory of our national heritage.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not on my watch! (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: True. That's very true, actually. (Laughter.) That is why I am deploying federal law enforcement to protect our monuments, arrest the rioters, and

prosecute offenders to the fullest extent of the law. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: Four more years! Four more years! Four more years!

THE PRESIDENT: I am pleased to report that yesterday, federal agents arrested the suspected ringleader of the attack on the statue of Andrew Jackson in Washington, D.C. -- (applause) -- and, in addition, hundreds more have been arrested. (Applause.)

Under the executive order I signed last week -- pertaining to the Veterans' Memorial Preservation and Recognition Act and other laws -- people who damage or deface federal statues or monuments will get a minimum of 10 years in prison. (Applause.) And obviously, that includes our beautiful Mount Rushmore. (Applause.)

Our people have a great memory. They will never forget the destruction of statues and monuments to George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, abolitionists, and many others.

The violent mayhem we have seen in the streets of cities that are run by liberal Democrats, in every case, is the predictable result of years of extreme indoctrination and bias in education, journalism, and other cultural institutions.

Against every law of society and nature, our children are taught in school to hate their own country, and to believe that the men and women who built it were not heroes, but that were villains. The radical view of American history is a web of lies

-- all perspective is removed, every virtue is obscured, every motive is twisted, every fact is distorted, and every flaw is magnified until the history is purged and the record is disfigured beyond all recognition.

This movement is openly attacking the legacies of every person on Mount Rushmore. They defile the memory of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, and Roosevelt. Today, we will set history and history's record straight. (Applause.)

Before these figures were immortalized in stone, they were American giants in full flesh and blood, gallant men whose intrepid deeds unleashed the greatest leap of human advancement the world has ever known. Tonight, I will tell you and, most importantly, the youth of our nation, the true stories of these great, great men.

From head to toe, George Washington represented the strength, grace, and dignity of the American people. From a small volunteer force of citizen farmers, he created the Continental Army out of nothing and rallied them to stand against the most powerful military on Earth.

Through eight long years, through the brutal winter at Valley Forge, through setback after setback on the field of battle, he led those patriots to ultimate triumph. When the Army had dwindled to a few thousand men at Christmas of 1776, when defeat seemed absolutely certain, he took what remained of his forces on a daring nighttime crossing of the Delaware River.

They marched through nine miles of frigid darkness, many without boots on their feet, leaving a trail of blood in the

snow. In the morning, they seized victory at Trenton. After forcing the surrender of the most powerful empire on the planet at Yorktown, General Washington did not claim power, but simply returned to Mount Vernon as a private citizen.

When called upon again, he presided over the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, and was unanimously elected our first President. (Applause.) When he stepped down after two terms, his former adversary King George called him "the greatest man of the age." He remains first in our hearts to this day. For as long as Americans love this land, we will honor and cherish the father of our country, George Washington. (Applause.) He will never be removed, abolished, and most of all, he will never be forgotten. (Applause.)

Thomas Jefferson -- the great Thomas Jefferson -- was 33 years old when he traveled north to Pennsylvania and brilliantly authored one of the greatest treasures of human history, the Declaration of Independence. He also drafted Virginia's constitution, and conceived and wrote the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, a model for our cherished First Amendment.

After serving as the first Secretary of State, and then Vice President, he was elected to the Presidency. He ordered American warriors to crush the Barbary pirates, he doubled the size of our nation with the Louisiana Purchase, and he sent the famous explorers Lewis and Clark into the west on a daring expedition to the Pacific Ocean.

He was an architect, an inventor, a diplomat, a scholar, the founder of one of the world's great universities, and an ardent defender of liberty. Americans will forever admire the author of

American freedom, Thomas Jefferson. (Applause.) And he, too, will never, ever be abandoned by us. (Applause.)

Abraham Lincoln, the savior of our union, was a self-taught country lawyer who grew up in a log cabin on the American frontier.

The first Republican President, he rose to high office from obscurity, based on a force and clarity of his anti-slavery convictions. Very, very strong convictions.

He signed the law that built the Transcontinental Railroad; he signed the Homestead Act, given to some incredible scholars -- as simply defined, ordinary citizens free land to settle anywhere in the American West; and he led the country through the darkest hours of American history, giving every ounce of strength that he had to ensure that government of the people, by the people, and for the people did not perish from this Earth. (Applause.)

He served as Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Armed Forces during our bloodiest war, the struggle that saved our union and extinguished the evil of slavery. Over 600,000 died in that war; more than 20,000 were killed or wounded in a single day at Antietam. At Gettysburg, 157 years ago, the Union bravely withstood an assault of nearly 15,000 men and threw back Pickett's charge.

Lincoln won the Civil War; he issued the Emancipation Proclamation; he led the passage of the 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery for all time -- (applause) -- and ultimately, his determination to preserve our nation and our union cost him his life. For as long as we live, Americans will uphold and

revere the immortal memory of President Abraham Lincoln. (Applause.)

Theodore Roosevelt exemplified the unbridled confidence of our national culture and identity. He saw the towering grandeur of America's mission in the world and he pursued it with overwhelming energy and zeal.

As a Lieutenant Colonel during the Spanish-American War, he led the famous Rough Riders to defeat the enemy at San Juan Hill. He cleaned up corruption as Police Commissioner of New York City, then served as the Governor of New York, Vice President, and at 42 years old, became the youngest-ever President of the United States. (Applause.)

He sent our great new naval fleet around the globe to announce America's arrival as a world power. He gave us many of our national parks, including the Grand Canyon; he oversaw the construction of the awe-inspiring Panama Canal; and he is the only person ever awarded both the Nobel Peace Prize and the Congressional Medal of Honor. He was -- (applause) -- American freedom personified in full. The American people will never relinquish the bold, beautiful, and untamed spirit of Theodore Roosevelt. (Applause.)

No movement that seeks to dismantle these treasured American legacies can possibly have a love of America at its heart. Can't have it. No person who remains quiet at the destruction of this resplendent heritage can possibly lead us to a better future.

The radical ideology attacking our country advances under the banner of social justice. But in truth, it would demolish

both justice and society. It would transform justice into an instrument of division and vengeance, and it would turn our free and inclusive society into a place of repression, domination, and exclusion.

They want to silence us, but we will not be silenced. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: USA! USA! USA!

AUDIENCE MEMBER: We love you!

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Thank you very much. Thank you very much.

We will state the truth in full, without apology: We declare that the United States of America is the most just and exceptional nation ever to exist on Earth.

We are proud of the fact -- (applause) -- that our country was founded on Judeo-Christian principles, and we understand -- (applause) -- that these values have dramatically advanced the cause of peace and justice throughout the world.

We know that the American family is the bedrock of American life. (Applause.)

We recognize the solemn right and moral duty of every nation to secure its borders. (Applause.) And we are building the wall. (Applause.)

We remember that governments exist to protect the safety and

happiness of their own people. A nation must care for its own citizens first. We must take care of America first. It's time. (Applause.)

We believe in equal opportunity, equal justice, and equal treatment for citizens of every race, background, religion, and creed. Every child, of every color -- born and unborn -- is made in the holy image of God. (Applause.)

We want free and open debate, not speech codes and cancel culture.

We embrace tolerance, not prejudice.

We support the courageous men and women of law enforcement. (Applause.) We will never abolish our police or our great Second Amendment, which gives us the right to keep and bear arms. (Applause.)

We believe that our children should be taught to love their country, honor our history, and respect our great American flag. (Applause.)

We stand tall, we stand proud, and we only kneel to Almighty God. (Applause.)

This is who we are. This is what we believe. And these are the values that will guide us as we strive to build an even better and greater future.

Those who seek to erase our heritage want Americans to forget our pride and our great dignity, so that we can no longer

understand ourselves or America's destiny. In toppling the heroes of 1776, they seek to dissolve the bonds of love and loyalty that we feel for our country, and that we feel for each other. Their goal is not a better America, their goal is the end of America.

AUDIENCE: Boo --

THE PRESIDENT: In its place, they want power for themselves. But just as patriots did in centuries past, the American people will stand in their way -- and we will win, and win quickly and with great dignity. (Applause.)

We will never let them rip America's heroes from our monuments, or from our hearts. By tearing down Washington and Jefferson, these radicals would tear down the very heritage for which men gave their lives to win the Civil War; they would erase the memory that inspired those soldiers to go to their deaths, singing these words of the Battle Hymn of the Republic: "As He died to make men Holy, let us die to make men free, while God is marching on." (Applause.)

They would tear down the principles that propelled the abolition of slavery in America and, ultimately, around the world, ending an evil institution that had plagued humanity for thousands and thousands of years. Our opponents would tear apart the very documents that Martin Luther King used to express his dream, and the ideas that were the foundation of the righteous movement for Civil Rights. They would tear down the beliefs, culture, and identity that have made America the most vibrant and tolerant society in the history of the Earth.

My fellow Americans, it is time to speak up loudly and strongly and powerfully and defend the integrity of our country. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: USA! USA! USA!

THE PRESIDENT: It is time for our politicians to summon the bravery and determination of our American ancestors. It is time. (Applause.) It is time to plant our flag and protect the greatest of this nation, for citizens of every race, in every city, and every part of this glorious land. For the sake of our honor, for the sake of our children, for the sake of our union, we must protect and preserve our history, our heritage, and our great heroes. (Applause.)

Here tonight, before the eyes of our forefathers, Americans declare again, as we did 244 years ago: that we will not be tyrannized, we will not be demeaned, and we will not be intimidated by bad, evil people. It will not happen. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: USA! USA! USA!

THE PRESIDENT: We will proclaim the ideals of the Declaration of Independence, and we will never surrender the spirit and the courage and the cause of July 4th, 1776.

Upon this ground, we will stand firm and unwavering. In the face of lies meant to divide us, demoralize us, and diminish us, we will show that the story of America unites us, inspires us, includes us all, and makes everyone free.

We must demand that our children are taught once again to see America as did Reverend Martin Luther King, when he said that the Founders had signed "a promissory note" to every future generation. Dr. King saw that the mission of justice required us to fully embrace our founding ideals. Those ideals are so important to us -- the founding ideals. He called on his fellow citizens not to rip down their heritage, but to live up to their heritage. (Applause.)

Above all, our children, from every community, must be taught that to be American is to inherit the spirit of the most adventurous and confident people ever to walk the face of the Earth.

Americans are the people who pursued our Manifest Destiny across the ocean, into the uncharted wilderness, over the tallest mountains, and then into the skies and even into the stars.

We are the country of Andrew Jackson, Ulysses S. Grant, and Frederick Douglass. We are the land of Wild Bill Hickock and Buffalo Bill Cody. (Applause.) We are the nation that gave rise to the Wright Brothers, the Tuskegee Airmen -- (applause) -- Harriet Tubman, Clara Barton, Jesse Owens, George Patton -- General George Patton -- the great Louie Armstrong, Alan Shepard, Elvis Presley, and Mohammad Ali. (Applause.) And only America could have produced them all. (Applause.) No other place.

We are the culture that put up the Hoover Dam, laid down the highways, and sculpted the skyline of Manhattan. We are the people who dreamed a spectacular dream -- it was called: Las Vegas, in the Nevada desert; who built up Miami from the Florida marsh; and who carved our heroes into the face of Mount

Rushmore. (Applause.)

Americans harnessed electricity, split the atom, and gave the world the telephone and the Internet. We settled the Wild West, won two World Wars, landed American astronauts on the Moon -- and one day very soon, we will plant our flag on Mars.

We gave the world the poetry of Walt Whitman, the stories of Mark Twain, the songs of Irving Berlin, the voice of Ella Fitzgerald, the style of Frank Sinatra -- (applause) -- the comedy of Bob Hope, the power of the Saturn V rocket, the toughness of the Ford F-150 -- (applause) -- and the awesome might of the American aircraft carriers.

Americans must never lose sight of this miraculous story. You should never lose sight of it, because nobody has ever done it like we have done it. So today, under the authority vested in me as President of the United States -- (applause) -- I am announcing the creation of a new monument to the giants of our past. I am signing an executive order to establish the National Garden of American Heroes, a vast outdoor park that will feature the statues of the greatest Americans to ever live. (Applause.)

From this night and from this magnificent place, let us go forward united in our purpose and re-dedicated in our resolve. We will raise the next generation of American patriots. We will write the next thrilling chapter of the American adventure. And we will teach our children to know that they live in a land of legends, that nothing can stop them, and that no one can hold them down. (Applause.) They will know that in America, you can do anything, you can be anything, and together, we can achieve anything. (Applause.)

Uplifted by the titans of Mount Rushmore, we will find unity that no one expected; we will make strides that no one thought possible. This country will be everything that our citizens have hoped for, for so many years, and that our enemies fear -- because we will never forget that American freedom exists for American greatness. And that's what we have: American greatness. (Applause.)

Centuries from now, our legacy will be the cities we built, the champions we forged, the good we did, and the monuments we created to inspire us all.

My fellow citizens: America's destiny is in our sights. America's heroes are embedded in our hearts. America's future is in our hands. And ladies and gentlemen: the best is yet to come. (Applause.)

AUDIENCE: USA! USA! USA!

THE PRESIDENT: This has been a great honor for the First Lady and myself to be with you. I love your state. I love this country. I'd like to wish everybody a very happy Fourth of July. To all, God bless you, God bless your families, God bless our great military, and God bless America. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

9:32 P.M. MDT

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