

Terry Carlstrom, Deputy Field Director, National Capital Area, National Park Service.

The Honorable Jack Evans, Councilmember, Ward 2, Council of the District of Columbia.

Members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Wreath of the House of Representatives: Members of the House of Representatives.

The Wreath of the National Monument Society: Russell Train, Councilmember Jack Evans.

The Wreath of the National Park Service: Terry Carlstrom.

Taps and Retiring of Colors: Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps.

REMARKS OF FRED UPTON, GEORGE WASHINGTON WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY, WASHINGTON MONUMENT; FEBRUARY 22, 1996

As I dropped off Stephen, my 4 year-old, at pre-school this morning, I noticed that they are studying the former presidents—they had pictures of Bill Clinton, George Bush, Abe Lincoln, and George Washington on the wall. The teacher remarked that a student had said "yep, George Washington never told a lie, that's why they called him Honest Abe." Give them credit, they're learning.

It is an honor for me to be here today representing my colleagues in the House of Representatives, as we gather to remember George Washington, the father of our country.

Each year this nation sets aside one day, on the anniversary of his birth, to remember the man for whom this monument is built. It has been over 200 years since Washington laid down the cornerstones for this great land—freedom from oppression, personal liberty, a commitment to cooperation and hope, filled with opportunity and limitless growth.

We have come a long way since the boundaries of our nation barely peeked over the Shenandoah's—mountains that you can see from the top of Washington's Monument. Back when the West was untamed, when forest and prairie were all that stood between the colonies and the Pacific. We have grown and developed to lead the world with our strong economy and strong ideals, using the gifts that George Washington left us. We have won wars against tyrants, survived a Civil conflict of our own, liberated peoples across the globe, and created a system of government envied by most of the world.

Those of us that are left with the responsibility of administering this great nation that George Washington left in our hands could stand to learn some lessons from Washington's time.

His was an era of great accomplishment. A sense of community and a spirit of cooperation filled the land. A willingness to govern and to represent in every sense of the word.

George Washington, in his 1796 farewell address, urged our nation to put aside partisanship, urged its lawmakers to hang-up their divisions and to get to the task at hand of legislating. The lessons of this great man ring true today as our lawmakers, my colleagues beneath the dome only a mile away from Washington's Monument, have become entangled in partisan passions.

Calvin Coolidge said of Washington, "we can not yet estimate him. We can only indicate our reverence for him and thank the Divine Providence which sent him to serve and inspire his fellow men."

Allow him to inspire us, let this day of remembrance, let this Monument to his greatness serve as a daily reminder to us all, let him inspire us to set our differences aside and to be the true caretakers of this great nation that he crafted for us.

Thank you for allowing me to be here today.

REMARKS OF JAMES P. MORAN, AT THE WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY, COMMEMORATING PRESIDENT GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1996

I am pleased to be here and thankful for the opportunity to share in this commemoration of our first President's birthday.

As a Northern Virginian, I am particularly fortunate to live in proximity to the monuments that marked George Washington's life. In Mount Vernon, we have his estate that overlooks the Potomac River. In Alexandria, we have the church where he worshipped and the city in which he conducted his daily affairs. In the nation's capital, we have the monument that stands like a beacon overlooking the city that bears his name.

George Washington, however, looked beyond the banks of the Potomac and ventured forth into the frontier. Like many of his time, he was driven by a passion for new discoveries and new lands. As a young man, he became a surveyor and was one of the principals of the Ohio Company which sought to conquer the Western frontier. But what distinguished George Washington from other landowners of his time is that he always heard the call of his country and always placed service to that country ahead of his personal desires.

When his England needed a soldier to lead the Virginia militia in the French and Indian Wars, George Washington became commander in chief of the Virginia militia. In 1774, when his colony needed a representative in the new Continental Congress, George Washington left his plantation to join the Continental Congress as a delegate. When the fledgling rebels needed a general to lead the Revolution and form those ragtag bands of militia men into a continental Army capable of fighting the world's most powerful country, George Washington became a hero. He led the soldiers of this new country through incredible victories and crushing defeats until he forced the surrender of Gen. Cornwallis on Oct. 19, 1781.

After winning at Yorktown and securing the independence proclaimed in 1776, George Washington again returned to Mount Vernon. His return, however, would prove to be short-lived for it became obvious to him that the new government of the United States could not meet the challenges of governing. So George Washington called together, and presided over, the second Constitutional Convention where his prestige and reputation were instrumental in leading to the adoption of the United States Constitution.

Immediately following the adoption of the Constitution, George Washington's country again needed his services and again he answered her call. At a time when he could have been king, George Washington became the first American President. As such, he established the standard from which all to come would follow.

George Washington was born in Virginia when it was only a colony of Great Britain. He lived in Virginia at a time when each state considered itself a sovereign nation independent unto itself. But George Washington was not only a colonist and a Virginian. He was an American and the embodiment of the principles, morals, and ideals that led to the creation, and success, of the United States. I am honored to have the opportunity to participate in this ceremony today.

ADJOURNMENT TO TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 27, 1996

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the

House adjourns today it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27, 1996, for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, February 27, 1996, at 12:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2074. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report entitled "Report on the Performance of Department of Defense Commercial Activities," pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304 note; to the Committee on National Security.

2075. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a report involving United States exports to Ghana, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3)(i); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2076. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a report involving United States exports to Indonesia, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3)(i); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2077. A letter from the Chairman, Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, transmitting the Foundation's annual report for 1995, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2012(b); to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

2078. A letter from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, transmitting a report entitled "Performance Profiles of Major Energy Producers 1994," pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 7267; to the Committee on Commerce.

2079. A letter from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting a report on abnormal occurrences at licensed nuclear facilities for the third quarter of calendar 1995, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5848; to the Committee on Commerce.

2080. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of Defense—Force Management Policy, transmitting a report on the audit of the American Red Cross for the year ending June 30, 1995, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 6; to the Committee on International Relations.

2081. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-199, "Technical Amendments Act of 1996," pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2082. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-201, "Water and Sewer Authority Establishment and Department of Public Works Reorganization Act of 1996," pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2083. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a