

very day, but back in 1865, at the end of a devastating civil war. Here was the quote—most remember part of it: “With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation’s wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.”

Those words are inscribed on the marble of the memorial which bears Lincoln’s name. They were from the President’s second inaugural. They were a fitting call to honor the Nation’s veterans.

I made a comment right here at this podium the other day about shedding the divisions that incurred from the Vietnam war. And I want to repeat and say especially to the Vietnam veterans that are here—and I just had the pleasure of meeting some in the hall—it’s long overdue. It is long overdue that we kicked the Vietnam syndrome, because many veterans from that conflict came back and did not receive the proper acclaim that they deserve—that this nation was divided and we weren’t as grateful as we should be. So somehow, when these troops come home, I hope that message goes out to those that served this country in the Vietnam war that we appreciate their service as well.

I am very grateful to our Secretary of Defense, to the commander of our—to the Chairman of our Joint Chiefs, and to our CINC in the field, General Schwarzkopf, and to each and every one of them—I expect, knowing some of you, that you took the same pride I did in one of our GI’s when these Iraqis came tearing out to sur-

render. And they had fear written all over their faces because they’d been told that this would be their end. And I thought there was something very moving and touching when that American sergeant said, “We’re not going to hurt you. We’re not going to hurt you.”

And we are a generous nation. And we’ve got a lot to do now; we’ve got a lot to do to heal the wounds. Our argument has never been with the people of Iraq, with those hapless soldiers that were sent to a fate that they didn’t even know what was in store for them. Our argument has been with Saddam Hussein. Our argument has been with a dictator who created aggression against a neighbor.

And so, as we rejoice in our victory, I think we can also rejoice in the fact that we are a humble nation—that we have pride, of course, in what took place, but we are not gloating. We are not trying to rub it in. What we stood for was a principle. And now we’ve got to stand for doing what’s right by our veterans, and we’ve got to stand for doing what’s right by those countries whose freedom we saved around the world.

Thank you all for your fantastic support. Isn’t it great to be an American in these wonderful times?

Note: The President spoke at 1:48 p.m. in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to Brent Scowcroft, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney; Secretary of Veterans Affairs Edward J. Derwinski; President Saddam Hussein of Iraq; Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of the U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf; and Colin L. Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Nomination of Donald J. Yockey To Be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition

March 4, 1991

The President today announced his intention to nominate Donald Jay Yockey, of California, to be Under Secretary of De-

fense for Acquisition at the Department of

Defense in Washington, D.C. He would succeed John A. Betti.

Since 1990 Mr. Yockey has served as Deputy to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition at the Department of Defense. From 1966 to 1990, Mr. Yockey served with Rockwell International in several capacities: senior vice president and special assistant to the president; director

of the astronics division; and officer of the corporation.

Mr. Yockey graduated from the University of Oklahoma (B.A., 1960). He was born January 6, 1921, in Buffalo, NY. Mr. Yockey served with the U.S. Air Force, 1947–1966. Mr. Yockey is married, has four children, and resides in Potomac, MD.

Remarks at the Westinghouse Science Talent Search 50th Anniversary Banquet

March 4, 1991

Thank you. Please be seated. Let me just say how pleased I am to be here, salute the members of my Cabinet here, Secretary Sullivan; and Governor and Mrs. Sununu; Dr. Bromley, outstanding science adviser to the President; Dr. Seaborg, an old friend who's been so instrumental in all of this; Mr. Lego, Mr. Sherburne, Ms. Luszcz, Monsignor Quinn, Mr. Flatow; and trustees of the Westinghouse Foundation. And then, of course, the past and current Westinghouse Award recipients; also, the judges of the Science Talent Search; distinguished guests of science—and that leaves me as the only one. [Laughter]

I went in and saw five of these displays in there on the condition that they'd not give a test after they explained exactly what they had wrought. [Laughter] And I wish all of you could have seen it; it was wonderful.

But thank you, sir, for introducing me and for all you do, for this warm reception out here. And let me welcome to Washington the trustees of our posterity: high school students, the best and the brightest, high school students who act for the Nation and neighbor. And it's a pleasure for me to be here at this Super Bowl of science.

You know, we meet tonight on the 50th anniversary of the Westinghouse Science Talent Search, a program which has helped to make the past half-century a time of extraordinary exploration. Fifty years ago, 1941—just think of the changes since then. As for the VCR—people couldn't set their clocks on the VCR back then either.

[Laughter] Because there wasn't any VCR. [Laughter] When I was growing up in 1941, PacMan was a hiker, not a video game. [Laughter] And there have been so many changes, so much scientific change for the good. And who knows how future endeavors will make ours a richer, more decent world?

Tonight, we honor distinguished scientists and researchers who are opening doors into an age where mankind not only moved into the future but reinvented it. Think of discoveries like biotechnology and microchip, and of pioneers like Kilby and Noyce, Cohen and Boyer, the first two people to splice a gene. All knew, as Thomas Jefferson wrote to a Polish general who fought with us in the Revolutionary War, "The main objects of all science are the freedom and happiness of man."

Since the dark days of World War II, Westinghouse recipients have aided this freedom, becoming an instrument of liberty and the symbol of the information age. From the first man to win the top prize in the Science Talent Search—Paul Teschan, saving soldiers' lives with the artificial kidney in the Korean war—to Raymond Kurzweil, whose reading devices make life easier for the blind, each has reached for the stars so that future generations of Americans might someday travel to them.

This program's history reaffirms that truth. Five Westinghouse Award recipients have won the Nobel Prize. Eight have received MacArthur fellowships. Three have