

June 23, 1989

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: SENATOR DOLE
FROM: DENNIS SHEA
SUBJECT: CHANEY GOODMAN SCHWERNER MEMORIAL SERVICE

Attached is a statement for the memorial service honoring James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner. The memorial service will take place in Statuary Hall.

You are scheduled to speak at 11:21 a.m., immediately following remarks by John Buchanan and Speaker Foley. The organizers of the memorial service have asked that you limit your remarks to 3 minutes.

James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner

On June 21, 1964, three young civil rights workers -- James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner -- were killed in Mississippi by the Ku Klux Klan. The events surrounding their deaths were depicted in the recent movie, Mississippi Burning.

The deaths of Goodman, Schwerner, and Chaney have come to symbolize one of the high points of black-Jewish cooperation in the area of civil rights. Goodman and Schwerner were both Jewish and from the New York City area. Chaney was a black man from Mississippi.

Senate Resolution

Last May, you introduced a resolution -- along with Senators Mitchell, Simpson, and Cranston -- declaring June 21, 1989, as Chaney Goodman Schwerner Day. The resolution also declares the sense of the Congress that the "Voting Rights Act of 1965 has helped to fulfill the promise of American democracy."

Freedom Caravan

A four-day "Freedom Caravan," commemorating the 25th anniversary of the murders, has set out from Philadelphia, Mississippi, and will conclude its trip in New York City. The Freedom Caravan will also stop in Washington today. The memorial service in Statuary Hall is the Freedom Caravan's main event in Washington.

Meeting with President Bush

I have been informed that President Bush intended to meet with the Chaney, Goodman, and Schwerner families earlier this morning.

CHANNEY GOODMAN SCHWERNER

"The Memory Endures, The Struggle Continues"

Statuary Hall, The United States Capitol

Friday, June 23, 1989

11:00 am Musical Prelude, seating of guests
11:15 am Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks
11:18 am Hon. John H. Buchanan
11:21 am Hon. Thomas S. Foley
✓ 11:24 am Hon. Robert Dole
11:27 am Hon. John Lewis
11:30 am Rita Schwerner Bender
11:35 am Marian Wright Edelman
11:38 am The Freedom Singers
11:45 am Hon. Mike Espy
11:48 am Ben Chaney
11:53 am Mary King
11:56 am Hon. Hamilton Fish
11:59 am Vernon Jordan
12:02 pm Eleanor Holmes Norton
12:05 pm The Freedom Singers
12:10 pm Hon. Edward Kennedy
12:13 pm Sue Brown
12:16 pm Dave Dennis
12:19 pm Arnold Aronson
12:22 pm Dr. Carolyn Goodman
12:27 pm Hon. John H. Buchanan
12:28 pm Chorus of "Lift Every Voice"

STATEMENT OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

CHANNEY GOODMAN SCHWERNER MEMORIAL SERVICE

JUNE 23, 1989

INTRODUCTION

I WANT TO THANK JOHN BUCHANAN FOR THOSE
KIND WORDS OF INTRODUCTION. I ALSO WANT TO THANK
THE CHANEY, GOODMAN, AND SCHWERNER FAMILIES --
AND THE MEMORIAL COALITION -- FOR GIVING ME THE
OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO YOU THIS MORNING.

I KNOW THAT MANY OF YOU HAVE TRAVELLED A
LONG WAY TO COME TO WASHINGTON. AND I KNOW
THAT SOME OF YOU HAVE COME ALL THE WAY FROM
MISSISSIPPI ON THE FREEDOM CARAVAN.

BUT YOU HAVE COME HERE FOR A VERY GOOD
REASON. YOU HAVE COME HERE TO CELEBRATE -- YES,
CELEBRATE -- THE DEATHS OF THREE REMARKABLE
YOUNG MEN: JAMES CHANEY. ANDREW GOODMAN. AND
MICHAEL SCHWERNER.

WE ALL KNOW THE STORY: IT WAS A DARK AND
MUGGY NIGHT. THERE WAS A CAR CHASE. THERE WAS A
BRIEF EXCHANGE OF WORDS -- THEN A BURST OF
GUNFIRE. AND THREE YOUNG MEN LAY LIFELESS ON THE
SIDE OF THE ROAD -- IN A DITCH -- THE INNOCENT VICTIMS
OF UNHARNESSED AND UNCOMPROMISING EVIL.

THESE YOUNG MEN WERE FROM VERY DIFFERENT
BACKGROUNDS. THEY WERE NOT WHAT WE WOULD CALL
NATURAL FRIENDS. BUT THEY GAVE THEIR LIVES TO
ACHIEVE ONE SINGULAR -- AND UTTERLY PATRIOTIC AND
AMERICAN -- GOAL -- TO GUARANTEE THE RIGHT TO VOTE
NOT JUST FOR WHITE AMERICANS. NOT JUST FOR BLACK
AMERICANS. BUT FOR ALL AMERICANS.

ALL OF US HERE TODAY ALSO KNOW THE LEGACY:

WE KNOW THAT THE TRAGIC -- AND UNTIMELY -- DEATHS
OF THESE YOUNG MEN HAVE HELPED -- IN A
PROFOUNDLY SIGNIFICANT WAY -- TO MAKE THE RIGHT TO
VOTE A LIVING RIGHT -- AND THAT THEIR DEATHS HAVE
COME TO REPRESENT ONE OF THE GREAT MILESTONES IN
AMERICA'S LONG JOURNEY TOWARDS RACIAL JUSTICE.

YOU KNOW, JAMES CHANEY, ANDREW GOODMAN,
AND MICHAEL SCHWERNER WERE YOUNG MEN WHEN
THEY WERE MURDERED. PERHAPS THAT IS WHY THEIR
LEGACY RINGS SO TRUE TODAY. IT ALWAYS SEEMS THAT
IT'S THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE VISION -- AND
THE COMMITMENT TO SEE THIS VISION BECOME REALITY.
WE SEE THE VISION AND COMMITMENT OF YOUTH EVERY
NIGHT ON OUR TELEVISION SETS -- IN CHINA.

AMERICA'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

OBVIOUSLY, MUCH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED SINCE
THAT FATEFUL DAY IN 1964. CONGRESS HAS PASSED THE
CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964, THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF
1965, THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1968. AND IT IS MY
SINCERE HOPE THAT CONGRESS WILL SOON PASS
LEGISLATION PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE CIVIL
RIGHTS OF ANOTHER GROUP -- OUR DISABLED CITIZENS.

AMERICA CAN TAKE PRIDE IN THESE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS. OVER THE YEARS, SHE HAS SHOWN
A GREAT CAPACITY FOR CHANGE. FOR GROWTH. FOR
INNER REFLECTION AND SELF-CRITICISM.

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SHE HAS SHOWN THAT SHE CAN TRANSFORM THE
DEATHS OF THESE THREE YOUNG MEN INTO A LIGHTNING
ROD FOR JUSTICE. SHE HAS SHOWN THAT SHE CAN
LOOK BACK AT A TRAGIC -- AND UGLY -- MOMENT IN OUR
HISTORY AND LOOK FORWARD WITH A RENEWED
COMMITMENT -- WITH A RENEWED COMMITMENT TO
ENSURE THAT THE WORDS "JUSTICE," "FREEDOM,"
"EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY, "THE RIGHT TO VOTE" HAVE
REAL-LIFE MEANING FOR ALL AMERICANS -- THAT THEY
ARE NOT JUST EMPTY SLOGANS.

REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP

SO I WAS PROUD TO JOIN MY COLLEAGUES --
SENATORS MITCHELL, SIMPSON, AND CRANSTON -- IN
INDRODUCING THE SENATE RESOLUTION DECLARING
JUNE 21ST AS CHANEY GOODMAN SCHWERNER DAY.

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I WAS PARTICULARLY PROUD -- AS A REPUBLICAN
AND AS REPUBLICAN LEADER OF THE SENATE -- TO
RECOGNIZE THE INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION THAT JAMES
CHANEY, ANDREW GOODMAN, AND MICHAEL
SCHWERNER HAVE
MADE TO VOTING RIGHTS IN THIS COUNTRY. AND I AM
PROUD -- AND HONORED -- TO BE HERE TODAY TO
CELEBRATE THE LIVING LEGACY OF THESE YOUNG MEN.
THEIR MEMORY ENDURES.