The original documents are located in Box 29, "4/10/76 - Remarks at a Bicentennial Ceremony at the Memorial Plaza, El Paso, Texas" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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PRESIDENT'S REMARKS AT WAR MEMORIAL EL PASO, TEXAS, APRIL 10, 1976

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEER.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS -- EL PASO BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

-- THANK YOU, JOHN (Senator Tower introduces you)

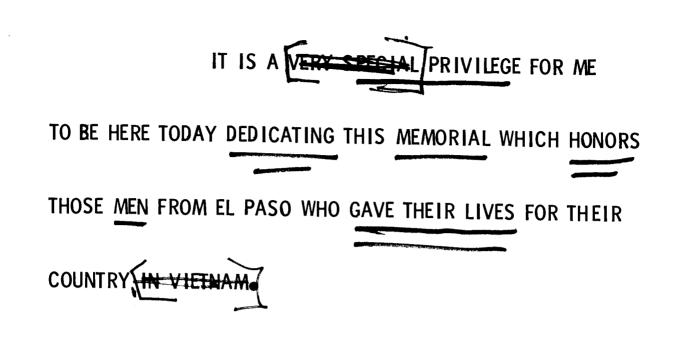
-- CONGRESSMAN DICK WHITE

-- MAYOR HENDERSON (EI Paso)

-- <u>MAYOR LEZAMA</u> (Juarez, Mexico)

-- MRS. BARNES

-- REVEREND NICHOLS



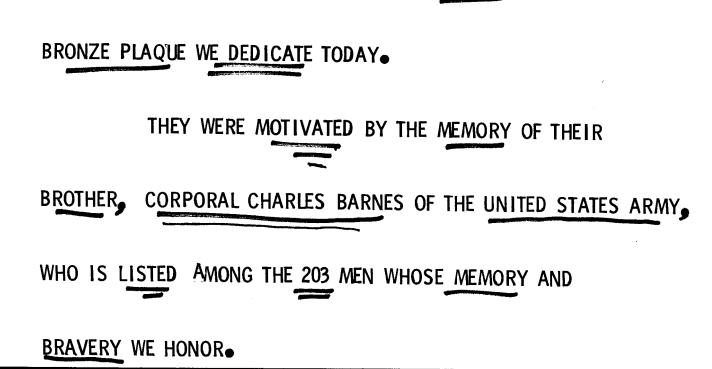
-1-

LET ME THANK THE GOLD STAR MOTHERS AND

THE EL PASO BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION FOR SPONSORING THIS

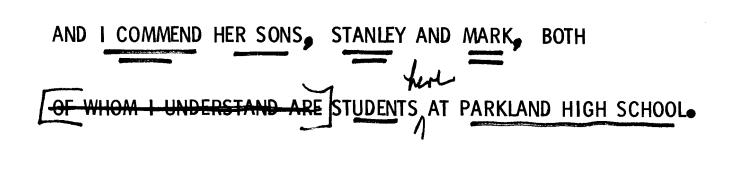
-2-

IMPORTANT OCCASION.



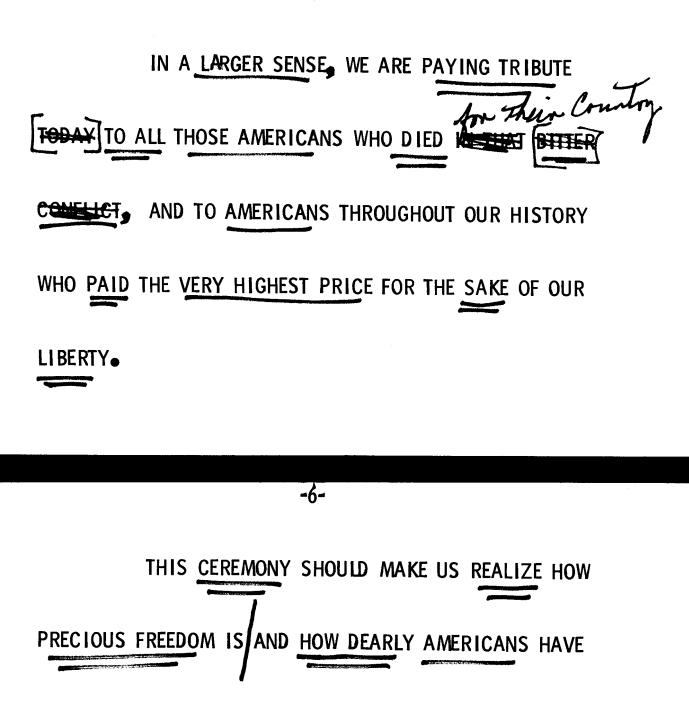
IT WAS THEIR EFFORTS WHICH RESULTED IN THIS

-4-



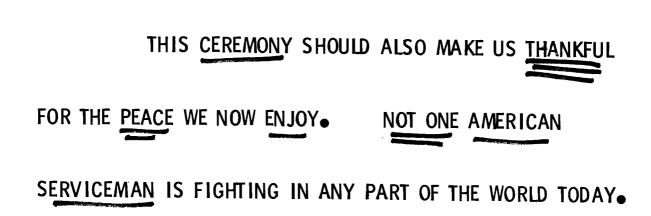
MRS, BARNEY BARNES FOR HER KIND LETTER OF INVITATION,

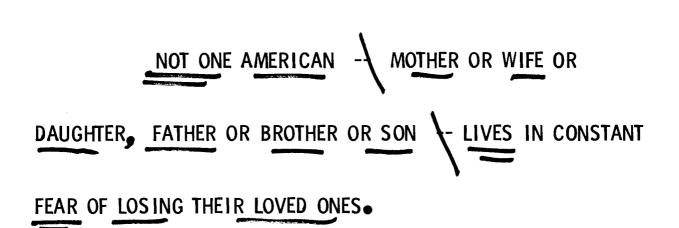
I EXTEND MY PARTICULAR THANKS TO



PAID FOR IT, FROM THE FIRST BATTLES FOR INDEPENDENCE

DOWN TO THE PRESENT.





-8-



DESTRUCTION ON A SCALE SO VAST THAT WE CAN HARDLY

A THERMO-NUCLEAR WAR TODAY WOULD MEAN DEATH AND

BECAUSE WAR TODAY HAS A SPECIAL TERROR.

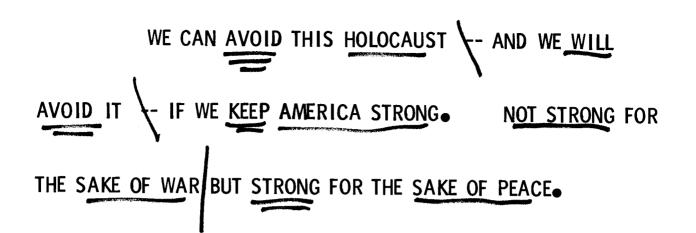
PEACE TODAY HAS A SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE --

-10-

PEACE THEY DIED TO SECURE.

PRESERVING THE FREEDOM FOR WHICH THESE MEN DIED, WE MUST ALSO DEDICATE OURSELVES TO PRESERVING THE

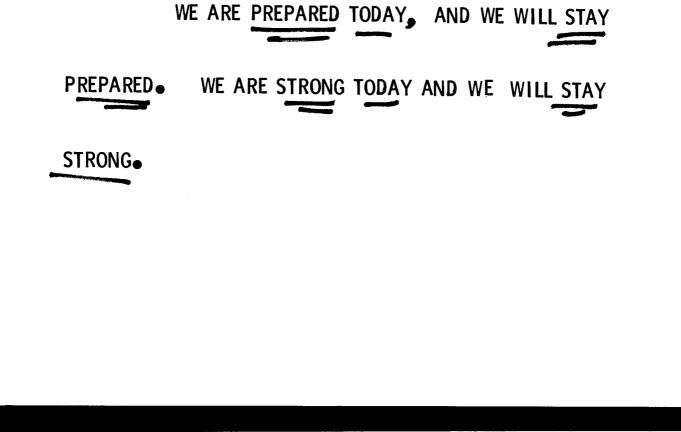
AND TODAY, AS WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO



-12-

THIS CONCEPT IS AS OLD AS OUR REPUBLIC.

GEORGE WASHINGTON TOLD US: "TO BE PREPARED FOR WAR IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTUAL MEANS OF PRESERVING PEACE."

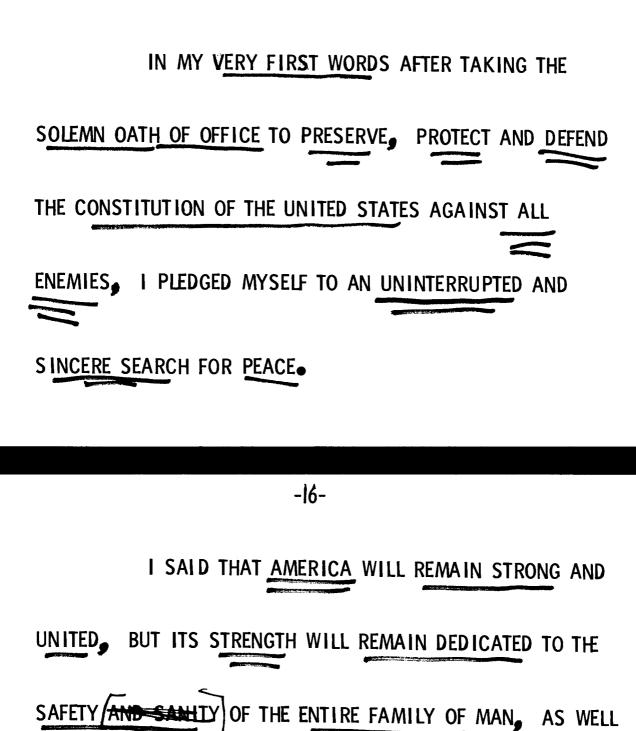


-14-

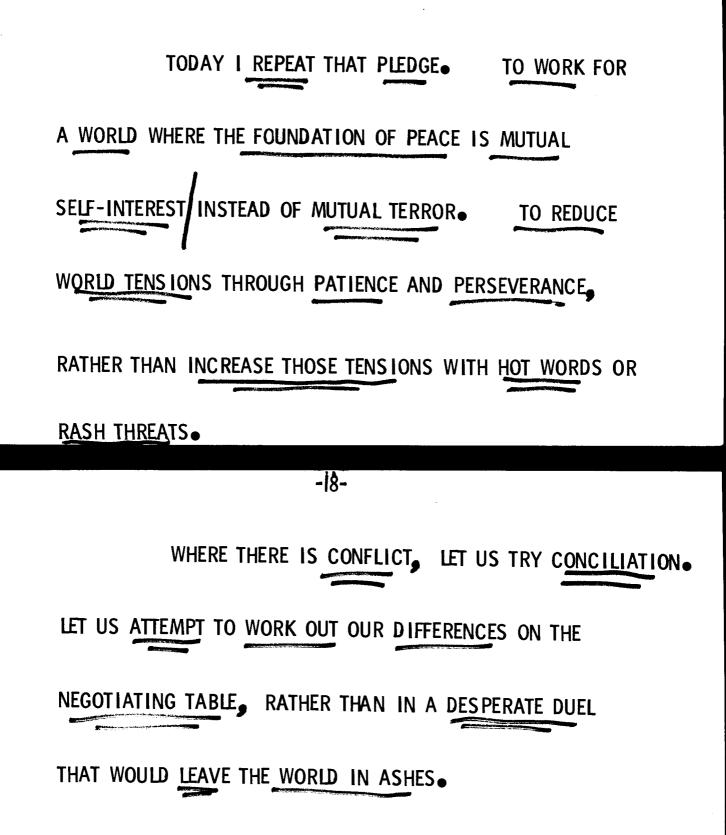
BUT TRUE STRENGTH DEMANDS TRUE RESPONSIBILITY.

AND KEEPING THE PEACE MEANS KEEPING OUR COMMITMENT TO AVOID CONSTANT AND RECKLESS CONFRONTATION. TO WEIGH

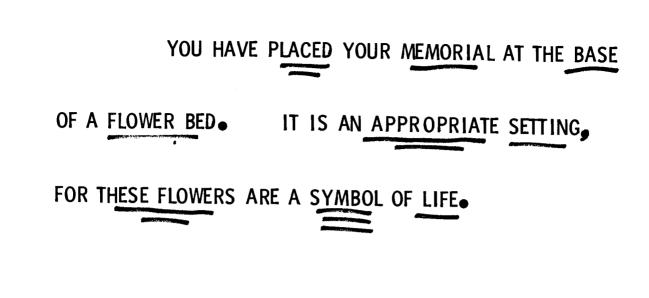
OUR WORDS CAREFULLY, KNOWING WHAT HANGS IN THE BALANCE.

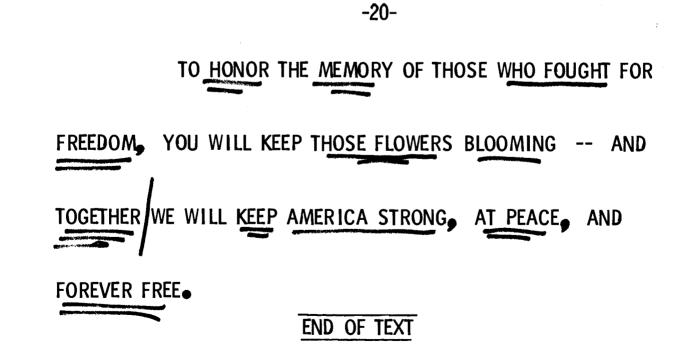


AS TO OUR OWN PRECIOUS FREEDOM.



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