



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 22, 2001

I am pleased to send warm greetings to the Mount Soledad Memorial Association as you dedicate the first two of your planned Veterans Memorial Walls. This Memorial Day ceremony provides a fitting opportunity for area residents to join in paying tribute to those who are honored by the Mount Soledad War Memorial.

The United States owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to all those who have served our country in peace or at war. Their sacrifices for our freedom, as well as for others around the world, have not been forgotten. This year, we especially remember the 60th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, which ushered our Nation into World War II, and the 10th anniversary of the end of the Persian Gulf War.

I salute memorial supporters for developing this worthwhile project, which will eventually list more than 3,000 tributes upon its six walls. With the dedication of these walls, Mount Soledad becomes a place to reflect on our past, be inspired by true American patriots, and offer war veterans our heartfelt gratitude for the freedom we all enjoy today.

Laura joins me in sending best wishes on this special occasion.

EXHIBIT

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