

The original documents are located in Box 70, folder “Jefferson, Thomas - Birthday Celebration, 4/13/76 (3)” of the John Marsh Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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DRAFT/MARSH/4-10-76

THE PEN OF JEFFERSON

The countdown to Independence Day has begun. In less than 100 days the Nation shall mark its 200 years of Independence.

233 years ago today marked the birth of the author of one of the greatest documents of freedom in the history of this planet.

Tom Jefferson was a product of America's frontier. In 1743, Shadwell, his place of birth in Albemarle County, Virginia, was at the outer reaches of the American West.

It was one of the coincidences of American history that Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, both signers of the Declaration of Independence, would both die on July 4, 1826, 50 years to the day after its adoption. John Adams' last words were "Jefferson still lives." Our presence here today attests to the truth of that remark.

I set out for your consideration a few of the achievements of
the Man from Monticello:

- President of the United States
- Vice President of the United States
- First Secretary of State
- Ambassador to France
- Author of the Declaration of Independence
- Member of the Continental Congress
- Governor of Virginia
- Author of the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom
- Colonial Legislator
- Justice of the Peace
- Founder of the University of Virginia

In addition to these achievements, he was a scientist -- an

accomplished violinist -- remembered as an inventor -- renowned as an architect -- respected as an agronomist -- and an excellent linguist with a command of at least six languages.

Jefferson was a giant who has marched across the pages of world history. To this day he excites scholars, inspires political leaders and gives hope to the common man in the four corners of the globe.

His achievements were so great, his intellect so towering we are apt to be overwhelmed and not see the man, nor appreciate his humanity. He is a personage from whom we might learn. He is a source of strength from whom we can draw.

Jefferson was not only a theorist but an advocate of human freedom. It has been observed that he pled the cause of the common man. Others have said that he charted the course of American democracy. He has influenced every American political leader of

each succeeding age.

There is a spiritual bond between Jefferson and Lincoln. Jefferson was the political philosopher and apostle of individual freedom. Lincoln took the principles of Jefferson's Declaration and translated them for the rank and file of all the people. The great Emancipator, gave it meaning to the common man and embodied it in his cause to preserve the Union.

Jefferson as a champion of freedom vigorously resisted the European concept of nobility and aristocracy. However, he had his own definition of an aristocracy for America. The aristocracy of talent and virtue. This Nation more than any other nation of the world has opened the ranks of its citizens to that aristocracy. Jefferson's aristocracy of Democracy is evidenced by our worldwide preeminence today.

Jefferson was a fervent believer in freedom of the press.

Although harshly attacked, and often vilified he maintained an unfettered press was essential to American freedom.

Jefferson is remembered as a foremost exponent of American individualism. However, this was an individualism based on enlightenment and responsibility. Learning and reason he argued are essential ingredients of political freedom.

Tom Jefferson's pen of the Eighteenth Century is still mightier than the sword of the Twentieth. Mankind in the Twentieth Century still draws inspiration from the Declaration of Independence.

The Bicentennial is causing Americans to reexamine their past.

Jefferson earned his place in the Eighteenth Century for his advocacy of individualism, the value of reason, the necessity of personal freedom and the essentiality of limited government.

As we begin our Third Century of Independence, we need to not only honor these precepts from our past, but apply them today.

The changes that have swept across this Nation and our world in the last two centuries which are largely products of science and invention have not diminished the importance of these values set forth when we were one of the underdeveloped nations of the world.

The Bicentennial is a time of reexamination and a reawakening. Jefferson's principle of limited government is again the subject of discussion and debate. Questions Jefferson raised are being raised today about encroaching Federalism and the centralization of governmental power at the expense of State and local responsibility and individual freedom.

Big government has produced bureaucracy but not efficiency.

The repeated admonitions of Jefferson for limited government take

on new meaning for modern Americans.

Americans.

I believe as we move into our Third Century of independence there will be an even greater emphasis by our people to find ways and means to meet our needs whereby the role of government is more limited in the classical Jeffersonian sense.

The Third Century of American Independence shall be the Century of Individualism. It shall be a century of public achievement and personal fulfillment.

Let us honor this man this year, and in the next Century of our Independence as a people by translating into our national life the qualities, the talents and the ideas which were the warp and woof of his.

Let us practice responsible individualism and thereby pay

tribute to the man we commemorate here.

Let us dedicate ourselves to achievement so that we make this country what it has the potential to be.

Let us carve out for America its rightful place of leadership in the Council of Nations of this world.

Let us extend the boundaries of human freedom here at home and beyond our shores.

Let us accept and discharge the responsibility as a people upon whom Providence has bestowed so much.

Let us be an enlightened Nation with appreciation for learning, for reason and for justice for all of our people.

In this way, my fellow Americans, we shall pay honor to the Man from Monticello.

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: April 12

Time: 505pm

FOR ACTION: Jack Marsh ✓
Max Friedersdorf
Ken Lazarus
Milt Mitler
Sarah Massengale

cc (for information): Jim Cavanaugh
Ed Schmults

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: April 12

Time: asap

SUBJECT:

H.R. 2920 - Thomas Jefferson Building

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

James M. Cannon
For the President



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

APR 12 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 2920 - Thomas Jefferson Building
Sponsor - Sen. Cannon (D) Nevada

Last Day for Action

Special circumstances suggest that bill be signed on Tuesday, April 13.

Purpose

To rename the Library of Congress Annex the Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approval

Library of Congress

Approval (Informally)

Discussion

Most of the books in the Library of Congress were destroyed when the British burned the Capitol on August 24, 1814, during the War of 1812. Thomas Jefferson, then living in retirement in Monticello, offered his personal library of more than 6,500 volumes to the Congress in order to begin rebuilding the Library's collection. The act to purchase his library was approved on January 30, 1815.

S. 2920 would honor Jefferson's role in the development of the Library of Congress by renaming the Library of Congress Annex the "Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building."

Since Tuesday, April 13, is the 233rd anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, we recommend that you approve this bill on that day.

James M. Frey

Assistant Director
for Legislative Reference

Enclosures

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Mr. Marsh ✓
Mr. Friedersdorf
Mr. Leppert
Mr. Kendall
Mr. Wolthuis
Mr. Cavanaugh
Mr. Speakes

The President today approved:

<u>BILL NO.</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>
* H. J. Res. 670	Thomas Jefferson Day	Rep. McClory (R) of Illinois
* S. 2920	Thomas Jefferson Building	Sen. Cannon (D) of Nevada

* - Ceremony at Jefferson Memorial

Robert D. Linder

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 12, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: AGNES WALDRON

FROM:

JACK MARSH

Would you please have the attached speech checked for accuracy, especially those portions I have highlighted? Would it be possible to get it back to me by early this afternoon?

Many thanks.

THE PEN OF JEFFERSON

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Jefferson and John Adams, both signers of the Declaration of
Independence, would both die on July 4, 1826, 50 years to the day

after is adoption. John Adams' last words were "Jefferson still
lives survives." Our presence here today attests to the truth of that
remark.

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of Publications
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OK
the Man from Monticello:

OK
-- President of the United States

OK
-- Vice President of the United States

OK
-- First Secretary of State

OK
-- Ambassador to France

OK
-- Author of the Declaration of Independence

OK
-- Member of the Continental Congress

OK
-- Governor of Virginia

OK
-- Author of the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom

OK
-- Colonial Legislator

OK
-- Justice of the Peace

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-- Founder of the University of Virginia

OK
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Pres. Soub
of the US
by Cordell
A Sam Langford

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Jefferson -
Cyclopedia
let to
John Adams
10/28/13
Magill's
Illustrations
in Context
1958



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Big government has produced bureaucracy but not efficiency.

The admonition of Jefferson that "the government which governs



best is that which governs least" takes on new meaning to modern Americans.

I believe as we move into our Third Century of independence there will be an even greater emphasis by our people to find ways and means to meet our needs whereby the role of government is more limited in the classical Jeffersonian sense.

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~~Man~~ man from Monticello.



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FROM: JACK MARSH

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Many thanks.

dl

(Thomas Jefferson speech)



Jack Marsh

REMARKS AT JEFFERSON MEMORIAL

TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1976

-1-

TODAY WE PAY TRIBUTE TO THOMAS JEFFERSON.

TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF AMERICAN HISTORY HAVE PRODUCED

NO MAN WHOSE ACHIEVEMENTS ARE BETTER KNOWN.



IN HIS OWN EPITAPH, HE CITED JUST THREE:

AUTHOR OF THE DECLARATION OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE,

OF THE STATUTE OF VIRGINIA FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM,

AND FATHER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

✓
Author

HAD THOSE BEEN HIS ONLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS,

HE WOULD HAVE EARNED HIS PLACE IN HISTORY,

AND OUR UNDYING GRATITUDE. BUT WE KNOW JEFFERSON

IN OTHER WAYS AS WELL.



WE KNOW THE CHARACTER OF THE MAN,
WHO EMBODIED OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE BY ENCOMPASSING
THE SPIRIT OF PIONEER AND ARISTOCRAT, / AMERICAN
AND WORLD CITIZEN, / THE VALUES OF NATURE AND THE VALUES
OF CIVILIZATION.

IN POLITICS, WE KNOW HIM AS A LAWYER
AND LEGISLATOR, AS A MEMBER OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS,
AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, OUR NATION'S THIRD PRESIDENT /
AND ITS FIRST SECRETARY OF STATE.

IN OUR NATIONAL LIFE, WE KNOW HIM AS A SCIENTIST
AND AGRONOMIST, AS AN ARTIST, ARCHITECT AND INVENTOR.

JEFFERSON'S ACHIEVEMENTS RANGE FROM OUR DECIMAL SYSTEM
OF COINAGE | TO THE GREAT AREA OF OUR NATION ITSELF,
WHICH HE DOUBLED THROUGH THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE.

BUT THOMAS JEFFERSON'S CONTRIBUTION TO OUR
NATION'S HISTORY IS FAR MORE THAN THE SUM OF THESE DIVERSE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS. THE VERY RANGE OF HIS INTERESTS
HAS HEIGHTENED HIS IMPACT ON LATER GENERATIONS.

IT IS A QUIRK OF HISTORY THAT THOMAS JEFFERSON
AND JOHN ADAMS, BOTH SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION OF
INDEPENDENCE, DIED ON JULY 4th, 1826, / FIFTY YEARS TO THE DAY
AFTER ITS ADOPTION. JOHN ADAMS' LAST WORDS WERE:
"JEFFERSON STILL LIVES."

~~HISTORY SHOWS ADAMS WAS WRONG,~~

~~BECAUSE JEFFERSON HAD DIED A BARE FIVE HOURS EARLIER.~~

~~BUT~~ HISTORY ~~ALSO~~ HAS CONFIRMED ADAMS' WORDS.

BECAUSE THOMAS JEFFERSON LIVES IN EACH OF US.

WE ARE ALL HIS SUCCESSORS, AND IT IS UP TO US, NOT HISTORY,

TO SEE THAT JEFFERSON'S FAITH SURVIVES.

GREAT CITIZENS AND THEIR GREAT THOUGHTS

ARE NOT JUST FOR THEIR OWN TIME, BUT FOREVER.

AND JEFFERSON'S TRUE IMPORTANCE LIES IN THE FACT

THAT HE CONTINUES TO SPEAK TO THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE.

IN EVERY GENERATION, AMERICANS HAVE TURNED
TO JEFFERSON FOR COMFORT AND INSPIRATION. THEY HAVE FOUND
NEW MEANINGS -- OFTEN CONFLICTING MEANINGS --
IN HIS WORDS. IN THEIR SEARCH FOR JEFFERSON'S SPIRIT,
AMERICANS HAVE SOUGHT THEMSELVES.

TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN, THE PRINCIPLES OF JEFFERSON
WERE "THE DEFINITIONS AND AXIOMS OF FREE SOCIETY" --
A SOCIETY HE WAS STRUGGLING TO PRESERVE. AND LINCOLN,
THE GREAT EMANCIPATOR, GAVE THOSE PRINCIPLES NEW SIGNIFICANCE.

THREE GENERATIONS LATER, ANOTHER GREAT AMERICAN
LEADER -- FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT -- LOCKED IN
ANOTHER WAR FOR FREEDOM, DEDICATED THIS MEMORIAL
AS A SHRINE TO FREEDOM.

ON THE TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF JEFFERSON'S BIRTH,
HE CALLED FOR A COMMITMENT TO JEFFERSON'S CAUSE,
NOT BY WORDS ALONE BUT BY SACRIFICE.

IN THIS TWO HUNDREDTH YEAR OF THE NATION

JEFFERSON HELPED TO FOUND, IT SEEMS OUR AMERICA

HAS CHANGED SO MUCH THAT WHEN WE COMPARE IT WITH

JEFFERSON'S AMERICA, THE DIFFERENCES ARE MORE STRIKING

THAN THE SIMILARITIES.

WE ARE NO LONGER A YOUNG, ISOLATED AGRICULTURAL NATION

BUT AN INDUSTRIAL GIANT IN A NUCLEAR AGE.

THOMAS JEFFERSON WOULD HAVE BEEN THE FIRST
TO RECOGNIZE THAT DIFFERENT TIMES DEMAND DIFFERENT POLICIES.
HE STRESSED THAT 'THE EARTH BELONGS ALWAYS TO THE
LIVING GENERATION.'

IN OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR, WE TURN ONCE AGAIN
TO JEFFERSON'S WORDS, AND FIND THEM SURPRISINGLY MODERN.

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TO RECOGNIZE THAT DIFFERENT TIMES DEMAND DIFFERENT POLICIES.

HE STRESSED THAT "THE EARTH BELONGS ALWAYS TO THE

LIVING GENERATION."

I believe in that debate the
and philosophy
wisdom of Jefferson shall
be prevail.

IN OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR, WE TURN ONCE AGAIN

TO JEFFERSON'S WORDS, AND FIND THEM SURPRISINGLY MODERN.





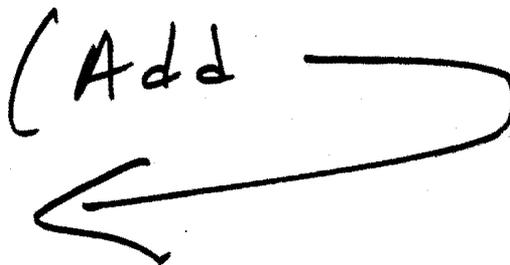
JEFFERSON'S PRINCIPLE OF LIMITED GOVERNMENT,

HIS CONCERN ABOUT EXCESSIVE CENTRALIZATION OF GOVERNMENTAL

POWER AT THE EXPENSE OF STATE AND LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY

AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM -- ARE AS MUCH A PART OF THE DEBATE

OF 1976 AS THEY WERE IN 1776.



WE FIND HE BELIEVED THAT NOT EVERY DIFFERENCE

OF OPINION IS A DIFFERENCE OF PRINCIPLE, AND THAT HE TOLERATED

ERROR IN THE CONFIDENCE THAT TRUTH WOULD TRIUMPH.

JEFFERSON WAS A FERVENT BELIEVER IN FREEDOM

OF THE PRESS. ALTHOUGH HARSHLY ATTACKED, AND ~~OFTEN~~ VILIFIED

Sometimes

HE MAINTAINED AN UNFETTERED PRESS WAS ESSENTIAL TO AMERICAN
FREEDOM.

WE FIND THE MEANING OF DEMOCRACY IN HIS IMMORTAL WORDS,
THAT "THOUGH THE WILL OF THE MAJORITY IS IN ALL CASES TO PREVAIL,
THAT WILL TO BE RIGHTFUL, MUST BE REASONABLE; THAT THE MINORITY
POSSESS THEIR EQUAL RIGHTS, WHICH EQUAL LAWS MUST PROTECT."

WE FIND HE PUT HIS TRUST IN THE PEOPLE,
WHOM HE BELIEVED TO BE BASICALLY MODERATE, PATRIOTIC
AND FREEDOM-LOVING.

AND WE FIND, ABOVE ALL ELSE, HIS LOVE FOR FREEDOM
AND INDEPENDENCE. TODAY WE RECOGNIZE THIS
IN TWO SYMBOLIC GESTURES.

JEFFERSON'S BELIEF IN THE FREEDOM AND
INDEPENDENCE OF THE HUMAN MIND, WE HONOR TODAY BY
AN ACT OF CONGRESS WHICH NAMES ONE BUILDING OF THE
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AFTER HIM,



AND JEFFERSON'S BELIEF IN THE FREEDOM AND
INDEPENDENCE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WE HONOR TODAY BY
AN ACT OF CONGRESS WHICH DESIGNATES TODAY AS THOMAS
JEFFERSON DAY.

I BELIEVE AS WE MOVE INTO OUR THIRD CENTURY
OF INDEPENDENCE THERE WILL BE AN EVEN GREATER EMPHASIS
BY OUR PEOPLE TO FIND WAYS AND MEANS TO MEET OUR NEEDS
WHILE LIMITING THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN THE CLASSICAL
JEFFERSONIAN SENSE.

I SEE THE THIRD CENTURY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE

AS THE CENTURY OF INDIVIDUALISM. I SEE IT AS A CENTURY

OF PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND FULFILLMENT FOR ALL AMERICANS.

LET US HONOR THOMAS JEFFERSON THIS YEAR,

AND THROUGHOUT THE NEXT CENTURY OF OUR INDEPENDENCE,

BY WEAVING INTO OUR NATIONAL LIFE THE QUALITIES, THE TALENTS

AND THE IDEAS WHICH WERE THE WARP AND WOOF OF HIS.

LET US PRACTICE RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALISM

AND THEREBY PAY TRIBUTE TO THE MAN WE COMMEMORATE HERE.

LET US DEDICATE OURSELVES TO ACHIEVEMENT

SO THAT WE MAKE THIS COUNTRY WHAT IT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE.

LET US MAINTAIN FOR AMERICA ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE

OF LEADERSHIP IN THE COUNCIL OF NATIONS OF THIS WORLD.

LET US EXTEND THE BOUNDARIES OF HUMAN FREEDOM HERE

AT HOME AND BEYOND OUR SHORES.



LET US ACCEPT AND DISCHARGE THE RESPONSIBILITY

AS A PEOPLE UPON WHOM PROVIDENCE HAS BESTOWED SO MUCH.

LET US BE AN ENLIGHTENED NATION WITH APPRECIATION

FOR LEARNING, FOR REASON AND FOR JUSTICE FOR ALL OF OUR

PEOPLE.

Let us

IN THIS WAY, MY FELLOW AMERICANS,

~~WE SHALL~~ PAY HONOR TO THE MAN FROM MONTICELLO.

END OF TEXT