

THE INAUGURATION The Bush Era Begins 41st president proclaims, 'We have work to do': [NASSAU AND SUFFOLK Edition]

By Gaylord Shaw. Washington Bureau Chief. **Newsday, Combined editions** [Long Island, N.Y] 21 Jan 1989: 03.

Abstract

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Then it was on to the White House where the Bushes and Quayles and their families watched from a heated reviewing stand as close to 12,000 marchers, 457 horses and 79 floats moved along Pennsylvania Avenue. One of the floats was a Navy TBM Avenger torpedo bomber, a duplicate of the plane Bush flew in World War II. Bush waved with gusto as it passed.

1) Newsday Photo by David L. Pokress-Bush takes the oath of office from Chief Justice [William Rehnquist] on the steps of the Capitol, as Barbara Bush holds the Bibles. 2) UPI Photo-The new president and first lady wave to a cheering crowd along parade route to the White House. 3) Newsday Photo by Donna Dietrich-Presidents on parade as part of the post-swearing-in festivities yesterday. 4) AP Photo-Barbara Bush and Nancy Reagan embrace yesterday after inauguration ceremony as their husbands look on. (page 4 C). 5) Newsday Color Cover Photo by John Keating-Bush Speaks after taking the oath (N-S Cover). 6) UPI Color Cover Photo-President [George Herbert Walker Bush] and first lady Barbara stroll toward the White House at yesterday's inaugural parade. (CITY COVER); The Bush Inaugural. Newsday Color Cover Photo by John Keating-Bush Speaks after taking the oath (N-S Cover). Hail To The New Chief. UPI Color Cover Photo-President George Bush and first lady Barbara stroll toward the White House at yesterday's inaugural parade (City Cover).

Full Text

George Herbert Walker Bush was inaugurated the nation's 41st president yesterday and, proclaiming that "a new breeze is blowing," called upon Americans to put aside partisan politics.

"There is new ground to be broken, and new action to be taken," Bush declared from the steps of the U.S. Capitol, surrounded by 17 members of his large and close-knit family, after assuming the country's highest office from Ronald Reagan. "My friends, we have work to do."

Offering the hand of cooperation and compromise to the Democratic opposition in Congress in attacking the federal deficit and such nagging national problems as homelessness, drugs and crime, Bush said, "We have more will than wallet, but will is what we need."

At three minutes past noon, with a brisk wind ruffling his graying hair, the coatless 64-year-old Bush repeated the oath of office in a simple ceremony, his right hand raised and his left hand resting on two Bibles - one a Bush family Bible and the other used 200 years earlier when George Washington took the same oath as the nation's first president.

Moments before Bush was sworn in by Chief Justice William Rehnquist to succeed Reagan, the first president in nearly three decades to serve two full terms, former Indiana Sen. Dan Quayle, 41, was sworn in as the new vice president by Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Later, to the delight of the crowd estimated at 300,000 along the inaugural parade route, the new president and his wife, Barbara, left the new \$600,000 armored presidential limousine three times and walked part of the way from the Capitol to the White House, smiling and

waving. Quayle and his wife, Marilyn, did the same.

Democrats on Capitol Hill hailed the conciliatory tone of the start of the Bush administration.

"Bush is extending the hand of friendship and we intend to extend ours in return," said Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-Maine).

Bush began his 20-minute inaugural address by reading a brief prayer and by paying tribute to Reagan as "a man who has earned a lasting place in our hearts - and in our history."

"On behalf of our nation, I thank you for the wonderful things that you have done for America," Bush said, turning away from the microphone to face the outgoing president and join in the applause from the crowd of 140,000 on the Capitol grounds.

While he spoke glowingly of Reagan's tenure and the "peaceful and prosperous time" he brought to the nation, Bush said: "But we can make it better."

"A new breeze is blowing," he said, a phrase he invoked three times in his speech, "and a world refreshed by freedom seems reborn. . . . A nation refreshed by freedom stands ready to push on; there is new ground to be broken, and new action to be taken."

With his inauguration, Bush said, a "chapter begins: a small and stately story of unity, diversity and generosity - shared, and written, together."

Then he struck the theme of compromise and cooperation between his White House and the Democrat-controlled Congress, saluting "my friends - and yes, I mean friends - in the loyal opposition - and yes, I mean loyal."

"I am putting out my hand to you, Mr. Speaker," Bush said, turning to House Speaker Jim Wright (D-Texas). "I am putting out my hand to you, Mr. Majority Leader," he said to Mitchell. "For this is the thing: This is the age of the offered hand."

The new president, with his 87-year-old mother, Dorothy, sitting nearby, continued: "When our mothers were young . . . the Congress and the executive were capable of working together to produce a budget on which the nation could live. Let us negotiate soon - and hard. But in the end, let us produce."

"The people await action. They did not send us here to bicker," Bush said to the crowd's vigorous applause. "They ask us to rise above the merely partisan. `In crucial things, unity' - and this, my friends, is crucial."

In a reference to one of the problems Reagan left behind - a federal deficit running about

\$150 billion a year - Bush said, "We will make the hard choices, looking at what we have and perhaps allocating it differently, making our decisions based on honest need and prudent safety.

"And then we will do the wisest thing of all: We will turn to the only resource we have that in times of need always grows - the goodness and courage of the American people."

In citing the problems of homelessness, drugs, crime and unwed mothers, Bush said, "The old solution, the old way, was to think that public money alone could end these problems. But we have learned that is not so. And, in any case, our funds are low. We have a deficit to bring down. We have more will than wallet; but will is what we need."

Bush's speech was interrupted by applause 10 times, the loudest seeming to come when he spoke of the drug problem.

". . . we as a society must rise up united and express our intolerance. . . . There is much to be done and to be said, but take my word: This scourge will stop."

He made one reference to the Soviet Union: "While keeping our alliances and friendships around the world strong, ever strong, we will continue the new closeness with the Soviet Union, consistent both with our security and with progress."

As Bush moved on to the White House to review the parade - and to later take his grandchildren into the Oval Office, like "Dad showing off a new car," said White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater - Democrats on Capitol Hill praised the tone of the address.

"He repeated the themes he's been stating since the election: cooperation and conciliation," said House Majority Leader Thomas Foley (D-Wash.). "It is all very well received, and Congress will respond with an equal effort and attitude."

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, who as a Democratic presidential candidate was harshly critical of Bush, said the speech was "characterized by hope and by reaching out to the loyal opposition."

For Bush, his inauguration as president crowned a quarter-century of public service - beginning as a congressman from Texas and including terms as ambassador to China and the United Nations and as director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Bush, who begins his term with a 65 percent favorable rating in an ABC poll, is the first sitting vice president since Martin Van Buren in 1838 to win election to the White House. His 40-state electoral sweep over Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis last November marked the fifth time in the last six presidential elections that Republicans have won. And it meant Reagan was the first president in 60 years to leave office at the

inauguration of an elected successor of his own party.

Reagan left office more popular than any departing president since modern polling began. His approval rating - ranging from 64 percent to 68 percent in polls this week - compares with the 59 percent approval rating of Dwight D. Eisenhower when his two terms ended in 1961.

After the inauguration, the Bushes and the Quayles escorted Reagan and his wife, Nancy, to a waiting helicopter to bid them farewell. Afterward, Bush acknowledged, "I was trying to keep the tears from flooding down my cheeks . . . After eight years of friendship, it gets pretty tough."

Later, aboard the presidential jetliner carrying the Reagans to their retirement home in Bel Air, Calif., the former president told reporters his departure was "a time of tears for a great many people and certainly for us . . . it was hard to say goodbye." But California "isn't a place in my mind, it's a way of life, so that's the sweet part of the bittersweet experience," Reagan said.

In brief remarks to a luncheon with congressional leaders, Bush recalled a scene as he walked with Reagan through the Capitol yesterday. When the sergeant-at-arms saluted with a "Mr. President," Bush said he stood aside for Reagan to acknowledge it. Then, he said, he felt something between "an affectionate hug and a kidney punch, the Silver Fox [Bush's wife, Barbara! telling me to get going."

While still at the Capitol, Bush took his first official acts as president, signing documents sending his Cabinet nominations to Congress and proclaiming Sunday a national day of prayer and thanksgiving.

Then it was on to the White House where the Bushes and Quayles and their families watched from a heated reviewing stand as close to 12,000 marchers, 457 horses and 79 floats moved along Pennsylvania Avenue. One of the floats was a Navy TBM Avenger torpedo bomber, a duplicate of the plane Bush flew in World War II. Bush waved with gusto as it passed.

The parade's finale was the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, and the Bushes joined the choir in singing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." The couple would dance the night away at 11 invitation-only inaugural balls, and today they planned to personally open the White House doors for a public reception.

Illustration

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Details

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