

MEMORANDUM

August 26, 2003

TO: Governor

FROM: Shannon

RE: 9/11

CC: Lee Ann, Phillip, Bill, Armerita, Kelly, Boyd, Kim

After talking with Lisa, we have reworked the day of September 11 with a focus on the military and first responders. The towns where we had events all have National Guard units that are/were deployed during Operation Enduring Freedom. We are now focusing on having time with the families of these members at the local armories. Below is the revised schedule.

The day of September 8 or 9:

- GRM donates blood on Monday, 9/8, after the haircut or on Tuesday, 9/9 after the bond commission meeting (it is better to not donate blood on 9/11 since GRM will be flying around the state and do not want him to be drained at the beginning of the day) and encourages all Mississippians to donate on 9/11. A press release goes out statewide on the day GRM gives blood.
- GRM sends out press release and proclamation encouraging all Mississippians to demonstrate their support for those soldiers and honor the victims of 9/11 by having a moment of silence/reflection/prayer. This message should go out Monday, September 8, especially to radio stations that can quickly and easily get the word out.

September 11:

- Proposed schedule would include:
 - Visit to Durant and memorial gardens established in memory of victims from Durant. There could be a brief service at the gardens with the family members of the two Mississippians killed as well as the mayor and local officials.
 - Visit the armory in Tupelo at the airport:
 - Six pilots from the Air Guard unit there are returning in the next few days from Iraq, including the pilots who fired on the house where Hussein's sons were killed.
 - the 1st Calvary Division, Rear Operations Center is home and Company D, 159 Aviation Center from Tupelo is deployed in Operation Enduring Freedom

- West Point Armory where the 223rd Engineer Battalion is deployed
- Meridian Armory:
 - The 186th and praise their good service record and show your support for them, while also demonstrating your focus on a thorough investigation of all allegations that occurred under the previous administration.
 - Visit family members of the 248th Air Traffic Control Squadron that are deployed
- Visit family members of Newton's 1st Battalion, 204 Air Defense Artillery (they are currently deployed guarding the White House). This can be done in Newton or combine with the stop in Meridian.
- the Coast:
 - Visit family members of soldiers of the 1108th AVCRAD and 890th Engineer Battalion (both deployed in Operation Enduring Freedom)
 - A first responder event
- Hattiesburg:
 - Visit family members of Company K, 185th Aviation (ATC) from Camp Shelby
 - First Responder event
- Jackson, there are two options:
 - Invite families of local service men and women who are serving or have served in Operation Enduring Freedom to the mansion for an informal gathering. (General Lipscomb and the commanders would pick the attendees) Have a short press availability with you and the members.
 - Visit the local armories in Jackson.
 - There are 8 units in Jackson, one in Brandon, one in Clinton and one in Vicksburg that have been deployed. The 220th Finance from Jackson is already back and the 210th and the 230th should be back around September 6th (that date is fluid though). Also, the 113th from Brandon is back. There could be a combination of family members from units that are not back and soldiers that are back with their families either at the mansion or at armories.