

■ Recognize:

- General Lipscomb
- General Waller
- Gen. Cross
- Col. Brock, Commander of the 172nd
- And **most importantly**, members of the
220th and their family and friends

■ One of the best parts of my job is to
welcome soldiers home

- Welcome home on behalf of 2.8
million Mississippians

- bet you never thought you
would be this glad to see pine
trees again

■ I want to thank you all for your commitment
to your job and your dedication to our
nation

■ I know for sure – when America needs their
very best, they make the call to Mississippi.

■ You have answered the call of our country
to defend the principles of freedom and
justice that we hold dear

■ As Commander-in-chief / proudly watched
as the men and women of the Mississippi
National Guard / boarded buses and
airplanes to serve our country

■ But as proud of you as we are when you
leave and bravely answer the call to duty,
we are thankful to God when you all return
home safe and sound

■ In times of war, there are those who see a
hopeless end; I see an endless hope.

- America is the greatest nation in the history of mankind, and nothing will change that.

- America is not just a country, it is an ideal, it is a principle.

- Jonathan Lambert, a US Marine from Booneville who gave his life in Iraq, said it best in a letter he wrote to his hometown paper about the job our soldiers do:
 - “We know that this is more than a job, we do it for our children, grandchildren, friends and family.”

■ You all are our heroes, we are proud of you
and we are happy you all made it back home
safely.

■ May God bless you, the State of Mississippi
and the United States