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Address

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Earlier on this day, I had conducted a Prayer breakfast and this was an address to the Plenary Session of the Commissioned Corps. In a sense it was the Commander-in-Chief's farewell to the troops. I had spoken at the previous seven annual meetings of the United States Public Health Service Professional Association – which is larger than the Commissioned Corps – this was my last appearance before leaving my post.

I said nothing that I had not said before, but I said it in a nostalgic way, speaking as a partner with these folks I had come to love and respect, and I went through our accomplishments, our failures, our improvements, and the challenges for the days ahead.

The lecture is included in this archive because it closes out an era; it closes the loop, so to speak, on my association with the men and women of the United States Public Health Service.