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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 17, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: GOP Fundraiser -
Jackson, Mississippi, Monday, June 20, 1983

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced draft remarks be sent directly to Aram Bakshian by noon today. The remarks honor Minority Whip Trent Lott and his fellow Mississippi Republicans. The remarks also review the continuing progress of the economic recovery, repeat promises to veto budget-busting bills or efforts to interfere with the tax cut or indexing, and support the rebuilding of our defenses and Administration initiatives in Central America. I see no legal objections.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 17, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ARAM BAKSHIAN, JR.
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *Orig. signed by FFF*
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: GOP Fundraiser -
Jackson, Mississippi, Monday, June 20, 1983

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks, and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective.

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aw 6/17/83

cc: FFFielding
✓ JGRoberts
Subj.
Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 17, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ARAM BAKSHIAN, JR.
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: GOP Fundraiser -
Jackson, Mississippi, Monday, June 20, 1983

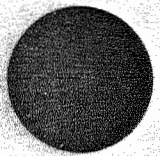
Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks, and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective.

FFF:JGR:aw 6/17/83

cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts
Subj.
Chron

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1



Name of Correspondent: Richard G. Darman

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Presidential Remarks: GOP Fundraiser
Jackson, Mississippi, Monday,
June 20, 1983

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION			
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>W Holland</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>8310616</u>			<u>1 1</u>
<u>WAT 18</u>	Referral Note: <u>D</u>	<u>8310616</u>			<u>58310617</u> <u>NOON</u>
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- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>ACTION CODES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A - Appropriate Action C - Comment/Recommendation D - Draft Response F - Furnish Fact Sheet
to be used as Enclosure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary R - Direct Reply w/Copy S - For Signature X - Interim Reply | <p>DISPOSITION CODES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A - Answered B - Non-Special Referral C - Completed S - Suspended |
|--|---|---|
- FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**
 Type of Response = Initials of Signer
 Code = "A"
 Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 15, 1983 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON, June 16, 1983

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: GOP FUNDRAISER
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1983

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HARPER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HERRINGTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLARK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FELDSTEIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BRADY/SPEAKES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BAKSHIAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GERGEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HENKEL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			FISCHER		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide Aram Bakshian with any edits/comments by noon tomorrow and send an information copy to my office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

(Rohrabacher/AB)
June 16, 1983
3:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: GOP FUNDRAISER
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1983

Congressmen Lott and Franklin, Senator Cochran, Leon Bramlett, Ebbie Spivey, all of you. Thank you for that fine welcome. My, isn't it wonderful to see so many Republicans in Mississippi? It wasn't too long ago when it was hard to find a Republican in this State.

There's a story about former Congressman Prentiss Walker. During his first campaign he visited a farm and when he introduced himself as a Republican candidate, the farmer's eyes lit up. He said he'd never seen a Republican before and ran off to get his wife. A few minutes later when the farmer and his wife returned they asked if he would give them a short speech. Prentiss looked for something to stand on and finally he stepped onto a pile of barnyard fertilizer and proceeded to do his best job of convincing them. After the speech he'd apparently won the farming couple over and they told him it was the first time they'd ever heard a Republican. Prentiss replied, "That's O.K., that was the first time I've ever given a speech from a Democratic platform."

Seriously, though, today we understand the importance of reaching out to Democrats with whom we have fundamental agreement, Democrats who have little in common with the National and State Democratic Party platforms. Your candidate for Governor, Leon Bramlett, was himself an active Democrat, like me, until he saw the light.

One of our top priorities since getting to Washington has been turning power back to levels of government closer to the people. For this to succeed we need good people, like Leon Bramlett, in positions of authority at the State level. I hope that from now until election day you'll put out maximum effort to make him Mississippi's first Republican Governor in more than 100 years.

Today we're honoring all your Republican office holders, but especially Congressman Trent Lott. I know you're proud of him and I only wish we had another 150 just like him in the House of Representatives.

Trent began his political career as an administrative aide to Democratic Congressman William Colmer, a fine man who ably represented this State for many years.

When Congressman Colmer retired and Trent ran, as a Republican, to fill his seat, the old man didn't know who to endorse. He loved Trent like a son, but at heart he was still a Democrat. Near the end of the campaign the veteran Congressman held a press conference and mentioned that, although he wasn't endorsing anyone, he wanted everybody to know that he was voting for Trent Lott.

Trent, I've got it on good authority that the turning point came when you went to visit the old Congressman and you brought him a half dozen shot and cleaned squirrels ready for cooking. I think what we've got to do is get a large batch of Mississippi squirrels for Trent to bring back so that everybody in the Congress can have a big helping.

Trent represents all that is best in the new generation of Republican leaders. He combines a deep personal commitment to the ideals of free enterprise and individual liberty, with a practical expertise in getting things done. He's put together one of the best staffs on Capitol Hill and is admired on both sides of the aisle for his efficient handling of constituent problems. He's the number two Republican in the House today, and I pray that someday we will see him as Speaker of a Republican controlled House of Representatives.

Trent was first elected in 1972 and for years has been fighting, along with a few stalwart Republicans, against the taxing and spending irresponsibility that shoved our country into the economic turmoil and decline from which we are just now emerging. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Trent, Congressman Franklin, and Senator Cochran for the courage they've shown in tackling what seemed like overwhelming problems just 2½ years ago.

In 1980, we promised to make America strong again. It's taken everything we could muster, but we've ridden out the storm. We've beaten back attempts to gut our program before it had a chance. And I'm proud to tell you today that -- as even our critics now have to admit -- it's working.

We've brought inflation -- formerly public enemy number one -- down from 12.4 percent to less than 1 percent for the last 6 months.

We were handed prime interest rates of 21½ percent. Ignoring calls for a quick fix, we've worked the prime down

slowly but surely to 10½ percent. And that's good news for thousands of Mississippians involved in the construction and timber industries.

Two-and-a-half years ago Federal spending seemed out of control, rising at 17 percent in 1980 alone. We've cut that growth rate by 40 percent.

To finance all that spending, Federal income taxes doubled between 1976 and 1981. By 1980 many working people were being taxed at rates reserved for the well-to-do only a few years ago.

Together we've managed to reduce the tax rates 25 percent across-the-board and to index the tax rates thereafter, so inflation can no longer push people into higher and higher brackets.

Much of the economic turmoil we've gone through can be traced directly to over spending and over taxing. Those who think they can pull the wool over the eyes of the voters and return to the tax, spend, and inflate policies of the past are badly mistaken. For my part, if confronted with budget-busting spending bills or any attempt to take away the people's tax rate cuts or indexing, I will not hesitate to use my veto powers.

The big spenders, anxious to get their hands back in the public's pockets, are now saying our tax rate reductions have only benefited the rich. Well, how do they explain that, with our new tax program in place, tax revenue acquired from the wealthy actually increased last year, going from \$76 billion to \$85 billion, and this was in the midst of an economic downturn.

And, let's set the record straight about indexing. Indexing prevents lower- and middle-class people from being pushed into higher brackets. It has no impact on our wealthiest citizens. Those who advocate eliminating indexing are trying to perpetrate a cynical hoax on lower- and middle-income Americans.

In the last few months we've seen the initial phases of a strong and steady economic recovery: retail sales and productivity are up; real wages are up; housing starts are up; auto sales are up; and new business incorporations are at near record levels. And unemployment, always a lagging indicator, has finally begun inching down.

Those who talk about raising taxes are gambling with the future of the recovery. That's a game I don't intend to play.

A weak economy wasn't the only cause for concern in the 1980 election. During the last decade our military strength was permitted to erode dangerously. At a time when the Soviets were dramatically increasing their military effort, real spending for our defense needs was reduced by almost 20 percent. By 1980, our fleet, which numbered nearly a thousand ships in the late 1960's, had dwindled to less than 500. Our military personnel were relying on weapons designed a generation before and many of our airmen were flying in bombers that were older than the pilots.

We promised to turn this threatening situation around. Again, with the help of your Republican Representatives, we've set in place a program to rebuild our defensive capabilities. We are doing our best to keep costs down, but no matter how diligent we are there is no escaping the fact that providing this country

with an adequate defense is an expensive undertaking, especially when you're forced to make up for the irresponsibility of so many past years. But, I say to our critics, we will not send our brave men and women in the military out to defend us with second-rate weapons and bargain-basement equipment. If they can put their lives on the line for us, we can afford to give them what they need to do the job right.

The security of our country, of course, depends on more than weapons. We must have the will to meet the challenges of an adversary who is constantly testing our resolve to defend our vital national interests. This is exactly what is happening in Central America.

I appreciate the sincere motives of many who point to the faults of our friends and ask for reforms. I agree with those who insist on economic as well as military assistance. Nevertheless, there is no excuse for not providing those under attack the weapons they need to defend themselves. If our friends are disarmed, if Central America is turned into a string of anti-American Marxist dictatorships, and if a flood of refugees -- and this time they'll be "feet people" and not "boat people" -- swarm into our country seeking a safe haven from Communist repression to our south, the American people will know who is to blame. I hope you agree with me. We cannot permit the Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan axis to take over Central America.

What we have in this country is the most precious gift God has given to mankind. Our country, more than any other, has been blessed with liberty and abundance.

A few years ago some people were counting America out, claiming that our best days were behind us, that our country was in decline. Well, not anymore. That pessimism is something else we've turned around.

I'm as confident as ever that the character of the American people is still strong and the soul of this Nation is still something of which we can be proud. This was never more apparent than recently when floods swept through your State. From all reports your citizens -- young and old, white and black -- proved that the American spirit is alive and well.

Take the case of Tommy Wallace, from Marion County, who heard the screams of people who'd been washed out of their cars by the raging waters. Wallace launched his small boat into the torrent and, braving the rushing waters and floating logs, saved the lives of at least six people. Later, when he was asked about it, he replied, "You just don't think about being scared. You feel like you've got to do what you've got to do."

During the floods there were numerous accounts of neighbor helping neighbor, of heroism and kindness, crossing all racial and economic lines. The people of Mississippi showed the country that when the chips are down, we are all Americans.

Today we have a heavy responsibility; the future peace and freedom of our children and of all mankind rests on our shoulders. But we have no reason to fear. Instead, like Tommy Wallace and all good Americans, we will do what we have to do. That is our way. I know I can count on you. Thank you for having me with you -- and God bless you.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 20, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD A. HAUSER

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: GOP Fundraiser

Richard Darman has requested that comments on the above-referenced draft remarks be sent directly to Aram Bakshian by 9:00 a.m. today. This is a revised version of remarks previously cleared by our office. The revisions are merely minor stylistic ones, and I see no legal objections.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 20, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ARAM BAKSHIAN, JR.
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD A. HAUSER *RH*
DEPUTY COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: GOP Fundraiser

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks, and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective.

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aw 6/20/83

cc: FFFielding
WJGRoberts
Subj.
Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 20, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ARAM BAKSHIAN, JR.
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD A. HAUSER
DEPUTY COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: GOP Fundraiser

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks, and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective.

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aw 6/20/83

cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts
Subj.
Chron

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

Name of Correspondent: Richard G. Darman

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Presidential Remarks : GOP Fundraiser
(6/17 - 3:00 draft)

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION		
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
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	Referral Note:			
<u>CVAT09</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:			

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- C - Comment/Recommendation
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- D - Draft Response
- S - For Signature
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet
to be used as Enclosure
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
- C - Completed
- B - Non-Special Referral
- S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: June 17 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: MONDAY, 9:00 a.m.
6/20

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: GOP FUNDRAISER
(6/17 - 3:00 draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HARPER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HERRINGTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FELDSTEIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BRADY/SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BAKSHIAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GERGEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HENKEL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			FISCHER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any minor edits directly to Aram Bakshian by 9:00 a.m. on Monday, June 20th, with an information copy to my office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Richard G. Darman
Assistant to the President

(Rohrabacher/AB)
June 17, 1983
3:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: GOP FUNDRAISER
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1983

Congressmen Lott and Franklin, Senator Cochran, Leon Bramlett, Ebbie Spivey, all of you. Thank you for that fine welcome. My, isn't it wonderful to see so many Republicans in Mississippi? It wasn't too long ago when it was hard to find a Republican in this State.

There's a story about former Congressman Prentiss Walker. During his first campaign he visited a farm and when he introduced himself as a Republican candidate, the farmer's eyes lit up. He said he'd never seen a Republican before and ran off to get his wife. A few minutes later when the farmer and his wife returned they asked if he would give them a short speech. Prentiss looked for something to stand on and finally he stepped onto a pile of barnyard fertilizer and proceeded to do his best job of convincing them. After the speech he'd apparently won the farming couple over and they told him it was the first time they'd ever heard a Republican. Prentiss replied, "That's O.K., that was the first time I've ever given a speech from a Democratic platform."

Seriously, though, today we understand the importance of reaching out to Democrats with whom we have fundamental agreement, Democrats who have little in common with the National and State Democratic Party platforms. Your candidate for Governor, Leon Bramlett, was himself an active Democrat, like me, until he saw the light.

One of our top priorities since getting to Washington has been turning power back to levels of government closer to the people. For this to succeed we need good people, like Leon Bramlett, in positions of authority at the State level. I hope that from now until election day you'll put out maximum effort to make him Mississippi's first Republican Governor in more than 100 years.

Today we're honoring all your Republican office holders, but especially Congressman Trent Lott. I know you're proud of him and I only wish we had another 434 just like him in the House of Representatives.

Trent began his political career as an administrative aide to Democratic Congressman William Colmer, a fine man who ably represented this State for many years.

When Congressman Colmer retired and Trent ran, as a Republican, to fill his seat, the old man didn't know who to endorse. He loved Trent like a son, but at heart he was still a Democrat. Near the end of the campaign the veteran Congressman held a press conference and mentioned that, although he wasn't endorsing anyone, he wanted everybody to know that he was voting for Trent Lott.

Trent, I've got it on good authority that the turning point came when you went to visit the old Congressman and you brought him a half dozen shot and cleaned squirrels ready for cooking. I think what we've got to do is get a large batch of Mississippi squirrels for Trent to bring back so that everybody in the Congress can have a big helping.

Trent represents all that is best in the new generation of Republican leaders. He combines a deep personal commitment to the ideals of free enterprise and individual liberty, with a practical expertise in getting things done. He's put together one of the best staffs on Capitol Hill and is admired on both sides of the aisle for his efficient handling of constituent problems. He's the number two Republican in the House today, and I pray that someday we will see him as Speaker of a Republican controlled House of Representatives.

Trent was first elected in 1972 and for years has been fighting, along with other stalwart Republicans, against the taxing and spending irresponsibility that shoved our country into the economic turmoil and decline from which we are just now emerging. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Trent, Congressman Franklin, and Senator Cochran for the courage they've shown in tackling what seemed like overwhelming problems just 2½ years ago.

In 1980, we promised to make America strong again. It's taken everything we could muster, but we've ridden out the storm. We've beaten back attempts to gut our program before it had a chance. And I'm proud to tell you today that -- as even our critics now have to admit -- it's working.

We've brought inflation -- formerly public enemy number one -- down from 12.4 percent to less than 1 percent for the last 6 months.

We were handed prime interest rates of 21½ percent. Ignoring calls for a quick fix, we've worked the prime down

slowly but surely to 10½ percent. And that's good news for thousands of Mississippians involved in the construction and timber industries.

Two-and-a-half years ago Federal spending seemed out of control, rising at 17 percent in 1980 alone. We've cut that growth rate by 40 percent.

To finance all that spending, Federal income taxes doubled between 1976 and 1981. By 1980 many working people were being taxed at rates reserved for the well-to-do only a few years ago.

Together we've managed to reduce the tax rates 25 percent across-the-board and to index the tax rates thereafter, so inflation can no longer push people into higher and higher brackets.

Much of the economic turmoil we've gone through can be traced directly to over spending and over taxing. Those who think they can pull the wool over the eyes of the voters and return to the tax, spend, and inflate policies of the past are badly mistaken. For my part, if confronted with budget-busting spending bills or any attempt to take away the people's tax rate cuts or indexing, I will not hesitate to use my veto powers.

The big spenders, anxious to get their hands back in the public's pockets, are now trying to use greed and envy to undercut the economy-building aspects of our tax program. They are calling for a tax cap on benefits that would undermine new investment, job creation and economic growth.

I hope the American people remember that many of those advocating this tax cap opposed any reduction in tax rates for

anybody. They don't think we are taxed enough. And what they are suggesting now isn't a cap on tax cut benefits, it's a cap on the recovery and we can't let that happen.

And, let's set the record straight about indexing. Indexing prevents lower- and middle-class people from being pushed into higher brackets. It has no impact on our wealthiest citizens. Those who advocate eliminating indexing are trying to perpetrate a cynical hoax on lower- and middle-income Americans.

In the last few months we've seen the initial phases of a strong and steady economic recovery: retail sales and productivity are up; real wages are up; housing starts are up; auto sales are up; and new business incorporations are at near record levels. And unemployment, always a lagging indicator, has finally begun inching down.

Those who talk about raising taxes are gambling with the future of the recovery. That's a game I don't intend to play.

A weak economy wasn't the only cause for concern in the 1980 election. During the last decade our military strength was permitted to erode dangerously. At a time when the Soviets were dramatically increasing their military effort, real spending for our defense needs was reduced by almost 20 percent. By 1980, our fleet, which numbered nearly a thousand ships in the late 1960's, had dwindled to less than 500. Our military personnel were relying on weapons designed a generation before and many of our airmen were flying in bombers that were older than the pilots.

We promised to turn this threatening situation around. Again, with the help of your Republican Representatives, we've

set in place a program to rebuild our defensive capabilities. We are doing our best to keep costs down, but no matter how diligent we are there is no escaping the fact that providing this country with an adequate defense is an expensive undertaking, especially when you're forced to make up for the irresponsibility of so many past years. But, I say to our critics, we will not send our brave men and women in the military out to defend us with second-rate weapons and bargain-basement equipment. If they can put their lives on the line for us, we can afford to give them what they need to do the job right.

The security of our country, of course, depends on more than weapons. We must have the will to meet the challenges of an adversary who is constantly testing our resolve to defend our vital national interests. This is exactly what is happening in Central America.

I appreciate the sincere motives of many who point to the faults of our friends and ask for reforms. I agree with those who insist on economic as well as military assistance. Nevertheless, there is no excuse for not providing those under attack the weapons they need to defend themselves. If our friends are disarmed, if Central America is turned into a string of anti-American Marxist dictatorships, and if a flood of refugees -- and this time they'll be "feet people" and not "boat people" -- swarm into our country seeking a safe haven from Communist repression to our south, the American people will know who is to blame. I hope you agree with me. We cannot permit the Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan axis to take over Central America.

What we have in this country is the most precious gift God has given to mankind. Our country, more than any other, has been blessed with liberty and abundance.

A few years ago some people were counting America out, claiming that our best days were behind us, that our country was in decline. Well, not anymore. That pessimism is something else we've turned around.

I'm as confident as ever that the character of the American people is still strong and the soul of this Nation is still something of which we can be proud. This was never more apparent than recently when floods swept through your State. From all reports your citizens -- young and old, white and black -- proved that the American spirit is alive and well.

Take the case of Tommy Wallace, from Marion County, who heard the screams of people who'd been washed out of their cars by the raging waters. Wallace launched his small boat into the torrent and, braving the rushing waters and floating logs, saved the lives of at least six people. Later, when he was asked about it, he replied, "You just don't think about being scared. You feel like you've got to do what you've got to do."

During the floods there were numerous accounts of neighbor helping neighbor, of heroism and kindness, crossing all racial and economic lines. The people of Mississippi showed the country that when the chips are down, we are all Americans.

Today we have a heavy responsibility; the future peace and freedom of our children and of all mankind rests on our shoulders. But we have no reason to fear. Instead, like Tommy

Wallace and all good Americans, we will do what we have to do.
That is our way. I know I can count on you. Thank you for
having me with you -- and God bless you.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 20, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD A. HAUSER

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Draft Presidential Remarks: Signing Ceremony for S.J. Res. 42 - Alaska Statehood Anniversary

Richard Darman has requested that comments on the above-referenced draft remarks be sent directly to Aram Bakshian by close of business today. The remarks are to be delivered at a signing ceremony on June 22, at which the President will sign S.J. Res. 42, commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of Alaskan statehood. The innocuous remarks review Alaska's contribution to the Union.

The second sentence states that Alaska was admitted to the Union on January 4, 1958. The correct date is January 3, 1959, the date of the signing of Proclamation No. 3269 by President Eisenhower. See 48 U.S.C. prec. § 21. The correct date appears in S.J. Res. 42. I have noted this error in the attached memorandum for Bakshian.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 20, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ARAM BAKSHIAN, JR.
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD A. HAUSER *RAS*
DEPUTY COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Draft Presidential Remarks: Signing
Ceremony for S.J. Res. 42 - Alaska
Statehood Anniversary

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced proposed remarks. The second sentence contains an incorrect date for the admission of Alaska into the Union. Alaska was admitted on January 3, 1959, when Proclamation 3269 was signed by President Eisenhower. We have no other objection.

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aw 6/20/83

cc: FFFielding
✓ JGRoberts
Subj.
Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 20, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ARAM BAKSHIAN, JR.
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD A. HAUSER
DEPUTY COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Draft Presidential Remarks: Signing
Ceremony for S.J. Res. 42 - Alaska
Statehood Anniversary

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced proposed remarks. The second sentence contains an incorrect date for the admission of Alaska into the Union. Alaska was admitted on January 3, 1959, when Proclamation 3269 was signed by President Eisenhower. We have no other objection.

cc: Richard G. Darman

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Chron

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 83, 06, 18

Name of Correspondent: Dorman, Richard G.

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Draft Presidential Remarks - Signing Ceremony
SJ, Res 42 - Alaska Statehood Anniversary

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CU Holland</u>		<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>83, 06, 18</u>		<u>1 1</u>
<u>CU AT 18</u>		<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>D 83, 06, 18</u>		<u>S 83, 06, 20</u>
		<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>

- ACTION CODES:**
- A - Appropriate Action
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 - R - Direct Reply w/Copy
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- DISPOSITION CODES:**
- A - Answered
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 - C - Completed
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- FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**
- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
 - Code = "A"
 - Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



COB MONDAY

DATE: June 17, 1983 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: June 20, 1983

SUBJECT: DRAFT PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SIGNING CEREMONY FOR S.J. RES 42--
ALASKA STATEHOOD ANNIVERSARY

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HARPER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HERRINGTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FELDSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BRADY/SPEAKES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>FISCHER</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GERGEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>BAKSHIAN</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please Note: This event has been rescheduled for Wednesday, June 22, and will not be held Monday as indicated on speech draft.

Please forward comments/edits directly to Aram Bakshian, with a copy to my office, by close of business Monday, June 20.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Richard G. Darman.
 Assistant to the President

(Dolan/AB)
June 17, 1983
4:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SIGNING CEREMONY S.J. RES 42 --
ALASKA STATEHOOD ANNIVERSARY
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1983

I'm delighted today to take the first step toward what will be for all Americans a proud and joyous moment: the celebration of the 25th anniversary of Alaska's statehood. Alaska was admitted to the Union on January 4, 1958; then as now, Alaska was a treasure house of natural resources and a State of undisturbed vistas and incomparable beauty.

In many ways, the story of Alaska and her people is America's story, the struggle of courageous men and women with a wild and bounteous frontier. Today the State of Alaska reminds us of this rich heritage and our own continuing efforts toward developing a Nation while seeking to preserve its irreplaceable beauty and resources.

The resolution which I am about to sign speaks of Alaska's material wealth. It notes that Alaska provides one-eighth of the Nation's gold, one-fifth of its oil production and two-fifths of its harvested fish. Alaska possesses ten of the sixteen vital materials needed for the Nation's security and all of this has resulted in the national treasury collecting \$3 for every \$1 of Federal money that is spent in this rich and vital State.

As the resolution notes, the United States has reaped economic rewards from Alaska many times greater than its original \$7 million investment. But Alaska's contribution to our Nation goes far beyond this. All Americans benefit from the commitment and courage, the vitality and frontier spirit of the people of

Alaska. Alaskans and Alaska remain an inspiration to all Americans and a reminder of the richness, diversity, and beauty of America's heritage.

Today I call on all Americans and all levels of government to join with me in celebrating Alaska Statehood Day with appropriate ceremonies and recognition.

I will now sign S.J. Resolution 42 into law.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 28, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Draft Presidential Remarks:
California GOP Fundraiser

Richard Darman has requested that comments on the above-referenced draft remarks be submitted directly to Aram Bakshian by noon today. The remarks review the fortunes of the GOP in California, economic progress nationwide, and the situation in Central America. On page 3 the draft repeats a line from the NRA speech that caused some concern, in which the President advises locking up career criminals and "throwing away the key." As penological policy this is probably objectionable; as rhetorical flourish it is not. I have no legal objections, and have noted two typographical errors in the proposed memorandum to Bakshian.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 28, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ARAM BAKSHIAN, JR.
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *FFF/RAH*
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Draft Presidential Remarks:
California GOP Fundraiser

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks, and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective. On page 6, line 5, there should be a dash between "them" and "Democrats." There is also an obvious typographical error in the quotation on page 9.

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aw 6/8/83

cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts
Subj.
Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 28, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR ARAM BAKSHIAN, JR.
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Draft Presidential Remarks:
California GOP Fundraiser

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks, and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective. On page 6, line 5, there should be a dash between "them" and "Democrats." There is also an obvious typographical error in the quotation on page 9.

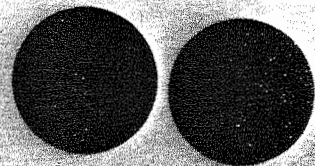
cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aw 6/8/83

cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts
Subj.
Chron

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 / 1 /



Name of Correspondent: Richard G. Darman

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Draft Presidential Remarks: California
GOP Fundraiser

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION	
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CWU011</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>83/06/28</u>	<u> / / </u>
<u>CWAT18</u>	D	<u>83/06/28</u>	<u>S 83/06/28</u> <u>12 N</u>
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Comments: _____

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Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

JUN 28 1983

DATE: June 27, 1983 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON TOMORROW Tuesday, June 28, 1983

SUBJECT: DRAFT PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CALIFORNIA GOP FUNDRAISER

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HARPER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HERRINGTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McMANUS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLARK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VERSTANDIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FELDSTEIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BRADY/SPEAKES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>HENKEL</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERGEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>FISCHER</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			<u>BAKSHIAN</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments/edits directly to Aram Bakshian, with a copy to my office, by Noon tomorrow, Tuesday, June 28.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

(Elliott/AB)
June 27, 1983
6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CALIFORNIA GOP FUNDRAISER
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA
THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1983

Thank you very much George. Thank you all for that wonderful, warm California welcome. You know, Nancy and I look forward so much to coming home for these short visits. Seeing old friends like you here tonight is the best part of our trip. And now of course we have a special reason for cheer. How sweet it is to say: Governor George Deukmejian.

George and I go back many years -- more than I think he or I care to remember. Maybe that's because we seem to have so much in common. For one thing, we both have this habit of getting sent to Sacramento -- to clean up after the Browns.

Well, I must say, you all look great. Maybe it's our "spruced" up surroundings. Or could you be smiling because things are looking up for our Grand Old Party in California and across the country?

I'm told that here tonight, thanks to your support, we will raise \$1 million for California Republicans -- what a shot in the arm that will be. Isn't it great to see so many Republicans in California?

It wasn't always that way. It wasn't long ago that Republicans were about as plentiful as spring water in Death Valley. And I ought to know, I spent a good part of my life on that desolate piece of real estate.

I'm reminded of a story about a young Republican candidate searching for votes in Mississippi. It seems this young man

dropped in on a farm and introduced himself as a Republican candidate. And as he tells it, the farmer's eyes lit up and then he said. "Hold everything until I get my wife. We've never seen a Republican before." And a few minutes later he was back with his wife and they asked if he would give them a speech. He looked around for a podium, something to stand on. And the only thing available was a pile of that stuff that the late Mrs. Truman said it had taken her 35 years to get Harry to call "fertilizer." So he stepped up on that and made his speech. And apparently he won them over. And they told him it was the first time they'd ever heard a Republican. And he said, "That's okay. This is the first time I've ever given a speech from a Democratic platform."

Well, our party is strong and growing and I'm proud to say we've got a leader in this state doing a tremendous job. And you know I'm talking about Tirso del Junco.

We did all right last year and we will do better in 1984. Certainly our losses in 1982 were due more to gerrymandering than to any repudiation of our philosophy. A perfect example was John Rousselot. John ran a terrific race. His wife even campaigned for him in Spanish. He almost pulled off the upset of the year. But let me assure you: your loss is our gain. John Rousselot is on our team and I'm mighty pleased to have his help.

I'm also pleased to have another local success story working closely with us in Washington -- our senator, the good California senator, Pete Wilson.

Now as I mentioned, we know what a tough job George Deukmejian has. But let's make something else plain: if anyone

in California has the talent, experience and determination to turn this State around -- George will do it.

He's been taking the no-nonsense stands we need on the budget, education and crime. He's proving the truth of Andrew Jackson's words, "One man with courage makes a majority." George wants to make it safe for Californians to walk their streets again without having to be afraid. He said no to Prop 15 because you won't get gun control by disarming law abiding citizens. There's only one way you get real gun control: disarm the thugs and career criminals, lock them up, and throw away the key.

George also wants to help working people keep their earnings safe from all those who would bleed them dry with higher and higher taxes. I notice there have been some complaints against Prop 13. Anything that could conceivably be better will be done with more tax dollars. Maybe you could help George by sending a message: Tell them the people approved Prop 13, the people still want Prop 13 and the people will defend Prop 13.

I think I can sympathize with what George is up against. When I was here a year ago, I said we were engaged in an epic conflict with the proponents of "no," the people who offer the politics of no growth, no take-home pay, no incentives to work or save.

We arrived in Washington to find a calamity dumped in our laps: spending increasing at an annual rate of 17 percent; double-digit inflation; record interest rates; and a tax system pushing working families into higher brackets faster than they could earn or save.

It took us nearly the entire first year to get our program approved, and even then, the tax cut had to be watered down. The morning after the tax cut passed, the liberals announced the program had failed. I said that in fairness, to borrow their favorite word, we needed a little more time.

Do you remember all those predictions they made which received so much publicity? They said the our program would guarantee double-digit inflation. Well, they left us inflation of 12.4, and we've knocked it down to 3.5 percent over the last 6 months -- the lowest in a decade. They said the program would push interest rates to a new record. Well, the prime rate was 21.5 percent when they left. Today it's 10.5.

Since so much of what they said, and are still saying, is pure propaganda, let me give you one prediction you can count on. Despite all their attacks and demagoguery, the full and final portion of the tax cut -- the 10 percent -- will go into effect in less than 24 hours, and it will be followed by indexing in 1985.

You know, if they had their way, I think the Democrats would want to tax motherhood and apple pie, but don't worry because we've not going to let them do it.

What we see is a recovery gaining momentum and an economy beginning to sparkle: tax rates have been cut; real wages are improving; retail sales are up; personal savings and productivity have reversed their declines; the stock market has surged into new, high ground; venture capital investments have reached record levels; production is increasing in one industry after another;

more and more workers are being called back, and in the words of Al Jolsen, "you ain't seen nothin yet."

Maybe it's time we told our critics: "If you can't cooperate and work with us, if you can't do anything but carp, whine and oppose . . . then stand aside, get out of the way and let us get on with it."

You know I've asked this before, but maybe you've noticed it too. Now that our program is working, how come they don't call it Reaganomics anymore? I never wanted to call it that. I've always thought it was the people's program. But I will say one thing: I'll take Reaganomics over Taxonomics anyday. The last thing we need is more taxes for more spending. And if the spenders can't get that straight, then I am prepared to veto their budget-busting bills again and again and again.

Tax rates affect prices for working, saving and investing. And when you raise the prices of those productive activities, you get less of them and more activity in the underground economy, tax shelters and leisure pursuits. Business people can't force the public to buy products that aren't selling by raising their prices. But too many in Washington and across the country still believe that we can raise more revenues from the economy, by making it more expensive to work, save and invest in the economy.

The truth is, since the capital gains tax was cut in 1978, revenues to the government have gone up. And since we lowered the top rate of personal income tax from 70 to 50 percent in 1981, we're getting more tax revenues at the lower rate than we were getting when the rate was 70 percent. And that's the secret of good taxes. As I've said before, we didn't run up a trillion

dollar debt because you're not taxed enough. We ran up that debt because government spends too much.

We cannot compromise fundamental principles without compromising ourselves and our future. We're not asking the Congress to do what's easy. We're asking them Democrats and Republicans alike -- to work with us to do what's right.

Doing what's right includes standing up for a strong, national defense, making America second to none. We believe that what occurred during the last decade -- when the Soviets raced ahead militarily and we stood still -- was wrong. We believe it is immoral to ask the sons and daughters of America to protect this land with second-rate equipment and weapons that won't work.

We are not a belligerent people. We have never sought war we have always sought peace. We occupy no country, we build no walls to keep our people in, and we have no armies of secret police to keep them quiet. But we must understand our foes will do everything they can to divide us and undermine our will. To keep our families safe, to keep our country at peace, the enemies of democracy must know that America has the courage to stay strong -- and I intend to make sure they do.

The security of our country, of course, depends on more than weapons. We must have the will to meet the challenges to our vital interests. What is going on now in Central America, only a few hundred miles from our shores, directly affects the United States' national security.

Two-thirds of all our foreign trade and petroleum pass through the Panama Canal and the sealanes of the Caribbean. But look in that area and what do we see. We see contruction in Cuba

of a Naval base at Cienfuegos, from which Soviet nuclear submarines can operate. We see development of Soviet capacity for air reconnaissance over our Eastern coast from Cuban bases. We see the building of an enormous war machine in Nicaragua: thousands of Cuban military personnel, sophisticated weapons including Soviet made T-55 tanks, with arms being funnelled in from the Soviet Union, the eastern bloc, Libya, the PLO and another and another and another.

The Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan war machine is not being built to make Central America safe for democracy. It's not being built for the purpose of economic and agrarian reform. It is being built for one reason only: to impose communist dictatorships throughout Central America.

I appreciate the sincere motives of those who point out the faults of our friends and ask for reforms. El Salvador is trying to build democracy. El Salvador did hold elections, and under threats of death, a greater percentage of their people voted than in our own country.

I agree with those who insist on economic as well as military assistance to Central America. I wonder, though, why the news media so seldom reminds the public that we're giving more than twice as much economic aid as military aid. But I must come back to the main point. It is US security that is at stake. We have a choice: either we pay a small price now, so we can prevent a crisis; or, we listen to the do-nothings and risk an explosion of violence that will bring real danger closer and closer to home.

We will not turn our backs on our friends. We must never permit dictators to ram communism down the throats of innocent people in one country after another.

You know, the the Soviet paper, Pravda, recently said something I actually support. It said that peace in Central America is possible only on the basis of respect for the right of each people to choose itself its way of life. Well, I would only add this -- that two perfect places to begin are Cuba and Nicaragua where free and democratic elections are not permitted.

To those dictators we say this: "Prove to the world your system is legitimate. Prove you're not afraid of your own people. Put down your guns. Permit a free press. Stop harrassing your priests. Let your people vote." Then we'll see if they truly desire your repression and regimentation, or the chance for a new life with dignity and opportunity and freedom.

What we have in this country is the most precious gift God has given to mankind. Our country, more than any other, has been blessed with liberty and abundance.

A few years ago some people were counting America out, claiming that our best days were behind us, that our country was in decline. Well, not anymore. That pessimism is something else we've turned around.

We have an agenda for growth and security and we can be proud of what we're doing. Let us tell the people who we are and what we stand for. We are the party that fights for lower taxes, more opportunity, stable prices, a sound dollar, and peace through strength. We believe that standing up for America means standing up for the God who has so blessed our land.

Lincoln charted our course. "I am not bound to win," he said, "but I am bound to be true." And he said, "Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let 7's to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it."

We are rebuilding America. If we stick together and trust in God, we will make this wonderful land all we have ever dreamed she could be.

Thank you very much and God bless you all.