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Comments:				

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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Document No.			

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DECT: FRESIDENTIA					
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VICE PRESIDENT			McFARLANE		Ę
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HICKEY			WIRTHLIN		E
JENKINS					Ε

PLEASE PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS TO BEN ELLIOTT, WITH A COPY TO MY OFFICE. THANK YOU.

RESPONSE:

PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH PLANNING SCHEDULE

EVENT A. SPEECHES	DATE	WRITER RESEARCHER	TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE
ADDRESS INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS OF AMERICA	03/27 Tuesday	Dana Kim	Economic recovery.
ADDRESS WOMEN IN BUSINESS CONFERENCE (New York, NY)	04/05 Thursday	Peter Misty	Economic recovery, women's entre- preneurship, education.
ADDRESS N.Y. STATE FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS (New York, NY)	04/05 Thursday	Tony Elizabeth	Values, tuition tax credits, excellence in education.
ADDRESS TO CENTER FOR STRATEGIC & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES	04/06 Friday	Ben Julie	Bipartisanship & foreign policy.
DROPBY FUNDAMENTALIST 1984 CONVENTION	04/13 Friday	Peter Elizabeth	Up with America.
AA. FOREIGN TRIP			
REMARKS: ARRIVAL CEREMONY-HAWAII	04/22 Sunday		
REMARKS: DEPARTURE STATEMENT- HAWAII	04/24 Tuesday		

EVENT	DATE	WRITER RESEARCHER	TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE
REMARKS: ARRIVAL CEREMONY-GUAM	04/25 Wednesday		
TOAST: PRIVATE DINNER WITH LI AND ZHAO - YANG YUAN HALL (5 min)	04/26 Thursday		
ADDRESS: GREAT HALL (15-20 min)	04/27 Friday		
TOAST: WELCOMING BANQUET - GREAT HALL (10 min)	04/27 Friday		
REMARKS: OPENING STATEMENT FOR CCTV INTERVIEW (5 min)	04/28 Saturday		
REMARKS: RECEPTION FOR AMERICAN COMMUNITY (5 min)	04/28 Saturday		
TOAST: RECIPROCAL BANQUET - GREAT HALL (10 min)	04/28 Saturday		
RADIO TALK:	04/28 Saturday		
REMARKS: SIGNING CEREMONY AT GREAT HALL (TENTATIVE)	04/30 Monday		
REMARKS: DEPARTURE CEREMONY - GREAT HALL (??)	04/30 Monday		

EVENT	DATE	WRITER RESEARCHER	TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE
REMARKS: FOXBORO-SHANGHAI JOINT VENTURE	04/30 Monday		
REMARKS: OPENING STATEMENT-Q & A's FUDAN UNIV. CLASSROOM	04/30 Monday		
TOAST: BANQUET HOSTED BY SHANGHAI MAYOR	04/30 Monday		
REMARKS: (Fairbanks, AL - ??)	05/02 Wednesday		
B. RADIO TALKS			
RADIO TALK:	03/31 Saturday	Ben	
RADIO TALK:	04/07 Saturday	Ben	
		THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE PROPE	
RADIO TALK:	04/14 Saturday		

EVENT	DATE	WRITER RESEARCHER	TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE
C. REMARKS			
RECEPTION FOR TRILATERAL COMMISSION	04/01 Sunday	Ben Julie	
DROPBY MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMM.	04/03 Tuesday	Dana Julie	
RECEPTION AT WHITE HOUSE FOR FORD THEATER BENEFIT	04/08 Sunday	Peter Kim	
SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE 27th LAW DAY, USA PROCLAMATION	04/09 Monday	Tony Kim	
RECEPTION FOR NRCC'S REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL	04/12 Thursday	Al Misty	
RECEPTION FOR REAGAN-BUSH '84 FINANCE COMMITTEE	04/17 Tuesday		
D. FOREIGN VISITS			
STATE VISIT: PRES. BLANCO OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: ARRIVAL STATE DINNER TOAST & ENTERINMNI	04/10 Tuesday	Dana Julie	
O.M. PREM OF THATLAND: DEPARTURE STATEMENT	04/13 Friday	Dana Julie	

EVENT E. TAPINGS	DATE	WRITER RESEARCHER TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE
TAPING: PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCE- MENT FOR JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT	03/29 Thursday	
TAPING: HEAD START ASSOCIATION	03/29 Thursday	Al Kim
TAPING: NATIONAL CRIMESTOPPERS	03/29 Thursday	Al Elizabeth
TAPING: PORTUGAL'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY AS A DEMOCRATIC STATE	03/29 Thursday	Dana Julie
TAPING: SENATOR CORDON HUMPHREY CAMPAIGN	03/29 Thursday	Dana Misty
TAPING: NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION	04/17 Tuesday	
TAPING: PASTORS CONFERENCE, SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION	04/17 Tuesday	

<u>EVENT</u>	DATE	WRITER RESEARCHER	TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE	
F. OTHER				
DROPBY CHOWDER & MARCHING CLUB GATHERING	04/09 Monday	Dana Elizabeth		
WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENTS DINNER	04/13 Friday	Ben Misty		

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 20, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks: Signing

Ceremony for the Shipping Act of 1984

Richard Darman has asked for comments by 9:30 this morning on remarks to be delivered upon the signing of the Shipping Act of 1984. The remarks, distilled from the proposed signing statement I previously reviewed and approved, argue that the Act will aid American shipping by removing excessive government regulation. The remarks then discuss other Administration initiatives in this area, including efforts to open some Navy jobs to civilians, and conclude with thanks to the various officials active in the long effort to secure passage of the bill. I have reviewed the proposed remarks and have no objections.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 20, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

DIRECTOR OF PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks: Signing

Ceremony for the Shipping Act of 1984

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

cc: Richard G. Darman

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

BJECT: PRESIDENTIAL RE TUESDAY, MARCH			REMONY FOR THE SHIPPING		
	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT			McFARLANE		
MEESE			McMANUS		
BAKER			MURPHY		
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FIELDING			VERSTANDIG		
FULLER			WHITTLESEY		
HERRINGTON	0		TUIWILER		
HICKEY			HENKEL WIRTHLIN		
JENKINS			HODGES FISCHER ELLIOTT		

Please forward comments/edits directly to Ben Elliott by 9:30 a.m. TOMORROW, TUESDAY, MARCH 20, with an information copy to my office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Receiver: 55 1984 HAR 19 PH 5: 34

(Robinson/BE) March 19, 1984 4:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE SHIPPING ACT OF 1984
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1984

Good afternoon and welcome to the White House. Ever since the first hardy Americans began to trade their goods with the rest of the world, shipping has been vital to our Nation's well-being. As our young Republic grew, Yankee crews piloting ships built in Boston, Baltimore, and other thriving seaports earned a worldwide reputation for their skill and American self-confidence. The Englishman Edward Trelawney once wrote about a visit he and a friend paid to an American ship docked in London in 1822. The Yankee schooner was so graceful, Trelawney wrote, that he and his friend thought it might have been designed by a poet. After the American mate showed them the ship, Trelawney wrote, and I quote, "[He] would not let us go until we had drunk, under the star-spangled banner, to the memory of Washington, and the prosperity of the American commonwealth."

The American merchant marine has remained self-confident and vigorous, stirring our imaginations, providing jobs, and playing a crucial role in the Nation's economy. Yet in recent years, we must admit, American shipping has been handicapped. Government regulation of shipping has grown excessive and confusing. As a result, American shippers have suffered from long delays in regulatory rulings, endless and unpredictable Government intervention, and confusion about the extent of anti-trust exemption granted to them. They have been forbidden to engage in shipping practices that are normal in other world trade routes,

and they've found themselves at a severe disadvantage in meeting foreign competition. At the same time, foreign ships operating in our trade routes have chaffed at being subjected to regulatory policies they consider needless.

Today, it's my pleasure to sign a bill that will begin to change all that: the Shipping Act of 1984.

This act will minimize Government intervention in the shipping industry, promote vigor and innovation within our merchant marine, and put American carriers back on an equal footing with their foreign competition. While safeguarding the essential interests of the shipping public, it will eliminate needless regulations, expedite regulatory actions by the Federal Maritime Commission, and remove a source of discord between the United States and our trading partners. All told, this act represents the most significant piece of shipping legislation since the original Shipping Act of 1916. It's a milestone in our struggle to end the over-regulation of American shipping and to allow the unequaled skill and ingenuity of our sailors to carry the industry to new prosperity.

But despite this important legislation, we still have a great deal to do. I want you to know that our Administration is moving full steam ahead.

We have a host of legislative and regulation-trimming efforts already underway, and we're striving for an agreement on new port development legislation. And we're making significant progress in our efforts to open up jobs on Navy support vessels for merchant marine officers and seamen. Already, over 2,000

actual and prospective seagoing jobs in the Navy's military sealift command have been designated for private sector union crews, and we're hard at work to create another 1,400 seagoing jobs for civilian crews.

In shipbuilding, we're doing all we can to enact the reforms needed to make the industry more efficient and better able to meet foreign competition. In the Navy, when I took office our fleet was less than half what it numbered as recently as 1968. To strengthen our sea defenses, we've begun the biggest Naval shipbuilding program since World War II. We've already added 50 ships to the fleet, bringing their total to 518 -- well on the way to our goal of 600.

Some years ago, the Naval historian Samuel Eliot Morrison wrote, "The nations that have enjoyed sea power even for a brief period -- Athens, Scandinavia, the Netherlands, England, the United States -- are those that have preserved freedom for themselves and given it to others." Today our Nation once again understands the relationship between freedom and our presence on the high seas. We must and will restore vigor to our Navy and merchant marine.

I want to thank you all, because every person in this room has had a hand in making this legislation possible. The leadership of the Senate Commerce and Judiciary Committees and the members of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries and Judiciary Committees deserve special gratitude. Thanks also go to the carriers, shippers, port officials, maritime labor representatives, and freight forwarders who came together to

provide firm support for our efforts. And my heartfelt gratitude to former Secretary of Transportation, Drew Lewis, who launched our efforts; to the current Secretary of Transportation, Elizabeth Dole, who skillfully charted the course through some treacherous rocks and shoals; to Punch Green, Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission, who stood the lookout watch; and to Admiral Hal Shear, Maritime Administrator, who remained at the helm through it all. It's been a long voyage, but we've finally reached port.

Thank you, God bless you, and now let me sign the legislation.

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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PLEASE PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS TO BEN ELLIOTT, WITH A COPY TO MY OFFICE. THANK YOU.

RESPONSE:

PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH PLANNING SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE	WRITER RESEARCHER	TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE
A. SPEECHES			
GRIDIRON DINNER	03/24 Saturday	Ben Misty	
ADDRESS INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS OF AMERICA	03/27 Tuesday	Dana Kim	Economic recovery.
ADDRESS TO CENTER FOR STRATEGIC & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES	04/04 Wednesday	Ben Julie	Bipartisanship & foreign policy.
ADDRESS WOMEN IN BUSINESS CONFERENCE (New York, NY)	04/05 Thursday	Peter Misty	Economic recovery, women's entre- preneurship, education.
ADDRESS N.Y. STATE FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS (New York, NY)	04/05 Thursday	Tony Elizabeth	Values, tuition tax credits, excellence in education.
DROPBY FUNDAMENTALIST 1984 CONVENTION	04/13 Friday	Peter Elizabeth	Up with America.
B. RADIO TALKS			
RADIO TALK:	03/24 Saturday	Ben	

<u>EVENT</u>	DATE	WRITER RESEARCHER TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE
RADIO TALK:	03/31 Saturday	Ben
RADIO TALK:	04/07 Saturday	Ben
RADIO TALK:	04/14 Saturday	
C. REMARKS		
AGRICULTURE DAY CEREMONY	03/20 Tuesday	Al Kim
SIGNING CEREMONY FOR SHIPPING ACT OF 1984	03/20 Tuesday	Peter Misty
WHITE HOUSE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE	03/23 Friday	Al Misty
LUNCH WITH TAU KAPPA EPSILON	03/23 Friday	Tony Kim
NRSC's INNER CIRCLE RECEPTION	03/26 Monday	Peter "isty
MEDAL OF FREEDOM LUNCHEON	03/26 Monday	Dana Elizabeth

EVENT	DATE	WRITER RESEARCHER	TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE
RECEPTION FOR TRILATERAL COMMISSION	04/01 Sunday	Ben Julie	
DROPBY MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMM.	04/03 Tuesday	Dana Julie	
RECEPTION AT WHITE HOUSE FOR FORD THEATER BENEFIT	04/08 Sunday	Peter '	
SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE 27th LAW DAY, USA PROCLAMATION	04/11 Wednesday	Tony Kim	
RECEPTION FOR NRCC'S REPUBLICAN . CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL	04/12 Thursday	Al Misty	
D. FOREIGN VISITS			
PRES. MITTERRAND OF FRANCE: ARRIVAL, STATE DINNER TOAST, AND ENTERTAINMENT THANK YOU	03/22 Thursday	Dana Julie	
STATE VISIT: PRES. BLANCO OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: ARRIVAL STATE DINNER TOAST & ENTERTNMNT	04/10 Tuesday	Dana Julie	
P.M. PREM OF THAILAND: DEPARTURE STATEMENT	04/13 Friday	Dana Julie	

EVENT	<u>DATE</u>	WRITER RESEARCHER TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE
E. TAPINGS		
TAPING: AMERICAN PREPAREDNESS ASSOCITY N DINNER	03/23 Friday	Dana Julie
TAPING: MARINE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP FUND	03/23 Friday	Al Misty
TAPING: AMERICAN ADVERTISING FEDERATION	03/23 Friday	Peter Kim
TAPING: MUSEUM OF BROADCASTING TRIBUTE TO LUCILLE BALL	03/23 Friday	Tony Kim
TAPING: PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCE- MENT FOR JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT	03/23 Friday	No script necessary
TAPING: NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE AGING	03/23 Friday	Al Elizabeth
F. OTHER		
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATIONS	03/26 Monday	Dana Elizabeth
FOURTH ANNUAL LAMB FRY	04/02 Monday	Elizabeth

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<u>EVENT</u>	DATE	RESEARCHER	TOPIC/THEME/PURPOSE
DROPBY CHOWDER & MARCHING CLUB GATHERING	04/09 Monday	Dana Elizabeth	
WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENTS DINNER	04/13 Friday	Ben Misty	

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 22, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Address: Independent Insurance Agents of America (3/22 -- 11:30 a.m. Draft)

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the abovereferenced remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott
by 10:00 a.m. tomorrow. The remarks review the progress of
the economic recovery, urge passage of the anti-crime
package by the House, discuss the need for the defense
build-up, and reaffirm the President's continuing commitment
to restoring the right to pray in public schools. In the
third paragraph on page 1, the President refers by name to
his own independent insurance agent, Jim Norris of California.
In what may be an excess of caution I recommend deleting the
agent's name. There is no reason to give him such free
advertising, and deleting specific mention of the name
avoids even the appearance of Presidential endorsement of
Norris's insurance agency.

At the top of page 3 the President quotes Calvin Coolidge and quips "[n]ow contrary to some reports on my age, Cal didn't tell me that personally." The joke is funny when quoting Washington or Jefferson, but President Reagan was as old as 22 during Coolidge's lifetime. Cal easily could have told him that personally. I recommend deleting the joke.

On page 6, the remarks urge "a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced Federal budget. Thirty-two of the States have this already." No State, of course, has a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced Federal budget. The sentence should read: "Thirty-two of the States already have such a requirement for their own budgets." I am also concerned about the accuracy of the 32 figure. Thirty-two states have filed petitions under Article V calling for a convention to propose a balanced budget amendment to the Federal Constitution. It may be true that the exact same number have balanced budget amendments in their own constitutions, but it would be quite a coincidence. I have asked Research to double-check the figure.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 22, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING OFFICE

- - - - - -

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING Orig. signed by FFF

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Address: Independent Insurance Agents

of America (3/22 -- 11:30 a.m. Draft)

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks. On page 1, paragraph 3, we recommend deleting specific reference to Jim Norris. This is necessary to avoid the appearance of Presidential endorsement of Norris's insurance agency. In the second line of the paragraph, "Jim Norris" should be deleted, and in the third line, "Jim" should be changed to "him."

At the top of page 3, the joke about the President's age does not ring true in this instance. The quip works well when Washington or Jefferson is quoted, but in fact the President was as old as 22 during Coolidge's lifetime. We recommend deleting the second paragraph on page 3.

The last sentence of the first full paragraph on page 6 is inartfully worded. No State has a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced Federal budget. The sentence should read: "Thirty-two of the States already have such a requirement for their own budgets."

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aea 3/22/84

bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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F - Furnish Fact Sheet X to be used as Enclosure			Code	= Initials of Signer
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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE :3	/22/84	_ ACTION/CONG	URRENCE/COM	MENT DUE BY	10:00 a.	m. TOMORROW	<u>,</u> 3/:
SUBJECT:	ADDRESS:	INDEPENDENT	INSURANCE	AGENTS OF	AMERICA		
		(3/22 - 11:	30 a.m. dr	aft)			

	ACTION FYI			ACTIO	N FYI
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REMARKS:

Please provide any edits directly to Ben Elliott by 10:00 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, March 23rd, with an information copy to my office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

1984 HAR 22 AM 11: 33

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS OF AMERICA TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1984

Thank you, Dick Teubner, Fred England, Frank Patterson and Larry Hite. Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Washington. I know you're here from all parts of the country. After taking a look at some of the things going on here, you may think you took a wrong turn and ended up in the "twilight zone."

Seriously, though, it is people like you, working and building throughout America, who keep our country growing. I'm more convinced than ever that we are a great country because we have great people.

You may be aware that I've got my own independent insurance agent, Jim Norris, a member of your California association. I've been meaning to call Jim about including my Washington residence on the homeowner policy for my ranch. I may need the coverage for about 4 more years.

I appreciate this opportunity to be with you at this National Legislative Conference. I understand some of you were briefed last night at the White House on economic and national security questions. This morning you got another point of view from Congressman Jim Jones.

One of the great cornerstones of our way of life is our right to disagree, to openly and critically discuss the policies of Government. There is a story that a Russian and an American were talking about the relative freedom of their countries. The Yank proudly stated that in our country "everyone is free to

speak." The Russian said that is true in the Soviet Union, as well. "The only difference," he said, "is that in America you're free 'after' you speak."

You will be hearing many points of view during your visit to Washington. We can all thank God that we live in a country where citizens like yourselves can come, examine the facts, hear the arguments, make judgements, and then use your influence to be part of the decision-making process.

You make your living providing people with insurance for their lives and property. But the only insurance of good Government is the involvement of solid citizens.

For far too long, while you were focusing on your jobs, families, and communities, special interests were hard at work in Washington. A political coalition of these interests and well-intentioned liberal politicians brought this country to the edge of economic catastrophe. They gave us out-of-control spending, oppressive taxation, near-runaway inflation, sky-high interest rates, and economic stagnation.

The same people who created that mess now have the gall to lecture us about compassion and fairness. The only thing fair about their policies is that they didn't discriminate, they made everybody miserable.

In the last 3 years, we've done our best to reverse the liberal policies of tax, spend, and inflate that wrought such havoc on our country. At first, we were told that turning the situation around would be impossible. We were told, for example, that it would take 10 years to wring inflation out of the system.

I just kept in mind something President Cal Coolidge once said: "I have found it advisable," he said, "not to give too much heed to what people say when I am trying to accomplish something of consequence. Invariably they proclaim it can't be done. I deem that the very best time to make the effort."

Now contrary to some reports on my age, Cal didn't tell me that personally. <

We didn't let the pessimists hold us back, and today I'm proud to report that we've taken inflation from double-digits, eating away at our standard of living, and brought it down to about 4 percent.

They said there was no way to get control of spending. It was doubling almost every 5 years, growing at 17 percent annually when we got here. We've cut that in half. And more progress can be made on this front.

The prime interest rate was 21-1/2 percent just before we got to Washington. It can be expected to fluctuate, up a point or down a point, but it's way down from the outrageous prime rate we inherited. I see no reason why, in the long run, the prime won't continue down.

I've often said that our country was in trouble because

Government was spending too much and taxing too much. Well, our

25-percent, across-the-board reduction in the tax rates have

prevented the people from being further sapped by built-in tax

increases. And we've indexed those rates so that starting next

year Government will no longer make a built-in profit off the

taxpayers' misery.

You may have noticed that there has been considerable pressure to back away from our tax-rate reductions. Clearly, the deficits remain a problem, but the answer is not undercutting economic recovery with higher and higher taxes. Recently, we offered a balanced 3-year deficit reduction package -- providing for a \$150 billion cut in the projected deficit. The proposal is realistic and a good first step. We've started the process moving, but I have no intention of giving in to those whose only answer is taxing the American people back into the poor house. We must have meaningful cuts in spending. We can balance up with tax increases and lock ourselves into economic bondage, or, we can balance down with lower taxes and spending and permit our economy to break free.

This is no time to go back to the failed policies of the past. It took time to put our program in place and it took time for it to take effect. But we are now in the beginning phase of an economic renaissance that will touch the lives of all Americans.

From the ashes of pessimism, a stronger and more vibrant America is emerging. Productivity, after falling for 2 years before we took office, rose 3.5 percent last year. The gross national product was up a healthy 6 percent, and it appears that first quarter growth this year was even stronger, 7.2 percent. Unemployment is dropping faster than anyone predicted. Housing starts, auto sales, and retail shopping are all up. Venture capital, which lays the foundation for a better tomorrow, rose less than \$1 billion in 1980. It shot up over \$4 billion last

year. And lo and behold, the deficit, which all the pessimists predicted would keep going up, is now coming down -- and it's being brought down by economic growth.

In 1983, almost 600,000 new businesses were incorporated, an all-time high. Most of these represent small business ventures, spearheaded by individuals like yourselves, proud and independent, taking risks and putting in long, hard hours to earn a living and be your own boss. Each one is just a miniscule part of our economy. But, taken together, small businesses represent a dynamo of energy and creativity that is catapulting our country toward new levels of opportunity and freedom.

John Naisbitt, futurist and author of "Megatrends," is saying, "1984 has arrived just in time to witness an explosion of bottom-up entrepreneurism and the dawn of an era that may offer our best hope yet for world peace."

All of this is no accident. Instead of channeling an increasing percentage of working people's paychecks to Washington, we're letting people keep more of what they earn. Instead of centralizing power in the Federal bureaucracy, we're giving more autonomy to State and local government, transferring programs and resources to them in the form of block grants. We're freeing people from hundreds of millions of hours required to process needless Federal regulations and red tape, unleashing them for more productive endeavors.

In short, we're altering the basic direction of Government.

Ironically, historians may record that 1984 was the year

Americans turned away from "big brother" and put their faith back

in the people. And the American people are meeting the challenge, just as they have every time they've had a Government that believes in them.

We've come a long way. Our next step is putting in place fundamental reforms that will prevent us from sliding back into the pit from which we have just emerged; reforms that will enable all Americans of every age, race, creed, and color to go forward together to build a true opportunity society. The first thing we need, which would take us a long way toward responsible spending, is a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced Federal budget. Thirty-two of the States have this already.

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Along with a constitutional requirement for a balanced budget, we need to give the Chief Executive a line-item veto, so pork-barrel projects can't be attached to needed legislation. This, too, is a tool available to many Governors that could be put to use in Washington.

At long last, we need to overhaul and simplify our tax system. We need to make it more fair and provide greater incentives for everyone to work, save, and invest by bringing tax rates down. I am not just suggesting minor changes. What is needed is a sweeping, comprehensive reform, but certainly not like the new tax form sent to me the other day. It had two lines on it. The first line said: "What did you make last year?" The second: "Send it in."

Much of what we've done has been, simply, making up for the nonsense of the last two decades. Putting our economy back on

the right track was priority number-one, but there are other life or death issues confronting us.

Today, far too many of our citizens feel unsafe in their own neighborhoods and even in their own homes. Now, instead of just a lock, many of our citizens peer out of their dwellings, relying on bolts, chains, and even metal bars propped grotesquely against their door. They hire private security guards to patrol near their homes. They have dogs and burglar alarms. They find themselves behind barred windows. And even with all this, they do not feel safe. It is about time the American people start asking who is to blame for this disgrace.

The crime epidemic we suffered in the last two decades was no more a result of an uncontrollable cycle than were the inflation and stagnation that ravaged our people. It can be traced to liberal policies that make it ever more difficult to convict the guilty, but have nothing to do with protecting the innocent. The headlines in newspapers throughout the country tell the story. Our criminal justice system is long overdue for reform. It is about time we take the handcuffs off law enforcement and put them on the thugs and murderers where they belong.

The Senate has passed a package of criminal justice reform which, if enacted, will toughen up the system and make it more efficient and capable of getting career criminals off the streets. The liberal leadership of the House, ignoring the cries of victims throughout this country, has yet to move on this legislation. I think in this election every candidate, for

whatever office, should be on record as far as this legislation. This is not a peripheral issue. People's lives are at stake, and politicians and the media should not dismiss it lightly. We must never reach the point in this country where Americans feel they have no alternative but to take the law into their own hands. So maybe it's time to move some politicians out of office in order to get criminals off the streets.

Our national security is no less vital than our citizens' personal security and was no less ill-managed in the last decade. Real defense spending was permitted to erode by over 20 percent in the 1970's. Weapons systems were unilaterally canceled. The real pay of our military personnel dropped as inflation took off. The C.I.A. was gutted, as long-time agents were let go. Those in charge seemed to be operating under the notion that a weaker America is a stronger America. I don't buy that, and I don't think you do, either.

But let's not kid ourselves, national security has a price tag. It is an expensive proposition and it's been made even more so because we've been playing catch up, making up for the irresponsibility of the past. The ones you hear yelling the loudest these days are the ones who put us behind the eightball in the first place. Many of them publicly oppose the MX missile and other strategic systems, while at the same time loudly proclaiming their intent to negotiate arms control agreements with the Soviet Union. It is about time we get serious and ask these would-be leaders what they expect to use as bargaining chips with the Soviet Union. Good will and sincerity will get

them a smile and a glass of vodka. You can guess why the Soviets will be smiling.

Keeping the peace and protecting our freedom are as great a challenge today as at any time in our history. It will require a hard-headed, realistic approach to defense. Denying that Cuba and other communist countries are totalitarian, or unilaterally canceling weapons systems, will not lead to a more secure and peaceful world. Peace through strength is not a slogan, it is a fact of life.

I recently agreed to scale down our planned increase in defense spending. This has played heavily on my mind. It was done only after great thought and regard to all factors. I've looked into the faces of the young people in our military, and, as long as I'm President, we are not going to ask these brave young men and women who defend this country to put their lives on the line using obsolete weapons and bargain-basement equipment. We, as a people, must have the courage to stand behind them.

For the last 3 years, we have been trying to build a strong America, not just militarily, but economically, and, yes, spiritually. We all appreciate the necessity of maintaining the military power to deter aggression and prevent war. Yet we must also acknowledge that the greatest source of our strength is not weapons or laws, but, instead, the character of our people, our standards as individuals, and our recognition of those values that transcend the politics of the moment.

I'd just like to add here that I see no contradiction between religious freedom and acknowledging the Judeo-Christian

heritage of our country. We may have suffered a setback in the Senate recently, but I can assure you the fight is not over. We intend to come back again, and again, and again, until the right of voluntary prayer in public schools has been restored. As far as I am concerned, God should never have been expelled from the classroom in the first place.

Four years ago, a cloud of pessimism hung over this land. A negative and cynical attitude, totally inconsistent with our traditions, like a wet blanket, smothered that resilient spirit so long associated with America and Americans. I'm proud that this, too, is something else we've helped change. And I say "we" because this kind of transformation can't be from the top; it reflects a change of heart, not just a change of policies.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for what you've done, and continue to do, to keep this blessed land the good and decent place God intended it to be. I want to congratulate you as an association. Your national, local, and State boards are, for example, in the forefront of the campaign against drunk driving, and, at the same time, you're promoting auto safety programs throughout the country.

You've also been involved in anti-crime programs, especially concerning arson. But this doesn't even scratch the surface. Independent insurance people are active in veterans and service clubs, in churches and P.T.A.'s, in charitable and community programs, in cities and towns across the width and breadth of America. Your own president-elect, Fred England, was designated an "Angel" last year by the Association of Retarded Citizens.

The Massachusetts Independent Insurance Agents sponsored the A.R.C. as well as the Special Olympics, something in which my wife Nancy is also involved.

Your Vice President, Richard Taylor, is a State board member of the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness and speaks on their behalf across the country.

Your national State Director from Hawaii, Norm Westly, has, for years, devoted his personal time to drug rehabilitation programs.

I know that these individuals are not unique. They represent thousands of people in your profession.

President Dwight Eisenhower once said, "America is great because it is good. If it ever ceases to be good it will cease to be great." You are helping America to live up to its potential. Together we can keep America the shining light of liberty God intended it to be.

Thank you and God bless you.