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WASHINGTON

April 17, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Draft Presidential Remarks:

Great Hall of the People/Beijing, China

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott by noon today. The lengthy remarks begin with a discussion of the mutual interest of China and the United States in resisting Soviet expansionism, and then move to an extended discourse on American values. The President stresses the importance of economic freedom, and notes the successes China itself has had in experimenting with the entreprenuerial spirit. He then discusses how America stifled this spirit in the 1970's, and how we have enjoyed an economic renaissance after returning to sounder economic policies. The remarks conclude by reviewing specific bilateral initiatives: the industrial and technological accord, expanding joint economic ventures, the new tax agreement, and the new plan for cooperation in space.

I have no objection to the President extolling the virtues of capitalism to the Chinese, although the discussion at the bottom of page 9 and the top of page 10 about the shift from the policies of the 1970's to Reaganomics strikes me as a bit partisan for a foreign address. In particular, the "[w]hen we took office in January 1981" language should be deleted. I have no other objections.

Attachment

WASHINGTON

April 17, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

Orig. signed by FFF

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Draft Presidential Remarks:

Great Hall of the People/Beijing, China

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks. The last paragraph on page 9 and the first paragraph on page 10 strike us as too partisan for a foreign address. In particular, the opening clause on page 10 -- "[w]hen we took office in January 1981" -- should be deleted.

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:ph 4/17/84

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JGRoberts/ Subject Chron.

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

BJECT:	PRESIDENTIA	L ADDRESS:	GREAT	HALL OF THE PE	OPLE	
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Please forward any edits/comments directly to Ben Elliot in room 100 by NOON TOMORROW, TUESDAY, APRIL 17, with an information copy to my office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

12-7-17

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: GREAT HALL OF THE PEOPLE BEIJING, CHINA FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1984

Thank you very much Dr. Zhou Peiyuan, and all of you distinguished ladies and gentlemen. I am honored to come before you today -- the first American President ever to address your nation from the Great Hall of the People.

My wife Nancy and I have looked forward with great pleasure to visiting the people, places, and treasures of China, of your great and historic land, the world's oldest civilization. We have marvelled at the beauty of Beijing's golden roofs and sweeping vistas, at the bustling work of a city putting on a new face, and we have felt the warmth of your welcome touch our hearts. In welcoming us, you pay tribute to the more than 230 million Americans I have the privilege to represent.

Our visit will be fully packed, yet all too brief. I'm afraid it will be, as a Tanġ Dynasty poet once said, "Looking at the flowers while riding a horse." But then, you have another saying, from the book of Han, which describes how Nancy and I feel, "To_see a thing once is better than hearing about it a hundred times."

Twelve years ago, former President Nixon arrived in Beijing, descended from Air Force One, and shook hands with Premier Chou En-lai. Premier Chou would later tell him, "Your handshake came over the vastest ocean in the world -- 25 years of no communication."

With one handshake, America and China each turned a new page in their histories. I believe history beckons again. It is time to write a new chapter for peace and progress in our histories, with America and China going forward hand-in-hand. Sye-shou bing-gin. (Go forward hand-in-hand)

We must always be realistic about our relationship, frankly acknowledging the fundamental differences in beliefs, values, and institutions between our two societies. Yes, let us acknowledge those differences; let us never minimize them; but let us not be dominated by them. I have not come to China to lecture about what divides us, but to build on what unites us. I have not come to dwell on a closed-door past, but to urge that Americans and Chinese look to the future, because, together, we can and will make tomorrow a better day.

When Premier Zhao was in the United States he told us,

"China has opened its door and will never close it again." Well,

permit me to assure you today, America's door is open to you.

And when you walk through, we will welcome you as our neighbors

and our friends. We may live at nearly opposite ends of the

world, we may be distinctly different in language, customs, and

political beliefs, but on the most vital questions of our time

there is no distance between Americans and Chinese -- the hearts

of our people beat as one.

Ask the citizens of your country and mine what they desire most in this world for their children, and for their children's children, and the answer, in English or Chinese, will be the same: We want peace. We want a better life. Their dreams, so

simply stated, represent mankind's deepest aspirations for security and personal fulfillment. I believe helping them make their dreams come true is what our jobs are all about.

We can work together as equals in a spirit of mutual respect and mutual benefit. I believe in Chinese you say Hu Jing Hu Hui (who-jing who-whey). (Mutual respect, mutual benefit)

America and China are both great nations, and we have a special responsibility to preserve world peace. To help fulfill that responsibility, the United States is undertaking a major strengthening of its defenses, which had been neglected for more than a decade. It is an expensive effort, but the American people realize it is crucial if we are to deter aggression. We do not threaten any nation; we seek only to preserve peace. America's troops are not massed on China's borders; we occupy no foreign lands; nor do we commit wanton acts, such as shooting 269 innocent people out of the sky for the so-called cause of sacred airspace. And America and China both condemn military expansionism — the brutal occupation of Afghanistan, the crushing of Kampuchea; and we share a stake in preserving peace on the Korean peninsula.

Our two peoples have known the trauma of human suffering. I think they agree there can be only one sane policy to preserve our precious civilization in this modern nuclear age: a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. That is why the Soviet Union must go beyond rhetoric to meaningful negotiations, why we must negotiate actual reductions, not just controls, and

why we must work for the day when nuclear weapons will be banished from the face of the Earth.

America's attraction to China, our friendship for your people, and our respect for China's many contributions to the progress of civilization, dates back to the beginning of our own history. You might be interested that on the ground floor of the White House we have a collection of the finest place settings used by our Presidents for state dinners. The design of George Washington's, the Father of our country, is Chinese, evidence indication of his attraction to your country. His admiration was shared by Benjamin Franklin, one of America's first, and most beloved inventors, writers, and philosophers.

Now, some Americans might have you believe that I can tell you this because I was alive nearly 200 years ago, when these great leaders were eating together at the White House. Believe me, that's not quite true. But it's a pleasure to visit a country that's been around as long as yours. For China, 200 years isn't getting old, 200 years is just getting started.

Back in 1784, when the first American trading ship, the Empress, entered Chinese waters, my country was unknown to you. We were a new Republic, eager to win a place in international commerce. A young, and probably homesick, American sailor recorded that first day in a letter home.

"My dear Father," he wrote, "If ever you receive this letter, it will aquaint you that, after a passage of 6 months and 7 days, we came to anchor at Wampoo . . . The Chinese had never heard of us, but we introduced ourselves as a new Nation, gave

them our history with a description of our country, the importance and necessity of trade to the advantage of both, which they appear perfectly to understand and wish."

Since those early days, our countries have had a long history of close and beneficial ties, and we have both profited from a rich exchange of people, goods, and ideas. Chinese settlers helped tame our continent during the 19th century.

I know many in your country have wondered how America, which began as an impoverished country and a melting pot attracting immigrants from every corner of the globe, could somehow pull together and become the most powerful economic Nation in the world. How did we go, in so short a time, from living by candlelight to exploring the frontiers of the universe by satellite; from each farmer laboring with horse and hoe for an entire year just to feed four people, to running his farm with computers and the most modern machinery, producing enough to feed 77 people, and making America the breadbasket of the world?

Well, we are people who have always believed that the heritage of our past is the seed that brings forth the harvest of our future. And from our roots, we have drawn tremendous power from two great forces — faith and freedom. America was founded by people who sought freedom to worship God, and to trust in Him to guide them in their daily lives with wisdom and strength, and also goodness and compassion.

Our passion for freedom led to the American Revolution, the first great uprising for independence against colonial rule. We knew each of us could not enjoy liberty for ourselves unless we

were willing to share it with everyone else. And we knew our freedom could not be truly safe, unless all of us were protected by a body of laws that treated us equally. George Washington told us we would be bound together in a sacred brotherhood of free men. And Thomas Jefferson's noble words in the Declaration of Independence still inspire us today: All men are created equal, endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among them life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

These great principles have nourished the soul of America.

And they have been enriched by values our two peoples share. I

am talking about the dignity of work, the strength of

neighborhood, and the warmth of family. We both see the future

in the eyes of our children. And we revere our elders. To be as

good as our fathers and mothers, we must be better.

Trust the people -- three words that are not only the heart and soul of American history, but the most powerful force for human progress in the world today. Those who ignore this vital truth will condemn their countries to fall further and further behind in the world's competition for economic leadership in the 1980's and beyond.

Because look around us: The societies that have made the most spectacular progress in the shortest period of time are not the most tightly controlled, nor even the richest in natural resources. No, it is only where people have been allowed to create and build, only where they have been able to make economic decisions and benefit from their own risks, that societies have become more prosperous, progressive, dynamic, and free. Nothing

could be more basic to the spirit of progress for a farmer, laborer, or merchant than economic reward for legitimate risk and honest toil.

We are seeing the evidence right here in China. A little over a century ago, President Ulysses S. Grant visited your country and saw China's great potential: "I see dawning," Grant wrote, "the beginning of change. When it does come, China will rapidly become a powerful and rich nation . . . The population is industrious, frugal, intelligent, and quick to learn."

Today, China's economy crackles with the dynamics of change: The restoration of private plots and the incentives for peasants, workers, and merchants in your new responsibility system; more disciplined management in terms of profits and losses; improved methods of market distribution; the opening of your economy to the world through China's renewed membership in the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, your decision to join the GATT, and through your invitation to trade and invest, especially in your four Special Economic Zones; and, your commitment to attract capital and scientific knowledge to create a high technology base for the future — all this demonstrates China's new role in the international economic community and your ability to provide stronger growth, more opportunities, and a higher standard of living for your people — and that spells progress.

Make no mistake, we believe your decision in 1978 to make modernization China's number one priority, and Chairman Deng's and Premier Zhao's leadership in meeting that challenge, have been good for China and good for the world. Unlike some

governments, which fear change, fear the future, and fear their own people -- neglecting their needs to feed a military Goliath -- China is permitting people to reach out to new horizons, and we salute your courage.

"Modernization," Premier Zhao told us, "lies in our efforts to emancipate our thinking in a bold way -- to carry out reform with determination, to make new inventions with courage, and to break with the economic molds and conventions of all descriptions which fetter the development of productive force." These are words of vision. We Americans have always considered ourselves pioneers, so we appreciate such vitality and optimism. Today, I bring you a message from my countrymen: As China moves forward toward your new challenge, America welcomes the opportunity to walk by your side.

Incidentally, I know Premier Zhao has demonstrated mastery of his subject. When he was directing agricultural policies in Sichuan, the peasants went from food shortages and forced imports, to bumper harvests and rising exports. In fact, I'm told that, because of the work he did, it is said in China, "If you want rice, go see Zhao."

* China's growth is in China's hands. You will choose your own path to development. But we are not surprised to see that fresh breezes of incentives and innovation are sweeping many positive changes across China: A dramatic increase in the number of commercial and industrial enterprises; the beginning of a rural housing boom; a sharp rise in agricultural output; and a big jump in the average income for peasants and factory workers.

And behind these statistics are reports of personal success stories that point to a new spirit of progress: A manager of a shirt factory in Haiwan County, following the discipline of markets and using incentives of the responsibility system, has reportedly quadrupled his production and expanded his workforce from about 100 to 600.

A group of villagers from Henan Province have become the first Chinese peasants ever to own their own plane. They purchased it with funds they and their friends had earned, and they will use the plane for aerial seeding, and spraying pesticides and fertilizer on their grain and cotton fields to increase production.

Chairman Deng has a saying he likes: "Seek truth from facts." Well, today in China, the reality of more small enterprises doing a thriving business, more private plots being worked for bigger harvests, and more investment in science and technology, points to a brighter future for all. President John Kennedy had a term to describe such progress, "A rising tide lifts all boats."

In our country, we are remembering that incentives are key and that free people will build free markets that ignite dynamic development for everyone. For a time, America's Government had forgotten that key principle. During the years of the 1970's, our Government had been penalizing our hardworking citizens.

Taxes were rising at a punishing pace, Government spending was out of control, too many regulations were stifling risk-taking, and so our economy had faltered and our people were upset.

When we took office in January 1981, we said to the people: Let us correct past mistakes and, together, make a new beginning. From now on, if you work harder and earn more than before, your reward will be greater than it was. We are putting America's future back in your hands; we know you can reawaken the spirit of enterprise; we know you can get America moving again.

And they have. In 3 short years, the American people have transformed a no-growth economy, crippled by high taxes, record inflation, 21-1/2 percent interest rates, plunging productivity and a weak dollar, into a dynamic growth economy bolstered by new incentives, stable prices, lower interest rates, a rebirth of productivity, and restored confidence in our currency.

Hope has been reborn. Confidence has returned. America's future looks bright again. With a strong, expanding technological base that is pioneering sunrise industries and modernizing older ones, the United States is beginning an economic renaissance and helping pull other nations toward worldwide recovery.

I see America and our Pacific neighbors going forward in a mighty enterprise to build strong economies and a safer world. The policies the United States and China have put into place provide us an historic opportunity: We can expand our economic and scientific cooperation, strengthen the ties between our peoples, and take an important step toward peace and a better life. And there is much we can share. We think progress in four areas is particularly promising: trade, technology, investment, and exchanges of scientific and managerial expertise.

Bilateral trade, although still small in terms of our trade with the rest of the world, has become important to both our countries and shows great promise for the future, particularly in areas such as machinery, technology, oil equipment, petroleum, agricultural and manufacturing products.

Last June, I instructed our Government to liberalize controls over the export to China of high technology products, such as computers and laboratory instruments. May I emphasize to the members of the scientific community here today: The relaxing of export controls reflects my determination that China be treated as a friendly, non-allied nation and that the United States participate as much as possible in your modernization.

During Premier Zhao's visit to our country, we took another step forward, signing the United States-China Industrial and Technological Cooperation Accord. Our Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade will discuss implementation of the Accord during their next meeting in Washington, in May. We will focus our efforts on the sectors to which China has attached greatest priority: coal, petroleum, transportation, telecommunications, and upgrading of your plant and equipment.

Expanding cooperative ventures is another area of promising growth: American firms have invested approximately \$100 million in joint ventures in China, making the United States your largest foreign investor. These joint ventures indicate the confidence of our business community in China's political stability and in your open-door policy. Our joint efforts range from ventures in automobiles to scientific instruments, and from hotels to

consumer products. Thirteen American firms are participating in the search for oil off the South China coast. We are also discussing investment projects aimed at providing raw materials for Chinese industry and products for world markets.

For your part, China has begun to play a role in our economy. Thirty-five Chinese firms have established offices or branches in the United States, and China has invested in several joint ventures in our country.

We intend to strengthen these trends. Tomorrow our two countries will sign a bilateral tax agreement, which I am pleased to report will increase incentives for even closer cooperation between American and Chinese firms. And we are continuing to work toward conclusion of bilateral agreements permitting greater investment and nuclear cooperation between our firms.

There is great potential in our joint efforts to increase managerial and scientific expertise. As many of you know, our countries established, in 1979, the Dalian program of management training for industry, science, and technology. Over 750 graduates have since received training in modern methods of industrial management.

· Today, I am pleased to announce the extension of this highly successful program, and the start-up 3 days from now of a Senior Executive Program concentrating on broad economic policy and management issues. Better management will mean better economic performance.

We also have exchange programs in 21 specific fields of science and technology. Under these protocols, we share the

benefits of research in medicine, energy, and other technical fields. Our scientists, for example, are learning a great deal more about earthquakes from your scientists.

Permit me to share one very exciting piece of news with you.

During our talks, we have agreed, in principle, to embark on a major program for peaceful cooperation in space science. We can look forward, within the next 2 or 3 years, to the flight of a Chinese astronaut, working with our astronauts on our Space Shuttle, to conduct an initial set of scientific experiments.

Further in the future, we hope to return to space with our Chinese partners to launch a Chinese-built satellite, carrying U.S. and Chinese-built instruments to conduct full-scale scientific research over a much longer period. A joint working group will begin meeting within the next few weeks to start defining the details of this exciting new departure in Sino-American scientific and technological cooperation.

Men and women of vision see already that working in the zero gravity environment of space offers dazzling opportunities to improve life on Earth. Experiments done on our space shuttle have shown that medicines treating heart diseases, stroke, and diabetes can be manufactured in space with five times the purity of the same medicines on Earth. And they can be made from 400 to 800 times more rapidly, so one month's production of medicines in space yields as much as 30 years' production on the ground. The manufacturing efficiency and cost-reduction of life-saving medicines can be dramatic.

We have also discovered that we can manufacture large crystals of exceptional purity in space. These crystals are the basis of the semiconductor chips which run every computer. By manufacturing them in zero gravity, we can both reduce the cost of producing computers, and we can make new strides toward producing much larger and faster computers — the so-called supercomputers. If China, the world's oldest civilization, joins with America, still a young Nation, we can cooperate as powerful partners for the cause of good. On behalf of over a billion of our fellow citizens, we can do it, and we should do it.

In the humanities and social sciences, hundreds of American and Chinese scholars have visited each other's countries to teach about their homelands, in subjects ranging from law and economics to poetry and history. For our part, we welcome this new Pacific tide. Let it roll peacefully on, carrying a two-way flow of people and ideas that can break down barriers of suspicion and mistrust, and build-up bonds of cooperation and shared optimism.

The future is ours to build. Surmounting the risks and the fears of some may be difficult, but I believe the climb is worth it. You have a saying from a Chinese poem that I like very much:
"On perilous peaks lies beauty in infinite variety."

So often, we see individual actions of courage and love in everyday life that give us faith to believe in ourselves and hope for a better future. In 1981, a bright, young American student, John Zeidman, came here to study China and seek new friends. He was a boy of great heart and enthusiasm, and riding his bicycle on Peking's streets, conversing and camping with students and

artists, he fell in love with your country. Tragically, he fell ill on his 20th birthday and later died. But his tragedy brought forth new life.

John's family and friends have established a Chinese Studies Program at the Sidwell Friends School, in Washington. Hundreds have contributed, and the program now attracts young people from public and private schools and serves a model for other schools all across America. Earlier this year, Premier Zhao visited the school. This summer the entire class will come to China as his guests to meet their student contemporaries.

From the great grief of one boy's death came a seed. And from that seed has grown a tree of understanding -- a tree that now blossoms with the beauty of friendship and cooperation. If all of us could go forward in this same spirit, planting not one tree, but millions, and then tending each so it may grow tall and strong -- then the dream of a boy can grow into the golden hopes of mankind. Ladies and gentlemen, that dream is our challenge -- let us begin.

Thank you very much.

WASHINGTON

April 17, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Draft Presidential Remarks:

Hispanic Coalition Leadership Luncheon

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott as soon as possible. The remarks pay tribute to the contributions of Americans of Hispanic descent, review the progress of the economic recovery, and discuss the need for educational reform. The President notes the need for immigration legislation, and affirms that any legislation passed by Congress will be applied in a manner that does not discriminate against Hispanic Americans. The remarks conclude with a discussion of Central American policy.

I have reviewed the remarks and have no objections. The most sensitive passage, of course, concerns the immigration bill. The President's commitment to apply the bill in a non-discriminatory fashion addresses the central objection of Hispanics to the bill without appearing to give credence to Speaker O'Neill's fear that the President will veto the bill for political purposes.

Attachment

WASHINGTON

April 17, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDENG by FFF COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Draft Presidential Remarks:

Hispanic Coalition Leadership Luncheon

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

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:ph 4/17/84 cc: FFFielding

JGRoberts / Subject Chron.

WASHINGTON

April 17, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Draft Presidential Remarks:

Hispanic Coalition Leadership Luncheon

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

cc: Richard G. Darman

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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The attached has gone forward to the President. Please forward any comments/edits directly to Ben Elliott AS SOON AS POSSIBLE in room 100 EOB, and send an information copy to my office.

Thank you

RESPONSE:

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HISPANIC COALITION LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1984

Buenas tardes and welcome to the White House. I am delighted to have had this chance to break bread with you. I met with many of the organizations represented today during my first weeks in office, and I had the pleasure of renewing that acquaintance at a roundtable discussion in El Paso.

A special word of congratulations to Jose Cano [Ho-zay KAH-no] and Raul Yzaguirre [Ra-OOL Ee-SAH-gee-raya] for all they've accomplished in putting this third National Hispanic Leadership Conference together.

Being a Californian, I've always appreciated our country's rich Hispanic tradition. Back when I was Governor, I remember visiting the site of a natural disaster in the Santa Barbara area. Mudslides had been playing havoc with people's homes. I came to one place and there was an elderly American man of Hispanic descent standing knee deep in mud, the ruins of what once was his living room all around him. Even amid this great catastrophe he looked at me, and in all sincerity said, "Mi casa es su casa."

I never forgot that old man. It struck me that here was an individual, amidst all his trials, having just lost so many of the things he dearly loved, who still maintained his dignity and composure enough to offer me this most traditional of Hispanic greetings. This was a tribute to his own upbringing and values.

So, let me too, say welcome. Mi casa es su casa. In the case of the White House, this really is your house.

Americans of Hispanic descent can be proud of the contributions they have made and are making to our way of life. The strength of your values, even in the face of discrimination and hardship, is an inspiring story of dignity and courage. The emergence of Americans of Hispanic descent in business and government proves the American dream is alive and well, if we just give it a chance.

Providing more opportunity to all our citizens, through a strong and growing economy, has been priority number one of this Administration.

Four years ago, talk about economic advancement and increasing opportunity was a cruel hoax. Economic stagnation and murderous inflation were destroying the dream of a better life. A spirit of pessimism, not in keeping with the American character, was rising, and even our leaders were throwing up their hands, complaining about a malaise.

By stopping people from being mauled by higher and higher taxes, decreasing the regulatory burden, and bringing down inflation, we've set this country back on the road to real economic growth. We've broken the grip stagnation had on our throats during the 1970's.

From the pit of pessimism, a stronger and more vital America is emerging. The gross national product was up 6 percent last year. This year's first quarter growth rate of 7.2 percent suggests the recovery is continuing at a fast clip.

In the last 16 months, 5.1 million people have found jobs, bringing employment to its highest level in our history. The unemployment rate is declining faster than anyone predicted.

Of all the job training and employment programs in the Department of Labor -- and there are many -- some of the most effective are sponsored by Hispanic organizations.

Ranking among the top in placement and cost effectiveness is the American G.I. Forum's National Veteran's Outreach Program. Similar to the G.I. Forum is the well known "SER" [rhymes with air] -- "Jobs For Progress Program." In 1982, we passed the Job Training Partnership Act to help those who need it the most to develop marketable skills. These two Hispanic organizations, both of which were helping people even before the legislation, have used this opportunity to do even more. I want you to know how much I appreciate and applaud your good citizenship.

Of course, training would be useless, unless jobs are available. And three out of four new jobs are created by small business. Well, with the recovery gaining steam, 548,000 new businesses were incorporated last year. Americans of Hispanic descent already own some 363,000 businesses, generating about \$18 billion in sales per year. The small business surge is good news to your community.

I know education, the doorway to opportunity, has always been a major concern to all of you. When we arrived in Washington, educational standards had been falling for nearly 20 years. So our Administration appointed the National. Commission on Excellence in Education, and we have been mobilizing support across the country to implement its recommendations. We are beginning to turn the situation around, and I am absolutely determined to provide opportunities for all

American children to develop the skills they need to compete in this society.

The immigration legislation now being debated on the Hill is also important to you, and rightfully so. I think we can all agree on the need to address this serious and growing problem and to do so in a way that ends discrimination against illegal immigrants working and living in this country. Let me assure you, I will insist that any immigration legislation passed by the Congress be applied and enforced in a way that prevents discrimination against Americans of Hispanic descent.

A rising economy and greater opportunities give us confidence. But America does not exist in a vacuum. Today, a faraway totalitarian power is committing enormous resources to change the strategic balance of the world by turning Central America into a string of anti-American, Soviet-style dictatorships. If we do not have the courage and political will to counter this power play, our friends will lose their freedom, and America's security will be threatened.

We have made an ambitious economic effort in that region with the Caribbean Basin Initiative and an expanding aid program.

But economic assistance, as much as some people on Capitol Hill would like to think otherwise, will not overcome the military threat. Nicaragua -- with the full support of its Cuban and Soviet allies -- is arming, supplying, and directing an insurgency operation in El Salvador. If they succeed, it will set the course for the rest of Central America. The United States has a balanced policy: supporting democracy, effective negotiations, economic aid, and security assistance. The focus

of our commitment is countering aggression. We face one of the major challenges to democracy in our time.

Debate on this issue has strayed too far from reality. If we mean to oppose Communist aggression, then we cannot throw every possible roadblock in the way of helping our peace-loving friends defend themselves. We cannot ignore the consequences of passively watching guerrillas force communist dictatorships down the throats of the people of Central America. If Central America is lost, then our own borders will be threatened -- and that is why this issue is so important to the security of our people.

There is still time to defend freedom, but to do so we can not stand as a house divided against itself. We must recognize our common values. We must take a no-nonsense approach to protecting our vital interests. President Kennedy demonstrated this kind of determination when he said ". . . I want it clearly understood that this Government will not hesitate in meeting its primary obligations which are to the security of our Nation!"

We Americans carry a heavy burden. Free people everywhere look to us. If freedom is to survive, much depends on what we do, on our courage, and on our strength of character. This, of course, is not new.

A few weeks ago, I was honored to meet in the Roosevelt Room with 10 American heroes, Medal of Honor winners who represent the best of our country. It was a privilege to be in their company. More than any others I've met here in the White House, I felt that this was, indeed, their house. They paid for it with their courage and service, above and beyond the call of duty. Their valor kept this country free, and I was truly awed by them.

It just so happens that these American heroes, each proudly wearing his Medal of Honor around his neck, were all Americans of Hispanic descent. Yes, we are all Americans. Together, united in purpose, we can meet the challenges to our liberty. Together we can make certain that America fulfills its historic responsibilities and remains the land of opportunity and freedom God intended it to be.

I thank you for being here today. God bless you and vayan con Dios.

WASHINGTON

April 18, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Remarks: Opening Statement for CCTV

Interview, Beijing (4/17 -- 7:00 p.m. draft)

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the abovereferenced remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott
by 11:00 a.m. today. The remarks begin with warm greetings
and thanks for the welcome, move to a brief discussion of
American values, and express the hope that China and the
United States will move forward together in a spirit of
cooperation. I have reviewed the remarks and have no
objections.

Attachment

WASHINGTON

April 18, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING OFFICE

Orig. signed by FFF

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Remarks: Opening Statement for CCTV

Interview, Beijing (4/17 -- 7:00 p.m. draft)

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

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aea 4/18/84

bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

WASHINGTON

April 18, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING OFFICE

FROM:

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cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aea 4/18/84

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:

4/18/84

DATE:

RESPONSE:

SUBJECT:	REMARKS:	OPENING	STAT	EMENT	FOR CCTV INTERVI	IEW, BEIJING	
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REMARKS:							
Please provide any edits directly to Ben Elliott by 11:00 a.m. today, april 18th, with an information copy to my office.							
hank you							

1984 APR 18 AN 7: 31

(Elliott)
April 17, 1984
7:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: OPENING STATEMENT FOR CCTV INTERVIEW BEIJING, CHINA SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1984

Thank you and may I say how pleased I am to visit your great and historic country. As a boy going to school in a small town in our Midwest, I used to dream of coming here. In those days, China seemed a million miles away. Today, the miracles of modern jet travel give us the privilege of seeing China, meeting your hardworking people, learning more about the progress you are making, and visiting the many treasures of your civilization — the oldest in the world.

Permit me, first, to thank you on behalf of Nancy and myself, for the warmth of your welcome. We journeyed to your country to make friends, but already you have made us feel that we are among friends -- and you have touched our hearts.

Our only regret is our visit will be so brief. It's a little like, as a Tang Dynasty poet once wrote, "Looking at the flowers while riding a horse." But I mentioned at the Great Hall yesterday that you have another saying, from the book of Han, that describes how Nancy and I feel. "To see a thing once is better than hearing about it a hundred times."

Our visit this year marks the 200th anniversary since the first American merchant ship called at a Chinese port. Two hundred years for your civilization seem like the blink of an eye. But for Americans, they span the entire history of our Republic.

Yes, your civilization is old, while ours is young. And, yes, we speak different languages, have different customs, and our Governments hold different political beliefs. But I believe if you could look beyond labels and into the homes and hearts of our people, you would find they share many basic values with your own -- values like the dignity of work, the importance of opportunity, the love and strength of family, reverence for elders, the dream of leaving a better life for our children, and for our children's children, and finally, our simple, heartfelt desire to be friends, and live together in peace.

Americans are people of peace. It's important you know that. We pose no threat to China or any nation; we have no troops massed on your borders; and we occupy no lands. After World War II, we were the only undamaged industrial power; the only nation to harness the atom; the only people with the power to conquer the world. But we didn't conquer anybody. We used our power to write a new chapter in history by helping rebuild the war-ravaged economies of both friends and foes.

We love peace and we cherish freedom, because we have learned time and again, in place after place, that economic growth and human progress make their greatest strides when people are free to think, speak, worship God, choose their own way, and reach for the stars.

We admire the progress your government has made in opening up China's economy to the world, and in providing more opportunities for your people to better their lives. We salute their vision and courage. And we have told your leaders that, as the world's strongest economy, America welcomes the chance to walk by China's side, to share our technology, and to encourage a greater flow of people, products, and ideas between our two countries.

Like China, the United States is a Pacific Nation. We believe the future is being built in the Pacific. We are now your Nation's third largest trading partner. We have signed new agreements to expand investment and technological cooperation.

[And we've agreed to cooperate together to explore and develop the infinite resources of space.]

Let us resolve that communication, not confrontation, and commerce, not conflict will always remain the standards that govern Chinese-American relations. If we do, there is no limit to the progress we can make by going forward, hand-in-hand. Sye-shou bing-gin. (Go forward hand-in-hand)

And now, I'd be delighted to answer your questions.