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[& Addresses] August 1984
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 21, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS 

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks: Reception for Women
Appointees in Commemoration of Women's
Equality Day - Sunday, 8/26/84

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced draft remarks be sent to Ben Elliott by noon today. The brief remarks review the historic progress of American women from the frontier days to the present, singling out Maureen Reagan, Ambassador Kirkpatrick, and Justice O'Connor. On page 2, line 8, the remarks state that the rightful role of women includes "good pay." I have no idea what this means, and am aware of no recognized right to "good pay" for women or, for that matter, for men. Use of such an unrecognized, vague term could be interpreted as something more or less than support for equal pay for equal work. I would change "good pay" to "equal pay for equal work."

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 21, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

Original signed by RAH/FFF

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Reception for Women
Appointees in Commemoration of Women's
Equality Day - Sunday, 8/26/84

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks. We object to the statement in the first paragraph on page 2 that the "rightful role" of women includes "good pay." We are aware of no recognized right to "good pay" for women or, for that matter, for men. Use of such a vague term could be variously interpreted as something more or less than support for equal pay for equal work, and is particularly problematic in light of the comparable worth controversy. We would change "good pay" to "equal pay for equal worth."

FFF/JGR/lmp 8/21/84
cc: FFF/JGR/Subj/Cron

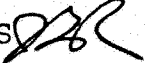
THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS 

SUBJECT:

Proposed Presidential Remarks: Address
Award Winning Secondary Schools

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott by 4:00 p.m. today. The remarks discuss the increased emphasis on the need for excellence in education in a rapidly changing America. The President cites his recent signing into law of the Education for Economic Security Act and the Equal Access Act, discusses the importance of teaching values and what is good about the country, and announces that he has directed NASA to select a public school teacher to be the first citizen passenger on the space shuttle. I have no objections, other than minor the stylistic one noted in the attached draft memorandum for Elliott.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

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

SUBJECT: Proposed Presidential Remarks: Address
Award Winning Secondary Schools

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks. The fourth sentence in the second paragraph draws an inaccurate parallel. Principals are employed by and answerable to schoolboards; Presidents are in no sense similarly subordinate to the Cabinet. A President does not have to keep the Cabinet happy.

cc: Richard Darman

FFF/JGR/lmp /8/23/84
cc: FFF/JGR/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS 

SUBJECT:

Proposed Presidential Remarks: Signing Ceremony for S. 746 - Illinois-Michigan Corridor

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced draft remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott by 4:00 p.m. today. The remarks briefly discuss the main provisions of the bill, which would create a national historic corridor along the Illinois-Michigan Canal and establish a Commission to advise on appropriate commemoration of the Canal. The remarks also note that Title II of the bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire 100 acres of land in East St. Louis, to add to the Gateway Memorial. Interior objected to this provision in the bill, and does not intend to exercise the authority granted by the bill.

The fact that the authority has been granted may still be worth mentioning, since I gather the Congressman responsible will be at the ceremony, but the drafters of the remarks should be aware that the Congressman's efforts are not likely to bear fruit in the long run.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *FFF (DBW)*
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Proposed Presidential Remarks: Signing
Ceremony for S. 746 - Illinois-Michigan
Corridor

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft remarks, and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective. I would note, however, that the Department of the Interior has indicated that it does not intend to exercise the authority granted by Title II. It is acceptable to mention that the bill grants the authority in question, as is done in the draft, but unless there are other reasons for doing so (such as the presence of Congressman Emerson at the ceremony), it may be better not to discuss Title II at all.

FFF/JGR/lmp ✓ 8/23/84
cc: FFF/JGR/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS 

SUBJECT:

Proposed Presidential Remarks: Presentation
of Young American Medals

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced draft remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott by 9:00 a.m. August 24. The remarks are to be delivered during the ceremony for the presentation of the Young American Medal for Bravery to two teenagers, and the remarks accordingly review the exploits that earned the teenagers this recognition. The remarks note that, by statute, the medals must be personally awarded by the President and that no more than two may be awarded each year. This is an accurate recitation of the requirements codified at 42 U.S.C. §§ 1923-1924.

The remainder of the remarks discusses how America's youth is rediscovering traditional values at a time of basic changes in the social structure, such as the increase in families headed by only one parent. I have reviewed the remarks and have no objections.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

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

SUBJECT: Proposed Presidential Remarks: Presentation
of Young American Medals

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

cc: Richard Darman

FFF/JGR/lmp 8/23/84
cc: FFF/JGR/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Chicago, Illinois)

For Immediate Release

August 24, 1984

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AT SIGNING CEREMONY
FOR S-746, ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL BILL

International Ballroom
Conrad Hilton Hotel
Chicago, Illinois

2:45 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you and thank you all for coming. I'm delighted to be here with Governor Thompson and cosponsors Senator Chuck Percy and Congressman Tom Corcoran and Representatives Henry Hyde and Lynn Martin to sign Senate Bill 746.

We're pleased that this legislation enjoyed strong bipartisan support, including cosponsorship by Senator Dixon and the long-time support of Congressman Mel Price.

The legislation commemorates the Illinois and Michigan Canal, which was a main artery of commerce in the 19th century, by designating a National Heritage Corridor from Chicago to LaSalle-Peru, Illinois. The legislation also establishes a National Heritage Corridor Commission to assist local and state entities in any appropriate preservation treatment or renovation of the old structures of the canal.

We believe such activity will stimulate tourism, jobs and economic growth, as well as greater cooperation between local, state and federal governments.

So with that said, I am pleased to sign the bill.

(Applause.)

(The bill is signed.)

THE PRESIDENT: There. (Applause.)

END

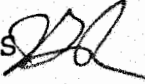
2:47 P.M. CDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 24, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS 

SUBJECT: Proposed Radio Address: America's Future

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced draft remarks be sent to Ben Elliott by 1:00 p.m. today. The remarks are a general campaign statement, stressing the themes of economic growth, technological progress, return to basic values, and building an enduring peace. I have reviewed the remarks and have no objections.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 24, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING Orig. signed by ^{DBW} FFF
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Proposed Radio Address: America's Future

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

cc: Richard Darman

FFF/JGR/lmp 8/24/84
cc: FFF/JGR/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 24, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS 

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks: Visit to Jefferson
Junior High School

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott by 10:00 a.m. today. The remarks are simply a "pep talk" for the students, teachers, parents, and principal of Jefferson Junior High School. I have reviewed the remarks and have no objections.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 24, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

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

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks: Visit to Jefferson
Junior High School

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced remarks,
and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective. On
page 3, line 5, "they" should be "there."

cc: Richard Darman

FFF/JFR/lmp 8/24/84

cc: FFF/JGR/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 Darman

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____

(B) _____

(C) _____

Subject: Presidential Speech Planning Schedule

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>CU HOLL</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>84/05/25</u>			<u>1 / 1</u>
	Referral Note:				
<u>CUAT 04</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>84/08/28</u>			<u>1 / 1</u>
<u>CUAT 14</u>	Referral Note: <u>I</u>	<u>84/08/28</u>			
<u>CUAT 17</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>84/08/28</u>			<u>1 / 1</u>
<u>CUAT 09</u>	Referral Note: <u>I</u>	<u>84/08/28</u>			
<u>CUAT 19</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>84/08/28</u>			<u>1 / 1</u>
<u>CUAT 18</u>	Referral Note: <u>I</u>	<u>84/08/28</u>			
<u>CUAT 02</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>84/08/28</u>			<u>1 / 1</u>
	Referral Note:				

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comment/Recommendation
- D - Draft Response
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet
to be used as Enclosure

- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- 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: 8/27/84 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: _____

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH PLANNING SCHEDULE

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SVAHN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SS	VERSTANDIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HERRINGTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McFARLANE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

PLEASE PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS TO BEN ELLIOTT, WITH AN INFORMATION COPY TO MY OFFICE. THANK YOU.

RESPONSE:

1984 AUG 27 PM 12: 07

Richard G. Darman
Assistant to the President
Ext. 2702

- 2 -

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>WRITER RESEARCHER</u>	<u>TOPIC/THHEME/PURPOSE</u>
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C. REMARKS

RECEPTION FOR REAGAN-BUSH HEADQUARTERS' STAFF	08/29 Wednesday	Dana KimW	
--	--------------------	--------------	--

DROPBY BRIEFING FOR WOMEN EXECUTIVES OF MAJOR CORPORATIONS & FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	09/07 Friday	Peter Julie	
---	-----------------	----------------	--

POSTHUMOUS PRESENTATION OF CONGRES- SIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO HUBERT HUMPHREY	09/11 Tuesday	Peggy	
--	------------------	-------	--

E. TAPINGS

TAPING: NATIONAL CONVENTION OF "CITIZENS FOR EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM"	09/18 Tuesday		
---	------------------	--	--

TAPING: INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS	09/18 Tuesday		
--	------------------	--	--

TAPING: ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS DINNER	09/18 Tuesday		
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TAPING: LUTHERANS FOR LIFE NATIONAL CONVENTION	09/18 Tuesday		
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131

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>WRITER RESEARCHER</u>	<u>TOPIC/THHEME/PURPOSE</u>
TAPING: "ROAST" OF DALLAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN FRED MEYER	09/18 Tuesday		

TAPING: ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION	09/18 Tuesday		
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G. RADIO TALKS

RADIO TALK:	09/01 Saturday	Ben	
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RADIO TALK:	09/08 Saturday	Ben	
-------------	-------------------	-----	--

RADIO TALK:	09/15 Saturday	Ben	
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 8.28.84

Suspense Date _____

MEMORANDUM FOR: John

FROM: **DIANNA G. HOLLAND**

ACTION

- Approved
- Please handle/review
- For your information
- For your recommendation
- For the files
- Please see me
- Please prepare response for _____ signature
- As we discussed
- Return to me for filing

COMMENT

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 27, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Revised Presidential Remarks:
Presentation of Young American Medals

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott by 11:00 a.m. today. The remarks have been revised to include a challenge to reach out to struggling youth -- the child in a foster home, those with drug or alcohol problems, the unwed mother, the dropout. I have reviewed the revised draft and still have no objections to it.

Attachment

*CBE -
revised + disapproved
w/ RGD -
→
8/27*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 27, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Revised Presidential Remarks:
Presentation of Young American Medals

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 8/27/84

bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 27, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS 

SUBJECT: Revised Presidential Remarks:
Presentation of Young American Medals

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the above-referenced remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott by 11:00 a.m. today. The remarks have been revised to include a challenge to reach out to struggling youth -- the child in a foster home, those with drug or alcohol problems, the unwed mother, the dropout. I have reviewed the revised draft and still have no objections to it.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 27, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Revised Presidential Remarks:
Presentation of Young American Medals

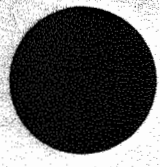
Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced remarks,
and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective.

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aea 8/27/84

bcc: 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 Darman

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

Subject: Revised Presidential Remarks: Presentation of Young American Medals

ROUTE TO:		ACTION	DISPOSITION	
Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CUHOU</u>		ORIGINATOR	<u>84 08 07</u>	<u>1 1</u>
<u>CUAT IP</u>		D	<u>84 08 07</u>	<u>584 08 07</u> <u>11:00 Am</u>
			<u>1 1</u>	<u>1 1</u>
			<u>1 1</u>	<u>1 1</u>
			<u>1 1</u>	<u>1 1</u>

ACTION CODES:

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

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

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

Comments: _____

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 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/27/84 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 11:00 a.m. TODAY

SUBJECT: REVISED PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PRESENTATION OF YOUNG AMERICAN MEDALS
(8/26 - 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OGLESBY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SVAHN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S	VERSTANDIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WHITTLESEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>TUTWILER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HERRINGTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>WIRTHLIN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>HENKEL</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McFARLANE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ELLIOTT</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
McMANUS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide any comments directly to Ben Elliott, with a copy to my office, by 11:00 a.m. TODAY. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

1984 AUG 27 AM 9: 22 Richard G. Darman
 Assistant to the President
 Ext. 2702

(Noonan/BE)
August 26, 1984
7:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PRESENTATION OF YOUNG AMERICAN MEDALS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1984

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much.

The Young American Medal for Bravery is so special that the law mandates that it be given to the recipients only by the President of the United States. And it is to be given to no more than two young people a year. Two points are made by these directives. One is that the recipients are so important to us that the Chief Executive of the Nation must personally honor them. The other is that the winners are the very bravest of the brave.

Now, it has been said that of all the virtues, courage is the most important, because without it we would never have the strength to practice the others. That is a comment about moral courage. But what about physical courage? The stories of these two young men tell us something about that.

Both these young people made a conscious decision under pressure to ignore personal safety, to ignore potential pain and the possibility of death, and do an incredibly heroic thing: save another human being from death. On the evening of February 3, 1983, the home of 11-year-old Brian Gill was the scene of a terrible fire. Brian escaped without harm and was standing near a tree, when he realized that his 3-year-old sister had become separated from his father and was still inside. Brian ran back into the house, which by now was engulfed in flames. He felt his way along a wall, followed the sound of his sister's

coughs, made his way to her side, picked her up and ran outside to safety. His little sister survived. So did three other sisters. His 2-year-old brother, however, perished.

Two weeks after the fire in Brian Gill's house, 17-year-old Jim Morris was driving along an overpass near Grants Pass, Oregon. It was late and he was returning from work. As he drove along, he and a companion looked down to see a car in flames on Interstate 5. A station wagon had been struck by a truck and was in flames, its gas tank ruptured. Gill raced for the car, and when he got there he saw the driver, Thomas Bishop, trying desperately to get out. But Bishop was injured, and disoriented, and shaking badly. Brian Gill tried to open the door of the burning car but it stuck. So he threw himself inside, through the driver's window, and grabbed Bishop under the arms and singlehandedly pulled him to safety through the window. Less than a minute later, there was an explosion and the entire inside of the car was engulfed in flames. Later Thomas Bishop wrote to Morris, "It took a lot of courage for you to come through those flames."

If it had not been for what Jim Morris did, Thomas Bishop might not be alive. If it had not been for what Brian Gill did, his sister would not be alive.

And as I look at these two young heroes all I can think is how proud we are of you -- and thankful we are for you. I want to say to our audience: These are America's children -- look at what kind of people they are.

The actions of these young men reflect great strength of character. We can only wonder how, at such a tender age, they managed to develop it.

I happen to think that it is always hard to be young. The young are so vulnerable, and often feel misunderstood. But the children and teenagers and young adults our society has produced the past 20 years or so seem in some ways to have had it harder than many of us older folks did.

We grew up in a different America -- an America of small towns and big families, an America where generations lived together, and lines of authority both within the home and outside it were clear. We did not, for whatever reasons, question the premises of life so much. It seemed a more secure age.

But the world is changing. And the facts of our lives have changed. Throughout our history we have relied on the family as the principle institution for transmitting values. But these days the American family is very different from what it was. It is almost as likely to be headed by a parent who is divorced as by parents who live together. Families are smaller, not only with fewer children but with fewer generations living together. The extended family is increasingly a thing of the past. And so is the old tradition of generation after generation living in the same town and the same home. We are a country on the move; we are wed to mobility -- and the ties that bind us seem looser. We watch a lot of television, seeking continuity and reassurance in the regular and predictable appearance of our favorite T.V. stars and programs. They "visit us" -- as if they were a friend, a

relative coming by for the evening. T.V. is increasingly becoming The American Neighbor. And the fact that it serves that function reflects what it is we are missing.

The point I'm making is that we are an America of changing institutions, changing traditions. And change can be difficult, especially for young people. In the sixties, the first generation to completely feel the assault of modern life almost came apart. Our youth seemed disoriented. But now, in the eighties, when some would have thought that things would be worse, they seem better. The young people of today are so solid, so alive to the good things in life, the deepest pleasure. They seem to care about the things worth caring about. The polls show they are more patriotic than the preceding generation, and they are very interested in home, career, family -- all of the things that go into creating what we call society.

You saw the Olympic athletes last month, teenagers many of them. You saw that they had faith in themselves, faith that great effort will be rewarded, that trying to improve your talents is worth it. You saw the love of country that they displayed with a shining lack of self-consciousness.

Somehow, amidst all this change, all this movement, our young people have held on. What we are seeing, I think, is a reappraisal of our sense of national roots, a reappraisal of the traditions and values our country lived by, a reappraisal of the things that give us a sense of continuity, a sense that there is a purpose to life.

And many of our young people seem to be doing it on their own, as if they are personally rediscovering these things and making them new again.

I am not talking about nostalgia for the past, but refinding what worked about the past and bringing it into the present and the future. Refinding our bearings, forging a sense of continuity where it does not exist outwardly in the facts of our lives. We have to recreate connections -- connections with our family and between the family and the community.

We need guideposts to help us find the way. And all this will evolve as we bring the best along with us.

People wonder why there's such a feeling of hope these days. And they come up with reasons -- the stock market's up, inflation is down. But that's only a part of it. I think we're feeling hope again because we're taking old values and making them new again. And by giving them new life they are giving us new life.

These two young heroes we see here today reflect the achievements and heroism of a shining new generation. But as we honor them it is good for us to think of the quiet heroes of that generation: the children who are starting out with some of the odds against them. The quiet heroes who have not had a chance to develop their potential and show us their greatness.

Think of a child who is in a foster home. Many of them have special needs, and too many have a difficult time finding stable and loving permanent homes. Many have been abused in some way.

Think of a child with drug problems -- a child who because of bad judgements or peer pressure has become a slave to a

terrible addiction. Think of a young person with a drinking problem -- enslaved in the same way and needing our concern.

Think of a young girl who is unmarried and pregnant and who needs our understanding. Who is she to turn to? Who will comfort her? Abortion isn't the answer. More support so that they're not left to drift is the answer.

Think of a young person in high school who, for a whole combination of reasons, decides to drop out and end his or her education forever. Usually we say: that child failed to continue. Sometimes I wonder if it isn't also true that our schools failed that child.

So many of these young people, with things going against them early on, are quiet heroes trying to do their best. But they represent not only a sadness in our society -- they represent a challenge.

I believe we must challenge ourselves personally to help them personally -- to show them our support and affection, to show them that we care.

I am asking today that all of us commit ourselves to the quiet heroes. That together we accept a national challenge, and see to it that children in foster care are given our special affection, and that we make sure they are in loving homes. We must make a greater effort to make our educational system so exciting and rewarding that young people don't want to drop out. We must help those addicted to drugs and to alcohol by recognizing their problem and letting them know that they suffer from something many have suffered from -- and many have recovered

from. And we must help unwed mothers get the societal support and affection they need.

It is the quiet heroes who need our help.

Just as today it is Brian Gill and Jim Morris who deserve our applause. Gentlemen, you represent the extraordinary courage of an extraordinary new generation. You are brave and decent, and we are proud of you. It is good to know the future will be in the hands of people like you.

Thank you all very much, and God bless you.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

August 28, 1984

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
IN PRESENTATION OF YOUNG AMERICAN MEDALS

The Rose Garden

1:31 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Thank you.

The Young American Medal for Bravery is so special that the law mandates that it be given to the recipients only by the President of the United States and is to be given to no more than two young people a year.

And two points are made by these directives. One is that the recipients are so important to us the Chief Executive of the nation must personally honor them. And the other is that the winners are the very bravest of the brave.

Now, it's been said that of all the virtues, courage is the most important because without it we would never have the strength to practice the others.

Now, that's a comment about moral courage. But what about physical courage? The stories of these two young men tell us something about that. Both these young people made a conscious decision under pressure to ignore personal safety, to ignore personal -- or potential pain and the possibility of death and do an incredibly heroic thing, save another human being from death.

On the evening of February 3rd, 1983, the home of then 11-year-old Brian Gill was the scene of a terrible fire. Brian escaped without harm and was standing near a tree when he realized that his three-year-old sister had become separated from his father and was still inside. Brian ran back into the house, which was now engulfed by flames. He felt his way along a wall, followed the sound of his sister's coughs, made his way to her side and pulled her outside to safety. His little sister survived, and so did three other sisters. His two-year-old brother, however, perished.

Almost two weeks after the fire in Brian Gill's house, 17-year-old, then, Jim Morris was driving along an overpass near Grants Pass, Oregon. It was late and he was returning from work. Driving along, he and a companion looked down to see a car in flames on Interstate 5. A station wagon had been struck by a truck and was in flames, its gas tank ruptured. Morris raced for the car; and when he got there, he saw the driver, Thomas Bishop, trying desperately to get out. But Bishop was disoriented and shaking badly, and Jim tried to open the door of the burning car, but it stuck.

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So he thrust himself through the driver's window, grabbed Bishop under the arms, and single-handedly pulled him to safety through the window.

Less than a minute later, there was an explosion, and the entire inside of the car was engulfed in flames. Later, Thomas Bishop wrote to Morris: "It required much courage for you to come through those flames." If it had not been for what Jim Morris did, Thomas Bishop might not be alive. If it had not been for what Brian Gil did, his sister would not be alive.

As I look at these two young heroes, all I can think is how proud we are of you. And we're thankful for you. I want to say to our audience, these are America's children. And look at what kind of people they are. The actions of these young men reflect great strength of character. We can only wonder at how, at such a tender age, they managed to develop it. I happen to think it's always hard to be young. The young are so vulnerable and often feel misunderstood.

But the children and teenagers and young adults our society has produced the last 20 years or so, seem in some ways to have had it harder than many of us older folks did. We grew up in a different America -- an America of small towns and big families; an America where generations lived together and lines of authority, both within the home and outside it, were clear. We did not, for whatever reasons, question the premises of life so much. It seemed a more secure age.

But the world is changing. And the facts of our life have changed. Throughout our history we've relied on the family as the principle institution for transmitting values. But these days the American family is very different from what it was. Many families are headed by a single parent. Families are smaller, not only with fewer children, but with fewer generations living together. The extended family is a thing of the past, and so is the old tradition of generation after generation living in the same town and the same house.

We're wed to mobility, and the ties that bind us seem looser. We watch a lot of television, seeking continuity and reassurance in the regular and predictable appearance of our TV stars and programs. They visit us -- as if they were a friend or relative coming by for the evening. TV is increasingly becoming the American neighbor. And the fact that it serves that function reflects what it is we're missing.

The point I'm making is that we're an America of changing institutions and changing traditions. And change can be difficult, especially for young people. In the sixties, the first generation to completely feel the assault of modern life almost came apart. Our youth seemed disoriented.

But now in the eighties, when some would have thought that things would be worse, they seem better. The young people of today are so solid, so alive to the good things in life, and the deepest pleasure. And they seem to care about the things worth caring about.

The polls show they're intensely patriotic. And they're very interested in home, career and family -- all of the things that go into creating what we call society.

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You saw the Olympic athletes a few weeks ago -- teenagers many of them. You saw that they had faith in themselves; faith that great effort will be rewarded, and that trying to improve your talents is worth it. You saw the love of country that they displayed with a shining lack of self-consciousness.

Somehow amidst all this change, all this movement, our young people have held on. What we're seeing, I think, is a re-appreciation of our sense of national roots; a reappreciation of the traditions and values our country lived by; a reappreciation of the things that give us a sense of continuity, a sense that there is a purpose to life. And many of our young people seem to be doing it on their own, as if they're personally rediscovering these things, and making them new again.

I'm not talking about nostalgia for the past, but refinding what worked about the past and bringing it into the present and the future. Refinding our bearings, forging a sense of continuity where it doesn't exist outwardly in the facts of our lives, we have to recreate connection -- connections with our family, and between the family and the community.

We need guideposts to help us find the way. And all this will evolve as we bring the best along with us. People wonder why there's such a feeling of hope these days, and they come up with reasons -- oh, the stock market's up, inflation is down -- that's only a part of it. I think we're feeling hope again, because we're taking old values and making them new again. And by giving them new life, they're giving us new life.

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So many of these young people with things going against them early on are quiet heroes trying to do their best. I believe we must challenge ourselves, personally, to help them personally; to show them our support and affection and to show them we care -- asking today that all of us commit ourselves to those silent heroes; that

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together we accept a national challenge and see to it that children in foster care are given our special affection, that we make sure they're in loving homes.

We must make a greater effort to make our educational systems so exciting and rewarding that young people don't want to drop out.

We must help those addicted to drugs and to alcohol by recognizing their problem.

Just today, however, it is Brian Gill and Jim Morris, who deserve our applause. Gentlemen, you represent the extraordinary courage of an extraordinary new generation. You're brave. You're decent. And we're proud of you. It's good to know that the future of our land will be in the hands of people like you.

I would now like to present to Brian Gill and Jim Morris the Young American Medal for Bravery.

(The medals are presented.) (Applause.)

Thank all of you very much. And God bless you. And I know you'd better get in the shade. (Laughter.) Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

1:42 P.M. EDT