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### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 27, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Presidential Address: Texas

Southmost College, Brownsville, Texas

Richard Darman has asked that comments on the abovereferenced remarks be sent directly to Ben Elliott by
1:00 p.m. today. The remarks stress that the national
economic recovery will eventually reach Brownsville, if we
adhere to our policies. The President also discusses the
increased Federal aid that has been provided Brownsville. I
have reviewed the remarks and have no objections, other than
the glaring error in the concluding sentence, noted in the
attached draft memorandum for Elliott.

Attachment

### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

## September 27, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT gned by FFF

SUBJECT:

Presidential Address: Texas

Southmost College, Brownsville, Texas

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced remarks, and finds no objection to them from a legal perspective. The concluding phrase, however, should be "vaya con Dios," not "viva con Dios."

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:JGR:aea 9/27/84

bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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## WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9-26-84	ACTION/CONCURRE	ENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:	1:00 P.M.	THURSDAY,	9-2

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE, BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS

(9-26-84 - 7:30 p.m. draft)

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### **REMARKS:**

Please provide any edits/comments directly to Ben Elliott, with a copy to my office by 1:00 P.M. TOMORROW, September 27. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:** 

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1984

Thank you very much.

It's great to be back in Texas. And it's a real pleasure to visit one of the handsomest and most spirited campuses I've ever seen. All I can say, after touring your school, is viva Texas Southmost College!

I have come to Brownsville because you are a great city -- a city of immigrants -- a city of Hispanic Americans. The American Dream is perhaps realer to you than it is to many Americans. But you are a city to which full prosperity has not yet come. That is why I'm here; that is what I want to talk about.

And my first message is this: Our national recovery won't be complete until Brownsville is completely recovered.

In the past 3-1/2 years, there has been an economic renewal in our country. The New York Times recently called it, "The American Renaissance." The economy is expanding again, millions of jobs are being created, hundreds of thousands of new businesses are being incorporated.

But we stand in a place where prosperity has not yet come to call. And we have work to do, because the Brownsvilles of our country have to make a comeback that is equal to the size of the national comeback.

First, we must recognize that we are on the right track.

The other day, I was asked at a college up in Ohio, "How would you want your Administration to be remembered?" And I was

surprised, and I thought about it, and I said, "I guess I want it to be remembered as the Administration that gave the Government back to the people."

And one of the things I meant is that we have tried to let people keep as much of their earnings as possible. Many of you have jobs -- uncelebrated, tough, demanding jobs -- that aren't the highest paying jobs in the country. We think that you deserve to keep as much of your paycheck as possible; you shouldn't have to send a big part of it to Washington so that Washington can keep it and spend it.

Low taxes are an integral part of our philosophy. Not only because it's right -- but because it works for society. It helps the small businessman who owns a luncheonette or the businesswoman who owns a shop to flourish. It gives them reward for all their effort.

And we have tried to cut the Government spending that demanded so much of our money.

Now I want to be very clear on this because there are some people going around the country saying that our philosophy means we don't care about the needy or those who can't fend for themselves.

Well, that's rhetoric. This is reality: We know that there are people in this country who need public assistance; and we care about them, and will never stop helping them. But we declared firmly, 3-1/2 years ago, that those who are not truly needing of assistance, but who are taking unfairly from other

hardworking Americans, will no longer receive it from the taxpayers of this country.

Let me mention one example. Many of the young people going to school here are not the children of privilege. They are the sons and daughters of people who had to work hard for everything they ever got in life. Many of the young people at this school are being helped by public funds -- Federal money that helps with their tuitions.

I want you to know what I think of that. I think it's great. It's completely in tune with the American tradition of love of learning and desire to spread it.

But we have cut some Federal spending for some students -the ones who didn't need it in the first place. These were young
people who took their student loan money and bought cars
instead -- young people who took it and invested it in banks
because they had no need for it and thought they'd just sit back
and profit from the interest. We cut wasteful aid.

But have we cut it for those truly in need? No. Will we cut it for those truly in need? Never. Will we, just to stop the political critics, give the money once again to those who don't need it? No way. Because to do that would be to jeopardize the funds available for the legitimately needy.

But educational aid, important as it is, is only the beginning.

The big question is still how to bring prosperity to the Valley.

My friends, John Kennedy supplied the answer when he said:
A rising tide lifts all boats. A rising economy is going to lift
Brownsville.

We are going to continue to keep forcing tax rates down, and not up. We are going to fight for the working men and women of this country to keep a bigger share of what they earn. And as they spend it or save it, sales will go up, and businesses will expand; the spirit of investment will continue to grow.

Expanding businesses and new businesses will mean new jobs, and that will mean new workers who join the work force and who pay their modest -- underline modest -- taxes. And the Government will get enough to operate, but the people -- we, the people -- will keep enough to flourish.

What I am describing is a healthy spiral that is already growing and picking up speed like a whirlwind. In time, it will lift all the Brownsvilles with it.

In contrast, there are those who say that to end poverty in America we must go back to the old days of raising taxes again, and again, and again. That way, their thinking goes, the Federal Government will be able to disburse public money, as it wishes, to the poor. The only hitch is, by the time they're done taxing we'll all be poor.

I don't doubt they mean well, in their own way. But their ideas are hopelessly old-fashioned. They just don't understand that the American people are tired of the tax and tax, take and take mentality. And so, I know, are all of you. Still, I

understand they did borrow their campaign song from your State.

It's called, "Deep in the Heart of Taxes."

Now, we are creating the kind of national economic conditions that will ultimately make this city flourish. But we've got to help Brownsville in the meantime. There are prudent actions to be taken -- and we have taken them.

Special problems call for special measures, and you in the Valley have had more than your share of problems, from bad weather to high unemployment. This year our Administration became the first ever to set up a special Southwest Border Initiative to work with you and find out what we could do to help.

And, may I say here, we were guided by the old observation that if you give a man a fish he won't know hunger for an evening; but teach him to fish and his family will never know hunger again. So we didn't just send money, or grants, or gifts. We made prudent investments in the people of the Valley.

We have directed the Farmers Home Administration to make more loans to local families. This has encouraged new construction and employment in the Valley. We have freed up more Federal funds for small business loans for farmers affected by last winter's freeze. The city of Brownsville was given funds to help build a supermarket in the barrio -- and that construction is to create 43 permanent jobs and 30 construction jobs. We also created financial assistance to help with bilingual programs in the schools of the Valley.

These are just three small examples of Federal concern -- of prudent Federal assistance in a case of clear and demonstrable need. In the past 3-1/2 years, our Administration has committed over a \$100 million to the Valley. And, again, we never considered it welfare, and we never thought of it as a favor. It was an investment: We don't doubt for a minute that investing in the people of the Valley will pay off for all of us in the Nation.

And, if I may make one more point on this: We believe passionately in public-private partnerships in this kind of assistance. The money we sent for the supermarket in the barrio was matched by \$800,000 in private funds.

And there is Project Hope, another public-private partnership. Earlier, I toured the labs where local students are being trained to work as health care professionals here and in other border cities -- and that program is a great success and a great example of public and private involvement.

Now I have been talking on about the economy -- something I tend to do because I think a healthy economy will truly transform the lives of the people of our country. And there's just one more thing I will say about it. Sometimes it takes patience, when you try something new. It's hard to hang on when things are tough. But I tell you with complete conviction that if we hang on and stay on the right track nationally, then the people and towns of the Valley will make a comeback. It won't happen overnight -- but it will happen in Brownsville as it has happened in much of the rest of the Nation.

We have tried to achieve more than prosperity the past few years. We have also tried to encourage respect for America both here and throughout the world.

Respect is an important thing. The U.S. never wants to be a bully or a bragger, but it is important to show the people of the world that we stand for something, and we're proud of it. And though we're patient when provoked . . . well, Uncle Sam is a friendly old man, but he has a spine of steel.

And one of the things I'm proudest of -- do any of you have relatives in the Armed Forces? In the Army? The Navy? The Marines? Well, one of the things I'm proudest of is that we have helped the men and women of our Armed Forces receive the kind of respect they deserve. Once again, they're being honored as the priceless professionals they are.

They haven't had it easy. The men and women who defend this country never do. But we have shown them we care -- we improved pay, and we improved their standard of living, and we started saluting them again. And morale is higher than it's ever been, and re-enlistments are up. And I'll tell you -- whenever you see a soldier, or sailor, or Marine on the street -- if you'd maybe give 'em a smile or a hello, and let them know how proud they make us, it would be terrific.

Now I've gone on too long here, but, you see I just like it in Texas, and I don't get here often enough.

This morning, I found myself thinking of a visit I made to Harlingen a while back. It was on the 170th anniversary of that day, September 16th, when a priest named Miguel Hidalgo

y Costilla rang the bells of the church in Dolores, Mexico, to announce the Mexican people's desire for freedom. He did not live to see their victory. But the sound of those bells never faded for his countrymen, and it lives today in the hearts of all who love freedom and liberty. And as I look at all of you today I think: The bells still ring for Mexico, and for America, for all the democracies . . . and for that we must truly be thankful.

Thank you, all of you, for your gracious welcome, and viva con Dios.

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## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: \_\_c.o.b. FRIDAY, 9/28



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REMARKS: In addition to conventional briefing materials, I wish to make sure we address potential pitfalls. I have in mind rather small areas of potential vulnerabilities that we might not naturally think of, but that some questioner (or Mondale) might ask about. I also have in mind possible factual errors that the President might make. Could you please give me your thoughts on any such pitfalls by c.o.b. Friday.

Thanks very much.

McFARLANE

McMANUS

RESPONSE:

DATE: 9/27/84