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B

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 30, 1981

MEETING WITH AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

DATE: December 2, 1981

LOCATION: Cabinet Room

TIME: 11:00 a.m.

FROM: Elizabeth H. Dole 

I. PURPOSE

To emphasize your willingness to listen to and work with the labor community and to demonstrate your interest in the concerns of working people. This meeting will also serve to counter the claim of the AFL-CIO leadership that you are ignoring their interests and concerns.

II. BACKGROUND

The AFL-CIO has been quite critical of your Administration since February. In particular they are critical of your economic policy, claiming that "it hurts the poor and helps the rich". While the AFL-CIO can be expected to disagree with Administration policies, there is strong evidence that the leadership of the AFL-CIO is conducting a very partisan campaign to make it appear that you are ignoring the interests of workers and have not consulted with organized labor.

While there is a healthy low-key dialogue between Administration policy makers and many individual unions in the AFL-CIO (maritime unions, building & construction unions, airline unions), very little dialogue has taken place with the AFL-CIO leadership. This has led to media characterizations of the Administration ignoring organized labor.

This meeting is designed to show visible evidence of your interest in consulting with the labor community and to attempt to establish a continuing dialogue with them. It has been billed as a "listening" session.

Among the topics that may arise during the meeting are: the need to show some compassion for the 11,000 former air traffic controllers, the Administration position on the proposed amendment of the Hobbs Act, the economic and tax policies of the Administration, the impact of budget cuts on social programs, the quality of NLRB nominees, the rising unemployment rate, Administration trade policies, and the need to establish a business, labor and government Commission to reindustrialize the nation.

Your guests will have assembled in the Cabinet Room at 10:45 a.m. for a welcome and discussion involving the Vice President, Elizabeth Dole, Secretary Donovan and Bob Bonitati. AFL-CIO President, Lane Kirkland, will be seated to your left in the Cabinet Room.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Aforementioned briefers, Ed Meese, Jim Baker, Ambassador Brock and attached guest list.

IV. PRESS PLAN

Press Pool Photo Coverage.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 11:00 a.m. | You enter the Cabinet Room and greet each guest as you move around the room prior to taking your seat. |
| 11:03 a.m. | The press pool will enter for photos and depart. |
| 11:05 a.m. | You offer brief remarks and ask for questions and comments. |
| 11:25 a.m. | You thank your guests and depart. The meeting will continue following your departure. |

Attachments

List of Participants
Talking Points
Questions and Answers

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

AFL-CIO Executive Council

December 2, 1981

11:00 a.m. Cabinet Room

Mr. Lane Kirkland
President
AFL-CIO

Mr. Thomas Donahue
Secretary-Treasurer
AFL-CIO

Mr. Kenneth Blaylock
President
American Federation of Gov't
Employees

Mr. Sol Chaikin
President
International Ladies' Garment
Workers Union

Mr. Frank Drozak
President
Seafarers International Union

Mr. Murray Finley
President
Amalgamated Clothing & Textile
Workers Union

Mr. David Fitzmaurice
President
International Union of Electrical,
Radio & Machine Workers

Mr. Angelo Fosco
President
Laborers' International Union

Mr. Douglas Fraser
President
United Auto Workers

Mr. Teddy Gleason
President
International Longshoremen's
Association

Mr. Wayne Glenn
President
United Paperworkers International
Union

Mr. Robert Goss
President
Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers
International Union

Mr. Edward Hanley
President
Hotel & Restaurant Employees Union

Mr. James Hatfield
President
Glass Bottle Blowers Association

Mr. Alvin Heaps
President
Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union

Ms. Barbara Hutchison
Director
Women's Program
American Federation of Gov't Employees

Mr. Richard Kilroy
President
Brotherhood of Railway & Airline
Clerks

Mr. William Konyha
President
United Brotherhood of Carpenters

Mr. John Lyons
President
International Association of Iron
Workers

Mr. Lloyd McBride
President
United Steelworkers of America

Ms. Joyce Miller
Vice President
Amalgamated Clothing & Textile
Workers Union

Capt. J. J. O'Donnell
President
Air Line Pilots Association

Mr. Frederick O'Neal
President
Associated Actors & Artistes of
America

Mr. Charles Pillard
President
International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers

Mr. S. Frank Raftery
President
International Brotherhood of
Painters

Mr. Albert Shanker
President
American Federation of Teachers

Mr. Vincent Sombrotto
President
National Association of Letter
Carriers

Mr. John Sweeney
President
Service Employees International
Union

Mr. J. C. Turner
President
International Union of Operating
Engineers

Mr. Martin Ward
President
United Association of Plumbing
& Pipe Fitting Industry

Mr. William Wynn
President
United Food & Commercial Workers
Union

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Response to HOBBS ACT question

I would not support new legislation directed toward incidental minor violence occurring during otherwise lawful labor union activity -- believing that such conduct is more appropriately handled by state and local law enforcement authorities.

Response to PATCO question

Right now, I'm handicapped in talking about it because Drew Lewis is away. When Drew comes back, I'm going to talk to him about the situation.

Our first responsibility is to those who stayed in there and worked long hours to keep the planes flying.

There may be some things that could be done. I have considered a waiver on the federal employment law that prohibits for 3 years those employees from returning as federal workers. There is a possibility that we could waive that and make them eligible for federal employment as new employees.

Response to VAN DE WATER confirmation

John is a personal friend of mine, a man of high integrity and one who will serve his country with honor. I do want you to know that, where applicable, we plan to consult labor in our personnel appointment process.

Response to NICKLES ACT question

I continue to support my campaign pledge not to seek repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act. I believe the regulatory approach we are taking is the right one.

TALKING POINTS

Beginning of Meeting

- - I won't ask you to sit through a long-winded speech because a two-way communication is much better. I'm hopeful this meeting will mark the first in a long series of successful joint discussions.

- While differences may exist between us on domestic issues, I am pleased that we find such broad grounds of general agreement in foreign policy. Few, if any, have stood firmer for a strong national defense than the AFL-CIO. You have a record of which to be very proud.

- The freedoms we each cherish must be safeguarded. For far too long, allies and adversaries alike have viewed our foreign policy as one of ambivalence. I intend to end that and have committed the full resolve of my Administration to a revitalization of our defense readiness posture.

- In this regard, I would like to call upon your assistance in encouraging the Senate to vote out our Defense Appropriations Bill this week. Our increased defense expenditures have a twofold benefit: increased national defense strength and job creation.

- I'm aware of your concerns about our Economic Recovery Program, but I do want you to understand that we are both working for the same objective - job creation. I won't be satisfied until there is a job for every man or woman who wishes to work. Clearly, the solutions of the past have not worked.

- - As you are aware, I recently issued a Memorandum to the Heads of all Departments and Agencies urging that they adopt an open door policy toward labor. We need your input and want your views, but we must also ask you to take some responsibility and initiative in this effort.
- As part of our process to develop a continuing dialogue, I am asking the Vice President and Secretary Donovan to meet regularly with a broad cross section of labor leaders so they can, personally, keep me informed of your views and concerns.
- I promised that there wouldn't be a long-winded speech, so Lane (Kirkland) I'd appreciate hearing from you and the others.

TALKING POINTS

Conclusion of Meeting

- - Let me offer one last comment before I leave. I've read that the AFL-CIO has moved into the Democratic Party. Surely this is your prerogative but, as a former president of an AFL-CIO union, I am hopeful organized labor will not allow itself to become the handmaiden of any one political party. I've always believed that if you are not satisfied with the candidates or the policies of a political party, you should take the bull by the horns and try your best to bring about the changes you believe necessary. I think the Republican Party has a great deal to offer labor and, frankly, I want to get my turn at bat.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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C

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 25, 1981

MEETING WITH TASK FORCE ON PRIVATE
SECTOR INITIATIVES

DATE: Wednesday, December 2, 1981
LOCATION: State Dining Room
TIME: 12:00 - 1:00 P.M.
FROM: JAMES S. ROSEBUSH *jsr*

I. PURPOSE

To give the Task Force your charge. To stress the importance you place on this effort. To underscore the reason you formed the Task Force - to stimulate greater private sector leadership to address community problems. To thank them for accepting this challenge.

II. BACKGROUND

December 2, 1981 is the inaugural meeting of this Task Force. The group will be sworn in and have an organizational meeting in the morning and continue it's discussion through the afternoon.

III. PARTICIPANTS

(See attached list)

IV. PRESS PLAN

Press pool only during Presidents remarks.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

You will proceed from the Oval Office to the State Dining Room accompanied by Jim Rosebush where your guests will already be seated. Jim will introduce you to the guests at your table and then lunch will be served. At approximately 12:45 you will step to the podium to make your prepared remarks and at the conclusion thank the group, wish them success in their meeting, which will continue, and then depart from the dining room.

Attachment: Remarks

PARTICIPANTS

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WASHINGTON

William Aramony
President
United Way

John H. Filer
Chairman
Aetna Casualty & Life Co.

William J. Baroody, Jr.
President
American Enterprise Institute

Max Fisher

Helen G. Boosalis
Mayor
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John Gardner
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William R. Bricker
National Director
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Daniel Gilbert
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Barber B. Conable
Congressman
U.S. House of Representatives

Dr. Jean L. Harris
Secretary of Human Resources
Commonwealth of Virginia

J. Richard Conder
President
National Association of Counties

James S. Henry
President
Center for Public Resource

Terence Cardinal Cooke
Archbishop of New York

E. V. Hill
Pastor
Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Kenneth N. Dayton
Chairman of Executive Committee
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Dee Jepsen
Advisory Board Member
Steppe Foundation

Walter G. Davis
Director of Community Services
AFL-CIO

Michael S. Joyce
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John M. Olin Foundation

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Governor
State of Delaware

Edward H. Kiernan
President
International Union of Police

Hon. David Durenberger
Senator
United States Senate

Arthur Levitt, Jr.
Chairman
American Stock Exchange

Luis A. Ferre
Former Governor of Puerto Rico

Robert D. Lilley
Chairman
Local Initiatives Support Corp.

Dr. Henry Lucas, Jr.
Chairman
New Coalition for Economic
and Social Change

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Frank Pace, Jr.
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Chairman
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Ellen Sulzberger Straus
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Reverend Leon Sullivan
Founder
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William S. White
President
C.S. Mott Foundation

Jeri J. Winger
First Vice President
General Federation of Women's Clubs

Thomas H. Wyman
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Administration Officials and Invited Guests

The Honorable Malcolm Baldrige

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James A. Baker, III

Michael K. Deaver

Joseph W. Canzeri

Richard G. Darman

Elizabeth H. Dole

Max L. Friedersdorf

Craig L. Fuller

Richard S. Williamson

James S. Rosebush

Michael P. Castine

Patrick Butler
Communications Director, Task Force

Jack Albertine
Acting Staff Director, Task Force

Allen Cooper
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LUNCH: PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES TASK FORCE
DECEMBER 2, 1981

Good afternoon to all of you and welcome to the White House. I'm reminded, and I think most of you know the story, about President Kennedy welcoming a delegation of Nobel Prize winners to the White House. He called it the most impressive collection of talents assembled here since Thomas Jefferson dined alone.

Well, looking over your distinguished group today, I'm not sure Thomas Jefferson could match this team. We're glad you're here, and thankful leaders of your caliber strongly support our Administration's commitment to strengthen private sector initiatives.

What we're asking you to do is help rediscover America. Not the America bound by the Potomac River, but the one beyond it: the America whose initiative, ingenuity and industry made our country the envy of the world; the America whose rich tradition of generosity began with simple acts of neighbor caring for neighbor.

We're asking you to build on this heritage, to encourage greater contributions of voluntary effort and personal involvement, to form a partnership between the private and public sector for the good of America.

We want you to seek out models for private sector initiatives -- schools, churches, civic groups, businesses, unions, the foundations -- and give them the recognition they deserve.

Help us identify the obstacles Government has placed in the way of private initiative, and make recommendations to me for the removal of those obstacles and the introduction of needed incentives.

Finally, we think a wonderful legacy of this task force would be the creation of thousands of local task forces just like yours -- one for every town in America -- to carry on the work you will begin today.

You can help revive the sense of community which has been the hallmark of America, but which recently has been weakened by the growth of big Government. Americans should never have to consider themselves wards of the state. They are members of their communities, and the answers to their problems can be found on the streets where they live. Your job, as I see it, is not to try to solve these problems, or to spend a lot of time writing one of those thick reports.

In fact, I want no report at all. I want results and that is why I enlisted each of you -- leaders from every walk of life who have to solve tough problems every day. Government can provide opportunity, it can pave the way, but ultimately it is individuals like yourselves who brave new horizons, expand freedom and create better lives for us all.

Your success will be measured by how much and how well you marshall the private resources of America in the service of community improvement.

I'm told that Americans perform some \$100 billion worth of labor every year for volunteer organizations across the

country. That's in addition to the \$47 billion they contribute in cash to charitable and religious organizations. The country is bursting with ideas and creativity but a Government run by central decree has no way to respond.

People want to play a part in building a better America and you can show the way. You are their colleagues, their friends, and you can talk with them and work with them -- just as I want to talk and work with you. I will also be speaking out on this subject and working with the Cabinet to refocus the resources of Government -- so they encourage private initiatives instead of discouraging them.

When I spoke to the National Alliance of Businessmen, I mentioned several outstanding models of corporate responsibility and community spirit. But for every one I mentioned, I know there are a hundred more just as good.

Find them. Spread the word. Help 230 million Americans get organized. Help us create new leadership at the state and local level, a new alliance for progress here at home. Help us put America's future back in the people's hands.

I know your chairman, Bill Verity, has excellent ideas on how these things can be done. And each of you brings expertise and experience to our enterprise as well.

We look to you, we appreciate you, and most of all we're counting on you. We're confident that this task can be done and that your task force is the group to do it.

Thank you very much.