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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEETING WITH THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

Date: Monday, January 11, 1982  
Location: State Dining Room  
Time: 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.

From: Richard S. Williamson



I. PURPOSE

To discuss their concerns and suggestions regarding your federalism initiatives, thus evidencing your ongoing commitment to consult with state legislators.

II. BACKGROUND

NCSL has indicated that they would like to address the following issue areas:

1. Revenue resource return.
2. The sorting-out of responsibilities among the levels of governments.
3. Restraint in reducing federal aid to the states; to include consultations, and implementation lead time.

You previously met with the NCSL Executive Committee on June 18, 1981. However, there has been an election of new officers since then and many of the members are new.

Secretaries Schweiker and Lewis will be meeting with them after you depart.

III. PARTICIPANTS

List attached.

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House photographer only.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

9:45 a.m. Rich Williamson welcomes.

10:00 a.m. The President and Vice President arrive.

The President makes brief remarks.

NCSL President Ross Doyen will then respond, and call on specific members to address issue areas for Q and A.

10:30 a.m. The President and Vice President depart.

Secretary Schweiker  
Remarks and Q and A

11:30 a.m. Secretary Lewis  
Remarks and Q and A

12 noon Adjourn

Note: The Vice President's Office has advised he will not present remarks.

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Attachments:

1. Talking Points.
2. List of attendees.

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE  
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

- It's good to have you all back here at the White House -- though I see several new faces from when we met back in June. And let me congratulate those of you who were elected to the Executive Committee at your annual meeting in July.
  
- When I addressed your membership in Atlanta, Dick Hodes (Immediate Past President) and I both spoke of the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution -- of how that clear and unequivocal statement concerning the delegation of powers has gone unheeded.
  
- I said: "This Nation has never fully debated the fact that over the past 40 years federalism -- one of the most essential and underlying principles of our Constitution -- has nearly disappeared as a guiding force in American politics and government ... That my Administration intended to initiate such a debate, and that a no more appropriate forum could be found than the National Conference of State Legislatures." Well, if we could take a second to pat each other on the back, let me say I think that together we've done just that. We have begun that debate.

- No, we haven't eliminated 40 years of excessive encroachment by the federal government in just these past five months. Like the ship at sea which takes many nautical miles to turn around, so it is, too, with the proverbial ship of state. We are not yet near the proper constitutional balance of power between the federal government and state governments as mandated by the Tenth Amendment.
  
- But, just as surely we have tacked, and the course is being altered. The long process of returning powers properly reserved to the states has started.
  
- Block grants remain a priority. We want to consolidate more categorical programs into existing blocks.
  
- Greater flexibility is an imperative. We remain resolute in the pledge I made to you in Atlanta that we will be going back and back and back to the Congress until you have the flexibility you need.
  
- Revenue resource return is uppermost in our minds. We are making a sincere and dedicated effort to determine these sources since it is the one true way to make our federalism initiatives permanent.

- And the sorting-out process goes on. We continue to seek your advice, and that of governors, mayors and county officials across the land to reach a consensus on what are proper functions of the federal government, of state government, and of local government.
  
- Let me hasten to reiterate a commitment I made to a group of mayors and county officials who were here a couple of weeks ago. I told them, "I have no intention of balancing the budget on the backs of the states and cities." In case you hadn't heard I said that, I wanted you to hear it from me personally.
  
- I want you to know how deeply appreciative I am of your at times courageous support of our federalism initiatives. We are partners, and we are fighting these battles together. We all know that federalism is not politically popular in all quarters and our united front of a state-federal partnership is vital.

- But I must admit that when the heat gets really bad it's hard not to recall the object lesson of a story told by Senator Bob Stafford of Vermont...the story of an important senator and his wife who went to a party at the British Embassy. In less than 15 minutes, the senator felt it necessary to tell his wife: "Darling, that's the 5th martini you've had. Aren't you embarrassed to go to the bar so often? " "No, why should I be?" she replied. "I just tell the bartender it's for you."
- Well, we promise not to do that to you. For one thing, our mutual dream of full compliance with the Tenth Amendment is anything but intoxicating; it's a sober and reflective effort to make our federal system work. And secondly, we hope we have earned your trust, and we want to keep it. For in the final analysis, it is not a question of whether it's for us or for you...it's for the people.
- Now I know you have some agenda items you want to discuss, so I'll turn the Chair over to Ross Doyen.



Meeting with NCSL Executive Committee  
January 11, 1982  
Attendees

Legislative Members

Senator Ross Doyen (R-Kansas)  
Assemblyman William Passannante (D-New York)  
Senator Robert Connor (R-Delaware)  
Senator Paul Coverdell (R-Georgia)  
Senator Shirley Marsh (R-Nebraska)  
Rep. James Ritter (D-Pennsylvania)  
Speaker John Tucker (R-New Hampshire)  
Senator Fred Risser (D-Wisconsin)  
Rep. John Murphy (D-Massachusetts)  
Assemblyman Walter Kavanaugh (R-New Jersey)  
Senator Regis Groff (D-Colorado)  
Senator David Nething (R-North Dakota)  
Senator Oliver Ocasek (D-Ohio)  
Delegate Mary Marshall (D-Virginia)  
Senator Philip Rock (D-Illinois)  
Senator Lawrence Jacobsen (R-Nevada)  
Rep. H.L. Jensen (D-Wyoming)  
Rep. Gibson Lewis (D-Texas)  
Rep. Harriet Keyserling (D-South Carolina)

Legislative Staff Members

Al Roberts  
John Andreason  
Lyle Kyle  
John Lattimer  
Richard Barrios, Jr  
Louis Greene  
Lee Slater  
Carl Frantz  
Dale Cattanach  
Bob Smartt

*B*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 8, 1982

MEETING WITH THE HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP AND  
THE RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER ON THE APPROPRIATIONS,  
BUDGET, AND WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEES

DATE: Monday, January 11, 1982

PLACE: The Cabinet Room

TIME: 11:00 a.m. (30 minutes)

FROM: Kenneth M. Duberstein *KMD*

I. PURPOSE

To discuss the Fiscal Year 1983 budget and consult with the House Republican Leadership and the ranking Republican Member on the Appropriations, Budget, and Ways and Means Committees.

II. BACKGROUND

In an effort to develop a consensus among these House Republican congressional leaders on the FY 1983 budget and economic plans for 1982, discussions have been occurring between the Administration and the House Republican Leadership and the ranking Republican Member on the Appropriations, Budget, and Ways and Means Committees.

The initial and only meeting involving the President took place on December 18, two days after adjournment of the first session of Congress.

House Republicans have established a working group which has met with Director Stockman as recently as Thursday, January 7, to discuss preliminary legislative proposals for the second session of the 97th Congress. This working group includes the current attendees.

III. PARTICIPANTS

See Attachment.

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House photographer only.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The Members will enter through the Northwest Gate to the West Lobby where they will be escorted to the Cabinet Room for a 30-minute meeting with the President.

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Attachments: Participants (Attachment A)  
Talking Points (Attachment B)

PARTICIPANTS

The President  
Vice President Bush  
Secretary of the Treasury Regan  
OMB Director Stockman

Congressman Bob Michel, Republican Leader  
Congressman Jack Kemp, Chairman, House Republican Conference  
Congressman Dick Cheney, Chairman, Republican Policy Committee  
Congressman Edward Madigan, Chairman, Republican Research Committee  
Congressman Tom Evans, Vice Chairman, National Republican Congressional  
Committee  
Congressman Silvio Conte, ranking Republican, Appropriations Committee  
Congressman Del Latta, ranking Republican, Budget Committee  
Congressman Barber Conable, ranking Republican, Ways and Means  
Committee

Invited, but unable to attend

\*Congressman Trent Lott, Republican Whip  
Congressman Jack Edwards, Vice Chairman, House Republican Conference  
Congressman Clair Burgener, Secretary, House Republican Conference  
Congressman Guy Vander Jagt, Chairman, National Republican Congressional  
Committee

Staff

Edwin Meese III  
James Baker III  
Michael K. Deaver  
Martin Anderson  
Richard Darman  
Kenneth M. Duberstein  
M. B. Oglesby

\*Trent Lott was unable to attend because he is holding a press conference in Mississippi to announce that he is not running for the U. S. Senate, but will be a candidate for re-election to the House.

TALKING POINTS FOR  
PRESIDENT'S  
MONDAY, JANUARY 11 MEETING  
WITH REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL  
LEADERSHIP

- Contrary to what you may have read in the press, the major budget decisions are still being resolved. I would welcome your candid advice and thoughtful guidance at this point in the process.
  
- The budget we will propose must show steady downward progress in reducing projected deficits year after year.
  
- I am aware that this coming budget season will be even more difficult than the last one. Yet I think we should all be encouraged by the results we've achieved so far. We've already cut the rate of spending growth in half. The budget we will send to the Hill next month will be a balanced package of additional savings to further restrain the growth of government.
  
- I want to assure you that I will never retreat from the essential elements of the program which, working together, we've put into place -- personal and business tax rate cuts, continued spending restraint, and adequate resources for our national defense. The proposals that we put forward in this budget will be consistent with the progress we've already achieved.

C

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 8, 1982

MEETING WITH GOVERNOR DAVID TREEN (R-LOUISIANA) AND  
GOVERNOR WILLIAM CLEMENTS (R-TEXAS)

DATE: Monday, January 11, 1982

LOCATION: Oval Office

TIME: 11:40 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.

FROM: Richard S. Williamson

I. PURPOSE

To listen to the views of Governor Clements and Governor Treen on the issue of deregulation of natural gas.

II. BACKGROUND

The issue of deregulation of natural gas was considered in a Cabinet Council meeting in early December. All options were presented to you, but a decision was withheld based on the argument that the "time was not ripe" for the announcement of a decision. It was agreed that this issue would be reviewed in early 1982.

The Cabinet Council recommended a phase-out of price controls on regulated gas by allowing prices to rise smoothly from January 1, 1982, levels toward an oil equivalent price on January 1, 1985, when complete decontrol would occur. The Council recommended that some categories of "new" gas be allowed to rise immediately to the oil equivalent price, so as to create a greater immediate incentive for increased production. Finally, the Council recommended that all demand restraints on natural gas be repealed.

Other options considered included immediate decontrol of all gas, decontrol of "new" gas only, and other phasing options.

You should indicate to the Governors that no decision has been made on deregulation. You need make no commitment to any option or suggestion raised by the Governors.

Governor Treen will advocate the following:

1. Deregulation of "old" gas and acceleration of the Natural Gas Policy Act (NGPA) schedule for new gas decontrol.



*D*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Reception for Hoover Institute  
Monday, January 11, 1982

FROM: Muffie Brandon *muffie Brandon*

- 4:45 p.m. Guests begin to arrive the Diplomatic Reception Room and are led up the Grand Staircase to the Color Rooms and the East Room for refreshments.
- 5:20 p.m. All guests will be assembled into the State Dining Room to await the arrival of THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. REAGAN.
- 5:30 p.m. THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. REAGAN arrive the State Floor via the elevator and proceed to the Red Room, then through the south door of the Red Room into the State Dining Room to the podium on the south wall. THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. REAGAN are announced into the room, then THE PRESIDENT makes brief remarks.
- Following the remarks, THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. REAGAN mix and mingle with the guests, then proceed to the Private Residence.
- 6:00 p.m. All guests depart.

(Rohrabacher/AB)  
January 8, 1982

W.H. RECEPTION: HOOVER INSTITUTE  
JANUARY 11, 1982

Welcome to all of you. It is just fantastic to have so many old friends here with me in the White House. Looking over this group, I see many faces that bring back memories of battles gone by. Over the years we've developed a comradery worth more than any gift.

It is fitting that we are brought together because of the Hoover Institution. All of us are concerned about the future, or we would not be here. Over the years the Hoover Institution has made enormous contributions to the future freedom and prosperity of mankind.

Laying the intellectual foundation for change is absolutely essential if a free society is to be maintained. Unlike authoritarian regimes, change is a way of life in a free society. And where there is academic freedom and freedom of speech and press, it is topnotch scholarship and research that plant the seeds of change. Whether our children will reap a harvest of liberty or suffer tyranny and deprivation depends on what the scholars and intellectuals of today plant in the minds of those who will create the reality of tomorrow.

Over its distinguished career, the Hoover Institution deserves to be singled out for its service, its standards, and its contributions. Since its founding in 1919 by former President Herbert Hoover, the Institution has been a preeminent

center for the advanced study of domestic and foreign policy. Its library and archives are a valuable national resource and a tribute to what dedicated individuals can do -- without tax dollars.

Earlier this year Martin Anderson presented me with a special gift from the Hoover Institution for which I am deeply grateful. In my Inaugural address I mentioned a quotation from a young soldier killed in the First World War, Private Martin Treptow. Well, someone over at Hoover dug through the archives and found a Liberty Loan Poster from 1918 quoting Private Treptow's diary. Martin presented it to me in the Cabinet Room and I just want you to know how appreciative I am for the present and the thought behind it.

Many of us who have chosen politics as a career -- in my case it was a second career, of course, just something to do after I retired from acting to help pass the time -- but seriously, those of us who are involved in politics are grateful to the Hoover Institution for so much. Under the leadership of your able director, Glen Campbell, and with hard work and diligence, you built the knowledge base that made the changes now taking place in Washington possible. Dr. Campbell attracted some of the world's best scholars to the Hoover Institution. I'm glad he did, because we've borrowed many to serve in top spots in my Administration. Dr. Campbell . . . to you a personal thank you.

Finally, I want all of you to know how proud I am to be an honorary Fellow of Hoover Institution. Again, thank you

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for being here today and for all you are doing to support  
this indispensable bulwark of liberty.