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*[Handwritten initials]*

WHITE HOUSE  
OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT  
WORKSHEET

TR

- X-MEDIA
- H-INTERNAL

Name of Document: BRIEFING PAPERS  
FOR PRESIDENT'S  
SCHEDULED  
APPOINTMENTS FOR

JUL2983

Subject Codes:

P	R	0	0	7	-	0	1
FG		0	0	6	-	1	2
					-		
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PR		0	1	6	-		
SO		0	0	1	-		
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WE		0	0	9	-		
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1) Subject: List of invitees/attendees for National Security Planning Group

2) Breakfast with the television columnists of The McLaughlin Group.

3) Meeting with the Future Farmers of America

4) Reception for the National Associations of Elementary and Secondary School Principals

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION		
Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
RMHENL		RSZ			C	

Referral Note:

THE SCHEDULE OF  
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

Friday, July 29, 1983



8:30 am (30 min)	<u>Briefing for McLaughlin Group Breakfast</u> (Gergen) (TAB A)	Oval Office
9:00 am (60 min)	<u>Breakfast meeting with McLaughlin Group</u> (Gergen)	Roosevelt Room
10:00 am (15 min)	<u>Staff Time</u> (Baker, Meese)	Oval Office
10:15 am (15 min)	<u>National Security Briefing</u> (Clark)	Oval Office
10:30 am (30 min)	<u>Personal Staff Time</u>	Oval Office
11:00 am (60 min)	<u>NSPG Meeting</u> (Clark)	Situation Room
12:00 m (60 min)	<u>Lunch</u>	Oval Office
1:00 pm (15 min)	<u>Greet Future Farmers of America</u> (Whittlesey) (TAB B) (draft remarks attached)	Rose Garden
1:30 pm (30 min)	<u>Meeting with Richard Wirthlin</u> (Baker)	Oval Office
2:00 pm (40 min)	<u>Haircut</u>	W. Basement
2:45 pm (15 min)	<u>Drop by Reception for National Association of Elementary School Principals and National Association of Secondary School Principals</u> (Fuller/Rosebush) (TAB C) (draft remarks attached)	East Room
Afternoon N	<u>To Camp David</u>	Camp David

UNP 7/28/83  
4:00 pm



THE SCHEDULE OF  
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

Friday, July 29, 1983



8:30 am (30 min)	<u>Briefing for McLaughlin Group Breakfast</u> (Gergen) <i>JB, Gergen, Darmanin, [unclear] (TAB A)</i> <i>HANPER, BAROODY</i>	Oval Office
9:00 am (60 min)	<u>Breakfast meeting with McLaughlin Group</u> (Gergen) <i>9:01 -</i>	Roosevelt Room
10:00 am (15 min)	<u>Staff Time</u> (Baker, Meese)	Oval Office
10:15 am (15 min)	<u>National Security Briefing</u> <i>10:15 - <del>9:58</del> 9:45</i> (Clark) <i>FAIRBANKS, McFARLAND, ROBT. LILAK,</i> <i>Geoff Kemp, Ken de Graffenried, JB, SHULTZ</i>	Oval Office
10:30 am (30 min)	<u>Personal Staff Time</u> <i>9:38</i>	Oval Office
11:00 am (60 min)	<u>NSPG Meeting</u> <i>11:05 -</i> (Clark)	Situation Room
12:00 m (60 min)	<u>Lunch</u>	Oval Office
1:00 pm (15 min)	<u>Greet Future Farmers of America</u> (Whittlesey) <i>1:00 - 1:07</i> (TAB B) (draft remarks attached)	Rose Garden
1:30 pm (30 min)	<u>Meeting with Richard Wirthlin</u> <i>1:07 - PERSONAL TIME 1:30 -</i> (Baker) <i>JB</i>	Oval Office
2:00 pm (40 min)	<u>Haircut</u> <i>2:00</i>	W. Basement
2:45 pm (15 min)	<u>Drop by Reception for National Association of Elementary School Principals and National Association of Secondary School Principals</u> (Fuller/Rosebush) (TAB C) (draft remarks attached)	East Room
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Fantone*

# EXECUTIVE PROTECTIVE SERVICE

To: Officer-in-charge  
Appointments Center  
Room 060, OEOP

Please admit the following appointments on July 29, 1983  
for The President of White House:  
(Name of person to be visited) (Agency)

State:  
Secretary George P. Shultz ✓

Defense:  
~~Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger or~~  
Dep Sec Paul Thayer ✓

Justice:  
Attorney General William French Smith ✓

OMB:  
~~Mr. David A. Stockman~~ Al Keel ✓

CIA:  
Mr. William J. Casey ✓

VP's Office

USUN:  
Amb Jeane J. Kirkpatrick ✓

Admiral Daniel Murphy ✓

JCS:  
General John W. Vessey, Jr. ✓

White House:  
Mr. James A. Baker, III ✓  
Judge William P. Clark ✓  
~~Mr. Robert C. McFarlane~~

NSC:  
Mr. Kenneth deGraffenreid ✓

### MEETING LOCATION

Building West Wing White House Requested by Carol Cleveland  
Room No. Situation Room Room No 72 Telephone 3044  
Time of Meeting 11:00 a.m. Date of request July 28, 1983

Additions and/or changes made by telephone should be limited to three (3) names or less.

**DO NOT DUPLICATE THIS FORM**



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 28, 1983

BREAKFAST WITH "THE MCLAUGHLIN GROUP"

DATE: Friday, July 29, 1983  
LOCATION: Roosevelt Room  
TIME: 9:00 a.m. (60 minutes)

FROM: Karna Small *KS*

I. PURPOSE:

To have an exchange of views with a group of highly influential columnists who now appear on "The McLaughlin Group" - a TV discussion program which airs in Washington on Channel 4 at 7:30 Saturday and Noon on Sunday. It also airs on the PBS station in Chicago and this Fall will be carried on the entire PBS network.

II. BACKGROUND:

"The McLaughlin Group" TV program has been on the air about a year. It is a round-table discussion of current events, political developments and world crises -- with a good deal of arguing amongst the participants. There are both "liberals" and "conservatives" on the panel, and both domestic and foreign policy issues are discussed.

III. PARTICIPANTS:

See attached list

IV. PRESS PLAN:

Two camera crews (from NBC and WRC) will shoot silent tape only for 5 minutes when you first enter the Roosevelt Room. One still photographer from WRC will also take photos for the first 5 minutes. White House Photographer will photograph the event as well.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

You will enter the Roosevelt Room at 9:00 a.m. You will first sit down in an arrangement of chairs by the wall with "The McLaughlin Group" where cameras will record an informal conversation and get acquainted session. After 5 minutes, cameras will be escorted out and you and your guests will sit down at the large table to a full breakfast. Your discussion of current events will then begin. (The breakfast will not be filmed)

VI. REMARKS:

Briefing papers submitted separately.  
[Domestic points attached; foreign points available later]



III. PARTICIPANTS:

The President

John McLaughlin - Host of the program. He is Washington Editor of National Review and is known for his conservative views. (His wife, Ann McLaughlin is Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs at the Department of Treasury). He may raise issue of arms control, Paul Nitze's "walk in the woods" discussion of numbers; Central America and Castro's recent speech, whether a quarantine would be considered an "act of war;" the Mid-East and whether we are simply trying to mute the whole issue until after the elections. He may also bring up social issues and may question Rex Lee, Solicitor General, who has reportedly differed with you on whether to litigate over prayer in the schools.

Pat Buchanan - Columnist, author, TV commentator (on Braden/Buchanan on radio and CNN). He is a former speechwriter and adviser to President Nixon and is a strong conservative. He is concerned about IMF and has criticized it as a bailout of the big banks. He has criticized the appointment of Henry Kissinger to the Commission. But he has been very supportive of your policies in general in Central America (see attached column printed today).

Robert Novak - Columnist, generally conservative supply-side orientation. He may ask about taxes and whether there is any sort of plan to raise taxes (which he would be against). He has been known to feel that deficits can best be handled through economic growth, not higher taxes. He just returned from Central America and can be expected to dwell on that problem. He has questioned in the past all the strictures we have been putting on the government of El Salvador, and not on others in terms of qualifying for aid and support.

Georgie Anne Geyer--Columnist best known for foreign policy coverage. She may ask about the Mideast and the U.S. Marines there and whether they will be left "holding the bag when the Israelis leave." She may ask why the American people have not focused on 1,000 Marines in Lebanon, and only discussed the 55 advisers in El Salvador.

Jack Germond -- Columnist and the most liberal of the group. He has been most interested in democratic and republican politics and the constituency groups that you are attempting to attract: blacks, women, educators; He may also hit hard on Central America and the military maneuvers going on as well as public opinion that does not seem to support these actions.

III. PARTICIPANTS CONTINUED:

Richard Moore, Producer

John Rohrbeck, Vice President and General Manager, WRC

David Gergen

Karna Small

Robert Sims

Peter Roussel



# Reagan has a historic opportunity — if he's willing to pay the price

With the dispatch of the U.S. battle fleets to the Pacific and Caribbean coasts of Central America, the president has issued a statement to the world: A Soviet satellite state and military base in Central America is unacceptable to the United States.

That the Sandinistas and their American sympathizers have gotten the message is unmistakable. Suddenly, the Ortega Brothers are anxious to negotiate treaties of non-interference in the affairs of their neighbors. The American left — politicians and press auxiliaries — is alternately berating Reagan's "gunboat diplomacy," and imploring him to talk to the Sandinistas, to listen to the Contadora Group, to wait upon the Kissinger Commission. Something approaching a general panic has broken out in this city and the hemisphere of the Sandinistas.

By dispatching the fleet, however, the president has himself publicly climbed up the high dive. If six months hence, USS Ranger and New Jersey come steaming home, and the Sandinista regime is firmly and permanently entrenched, the president will be perceived as having run an American bluff. The Soviet military base in Central America will be accepted by the world as a permanent feature of the Cold War with which the United States has, once again, come to terms. Castro and Andropov's tremendous gamble will have paid off.

All the talk about poverty and human rights, democracy and land reform aside, Central America is the latest battlefield in the war between the United States and the Soviet Union.

The Soviets, the Cubans, the Sandinistas have shoved their stack of chips in. They have accepted the risks inherent in establishing a communist beachhead deep inside the hemispheric defense perimeter of the United States. They have in four years built an indigenous army of 75,000 troops and militia, poured in advisers, technicians and material, and sought to expand the beachhead to El Salvador.

The Ortega Brothers are not going to be negotiated out of power by Richard Stone or Henry Kissinger. They are not going to be frightened out of power by the battleship New Jersey with its impressive array of cruise missiles. They are not going to commit suicide by inviting back anti-communist Nicaraguans and committing their fate to free elections. Nor will they be abandoned by Yuri Andropov simply because Sen. Moynihan warns that if he doesn't, we will cut off his wheat supply and foreclose on his Polish subsidiary.

The presence of the battle fleet can persuade Managua, temporarily, to cool its revolutionary ardor, to play the peace-loving socialist state, the hemispheric good neighbor.

But, as soon as the gun-boats go home, the Sandinistas will return to the business of waging war against Western interests in Central America, just as Hanoi went back to its war of conquest of South Vietnam, the day the B-52s departed.

Having seized and consolidated power at the barrel of a gun, the Sandinistas will not be removed — except at the barrel of a gun. Given the military build-up in Nicaragua, unprecedented in Central

American history, it is unlikely that any coalition of 10,000 "Contras" can drive them from power, without the military assistance of the United States. Which means American wounded and American dead.

If the United States is unprepared to pay that price, then we should reconcile ourselves to a Central America of 20 million people allied with and attached to the Soviet Empire. It is as simple as that.

Conversely, Central America offers a historic opportunity to the United States.

no base of supply — will gutter out. An American-backed push to dump the Sandinistas, coupled with U.S. recapture of the island of Grenada and Suriname from the grisly Castroite gangs who seized them, could, in six months, put the Western Hemisphere — excepting only Cuba — off-limits to the Soviet Empire.

This would expose as bogus the myth that communist revolutions are irreversible, and would send a message to the world that, under Mr. Reagan, the post-Vietnam paralysis of the United States is over. The political and psychological

In Nicaragua, the Cubans and Soviets are taking an immense gamble. They are overextended, overexposed. If the president is willing to put up with hysteria in the United States, to pay the price to overthrow the Sandinista regime, he would be the first American president to have inflicted a decisive military defeat upon the Soviet Empire.

If, through American action, the Sandinista regime is thrown upon the trash heap of history, the communist war in El Salvador — isolated, demoralized guerrillas with

cal shock to Castro, of seeing the Soviet's Western Hemisphere bases rolled up with impunity, would be jolting; and the effect upon free men and anti-communists from Eastern Europe to southern Angola would be electric.

By sending the fleet, Mr. Reagan has come close to putting his place in history on the line. If the Sandinistas survive, and lead the communist takeover of Central America, no amount of plea-bargaining on the part of the president's cohorts — i.e. he had no "consensus"; he lacked public support — is likely to persuade.



1983 JUL 28 PM 3:09

July 28, 1983.

KEY POINTS FOR ON-THE-RECORD SESSION WITH MCLAUGHLIN GROUP

The Economy

- o Few saw coming the growth, inflation progress we are now seeing -- thought stagflation was here for most of '80s.
- o 8.7 percent 2nd quarter growth better than any expected.
- o Consensus (Blue Chip survey) among economists at end of 1982 was forecast of relatively sluggish growth for 1983; most were expecting GNP growth of less than 3 percent -- almost made our January forecast of 3.1 percent look optimistic.
- o Most thought would take a decade or so to wring inflation from economy -- but last 12 months CPI rise of 2.6 percent is lowest in more than 15 years.
- o Have growth with low inflation; can keep it if Congress cooperates on spending restraint.
- o Recent indicators:
  - Housing starts and permits at solid 1.75 million annual rate;
  - U.S. auto sales running about 7.5 million rate in July.
  - Factory utilization rising -- now pushing 75 percent, up from below 70 percent last November.

Deficit

- o Higher than expected growth cutting next year's red-ink by \$10 billion plus.
- o OMB mid-session review (out last Monday) shows declining deficits over next five years.
- o Need budget restraint to achieve this. Will get it with Congress' cooperation if possible -- or with veto if necessary.

Withholding compromise -- no veto?

- o Sometimes apple does turn into an orange.
- o Will take close look at bill on arrival at RR's desk but does provide needed authority on Caribbean Basin Initiative.
- o Also offers beefed-up enforcement for tax collection (more IRS agents).

### Contingency tax -- is it dead?

- o Not dead -- RR still behind it.
- o One of the "contingencies" though, is budget cuts from the Congress -- and looks like we've got work cut out for us in getting them to go along.

### Politics '84

- o No decision yet; no committee formed yet -- exploratory or otherwise.
- o On Dem contenders: Amusing they're out so early. Dems changed rules this time to shorten campaign -- but we have one of the longest ever. They write rules like they govern -- good intentions but just the opposite results.

# THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 27, 1983

## MEETING WITH FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

DATE: Friday, July 29

LOCATION: Rose Garden

TIME: 1:00 - 1:15 p.m.

FROM: FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY *FRW*

- I. PURPOSE  
To greet 300 members of Future Farmers of America (FFA) and their sponsors.
- II. BACKGROUND  
FFA is a national organization for high school students who are enrolled in vocational agriculture curriculum. FFA provides the awards and incentive for those students preparing careers in agricultural production, processing, sales and service, mechanics, horticulture, forestry, natural resources and professions. Jan Eberly (California) serves as the first woman FFA President in 55 years. This year's theme is "Keeping America on the Grow."
- III. PARTICIPANTS  
Approximately 300 FFA members and adult leaders representing every state, Puerto Rico, Canada, and the United Kingdom. The FFA leadership represents nearly a half-million students nationwide. Each state president represents about 10,000 members.
- The national student members standing with the President include:
1. Jan Eberly, Natl. FFA President, California
  2. Wendell Jeffreys, Natl. FFA V. President, Oklahoma
  3. Bryan Stamps, Natl. FFA V. President, Mississippi
  4. Marty Coates, Natl. FFA Secretary, N. Carolina
  5. Cara Doyle, Natl. FFA V. President, Wisconsin
  6. Bruce Kettler, Natl. FFA V. President, Ohio
- IV. PRESS PLAN  
WH photographer, FFA Magazine staff, Open Press
- V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS
- 1:00 President enters Rose Garden from Oval Office and greets Faith Whittlesey (who has already welcomed the group) and the national FFA officers standing near the podium.  
President presents remarks
- 1:07 President concludes his remarks and receives plaque of appreciation from Natl. FFA President, Jan Eberly (Faith Whittlesey to introduce Jan to President Reagan)
- 1:10 President returns to Oval Office



(Rohrabacher/AB)  
July 28, 1983  
2:00 p.m. RR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: GREET FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA  
FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1983

Good afternoon, I understand we've got youth leaders with us from every State and also from Puerto Rico, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Well, welcome to the White House.

I'd like to take this opportunity to offer a special congratulations to Jan Eberly from my home State of California, the first woman to be national president of your organization.

I always get a kick out of meeting with the Future Farmers of America -- and my ties to the group go back a long way. Many of my friends when I was growing up back in Illinois were future farmers. And what was true then is still true today: Future Farmers of America does more than give a good start to some fine young people. By cultivating leadership, skills, and patriotism, it ensures the strength and vitality of our country.

This generation of American farmers has astounded the world with its productivity. Farm output, since 1950, has jumped 89 percent, with agricultural productivity rising more than four times faster than industrial productivity per hour worked. Last year, with less than three-tenths of one percent of the world's farm workers, our country produced 65 percent of the world's soybeans, 48 percent of the corn, 33 percent of the sorghum, 25 percent of the oranges, 32 percent of the poultry, 26 percent of the beef, and the list goes on and on. Today, one of our farm workers produces enough food to feed himself plus more than 50 Americans and 20 people abroad.

It doesn't take a Harvard-trained economist to see what this means to our economy and to the well-being of our people. American agriculture has been so efficient that we often take an abundance of food for granted. We can be very proud that we live in one of the few countries of the world that will not tolerate hunger, and that your profession can take a lion's share of the credit for our ability to live up to that goal. Agricultural productivity has permitted us to develop human values and to put those values into practice. This just didn't happen by accident. Our abundance is a product of the hard work of our farmers, the skill and technological know-how we put into agriculture and, most important, the freedom of which we are so proud here in America.

There is another country with similar resources to our own. It is a major power. Its citizens are decent, hardworking people, but they have no freedom -- and that lack of freedom is matched by a lack of productivity. There is no better proof that freedom and material progress can only survive together. A story I like to tell is about the Soviet commissar who visited a collective farm. He grabbed the first farmer he saw and asked him about life on the collective farm.

"It's wonderful, comrade. I've never heard anyone complain since I've been here," replied the farmer.

"What about the potato harvest?" the commissar inquired.

"Oh, the potatoes. Fantastic. I've never seen anything like it. If we put them all in one pile, it would be so high it would reach the foot of God."

"Wait a minute," the commissar said. "This is the Soviet Union. There is no God."

"That's O.K.," the farmer said. "There's no potato crop either."

Well, I know that the Future Farmers of America is doing its part to build character and to keep our country in the forefront of the production of food and fiber. I'd like to congratulate you for F.F.A.'s theme this year, which I understand is:

"Keeping America on the grow."

We are just now emerging from some hard times that have been a long time in the making. I know things have been rough and still are for many farmers, but I hope when you go back to your homes you will tell your families and your friends of our confidence that things are getting better. While you're at it, you can tell them the President told you personally that America's farmers are not going to be left out of the good times ahead.

I hope all of you are enjoying yourselves and learning a lot while you're here in the Nation's Capital, and I think we owe General Motors a word of thanks for sponsoring your leadership conference. This kind of enlightened support from the private sector speaks well of American business.

And let me leave you with this thought. When you go home and remember all the sights you've seen in Washington -- the shrines of American liberty -- remember that back at the time ideals of our Nation emerged, it was composed overwhelmingly of men and women who made their living from the land. Today, we rely on you to maintain our ties to the land and to live up to




our ideals. I know you won't let us down. Thank you all for  
visiting me here.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 28, 1983

RECEPTION FOR THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF ELEMENTARY AND  
SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

DATE: July 29, 1983  
LOCATION: East Room  
TIME: 2:45 p.m. (15 minutes)  
FROM: Craig L. Fuller 

I. PURPOSE

To drop-by the reception for state leaders of the National Associations of Elementary and Secondary School Principals and to make brief remarks.

II. BACKGROUND

This White House reception will bring together the state leaders of two associations representing school principals:

1. The National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)

The NAESP is the sole professional association representing approximately 25,000 elementary and middle school (both public and private) principals in the United States and Canada. The goals of the organization include: 1) facilitating positive educational leadership; 2) enhancing the image of elementary and middle school principals as educational leaders; and 3) representing elementary and middle school principals' interests with Federal agencies, the Congress, and the public.

The NAESP State Leadership meeting is being held in Rosslyn, Virginia, July 28 to 31. The major topic of interest to the participants is excellence in education, including adequate funding to enable schools to implement programs which will improve educational quality in the Nation. To this end, they believe that the Federal financial contribution should be increased. The National Association has stated that to improve the quality of our educational system we must "begin at the beginning" by improving elementary school systems. They also emphasize the importance of the role of the principal in the achievement of excellence in education. Staff of NAESP indicated that principals are divided on the issue of tuition tax credits and recommended that this topic not be discussed at the reception on Friday.

2. The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)

NASSP, the largest organization of educational administrators in the United States, was established in 1916 by a group of 78 principals. Working through its Board of Directors, standing committees, and staff, the NASSP has evolved from this small group of principals to a 35,000-member organization representing secondary school principals, assistant principals and university professors. The Association has as its goal the improvement of secondary education for all youth, the promotion of high professional standards, and the provision of research and leadership.

The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) State Leaders Meeting will be held in Reston, Virginia, July 27-29. The major topic of interest to the participants is the Report of the Commission on Excellence in Education. In general, the Association is supportive of the recommendations in the Report, including incentive pay for teachers. The NASSP is aware of the beneficial effect which your recent emphasis on education has had on increasing public interest in education.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Gilmon Jenkins, President, NAESP  
Robert Howe, President, NASSP  
Approximately 200 school principals  
White House Fellows

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House Press

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- You will proceed to the podium and greet Gilmon Jenkins and Robert Howe, who will stand beside you as you make brief remarks.
- Gilmon Jenkins will thank you on behalf of both groups.



(Parvin/AB)  
July 28, 1983  
3:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: RECEPTION FOR NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS  
FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1983

First let me welcome all of you to the White House. You know, I've been out of school for more than 50 years, but I still get a little nervous around so many principals.

I'm sure principals still enjoy stories about kids and teachers, like the one about the teacher who was trying to impress upon her students the need to avoid catching cold. She told a very heart-rending tale about her own small brother. She said to her class, "You know I had a little brother about the age of all of you in the class. He was a fun-loving child, and one day he took his new sled out in the snow. He stayed out too long, caught pneumonia, and, yes, 3 days later he died." There was total silence in the room for a full 5 minutes. Finally a voice came from the rear, "Where's his sled?"

Well, that's not the attitude I wanted our National Committee on Excellence in Education to take, but I did want them to approach their task with hard-eyed realism. You are by now well-acquainted with the Commission's findings. Two of our Commission members are school principals, because we wanted the important perspective you here today represent.

You know the problems our educational system faces. So many things have changed in our society -- from the structure of family life to drug abuse among our young -- that over time it began affecting education. The principals and teachers alone cannot correct these social ills, any more than any single level

of government can by itself improve our schools. But we can, and we must, build a new consensus among parents, teachers, students, principals and elected officials to bring about a renaissance in American education.

Most of the attention has focused on the need to reward excellence. I can't imagine anything more discouraging for young teachers than to see a rigid salary scale laid out for the rest of their lives that ignores their efforts, no matter how good they might be.

I saw something interesting in The Washington Post several weeks ago. It was a story on how the Soviet leadership is considering ways to get the Soviet economy moving. One proposal is to depart from the practice of paying Soviet citizens relatively equal wages irrespective of job performance. Now, if even Yuri Andropov and the Soviet bureaucracy are beginning to realize the need for merit pay, why can't certain segments of our own educational establishment?

And there are many other things we can do to improve our educational system that don't cost money. Secretary Bell tells me that research on what makes one school more effective than another has shown that challenging students through high standards and high expectations results in increased achievement. In other words, if we don't expect anything from our kids, why should they expect anything of themselves?

Here, of course, I am talking about adopting more rigorous academic standards. I am talking about strengthening graduation

requirements in terms of curriculum, and reducing discipline problems by enforcing codes of student conduct.

You know I'm also reading interesting things about new textbooks that can do wonders increasing math skills. I've been told there's a math textbook by a fellow named John Saxon that has average I.Q. students scoring above high I.Q. students, and has Algebra I students who use this textbook doing better than Algebra II students who use the traditional text. I believe some principals in Oklahoma and other States have been involved in this experiment. So here is another area we should look into, and again, it could be done by simply replacing old books as they wear out.

We simply cannot tell the taxpayer more funds are needed to improve quality when, during the 20-year period between 1960 and 1980, spending on education was shooting up while college board scores were going down. If a 600-percent increase in spending couldn't make America smarter, how much more do we need?

What we do need is a commitment to education, not just more money. Now that I have the Commission's findings in hand, I've been going around the country trying to keep the dialogue alive, and I think we're making progress.

In its report, the Commission calls upon you, the principals, to play a crucial leadership role in developing school and community support for its reforms. You are deeply dedicated to our children's education or you wouldn't be in the field you are. And I have confidence that working together we can make the U.S. educational system what you want it to be. I



believe we can make it meet your standards. And I wanted to meet with you today to tell you personally how much I respect what you're doing for the Nation and to ask you to help me further the debate.

Thank you for coming and God bless you all.