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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Backup Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**OA/ID Number:** 13662  
**Folder ID Number:** 13662-012

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**Folder Title:**  
National Commission on Public Service 3/29/89 [OA 6347]

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>

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TALKING POINTS  
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE PUBLIC SERVICE  
ROOSEVELT ROOM  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1989

-- I want to welcome you to the White House, although many of you -- Ed (Muskie) and Elliot (Richardson) come to mind -- have spent more time here than I have. And I look forward to your returning again.

-- It's always wonderful to see good friends from both parties. In particular, let me welcome those of you from out of town. I say that, Ted, (Hesburgh) because Washington may not seem too hospitable after the Notre Dame-Georgetown game a couple of weeks ago.

-2-

-- Two years ago, this Commission was created. Its purpose was to suggest ways to lure more of the best and brightest to government and, thus, enhance the caliber of public service.

-- Today, I'm pleased to receive your report, and look forward to its recommendations: Suggestions regarding the problems and priorities of public service; ideas on issues like pay and compensation at all levels of government.

-- My friends, I believe -- as you do -- that government is a noble calling, and can enrich America. No, government is not a panacea, but it can be a catalyst: building, serving, helping people help themselves.

-3-

-- That is what you've tried to do, through this commission and in your careers. The hours you've spent as Commission members show your commitment to public service. And the example of your lives shows that you practice what you preach.

-- And personally, my deep appreciation -- for your time and counsel. And on America's behalf, my profoundest gratitude. Thank you, my friends, thank you so very much.

# # #

March 20, 1989  
KBK

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Christ*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** DAVID DEMAREST  
**FROM:** JOSEPH W. HAGIN  
**SUBJECT:** APPROVED PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITY

**EVENT:** National Commission on Public Service

**DATE:** March 29, 1989 -- Wednesday

**TIME:** 9:30 a.m.

**DURATION:** 15 Minutes

**LOCATION:** Roosevelt Room

**ATTIRE:** Business Suit

**REMARKS REQUIRED:** Yes

**MEDIA COVERAGE:** TBD

**FIRST LADY  
PARTICIPATION:** No

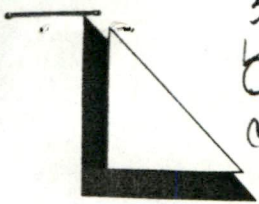
**ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION:**

**CONTACT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE:** OFFICE \_\_\_\_\_ HOME \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: PROJECT OFFICER, SEE ATTACHED CHECKLIST**

Ed Rogers	Marlin Fitzwater	David Bates
James Cicconi	David Demarest	David Valdez
Fred McClure	Jean Lamb	USSS - PPD
Susan Porter Rose	Steve Studdert	Operations - Executive Residence
Patty Presock	John Keller	WHCA Audio/Visual
Speechwriting Office	Tim McBride	WHCA Operations
Laurie Firestone	J. Bonnie Newman	
Robert Guttman	Tony Lopez	



Sen. Lautenberg  
Chiles  
Carmichael  
Ingram  
and Marks

2010. UM  
3/29/89 9:30

CC to -  
Joe Hagan

# National Commission on the Public Service

1616 H Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20006, (202) 638-0307

**Paul A. Volcker**  
Chairman

March 10, 1989

- Anne Armstrong
- Derek Bok
- John Brademas
- Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
- James Burke
- Robert Charpie
- William T. Coleman, Jr.
- Richard Debs
- James Ferguson
- Gerald R. Ford
- Douglas Fraser
- John W. Gardner
- Andrew Goodpaster
- Walter Haas
- Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C.
- Vernon Jordan
- Donald Kennedy
- Leonard Marks\*
- Charles McC Mathias
- Robert McNamara
- G. G. Michelson
- Walter Mondale
- Edmund Muskie
- Nancy Neuman
- Paul O'Neill
- Norman Ornstein\*
- Elliot Richardson\*
- Charles Robb
- Donald Rumsfeld
- J. Robert Schaetzl\*
- Donna Shalala
- Rocco Siciliano
- Elmer Staats\*
- John Tower
- Alexander Trowbridge
- Carolyn Warner
- \*Board of Directors

The Honorable John Sununu  
Chief of Staff to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Governor:

As I indicated to you on Wednesday, the work of the Commission on the Public Service has now reached the point where we will soon be completing a report -- our targeted date is March 29.

The report will include a good number of recommendations for action to strengthen the capacity of both the political appointees and the career services to support the President in carrying out his agenda. These recommendations will include the Commission's views on the difficult issue of pay and compensation at all levels of government. Viewed broadly, I believe the report is fully consistent with the "message" the President has been stating about the importance of the public service.

We obviously would prefer to release the report through the vehicle of presenting it to President Bush. You indicated that March 29 appeared feasible for that purpose.

It would be splendid if we could, to the extent possible, pin that down so we can put the mechanism in motion.

I would, of course, want to bring with me as many members of the Commission as possible, so that they could themselves express their views in support of the report and its recommendations. But that is, of course, entirely the President's call.

## Staff

- L. Bruce Laingen  
Executive Director
- Charles Levine  
Deputy Director
- Diane Dziwura  
Administrative Assistant
- Lyn Holley  
Senior Staff
- Tom Kell  
Senior Staff
- Marjorie Jones  
Graduate Assistant

Handwritten notes and scribbles on the right side of the page.

Perhaps the most expeditious way of proceeding would be for you to designate someone to be in touch with Bruce Laingen, our Executive Director, about the arrangements. His number is 638-0307.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul".

Paul A. Volcker  
Chairman

(Smith/Simon)  
March 22, 1989  
Draft ~~one~~ Three  
Serve

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PUBLIC SERVICE  
ROOSEVELT ROOM  
MARCH 29, 1989

o I want to welcome you to the White House -- although many of you -- Ed and Elliot come to mind -- have spent more time here than I have. And I look forward to your returning again.

o It's always wonderful to see good friends from both parties. I say that, Ted, even though Washington may not seem too hospitable after last week's Notre Dame-Georgetown game.

o Two years ago, this Commission was created. Its purpose was to suggest ways to lure more of the best and brightest to government and, thus, enhance the caliber of public service.

o Today, I'm pleased to receive your report, and look forward to its recommendations: Suggestions regarding the problems and priorities of public service; ideas on issues like pay and compensation at all levels of government.

o My friends, I believe -- as you do -- that government is a noble calling, and can enrich America. No, government is not a panacea, but it can be a catalyst: building, serving, helping people help themselves.

o That is what you've tried to do, through this Commission and in your careers. The hours you've spent as Commission members show your commitment to public service. And

the example of your lives shows that you practice what you preach.

~~You know, in a public sense, this is Opening Day for the National Commission on the Public Service.~~

Personally, my deep appreciation -- for your time and counsel. ~~And on America's behalf, my profoundest thanks.~~

And ~~the Administration & Lolal...~~

gratitude.

~~...now what you share with me~~  
### ... ~~what~~

And now, won't you join me in sharing what really made this report a reality ~~coffee, strong~~ and black.

Thank you, my friends -- thank you so very much.

TALKING POINTS  
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE PUBLIC SERVICE  
ROOSEVELT ROOM  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1989

-- I want to welcome you to the White House, although many of you -- Ed (Muskie) and Elliot (Richardson) come to mind -- have spent more time here than I have. And I look forward to your returning again.

-- It's always wonderful to see good friends from both parties. I say that, Ted, (Hesburgh) ~~even though~~ Washington may not seem too hospitable after the Notre Dame-Georgetown game a couple of weeks ago.

*because*

*In particular, let me welcome those of you from our oh town.*

-2-

-- Two years ago, this Commission was created. Its purpose was to suggest ways to lure more of the best and brightest to government and, thus, enhance the caliber of public service.

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-- That is what you've tried to do, through this commission and in your careers. The hours you've spent as Commission members show your commitment to public service. And the example of your lives shows that you practice what you preach.

-- And personally, my deep appreciation -- for your time and counsel. And on America's behalf, my profoundest gratitude. Thank you, my friends, thank you so very much.

# # #

(Smith/Simon)  
March 22, 1989  
Draft One  
Serve

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PUBLIC SERVICE  
ROOSEVELT ROOM  
MARCH 29, 1989

I want to welcome you to the White House -- although many of you -- Ed and Elliot come to mind -- have spent more time here than I have. And I look forward to your returning again.

It's always good to see good friends from both parties. I say that, Ted, even though Washington may not seem too hospitable after last week's Notre Dame-Georgetown game. *a couple of weeks ago.*

*the* You know, Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only legitimate object of good government."

*Buttletts  
p. 389*

Well, the object of this Commission is both "legitimate" and "good": To lure more of the best and brightest to government . . . to, thus, enhance the caliber of public service . . . and to, in turn, make ours a better, brighter nation.

Today, I'm pleased to receive your report, and look forward to its recommendations: Suggestions regarding the problems and priorities of public service; ideas on such issues as pay and compensation at all levels of government.

And I'm especially interested in reading what Chairman Volcker has termed "recommendations for action to strengthen the capacity of both the political appointees and the career services to support the President in carrying out his agenda." Believe me, Paul [PAUSE]. . .I couldn't agree with you more. [PAUSE]

*Letter from  
Volcker to  
Sununu  
3/10/89  
(see file)*

You know, in a public sense, this is Opening Day for the National Commission on the Public Service. And next Monday, I'm going to ~~Cincinnati~~ <sup>Baltimore</sup> for baseball's Opening Day. Well, looking ahead, I got to recalling how Danny Ozark, baseball's Master of the Malapropism, once said of a three-game losing streak, "Those games were beyond my apprehension."

Friends, your report aims for comprehension, not apprehension, and I salute your labors. For I believe -- as you do -- that government is a noble calling, and can enrich America. No, government is not a panacea, but it can be a catalyst: building, serving, helping people help themselves.

That is what you've tried to do, through this Commission and in your careers. The hours you've spent over the last two years show your enduring love of public service. And the example of your lives shows that you practice what you preach.

Personally, then, my deep appreciation -- for your time and counsel. And on America's behalf, profoundest thanks -- for making excellence a national bequest. And, now, won't you join me in sharing what made this report a reality -- coffee, strong and black.

# # #

Boots Thompson  
x 7560

Voices of  
the game

p. 370

(see file)

1 Still one thing more, fellow citizens—a wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government, and this is necessary to close the circle of our felicities. *Ib.*

2 Equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political; peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none. . . . Freedom of religion; freedom of the press, and freedom of person under the protection of the *habeas corpus*, and trial by juries impartially selected. These principles form the bright constellation which has gone before us, and guided our steps through an age of revolution and reformation. The wisdom of our sages and the blood of our heroes have been devoted to their attainment. They should be the creed of our political faith, the text of civil instruction, the touchstone by which we try the services of those we trust; and should we wander from them in moments of error or alarm, let us hasten to retrace our steps and to regain the road which alone leads to peace, liberty, and safety. *Ib.*

3 Whensoever hostile aggressions . . . require a resort to war, we must meet our duty and convince the world that we are just friends and brave enemies.

*Letter to Andrew Jackson*  
[December 3, 1806]

4 The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only legitimate object of good government.<sup>1</sup>

*To the Republican Citizens of Washington County, Maryland*  
[March 31, 1809]

5 Politics, like religion, hold up the torches of martyrdom to the reformers of error.

*Letter to James Ogilvie* [August 4, 1811]

6 But though an old man, I am but a young gardener.

*Letter to Charles Wilson Peale*  
[August 20, 1811]

7 The earth belongs to the living, not to the dead.

*Letter to John W. Eppes* [June 24, 1813]

8 I agree with you that there is a natural aristocracy among men. The grounds of this are virtue and talents.

*Letter to John Adams* [October 28, 1813]

9 Merchants have no country. The mere spot they stand on does not constitute so strong an attachment as that from which they draw their gains.

*Letter to Horatio G. Spafford*  
[March 17, 1814]

10 I cannot live without books.

*Letter to John Adams* [June 10, 1815]

11 If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be.

*Letter to Colonel Charles Yancey*  
[January 6, 1816]

12 Enlighten the people generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day.

*Letter to Du Pont de Nemours*  
[April 24, 1816]

13 I have the consolation to reflect that during the period of my administration not a drop of the blood of a single fellow citizen was shed by the sword of war or of the law.

*Letter to papal nuncio Count Dugnani* [February 14, 1818]

14 But this momentous question [the Missouri Compromise], like a firebell in the night awakened and filled me with terror. I considered it the knell of the Union.

*Letter to John Holmes* [April 22, 1820]

15 I know no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion.

*Letter to William Charles Jarvis*  
[September 28, 1820]

16 We are not afraid to follow truth wherever it may lead, nor to tolerate any error so long as reason is left free to combat it.

*Letter to William Roscoe*  
[December 27, 1820]

17 That one hundred and fifty lawyers should do business together ought not to be expected.

*Autobiography* [January 6, 1821],  
on the United States Congress

<sup>1</sup>See George Mason, 367:5.

1974 purchase by McDonald's founder Ray A. Kroc, Randy Jones' twenty-victory seasons of 1975-76 and the thirty-four home runs and 118 runs batted in of Dave Winfield's 1979, San Diego's twenty-four-hit splurge against the Giants on April 19, 1982, Alan Wiggins' sixty-six stolen bases and Tony Gwynn's twenty-five-game hitting streak of a year afterward, and the sunlit fall of 1984 in which the Padres bushwhacked Chicago to win the Championship Series, that reputation deepened as the franchise took root—not among distant fans, necessarily, who seldom knew of him; rather, it was colleagues who recognized his basic decency and resolve.

In 1976-83 and 1985, Jerry called CBS Radio's coverage of the National League playoffs, and it was here that I heard him regularly for the first time since the late sixties. His play-by-play was rich and intimate; he was the bearer of a clean, meticulous story line. Sadly, for baseball's second-biggest event, Coleman had solemnized his act, omitting the hilarious misstatements that freckled his career; still, listening, I thought of Danny Ozark: Surely, the two had bloodlines reminiscent of Ol' Diz.

As the 1973-79 Phillies' manager, Ozark became infamous for a remarkable bevy of malapropisms. Once, during a losing streak, Danny said, long-faced, "Oh, I know we're having troubles, but that's nothing new. Even Napoleon had his *Watergate*." Several weeks later, as Phillies' losses crested, Ozark was asked about team morale. "*Morality*," he huffed, "is not a problem here." Of a Philadelphia second baseman, Danny noted, "His limitations are *limitless*." Of a quarreling shortstop, he said, "He and I have our *indifferences*." Of a surprising three-game sweep by Atlanta, he mourned, "Those games were beyond my *apprehension*." Of his players, Ozark stated, "Contrary to popular belief, I've always had a wonderful *repertoire* with them." Blistered for his devotion to the incomprehensible, the Phils' skipper snapped, "What do you mean? You reporters got it all wrong. Don't you know I'm being a *Fascist*? You know, a guy who says one thing and means another."

Perhaps not facetious, memorable Danny was; and so was the Voice of the Padres, unearthing a wooded hill of Colemanisms.

- "On the mound is Randy Jones," Jerry related, "the left-hander with the Karl Marx hairdo."

- "There's a fly ball deep to center field—Winfield is going back, back . . . he hits his head against the wall. It's rolling toward second base."

- "He slides into second with a stand-up double."

- "Rich Folkers is throwing up in the bull pen."

- "Whenever you get an inflamed tendon, you got a problem. OK, here's the pitch to Gene Tendon."

- "Pete Rose has three thousand hits and 3,014 overall."

- "Redfern won't be twenty-two until October. Hey, he's only twenty-one."

Then, more.

- "It's swung on and Gamble sends a long fly to right, but Gamble goes back to the wall and makes the catch."

- "They throw Winfield out at second, and he's safe."