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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 12, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR MARK LANGE

FROM: BOB SIMON 
SUBJECT: PAS BRIEFING #3

Like the previous briefings, Sec. Alexander will talk about America 2000 and Petersmeyer will talk about you know what.

Attached is a list of agencies the attendees are from. Note that some are appointed to every long terms (i.e. by Reagan) and some by law are Democrats.

Since so many are regulators, I think you should say something about keeping new regulations few, short, and simple -- and to consider the impact on the those who must comply.

I also think you must talk about the domestic agenda in light of Dave's and Dan's 100 days speeches.

6-19-91

Briefing #3 (April 25, 1991)

- 08 Federal Emergency Management Agency → FEMA
- 07 United States Parole Commission
- 07 Sentencing Commission
- 06 Nuclear Regulatory Commission — NRC
- 06 National Labor Relations Board — NLRB
- 06 Federal Election Commission — FEC
- 06 Federal Reserve Board
- 05 Securities and Exchange Commission — SEC
- 05 Postal Rate Commission
- 05 National Transportation Safety Board
- 05 Interstate Commerce Commission — ICC
- 05 Federal Trade Commission — FTC
- 05 Federal Mine Safety & Health Review Commission
- 05 Federal Maritime Commission
- 05 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- 05 Federal Communications Commission — FCC
- 05 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission — EEOC
- 04 Railroad Retirement Board
- 04 Federal Labor Relations Authority
- 04 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation — FDIC
- 04 Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- 03 Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission — OSHA
- 03 National Mediation Board
- 03 National Credit Union Administration
- 03 Merit Systems Protection Board
- 03 Copyright Royalty Tribunal
- 03 Consumer Product Safety Commission
- 02 Tennessee Valley Authority — TVA
- 02 Farm Credit Administration Board
- 02 Appalachian Regional Commission
- 01 Office of Special Counsel
- 01 Office of Government Ethics
- 01 National Archives & Records Administration
- 01 Navajo & Hopi Indian Relocation
- 01 General Accounting Office — GAO
- 01 Federal Mediation & Conciliation Services
- 01 Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System
- 01 Administration Conference of the U.S.
- 54 White House Commissioned Officers

SUBTOTAL = 198 Guests

anyone who hasn't attended other 2, including from the Departments.

TOTAL = 618 Guests

2/27/91

* [[IT'S GREAT TO BE HERE. I UNDERSTAND WE'VE GOT PEOPLE FROM THE N.R.C., THE N.L.R.B., THE S.E.C., THE F.T.C., THE F.C.C., THE I.C.C... \ \ IS VANNA WHITE OUT THERE? \ \ I'D LIKE TO BUY A VOWEL. \ \]] I'M GLAD GREGG PETERSMEYER AND SECRETARY ALEXANDER HAD A CHANCE TO BRIEF YOU ON THEIR WORK -- AND I'D ADD THAT BOTH OF THEM ARE DOING OUTSTANDING WORK.

Summary : digestive agenda

- 2 -

* THIS GROUP REFLECTS THE REMARKABLE ARRAY OF WAYS THAT GOVERNMENT TOUCHES PEOPLE'S LIVES -- AND ALL OF YOU REFLECT THE BEST IN PUBLIC SERVICE. SO TODAY I'D LIKE TO OFFER A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT THE DOMESTIC AGENDA.

* I'VE SAID BEFORE THAT I CAN'T THINK OF A NATIONAL PROBLEM THAT CAN'T BE SOLVED THROUGH THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF A VIGOROUS FREE MARKET, A COMPASSIONATE AND COMPETENT GOVERNMENT, AND A NATION OF PEOPLE DEDICATED TO THE ETHIC OF SERVICE TO OTHERS.

* SO OUR POLICIES PURSUE THREE IMPORTANT THEMES:
ENCOURAGING ECONOMIC GROWTH, THROUGH THE POWER OF FREE
WILLS AND FREE MARKETS; INVESTING IN THE FUTURE,
THROUGH THE THOUGHTFUL APPLICATION OF PRIVATE
INVESTMENT AND GOVERNMENT RESOURCES, WHERE APPROPRIATE;
AND PUTTING POWER AND OPPORTUNITY IN THE HANDS OF
INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES -- ENCOURAGING A NEW
ENGAGEMENT AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, TO SOLVE CRITICAL SOCIAL
PROBLEMS THROUGH WHAT I CALL "POINTS OF LIGHT."

* WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION IN GOVERNMENT TO PROMOTE
PRODUCTIVITY IN THE MARKETPLACE AND IN THE COMMUNITY.
MANY OF YOU ARE ALL TOO AWARE OF THE BILLIONS OF HOURS
AND BILLIONS OF DOLLARS AMERICANS SPEND EACH YEAR,
DEALING WITH GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS AND PAPERWORK.
THAT'S WHY WE'RE SO COMMITTED TO REGULATORY REFORM AND
PAPERWORK REDUCTION.

* IF THE COSTS OF NEW PAPERWORK AND REGULATIONS OUTWEIGH THE BENEFITS, WE NEED TO CUT THE PAPERWORK. WHEREVER YOU SEE RED TAPE, YOU OUGHT TO SEE RED.

* THESE COSTS HIT BUSINESSES, CONSUMERS, WORKERS -- EVERYONE. SO EVERYWHERE WE CAN STREAMLINE, IMPROVE, INNOVATE -- WE MUST. YOUR JOB WILL BE TO FIND AND ELIMINATE ENCROACHING REGULATIONS THAT ARE SELF-PERPETUATING BURDENS, BENEFITTING ONLY REGULATORS AND SPECIAL INTERESTS.

ON MY BEHALF, OMB IS AGGRESSIVELY MAKING SURE THAT REGULATIONS ARE COST-EFFECTIVE, AND MINIMIZE BURDENS ON THE ECONOMY. AND I'VE ASKED THE VICE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON COMPETITIVENESS TO OVERSEE OUR REGULATORY REVIEW PROCESS. I'D LIKE ALL OF YOU TO LET THE COUNCIL KNOW ABOUT AREAS THAT NEED DEREGULATION.

* WE PURSUE REGULATORY REFORM BECAUSE WE WANT THIS NATION TO COMMIT AS MUCH HUMAN ENERGY AND CAPITAL AS POSSIBLE TO CULTIVATING GROWTH AND PROSPERITY -- TWO NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR SERVICE TO OTHERS. [[AND REGULATORY REFORM WILL ALSO REDUCE THE RISK OF DISABILITY CLAIMS FROM ANYONE INJURED PICKING UP THE FEDERAL REGISTER.]]

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* ALONG WITH ECONOMIC GROWTH, OUR SECOND THEME ON THE DOMESTIC FRONT, INVESTING IN THE FUTURE, BEGINS WITH OUR EFFORT TO INSTILL EXCELLENCE IN AMERICAN EDUCATION -- OUR AMERICA 2000 STRATEGY. AND WITH OUR NATIONAL ENERGY STRATEGY, WE'RE WORKING TO REDUCE OUR VULNERABILITY TO DISRUPTIONS IN FOREIGN OIL SUPPLIES. ANOTHER, CRUCIAL INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE IS OUR FAR-REACHING TRANSPORTATION BILL.

* THIRD, WE'VE GIVEN GREATER POWER AND CHOICE TO INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES: IN CHILD CARE, IN ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION, IN THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. WE WANT TO EXPAND THE POSSIBILITIES OF CHOICE, TO INCLUDE EDUCATION, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER CRUCIAL AREAS OF FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT.

* BEGINNING TO TURN BACK TO THE STATES THE PROGRAMS THEY KNOW BEST HOW TO DESIGN AND ADMINISTER. CONTINUING TO TURN THE TIDE ON DRUGS -- WANT TO CLAMP DOWN ON VIOLENT CRIME WITH TOUGH CRIME CONTROL LEGISLATION.

* YOUR EFFORTS CAN MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE. WE CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN GOVERNMENT -- AND IN THE LIFE OF THIS GREAT NATION -- IF WE MUSTER THE QUALITIES OF COMMITMENT, DEDICATION AND DETERMINATION THAT PROVED SO SUCCESSFUL IN THE GULF. MOST OF ALL, WE NEED TO APPLY THE MOST IMPORTANT GULF LESSON -- YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING IF YOU DON'T MUSTER THE COURAGE TO ACT.

* SO LET ME THANK YOU AGAIN, FOR THE WORK YOU'VE BEEN DOING -- AND THE WORK THAT LIES AHEAD. YOU'VE ALREADY DONE GREAT THINGS, MANY OF WHICH DON'T GET NEARLY THE PRAISE OR ATTENTION THEY DESERVE. I KNOW YOU WILL ACCOMPLISH EVEN GREATER THINGS IN THE FUTURE. I THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT, TODAY, TO SAY THANKS -- AND KEEP UP THE TERRIFIC WORK.

* [[AND IF THE FLURRY OF ACRONYMS EVER GETS TO YOU,
REMEMBER, IT COULD BE WORSE -- LIKE THAT STORY ABOUT
THE GUY WHO'S AN AGNOSTIC DYSLEXIC INSOMNIAC \\\ \ --
YOU KNOW, HE STAYS AWAKE ALL NIGHT, WONDERING IF THERE
REALLY IS A DOG.]] THANK YOU ALL.

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(Lange/Simon)
June 14, 1991
3:30 P.M.
[PAS3.DOC]

TALKING POINTS: THIRD P.A.S. BRIEFING
 [CLOSED PRESS]
 ROOM 450, OEOB
 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1991

- * [[Great to be here. I understand we've got people from the N.R.C., the N.L.R.B., the S.E.C., the F.T.C., the F.C.C., the I.C.C... \\ Is Vanna White out there? \\ I'd like to buy a vowel. \\]] I'm glad Gregg Petersmeyer and Secretary Alexander had a chance to brief you on their work -- and I'd add that both of them are doing an outstanding job.

- * This group reflects the remarkable array of ways that government touches people's lives -- and all of you reflect the best in public service. So today I'd like to offer a few thoughts about the domestic agenda.

- * Strikes me that there isn't a problem in America that can't be solved by the combined efforts of a vigorous free market, compassionate and competent government, and a renewed ethic of service to others.

- * So our policies have pursued three themes: encouraging economic growth, through the power of free wills and free markets; investing in the future, through the thoughtful application of government and its resources; and putting

power and opportunity in the hands of individuals and communities -- encouraging a new engagement at the local level.

- * At every point where government and private citizens interact, we need to reconsider, and think anew. Many of you are all too aware of the billions of hours and billions of dollars Americans spend each year, dealing with government regulations and paperwork. That's why we're so committed to regulatory reform and paperwork reduction.
- * If the costs of new paperwork outweigh the benefits, we need to re-think the paperwork. Wherever you see red tape, you ought to see red.
- * These costs hit businesses, consumers, workers -- everyone. So everywhere we can streamline, improve, innovate -- we must. Because compassionate government doesn't just do more -- it does better. In that sense, "kinder and gentler" government often means "leaner and meaner" government. [[And no, that's not my evil twin Skippy talking.]]
- * Sound regulatory reform means more human energy and more capital being devoted to economy growth and prosperity. [[And it'll mean fewer disability claims from people who hurt themselves picking up the Federal Register.]]

- * Along with economic growth, second theme on the domestic front, investing in the future, begins with our effort to instill excellence in American education -- America 2000 Strategy. And with our National Energy Strategy, we're working to reduce our vulnerability to disruptions in foreign oil supplies. Another, crucial investment in the future is our far-reaching Highway Bill.

- * Third, we're giving greater power and choice to individuals, families, and communities: in child care, in environmental legislation, in the Americans with Disabilities Act, and a host of other domestic achievements.

- * Beginning to turn back to the states the programs they know best how to design and administer. Continuing to turn the tide on drugs -- want to clamp down on violent crime with tough crime control legislation.

- * Your efforts are crucial, in calling forth for all of America's efforts at home the same qualities that succeeded so spectacularly in the Gulf.

- * So let me thank you again, for the work you've been doing -- and encourage you in your efforts. You all are doing a great job -- and we have great things to accomplish

together. I thought it was important, today, to say thanks
-- and keep up the terrific work.

* [[And if the flurry of acronyms ever gets to you,
remember, it could be worse -- like that story about the guy
who's a dyslexic agnostic insomniac -- you know, he stays
awake all night, wondering if there really is a dog.]]
Thank you all.

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