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ALFALFA DINNER 1992

- 7:20 President Boren (from head table): GENTLEMEN, BE SEATED, etc.
- 7:22 Music of Marine Band and Marine Drum and Bugle Corps. March on of Colors.
- 7:50 President Boren welcomes guests, acknowledges the Marine Band and Drum and Bugle Corps, opening the 79th Anniversary Dinner of Alfalfa.
- 7:55 Serve lobster.
- 8:10 Remove plates.
- 8:20 Serve entrees.
- 8:45 Remove plates.
- 8:55 INAUGURATION. President Boren's farewell address. He introduces new Alfalfa president, the Hon. James A. Baker III. *→ 5 min.*
- 9:07 Immediately, Sgt. Michael Ryan sings, "For He's Our President."
- 9:10 ACCEPTANCE SPEECH by President Baker.
- 9:20 Serve salad.
- 9:35 Remove plates.
- 9:40 INITIATION OF NEW MEMBERS. James Symington on stage, after recognition by President Baker, initiates new members. President Baker welcomes new members and announces that Sgt. Michael Ryan will serenade with "Come to the Land of Alfalfa" as they return to their seats.
- 10:10 Serve dessert and coffee.
- 10:18 Caution -- Billy Bell *→ Ch. of Dinner Committee* will signal time for the toast to the President of the United States.
- 10:30 CONVENTION. President Baker temporarily recesses dinner, recognizes the Hon. John W. Warner to offer RESOLUTION nominating [Alfalfa's Candidate for the President of the United States.]
- 10:35 CANDIDATE'S ACCEPTANCE SPEECH. President Baker responds briefly.
- 11:00 President Baker calls on President Bush for remarks.
- 11:30 President Baker thanks President Bush, thanks organizers, and adjourns dinner.

Dick Pearson - Sec. of Alfalfa Club


VP will attend


THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 23, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST 
 TONY SNOW

FROM: ANDY FERGUSON 

SUBJECT: ALFALFA CLUB DINNER

Attached are remarks prepared for your appearance at the Alfalfa Club dinner Saturday evening, January 25, 1992. We have prepared more jokes than you will need, on a variety of subjects, so that you can keep those you like and discard the rest.

(Ferguson)
January 23, 1992
DRAFT 2
ALFALFA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ALFALFA CLUB DINNER

Thank you all. As usual, this has been a very long evening. If it doesn't end soon, I may have to faint again.

I look around this room, filled with conservatives and liberals, Democrats and Republicans, and I'm struck by what unites us, what brings us together here tonight: None of us could get Super Bowl tickets.

I wasn't sure I was going to be able to make it myself. Fortunately we were able to build a Washington stop-over into my travel schedule.

I told Barbara I'd be spending tonight taking it easy, having a few laughs, not getting much accomplished. She said, "You're having a domestic policy meeting?"

I salute our outgoing president, Senator Boren. He's done a marvelous job, doing what this club does best -- nothing.

And to our new president, Secretary of State Baker, my congratulations. Good news, Mr. Secretary: Hollywood wants to make a movie depicting how you became president of Alfalfa. Unfortunately, Oliver Stone is going to direct it.

I don't know how Secretary Baker will find time to fill these new job responsibilities. Over at the State Department there's a sign on his door that reads, "10 to 3." Those aren't his hours; they're the odds of finding him there.

And I especially want to thank Chief Justice Rehnquist, who sat beside me all through dinner. Very courageous of you, Mr. Chief Justice. He looked a little nervous when I told him I hoped to make a big splash tonight.

When I looked at my plate, I wondered why they gave me a bigger napkin than everybody else. I noticed Justice Rehnquist spraying his suit with Scotchguard before we sat down.

One topic came in for a lot of ribbing here tonight -- my famous Maalox moment in Japan. Let me tell you, I'm getting sick of all these jokes -- and that's no idle threat.

It was an alarming experience. As I was lying under that table in Tokyo, Zachary Taylor's life flashed before my eyes.

And all those videotaped instant replays the networks kept showing -- you know how embarrassing that is? They went too far when they let John Madden draw those little diagrams on the screen.

Actually, I blame Marlin for the whole episode. Right before I sat down to dinner that night he told me about the last Democratic presidential debate.

That's quite a crew the Democrats have vying for my job. They're called a "six pack" -- of near beer.

Of course now there's only five of them, and some of those aren't going to last long. I knew Paul Tsongas was in trouble when he called me the other day and asked for charisma lessons.

And there's Jerry "Our Operators Are Standing By" Brown. Jerry doesn't really care about winning. He just wants to start his own Home Shopping Network.

I've heard people say Jerry's a little flakey, so I dialed that 800 number of his. I got the Planet Pluto.

((You know, I was a little worried you might not like these jokes. But then I figured, what the heck, after cocktails, wine, champagne and brandy, nobody will remember any of them, anyway.))

I congratulate Senator Bentsen on receiving the club's nomination for president this year. Senator Bentsen isn't used to all this attention. I saw him outside signing autographs earlier. Still has them in his pocket if you want one.

As Sen. Bentsen knows, you need a thick skin to run for president. On the drive over here tonight I heard one of those smartaleck commentators say I'm putting on a "blue collar" act just to get reelected. I got so mad I almost lost control of the 18-wheeler.

But I'm going to be my own man in this campaign. Anyone who thinks I'll bend to the will of handlers is just plain wrong -- at least I think that's what Teeter told me to say.

And if I do say so myself, my plan to keep Republicans from getting overconfident has worked perfectly.

If I may, let me finish on a different note. We're going through some tough times, I know that. We'll soon turn things around. At the same time, we should count the many blessings God has showered on this land, particularly when we think of the

amazing changes around the globe in the past few years. The greatness of this country lies in the innate optimism of its people -- in their abiding belief that they can make good on their dreams. That special American faith is the strongest force in the world. Nothing has stopped it in the past. Nothing will stop it now.

Thank you again, and God bless you.

*Mississippi
Alabama
Ark*

48 at
head
table

ALFALFA DINNER
JANUARY 25, 1992
HEAD TABLE SEATING AS OF JANUARY 1992

Senator David L. Boren
President of the Alfalfa Club

President Bush
Chief Justice Rehnquist
The Ambassador of Spain
The Honorable James A. Baker III
Vice President of the Alfalfa Club
Associate Justice Lewis Powell
Secretary of Defense Cheney
Secretary of the Interior Lujan
Secretary of Energy Watkins
Director of O.M.B. Darman
Representative Dingell
Senator Lloyd Bentsen
~~The Governor of Wisconsin~~ ★
Senator John Glenn
Senator Dale Bumpers
The Governor of West Virginia
Senator Alan Simpson
Senator John Warner
Deputy Secretary of State Eagleburger
Secretary of the Army Stone
Gen. McPeak, Chief of Staff, USAF
Gen. Mundy, Commandant, USMC
Adm. Kime, Commandant, USCG
↑
↑
ENTRANCE TO HEAD TABLE

Vice President Quayle
The Speaker of the House
Chief Justice Burger
Secretary of the Treasury Brady
Secretary of Health & Human Services Sullivan
Secretary of Education Alexander
Representative Fascell
Senator Ted Stevens
Representative Rostenkowski
Republican Leader of the House Michel
Senator William Roth
Senator Sam Nunn
The Governor of Georgia
Senator Bennett Johnston
Senator Pete Domenici
Chief of Staff to President Skinner
Senator John Chafee
Asst. to Pres. Gen. Scowcroft
Senator Richard Lugar
Senator Howell Heflin
Counsellor to President John Sununu
Senator John D. Rockefeller
Senator Charles S. Robb
(Incoming Vice President of Alfalfa Club)
Chairman of Joint Chiefs, Gen. Powell
Gen. Sullivan, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army
Adm. Jerome Johnson, Vice Chief of Naval
Operations (representing U.S. Navy)

total \approx 533

Sen. Bentsen - incoming **mock POTUS**

Boren on his left
Renquist on other side

song: "Come . . .

Clocks never chime
ill humor is only a rumor
& Sadness is labeled a crime"

members
all wear medals (gold)
rub ribbons

1913 - club started

79th yr. of club

Charles Light - founder

Alfa LUX EST (motto)

Alfalfa is plant whose roots
grow the furthest underground
for liquid refreshment.

June 1991 with Party → The Residents' Dinner
pic of PRMS w/ Mr. Pearson
↓
reception before Dinner

PRMS's father was a member

Mr. Carl Moller → Hilton Hotel's Director, Beverly Hills
&
Mr. Pearson or Mr. Beer
Mr. Cretchman → Manager of hotel

Alfalfa Club Dinner

Dick Pearson - FIND HIM

he can tell us who mock POTUS is

Dais participants

Who will be seated on either side of POTUS
Who will intro POTUS?

San Fran., CA
SA, CA
San Antonio, TX

Get pre-adv.

Drug Summit
end of Feb.
SA, TX

words to "Come to the Land of Affair"

Mr. Pearson: nomination of mock PONS - who?

Craig: does participants
who's on sides of PONS

The Alfalfa Dinner's Banter on Barfing Behind Closed Doors, The Powerful at Play

By Roxanne Roberts and Dana Thomas
Special to The Washington Post



It was a fraternity party without the hating—even though the president was there. "I'd like to thank Chief Justice William Rehnquist for having the courage to sit next to me tonight," said President Bush. "Bill did look a little nervous, though, when I said I hoped to make a big splash."

Welcome to the 79th annual Alfalfa Club dinner at the Capital Hilton Saturday night. Boys. Booze. Cigars. Bad jokes. No women and no press.

But these aren't just any frat rats. They're... well, as outgoing Alfalfa president Sen. David L. Boren (D-Okla.) put it: "Gentlemen, congressional check bookers, overpaid CEOs, lawyers and other drags on the economy."

In other words, some of the country's most powerful men, including the president, the vice president, most of the Cabinet (mates, that is), the speaker of the House, the chief justice of the United States, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, senators, congressmen, and corporate leaders.

See ALFALFA, D10 Col. 1

Alfalfa: The Boys' Night Out

ALFALFA, From D1

An invitation to this event means you've arrived. To what, we're not sure.

"It's really a lot of men getting together to pat themselves on the back that they were invited," said speech writer Landon Parvin.

So why would more than 500 middle-aged and old men brave Washington's biggest snow in two years to attend yet another black-tie dinner? Is it one of those male-bonding sessions where they sit in a circle, tell stories of their youth, beat tom-toms, break down their macho facades, hug and cry?

"It's a real gathering of the tribes, isn't it?" said Joseph Reed, U.S. representative to the United Nations General Assembly.

"Good camaraderie and family jokes," said Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan.

"It's just a bunch of fluff and fun and the Marine Corps Band," defended Sen. Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.).

"Low-class cornball," said Sen. Howell Heflin (D-Ala.).

"What happens? What happens?!" exclaimed Bush campaign general chairman Robert Mosbacher on his way up to the dinner. "If I told you, well, you'd never believe it."



BY ANDRE CHUNG—THE WASHINGTON POST

Sen. Chuck Robb at the Alfalfa dinner.

What does happen according to very, very, very anonymous sources—who are sworn to secrecy—is the initiation of a new president and members, a farewell from the outgoing president, the nomination of a mock presidential candidate and five hours of bipartisan roasting. No one is spared:

"In spite of the criticisms," said Secretary of State and incoming Alfalfa president James Baker, "I can report that the president's recent trip to the Far East will be responsible for the creation of thousands of jobs. Unfortunately, they're all in Japan."

"James Baker has a sign on his door," said President Bush. "It reads '10 to 3.' They're not his hours, but his odds of not being there."

"Millions of people around the world want to come to America," said Sen. Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.). "Too bad the president isn't one of them."

"The truth is, Henry [Kissinger] was actually born in the United States," said Baker. "He speaks with an accent because he's never listened to anyone." ("Yes, I know. One of the best jokes was about me," Kissinger said suavely afterward. "As long as they mention my name, I feel satisfied.")

It's about laughing at yourself anyway.

Their Boy Lloyd

Bentsen, this year's Alfalfa nominee for U.S. president, sauntered to the podium waving a 10-gallon Stetson to the strains of "The Eyes of Texas." "Gentlemen," he drawled, over the loud applause, hootin' and hollerin', "I'd like to congratulate you on your superb choice for a candidate."

The orchestra—well, actually it was a band—moved gently into "America, the Beautiful" as Bentsen recited a long tall Texas tale about his life. Born in a log cabin, he said. Poor rancher, he said. Served in World War II, he said, "which I won."

His foreign policy: "If I want to meet a foreigner, I'll just go down to K Street and hail a cab."

And domestically, he promised to appoint a Cabinet of "people of competence—and also some Democrats." He claimed it would represent a good cross-section of Alfalfa Americans. "I intend to nominate a

whole rainbow of aging white males."

Campaign '92

"I dialed Jerry Brown's 800 number," cracked Bush, "and I got Pluto."

"Jerry Brown?" asked Bentsen. "I have to say that if Jerry Brown is the answer, it must be a damn peculiar question."

The three bulk commodities George Bush would like to send abroad, offered Baker: "Wheat, corn and Pat Buchanan."

And according to a recent survey, said Baker, anyone who answers "yes" to at least two of the following three questions is a David Duke supporter:

1. If your front porch falls down, will it kill more than three dawgs?
2. Does your daddy walk you to school because he's in the same grade?
3. Do you have curtains in your pickup but not in your home?

They Don't Remember

Come on guys, this isn't the Iran-contra hearings. You don't have to hide behind the Fifth Amendment or Reagan amnesia. But Alfalfans do.

When asked what his favorite joke of the night was, Rehnquist snarled, "Ha. Ha. Go ask someone else."

"This is off the record," said Sen. Charles Robb (D-Va.), "so I let those who want to re-author their remarks to do so themselves."

Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.): "I don't quote anybody, thank you."

And Ambassador Reed did the Diplomatic Dodge: "What did you hear?"