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Hialeah, Florida Rally 3/4/92 [OA 7569]


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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

20 February 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVE DEMAREST
SPEECHWRITERS
RESEARCHERS

FROM: JEANNIE BUNTON 
SUBJECT: RESERVIST/GUARD PARTICIPATION IN ODS

At the height of Operation Desert Storm the following numbers of Reservists and National Guards were called up:

ALABAMA:	109 Reservists <u>21 National Guard</u> 140 TOTAL
CALIFORNIA:	13,919 Reservists <u>1,629 National Guard</u> 15,548 TOTAL
FLORIDA:	7,780 Reservists <u>1,478 National Guard</u> 9,258 TOTAL
GEORGIA:	5,070 Reservists <u>4,761 National Guard</u> 9,831 TOTAL
ILLINOIS:	5,197 Reservists <u>1,203 National Guard</u> 6,400 TOTAL
MARYLAND:	3,491 Reservists <u>794 National Guard</u> 4,285 TOTAL
S. CAROLINA:	3,411 Reservists <u>2,472 National Guard</u> 6,883 TOTAL
TENNESSEE:	3,490 Reservists <u>3,055 National Guard</u> 6,725 TOTAL

TEXAS: 10,883 Reservists
 1,999 National Guard
 12,882 TOTAL

[The numbers may be 5% low; of these numbers, there is no way to tell how many were actually "in country"]

SOURCE: CHRISTINA FERRANDINO, SYSTEMS AND ANALYSIS DIR.
 RESERVE AFFAIRS - MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL
 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
 703-695-7305
 703-695-7307

More to follow.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 22, 1992

MEMORANDUM RE: HIALEAH RALLY
FROM: CAROL AARHUS *CA*
SUBJECT: PRE-ADVANCE NOTES

6:00 pm

*3-5000 cubans
job to intro*

This is going to be the story of the day!!!!!!!!!! This rally will take place in the Milander [[MY-lander]] Auditorium in Hialeah, Florida on March 4. This will take place between his visit to Tampa and his BQ fundraiser that night. The Auditorium is part of Hialeah's Parks and Recreation Department. They are anticipating 1000 attendees. The room is like a community center/gym/auditorium. There will be local officials, band, cheerleaders, rowdy folk... the works! There will be 20 campaign leadership people on the stage with POTUS, but they will be recognized before POTUS walks in, so he won't need to acknowledge them all.

This speech has the potential to be the POTUS/campaign story of the day. It's got to be upbeat, campaign-oriented, and full of life. Put in tons of jokes and applause lines, etc. The speech shouldn't be long, because the length will come from the applause and cheering. There's absolutely no room for a prompter. It should also be kept short because I've seen the size of the room, and to think that 1000 or more people will be in there makes me want to faint from the heat.

He is scheduled to address the group at 4 p.m. That is subject to change, in the event they add a tour of an electronics plant beforehand.

We didn't do a call sheet for this one, but a good person to call is Yleem Sarmiento at Miami BQ. She's got a real feel for the audience and the event.

The best quote of the pre-advance came from this meeting. Dick Rathmell was talking to the Mayor of Hialeah about the Secret Service concern with tying up traffic and closing roads for such a long time, and for such a large radius. The mayor said, "I don't give a f_ck about traffic! I want to get George Bush re-elected!!" That made us all feel really good -- so I want this event to be the best!

(Duggan/Simon)
March 2, 1992
Draft Five
HIALEAH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: BUSH/QUAYLE RALLY
HIALEAH, FLORIDA
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1992
6:00 p.m.

[Acknowledgments, jokes]

It's great to be back in South Florida -- to visit this fantastic community of Hialeah. \ My only regret is that I don't have time to enjoy my usual cafecito at Esquina de Tejas [es-KEE-nah day TAY-hahs]. \ \

Let me get right to the point of my visit: \ I want to be your president for four more years. \ \ We can win elections up and down the line -- in Congress, in the statehouses, in local communities -- for men and women who share our values. \ Together, we can win a great victory on primary day \ -- and another one on November 3, 1992. \ \

You and I agree on the big issues that shape the world -- and on the values that guide us at home: I'm speaking of world peace; the importance of family; the need to create and sustain good jobs for a productive society. \ \

We have big plans for this year. \ \ Here's what we need to accomplish -- together: \ \

We'll get our economy growing and thriving. \ \ We'll give businesses more freedom to innovate, to create and preserve good jobs. \ \ We'll keep rolling back a government that's too big and spends too much. \ \ And in just two weeks, we'll hold Congress' feet to the fire -- to meet my March 20 deadline for

tax cuts to create jobs and incentives to get the housing market back on its feet. \\

We'll break the stranglehold of government monopoly in our schools. We say: Don't let bureaucrats decide -- let parents decide where their kids go to school. \\ And don't limit the choice to government schools. Give parents the freedom to choose among private and parochial schools as well as public schools. Let the dollars follow the scholars -- and the competition will improve all our schools. \\

And by reforming our court system we'll set some things right that have been turned upside down: Today, a lot of dads won't coach Little League for their neighborhood kids -- for fear that some ambulance-chasing lawyer might slap them with a liability suit. Today, a kid can get a condom at school -- but cannot lead a class in prayer. Something's wrong here -- and we're going to set it right again. \\

We'll take back our neighborhoods from the thugs and the drug dealers. Part of the answer is a tough crime bill. My bill gives new protections to women and children victimized by sex criminals. It stops endless appeals. And for the worst kinds of crimes -- it provides the death penalty. \\ But the Democrats on Capitol Hill have it locked up. \ They need to be on the other end of a 911 call. \\ Then they'd get the message parents and the police are trying to send them: \\ It's time to strengthen the rights of crime victims. \\ It's time to give our cops and prosecutors tough new powers to crack down on crime. \\

I've had a tough fight against Congress -- against those Democrat majorities in both Houses. But I'm proud of taking stands for principle against heavy odds. \\ One battleground was our nation's courts. Against the biggest guns of the Democratic establishment, we prevailed by placing judges on the bench who'll carry on the wisdom of our founding fathers. We need judges to interpret the law -- not to legislate. \\

Then there's the veto. \ Again and again, I've had to use the veto to uphold pro-family values. \ Sometimes even my friends said I was flirting with defeat by casting a veto instead of cutting a deal. But we've never lost a veto battle. \ The veto is a powerful tool -- and I'll use it as often as I have to, to stand fast on matters of principle. \\

To make the most of a second term, we'll need to win more seats in Congress for people who share our values and aspirations. \ And for politicians who worry more about their jobs than jobs for Americans, we'll tell them to get moving -- or get out of our way. \\

Yes, I want to be your President for four more years. \\ \\ And let me tell you another thing I'm looking forward to in my second term -- if not sooner: \ I'm looking forward to the day when democracy has triumphed and the Castro dictatorship is no more. \\ I want to honor Cuba's brave human rights activists and its martyrs for freedom -- those who died resisting the Castro dictatorship. \\ I'm looking forward to being the first President to set foot on the free soil of post-Castro Cuba. \\ \\

Castro now is hopelessly isolated. And let me be clear about this: \ We do not and will not conduct any "dialogue" with the Castro dictatorship. \\ We do not and will not help Castro police his prison state. \\\

[This week, at the U.N., a new democracy joined the world's condemnation of Castro's violation of human rights -- the democratic government of Russia.] [[Note: Russia's vote is expected; vote will not take place until Tuesday or Wednesday, but certainly before the rally.]] \\ From Siberia to Central Europe, the day of the dictator has ended. \\ And just as surely, the clock is running out on the Castro regime. \\

We want the dictatorship to fall peacefully -- as Communism fell in Eastern Europe -- and we want to encourage efforts consistent with our laws to bring about that change as soon as possible. \\ And as soon as change comes, we'll be ready to renew our friendship and help in the rebuilding. \\ A new birth of freedom is coming to Cuba. \\\

Over the next few years, we'll nurture a community of democracy, open trade, and mutual prosperity encompassing every nation in the Western Hemisphere. \

Our opponents don't share that vision: They want to barricade our borders against job-creating trade. \ Those are the same kinds of people who told Columbus the earth was flat. \ As for me, I'm going to keep working to increase the flow of foreign trade and investment -- the lifeblood of modern Miami. \\ I'll keep pushing for open trade with Mexico. I'll keep pushing

to expand trade and jobs throughout Latin America, through our Enterprise for the Americas Initiative. \ And we're going to realize this vision for flourishing trade and investment from the Arctic Circle to the Strait of Magellan. \ \

My friends, together, we have dreams to realize, \ values to preserve. \ \ We'll leave achievements to last a lifetime. \ \ From now until 1997, I want to keep serving as your president. \ \

We're in a battle for our future: \ We're determined to leave our kids the best possible legacy. \ \ We want to lead the world in good jobs with productive work. \ We want to remain a powerful force for world peace and freedom. \ \ And we're fighting to protect our most basic institution -- the family. \ \

On primary day -- and in November -- you'll have America's future in your hands. \ You can prove your faith in self-government and make this a historic turnout. \ \ Prove the pessimists wrong. \ \ Stand up and vote for what you believe. Show Florida your strength. \ Show America your power. \ \ Give America legions of Republican officeholders who share our vision and our values. \ \ And give me four more years as your President. \ \ \ \

Thank you, and may God bless the United States of America.

#

300

Memorandum for Speechwriting Staff

From: Dan McGroarty

Regarding: *Hialeah*

Please return your comments to Room
122 by:

zpm

Today's Date: oct 28 1992

(Duggan/Simon)
February 27, 1992
Draft Two
HIALEAH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: BUSH/QUAYLE RALLY
HIALEAH, FLORIDA
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1992
[time]

[Acknowledgments, jokes]

It's great to be back in South Florida -- to visit this fantastic community of Hialeah. \ My only regret is that I don't have time to enjoy my usual cafecito at Esquina de Tejas [ess KEE nah dey TEH hahss]. \\
\\

Let me get right to the point of my visit: \ I want to be your president for four more years. \\
\\ Together, we can win a great victory on primary day \ -- and another in November. \\
\\ We can win elections up and down the line -- in Congress, in the statehouses, in local communities -- for men and women who share our values. \

Just imagine if a private business treated you the way the Democratic Congress routinely treats you. You wouldn't stand for it -- you'd put them out of business. \ Well, that's what we can do. \ We have it in our power to shake up the United States Congress -- this year. \\
\\ Around this state and the nation, we can defeat the liberal binge-spenders. \\
\\ We can replace them with people like Connie Mack and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen \\
\\ -- replace the liberals with men and women who are simpatico. \\\\
\\

I'm proud of my first term in office. \ I've had to lead against a current of Democratic partisanship in the Congress.

Against the biggest guns of the left-wing establishment, I've placed judges on the bench who'll carry on the wisdom of our founding fathers. \\

Again and again, I've had to use the veto to uphold pro-family values. Sometimes even my friends in the Congress said I was flirting with defeat by casting a veto instead of cutting a deal. But I've never lost a veto battle. \ The veto is a powerful tool -- and I'll use it as often as I have to, to stand fast on matters of principle. \\

Now here's what we'll do together -- from now through my second term:

We'll get our economy growing and thriving. \\
We'll give businesses more freedom to innovate, to create and sustain good jobs. \\
We'll keep rolling back a government that's too big and spends too much. \\
Right this month, we'll hold Congress' feet to the fire -- to meet my March 20 deadline for tax cuts and incentives to strengthen our economy. \\

We'll break the stranglehold that big-government special interests have on education for our kids. We'll give parents real financial power to choose their children's schools -- including private and parochial schools -- and you'll see our schools start doing their homework. \\

We'll set some things right that the L-Word People have turned upside down: Today, a lot of dads won't coach Little League for their neighborhood kids -- for fear that some ambulance-chasing lawyer might slap them with a liability suit.

Today, a kid can get a condom at school -- but cannot lead a class in prayer. Something's wrong here -- and we have to set it right again. \\

We'll take back our neighborhoods from the thugs and the drug dealers. I've been trying to win a tough new crime bill from Congress. My bill gives new protections to women and children victimized by sex criminals. It hits drug kingpins with harsher penalties. But the Democrats on Capitol Hill refuse to pass my anti-crime bill. \ So here's what we need to do: \ Let's send those Democrats a political shock wave \ -- let's strengthen the rights of crime victims -- and let's give our cops and prosecutors tough new powers to crack down on crime. \\

From now through my second term, we'll work together. \ We'll win more seats in Congress for people who share our values and aspirations. \ And for politicians who hesitate, we'll push them to get moving -- or get out of the way. \\

Yes, I want to be your president for four more years. \\\ And let me tell you another thing I'm looking forward to in my second term -- if not sooner: \ \ I want to be among the first to set foot on the free soil of Cuba after the downfall of Fidel Castro. \ \ I want to honor Cuba's martyrs for freedom -- those who died resisting the Castro dictatorship. \ \ When freedom and democracy win their inevitable victory, I want to forge close new ties of friendship and commerce with Free Cuba. \\

It seems only yesterday, Democrats were placing blame for Castro's oppression and export of violence not on Castro, not on

imperial Communism -- but on conservative Americans like you and me. \\ We opposed trade with Castro. We helped freedom fighters against Castro's clients in Nicaragua and Angola. And in the topsy-turvy world of the left-wing Democrats -- we were called obstacles to peace and progress. \\

Well, history has shown them up but good. Castro now is hopelessly isolated. He may not have a single friend in the world -- unless Saddam Hussein is your idea of a friend. This week, the United Nations delegation of Russia joined us and the overwhelming majority of nations in condemning Castro's violations of human rights. \\ From Siberia to Central Europe, the day of the dictator has ended. \\ And just as surely, the clock is running out on Fidel Castro. \\

Over the next few years, we'll nurture a community of democracy, open trade, and mutual prosperity encompassing every nation in the Western Hemisphere. \

Our opponents don't share that vision: They want to fortify our coasts and barricade our borders against free trade. \ Well, I say: Let them enjoy one another's company in their Flat Earth Society. \ But meanwhile, I'm going to keep pushing for the North American Free Trade Agreement, and for our Enterprise for the Americas Initiative. \ And we're going to realize this vision for flourishing trade and investment from the Arctic Circle to the Strait of Magellan. \\

My friends, from now until 1997, I want to keep serving as your president. \\ Together, we have dreams to realize, \ values

to preserve. \\ We'll leave achievements to last a lifetime. \\

So on primary day -- and in November -- show Florida your strength. \ Show America your power. \ Go out and produce a mighty turnout of voters. \\ Give me four more years as your president --and give America legions of new officeholders \ at every level \ who share our vision and our values. \\

Thank you, and may God bless the United States of America.

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(Duggan/Simon)
February 27, 1992
Draft One
HIALEAH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: BUSH/QUAYLE RALLY
HIALEAH, FLORIDA
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1992
[time]

[Acknowledgments, jokes]

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Our opponents don't share that vision: They want to fortify our coasts and barricade our borders against free trade. \ Well, I say: Let them enjoy one another's company in their Flat Earth Society. \ But meanwhile, I'm going to sign a Free Trade Agreement with Mexico. \ And I'm going to realize my vision for flourishing trade and investment from the Arctic Circle to the Strait of Magellan. \ \

My friends, from now until 1997, I want to keep serving as your president. \ \ Together, we have dreams to realize, \ values to preserve, \ promises to keep. \ \ We'll leave achievements to last a lifetime. \ \

So on primary day -- and in November -- show Florida your strength. \ Show America your power. \ Go out and produce a

mighty turnout of voters. \\ Give me four more years as your
president --and give America legions of new officeholders \ at
every level \ who share our vision and our values. \\

Thank you, and may God bless the United States of America.

#

of Soviet communism, knowledge that they have normally useful—and enemy. rise that conservatives pling for the appropriate as conveyed by Oliver the mastermind of the hostages deal in the Rea- stration. In a Thursday orth warned that Amer- old remain wary since resident Boris Yeltsin is eist. North also spoke of s posed if homosexuals mitted to be scoutmas- Boy Scouts. Von Savage, Buchan-

Gary Gale, a lobbyist for the conservative group Public Advocate, said many conservatives agree with Buchanan on the need for a tougher trade policy and for a reduction in American troops abroad.

But many Buchanan sympathizers sound more like Tim Howard, president of the Conservative Society of North Carolina. "Most Buchanan people are protest voters," he said. "I intend to vote for Buchanan in North Carolina, but I wouldn't want to see Buchanan as president. . . . He may not be the best carrier of the message, but the best carriers of the message aren't there."

vn in Maine Caucuses



AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Portland, Maine, as Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown Jr. waits at right.

monstrated g the hard- uses." ager here, n his New the second t candidate You can't e, and his ated that r Paul Be- the week onal candi- ently, he's at the out- n to Port- hours. He rs at Port- urnout. en Brown vement to vernment wer."

When Tsongas spoke a few minutes later before joining Brown on a cross-country dash to South Dakota for the debate, the Brown supporters interrupted his speech with chants of "No Nukes." Tsongas asked for silence but did not respond directly on the nuclear power issue. "I know what I believe in," he said. "I'm not a windmill."

In Portland, many of the predominantly youthful voters said they had not attended caucuses before. Skipper Geanangel, a high school English teacher, said he had voted for Brown because "there is so much corruption in the whole system, and none of the others but Brown seems willing to confront it."

Allison Cummings, a lawyer, said she had come out to vote for Tsongas, her first "burst of activism" since she was a 17-year-old volunteer for George S. McGovern 20 years ago. Cummings said she found Brown "incredibly simplistic" and was "really impressed by Tsongas's thoughtfulness and intelligence" even though she disagreed with him on the nuclear power issue.

Staff writers Kenneth J. Cooper and Edward Walsh in South Dakota contributed to this report.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Patrick J. Buchanan holds Melinda Rodriguez during rally at Miami airport yesterday. Buchanan spent all weekend campaigning in Florida.

If Today Is Monday, This Must Be Georgia

Buchanan Takes Long Route to Key State

By E.J. Dionne Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 23—Patrick J. Buchanan is fond of comparing his insurgent presidential campaign to the patriotic "brigades" of the American Revolution and President Bush to King George III. This weekend, Buchanan conceded that he was a bit like a Gen. George Washington who could not find his way to the battlefield at Yorktown.

Buchanan has said his campaign's next test is Georgia's March 3 primary, but try as he might, he could not steer his charter plane to Georgia.

Instead, he spent Saturday and today wandering from tarmac to tarmac, city to city in Florida, getting media attention in a state where even Buchanan's 10 best friends would concede Bush an overwhelming advantage.

Greg Mueller, Buchanan's press secretary, could be heard alternately pleading with and yelling at campaign headquarters: "When are we getting to Georgia?" The Buchanan "schedule" has been rewritten as often as a bad Hollywood script, to the point where Mueller was distributing the latest version today with the words: "This is Revision Number 12."

The problem, Buchanan said, was that the campaign scheduled too many events in less strategic places for the period right after New Hampshire. And, he said, he did not want to "stiff people," especially donors. "You don't see the brilliance of this strategic feint toward Havana?" Buchanan quipped.

The candidate finally got within a few miles of the Georgia line with a news conference and rally here tonight—"we're just 50,000 watts and a few satellite feeds away," Mueller said in mock triumph. He promised that the Buchanan forces would reach Atlanta by Monday.

The costs of this weekend's extended tour through Florida were not trivial. Georgia is the last contest before the rush of "Super Tuesday" primaries, March 10, in which Buchanan will be vastly outspent by Bush. Buchanan has put \$250,000 into Georgia television ads and knows he needs to do at least as well there as his 37 percent showing in New Hampshire.

Appearing today on ABC's "This Week With David Brinkley," Buchanan said he had

"punched a hole" in Bush's campaign in New Hampshire. "If we punch a second hole in it in Georgia, the whole thing may go up, and I will have a fighting chance for the nomination," he said. Buchanan said he would reassess his candidacy if he draws only 15 percent in future primaries instead of 30 to 40 percent.

In Miami, he thrilled a crowd dominated by anti-Castro Cuban Americans when he said, "Fidel Castro will not survive a Buchanan presidency." He told reporters later, in response to questions, that Castro was so weak he probably would not survive a second term of the Bush presidency, either.

Appearing on NBC's "Meet the Press," Vice President Quayle was asked if he found any of Buchanan's writings or statements on blacks or Jews troubling. "Yes," Quayle said. "Some of the comments that he's made would be troubling, and I have—I think everyone knows what I'm talking about."

When it was suggested that he had an obligation to make his charges specific, Quayle replied: "No, I don't."

The vice president said it looked like former Massachusetts senator Paul E. Tsongas or Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton will be the Democratic presidential nominee. "Are they qualified to be president of the United States? I mean, how many leaders around the world have they met?" he asked.

Quayle, who had predicted that New York Gov. Mario M. Cuomo would be Bush's challenger, said with a laugh, "I've given up. Mario is no longer my man."

The Supreme Court today denied David Duke's appeal to get on Georgia's Republican primary ballot. On Friday, Duke filed an emergency petition seeking to force state election officials to put his name on the GOP ballot or halt the March 3 election.

But the high court agreed with the state that the Georgia Republican Party has the right not to associate with Duke. Justices Harry A. Blackmun and John Paul Stevens dissented.

Duke is on the GOP ballot in 11 states, has a legal challenge pending in a 12th, Wisconsin, and has lost in two, Georgia and Florida.

Staff writer Maralee Schwartz in Washington contributed to this report.

Buchanan: If I'm in, Fidel Castro is out

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

MIAMI — Pat Buchanan, hunting for Republican support in the heart of Bush country, promised the Cuban community here yesterday that if he is elected president Cuba's Fidel Castro will be history.

"I don't think Fidel Castro is going to survive a Buchanan first term," he told a cheering airport rally.

The feisty conservative commentator sidestepped questions about whether he would take any covert or overt military action to get rid of the Marxist dictator. But he hinted that he would do what

ever was necessary to topple him from power.

"I would not rule in any American invasion of Cuba," he said. "I won't say what I will do. I'll handle him in my own way."

Members of the Cuban community in Miami, where President Bush has enjoyed strong support, have begun turning against the administration because of efforts by the State Department to improve relations with Cuba.

"A Buchanan State Department would not engage in collusion with Castro against the friends of freedom here," Mr. Buchanan said.

— Donald Lambro

GOP

From page A1

thing. He didn't want a tax increase, so the Democrats in Congress said, 'That's the only way you're going to get a budget.' It was a compromise with the Democratic Congress.

"They got their tax increases and we got our spending caps and we got a budget agreement, and the president was then able to focus on Saddam Hussein and expel him from Kuwait, which is another issue that Pat Buchanan disagrees with the president on — the Persian Gulf war. Most Republicans think the president was correct in getting Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait. Pat Buchanan doesn't."

Mr. Buchanan, appearing yesterday on ABC's "This Week," was asked why he was going all-out in Georgia.

"I believe we've punched a hole in this [Bush] blimp," he said. "If we punch a second hole in it in Georgia,

the whole thing is going to have a fighting chance of winning a national."

He did hint he might drop his campaign if his vote in the 15 percent from Georgia got in New Hampshire.

"If you get down to a point where you're only 5 percent or 30 percent, do you want to battle against the incumbent? That's the question that I've asked. You've asked that question throughout the campaign when we're on the air."

Even if Mr. Buchanan loses, House Budget Committee Chairman Dan Rostenkowski and House Speaker Nicholas F. Brady are conservative wing members. Rostenkowski says he is "accustomed to the forces, and many victories over," Mr. Buchanan.

"You need a second hole in it who has convinced most, and the



Former California Gov. Jerry Brown speaks to the press and supporters yesterday in Portland after faring well in the Maine Democrat

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON CUBA (FEBRUARY 25 8:00 am)

The objectives of my Administration and the hopes of the American people for Cuba can be simply stated: we want freedom and prosperity for the Cuban people and an end to Castro's totalitarian regime. There will be no normal relations with Cuba so long as the Castro dictatorship remains in place. We want to see a democratically elected Cuban government that would be the legitimate representative of the Cuban people. My Administration is determined to keep the pressure on Castro and to keep the Cuban people's hope for democracy alive.

Let me explain what I mean by a democratic Cuban government. We want Cuba to have fully free and fair elections, to accept international observers, to permit a free press, to allow opposition parties ample time and opportunity to organize and campaign, and to release all political prisoners. We've said in the past that if Castro would hold free and fair national elections, commit constitutionally to regular elections in the future, and respect his countrymen's basic civil liberties and human rights, our relations with Cuba would improve.

I challenge Cuba to hold free elections, but Castro will not allow them because he knows that he would not win. Instead of embarking on the path of democracy like the republics of the former Soviet Union, the East European countries, and countries throughout this hemisphere, Castro has undertaken a brutal campaign of intimidation and violence to eliminate any and all peaceful dissent to keep his illegitimate regime in power.

We have seen the collapse of communism in Europe where the United States has played a positive role. United States policy in Eastern Europe was predicated on the fact that the Poles, the Czechs, the Germans, and the other peoples in the region wanted to live in freedom. The Cubans are no different.

At the time, hurried voices were raised urging me to make political capital of the deteriorating situation in those countries and the growing tensions between the people of Eastern Europe and their dictators. It was a situation fraught with danger, but we were able to stay the course, avoid bloodshed, and today Eastern Europe is free. Cuba will also be free.

It was the German people who brought about Honnecker's fall from power. It was the Romanian people who brought about Ceausescu's fall from power. It was the Czech people brought about Husak's fall from power, and so it has been with every other tyrant of our time. And so it will be with Cuba.

Castro's fear of dissent and criticism and the weakness of his government becomes clearer with every passing day as his regime's violations of human dignity mount. I know that you are as aware of recent abuses as I am, but they bear repeating because they

involve real people willing to stand up and say "no mas" to this dictator.

- Back in September, Castro's "Special Action Brigades" -- groups of thugs and Cuban agents--brutally beat several members of the pacifist movement "Solidarity and Peace" and two of its leaders, Daniel and Thomas Aspillaga, were sentenced to two years in prison for holding a peaceful demonstration in front of Villa Marista, Castro's dreaded security police headquarters.
- In November, Castro sent his "Special Action Brigades" to the house of well-known Cuban poet, Maria Elena Cruz, where she was brutally beaten along with six other activists. She was taken to jail where she remains to this date.
- On January 6, the home of Cuban activist, Angela Herrera, was assaulted by Castro's thugs while members of the Cuban Democratic coalition were holding a telephone conversation with a Miami radio station. All those present were arrested and threatened with a 30-year prison term if they were caught again. Two of them, Adrian Gonzalez Marichal and Pedro Armenteros, remain detained in Villa Marista.
- Regime critic and human rights advocate, Sebastian Arcos, has been held in jail for weeks without charge because he dared to call for peaceful change.

For all the reasons I've cited, we have absolutely no intention of agreeing to a normal relationship with a government that denies its people universally accepted civil and human rights, economic opportunity, and freedom of choice on matters that affect their own future. Let me also comment on recent published reports that the United States is cooperating with the Cuban government on anti-Castro activities. Those stories simply are not true.

Now, let me tell you what we are doing on behalf of the Cuban people. First of all, we're doing everything we can to keep the hopes and the spirit of the Cuban people alive by trying to get a free flow of information into Cuba. We remain firmly committed to providing the Cuban people impartial and unbiased news through our broadcasts of Radio and TV Marti. We will continue to aggressively pursue every opportunity to bring the Marti message to the Cuban people.

We're working hard in Geneva right now for the strongest possible condemnation of Castro's human rights abuses by the United Nations Human Rights Commission, and we anticipate that the Commission will call Cuba to account for its gross violations even more strongly than it did last year. We're asking the Commission to again name a special envoy to review the human

rights situation in Cuba, even though, like last year, we know that Castro is afraid to permit a UN envoy to travel to Cuba to do his work there.

We intend to keep squeezing Castro hard on the economic front. We implemented a number of measures to toughen up the embargo several months ago to further restrict Castro's ability to earn hard currency. For example, we have stopped Castro from charging outrageous fees for Cuban citizens to travel to the United States. We have asked our friends and democratic allies not to replace past Soviet aid to Cuba by providing economic assistance or preferential trade agreements--to do so will only allow Castro to prolong his illegitimate regime and continue to only deny human rights and democracy to the long-suffering Cuban people. We have been getting good responses.

I want to reiterate that the day of the dictator is over, and I am convinced that Castro's days are numbered. When he goes, and let me state clearly as far as I am concerned for Cuba to be free, for Cuba to be prosperous, the Castro dictatorship must go, then the United States--with the cooperation of our private sector--which is ready, willing, and eager to help--will be prepared to provide a full range of assistance needed to help the Cuban people rebuild their economy, which has been devastated by the Castro regime and to help them restore their democratic traditions.

In closing, let me make clear that our desire is for freedom for Cuba, and that we want the process to be peaceful, orderly, and without the spilling of blood. At the same time, faithful to our tradition of supporting the fight for freedom throughout the world, we intend to do everything we can within the confines of existing U.S. law to support all those who are striving to achieve Cuba's liberation.