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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Rosedale, Illinois)

For Immediate Release

August 2, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT 12TH ANNUAL NORTHWEST REPUBLICAN FAMILY PICNIC

Ned Brown Preserve
Elk Grove Village, Illinois

1:25 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. Hey, you guys ready for a 45-minute speech, okay. (Applause.) Thank you very much. Thank you very much. Here is a man suggesting that we change control of the United States Congress. He is right. And that's what some of this election is going to be about. (Applause.)

Let me salute the Governor, let me salute Governor Edgar, and say what a great job he and the Lieutenant Governor and others are doing for this country. And let me tell you, it is absolutely essential that we get more support in the United States Senate. So vote for Rich Williamson here, and send him to Washington. (Applause.)

Let me just say this -- I won't talk but a second -- we have indeed changed the world. And now I need your help in getting this country on the move, changing America for the values we all believe in. And we can do it. (Applause.)

I've never seen such a strange political year, but I'll tell you this: When that convention in Houston is over, I am going to come out and go after that opponent -- he's been on my case for six months -- and we are going to define it and we are going to win the election. (Applause.) Six months. Six months of distorting the great Republican record. And I'm going to take the case to the people and we will win in November.

Thank you all very much. (Applause.) Thank you very, very much. Now go dry out. (Applause.)

END

1:30 P.M. CDT

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 31, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: DAN MC GROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REMARKS FOR ELK GROVE PICNIC

I. SUMMARY

On Sunday, August 2, at 2:10 p.m., you will address approximately 10,000 people at the 12th Annual Northwest Suburban Republican Family Picnic at Elk Grove Village, Illinois. You will deliver your remarks after playing horseshoes and first base in a softball game at the picnic.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (approximately 10 minutes / cards), stress the importance of trust in this election year and highlight differences between your health care strategy and your opponent's. They include a strong attack on Gov. Clinton's health care plan.

McGroarty/Walters
July 31, 1992
12:30 p.m.
[Elk]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PICNIC RALLY
ELK GROVE, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 2, 1992
1:30 P.M.

Thank you, Rich [Williamson], for those kind words. I could have listened to you go on all day. [Acknowledgements.] It's great to be in Elk Grove, great to be back in Chicago: land of the free -- and home of the Bears. //

You're home to some of this country's greatest athletes. The other night, I saw Michael Jordan win the long jump and the high jump ... in a single game of basketball. //

I brought my mitt today. I should have brought along Barbara and the grandkids -- could have had a whole softball team, complete with subs: Give the term "Bush league" a whole new meaning. //

Someone asked me the other day why I was a Republican. I looked them straight in the eye and said: Free corn-on-the-cob at the Elk Grove Picnic. // Corn, soft drinks, beer -- all for \$5 dollars. Now that's what I call family values. //

We live at a time of tremendous opportunity. The changes we've worked for have come to pass: The end of the Cold War ... the collapse of imperial communism ... a new birth of freedom, from Managua to Moscow. A new world of hope for ourselves -- for our kids.

Something I've thought about many times since I met with Boris Yelstin at the White House: The world we live in is a

safer world -- safer than it was a decade ago / a year ago --
safer than it was two months ago, when kids walked out of school
and into summer. I'm proud of the progress we've made in
reducing some of the world's most dangerous nuclear weapons. //

Let me tell you what that means: Not for Presidents or
Prime Ministers ... not for historians or heads of state ... but
for parents, and for our kids: it means a future free from fear.
//

Now we face a new challenge. The time has come for the
country that's changed the world ... to change America. And let
me tell you: America is up to the challenge. //

This election year is about how we change to meet those
challenges. But this election is not just about change --
because change has a flip-side. That flip-side is called trust.
When you get right down to it, this election will be like every
other: When you pull that curtain closed and cast your vote
November 3rd -- trust matters. //

When the phone rings in the middle of the night in the White
House ... when a crisis comes half a world away ... trust
matters.

And that's the way it should be. //

Now, that's trust in the traditional sense. But that's just
part of the picture. I stake my claim on a simple philosophy:
To lead a great nation ... you must first trust the people you
lead.

Look at every big issue we face. You'll see a choice -- a

choice between those who put their faith in everyday Americans, and those who put their faith in government.

The other side seems to be saying "of the government, by the government, for the government." I stand with the great son of Illinois who spoke government "of the people, by the people, for the people."

I trust parents -- not the government -- to make the decisions that matter in life. //

I trust parents -- not the government -- to choose their children's schools: public, private or religious. //

I trust parents -- not the government -- to choose their children's child care. // When the other side says, "government knows best" -- I say: Parents know better. Parents know better than some bureaucrat in Washington, D.C. //

For weeks now, I've been careful not to criticize my opponent by name. But today, it's time to get specific. The American people need to know what the Governor of Arkansas has planned for them -- on one of the most personal of all issues: health care. //

All of us want to see health care reform. But my opponent backs a plan called "Pay or Play" -- a plan for government-run health care. "Pay or Play" would require a new payroll tax of at least 7% Who would pay? It could come out of workers' wages -- out of your paychecks. {For a worker making \$xx,000 a year, that would mean \$x,000 more in taxes.} Or they could try to pass the costs on to small businesses -- the business that create most of

REASONING

the jobs in this country -- who simply cannot foot the bill. And that could cost 700,000 American jobs. //

I'll tell you: It's enough to make you sick. //

Nationalized health care would be a national disaster. And I call on my opponent to abandon this idea.

Ask anyone: ask anyone who's spent months checking the mail for that income tax refund -- or whiled away a day in line at the DMV -- if they want to put the government in charge of health care. I don't believe the American people want to see the government playing doctor. //

My health care plan will provide access to affordable health care to all Americans -- it will help keep quality high and help keep costs down. And it won't do it on the backs of American workers or the small businesses that employ them.

And that's important -- because the number one issue today is the economy -- it's jobs. That's what's keeping people up late at night -- worrying about how they're going to pay the bills ... put food on the table ... care for their kids ... and still manage to put away something for their own retirement.

These concerns aren't mere matters of economics. Trust matters here, too. I trust you to spend and save your money more wisely than some budget planner in Washington.

Six months ago in my State of the Union, I proposed a common-sense, comprehensive plan to get this economy moving faster -- right now. Tax incentives -- to encourage businesses to hire new workers. A \$5000 tax credit -- \$5000 dollars right

off the income tax you owe -- as a break for young families struggling to scrimp and save and buy that first home.

Think about that. Some lucky person is going to win the \$5000 raffle prize this afternoon. Maybe it'll be someone from Elk Grove or Palatine, from Hanover or Schaumburg. Maybe even from Maine -- that's Maine County, of course. //

Well, my plan would put \$5000 dollars in the hands of every first-time homebuyer: To help you -- or your kids -- reach that American Dream. //

If Congress had acted -- my economic plan would have created half a million jobs.

Instead, Congress sat on my plan -- and sent me one full of new government spending, and new taxes.

You know the story. I sent it back. //

I'm still waiting -- America's still waiting -- almost 200 days later. My economic recovery plan is being held hostage and the ransom note reads, "wait 'till after the election."

There are some signs Congress may be getting the message. Last Wednesday, the Senate Finance Committee approved a package including a tax credit for first time homebuyers of \$2500 dollars. It's half a year late ... half as much as I asked for ... half way through the Congress.

People ask what I think? That's not half bad. //

But what I'm going to say to Congress is: The American people are waiting. They want action. Pass a bill that helps us get this economy growing again. //

Let me close today with a few words from the heart. // Barbara and I are blessed -- blessed to serve at a moment in history when so many of the old fears have been driven away ... when so many new hopes stand within our reach.

Since the day I took the oath of office, I've made it my duty always to work for what's right for America. //

This election is about the big issues. The issues that shape the world -- and the values close to home: I'm talking about jobs, about family and faith -- about neighborhoods free from crime ... about a world free from fear. About trusting a leader who trusts you.

Today, I say to all the good people of this state: together we've made a great beginning. Give me four more years to finish the job. //

Thank you all for this warm Illini welcome -- and may God bless this great nation, the United States of America.

#

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All of us want to see health care reform. But my opponent backs a plan called "Pay or Play" -- a plan for government-run health care. According to the Urban Institute's independent study, Pay or Play would require a new payroll tax as high as 9%. Who would pay? It could come out of workers' wages -- out of your paychecks. Or he could try to pass the costs on to small

Jeremy
Shane

businesses -- the business that create most of the growth in this country -- who simply cannot foot the bill. And that, according to the Urban Institute, that could cost 700,000 American jobs. //

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Alex
white

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City/State: Chicago, Illinois

Event: Rich Williamson Fund

Date: July 23, 1992

Event date: August 2

OFFICE OF PRESIDENTIAL ADVANCE

CONTACT SHEET

Name	Office	Phone Number
Presidential Advance Office		202/456-7565
Presidential Advance Fax Number		202/456-2820
<u>Chloe Mincy</u>	<u>Presidential Advance</u>	<u>202/456-7565</u>
<u>Peggy Hazelings</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>
<u>John Herrick</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>
<u>Tommy Marino</u>	<u>U.S. SECRET SERVICE</u>	<u>312/353-5431</u>
<u>Mark Barnette</u>	<u>WHCA-OPS</u>	<u>202/757-2440</u>
<u>Tom Wilson</u>	<u>WHCA-LEAD</u>	<u>202/757-2440</u>
<u>Manny Hoffman</u>	<u>CHAINMAN Cook County Rep Party</u>	<u>708 698 6479</u>
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<u>Arabel Rosales</u>	<u>Deputy Director IL B/O</u>	<u>708 698 1992</u> <u>FAX 708 698 2210</u>
<u>Marty Butler</u>	<u>STATE SENATOR CH MAINE TOWNSHIP Reps</u>	<u>708-698-4033</u> <u>708-294-504</u>
<u>ANDY FOSTER</u>	<u>IL REPUBLICAN PARTY</u>	<u>217-525-0011-W 1-800-</u> <u>217-546-8019-H 412-1992-B</u>
<u>CARL R. HANSEN</u>	<u>COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER</u>	<u>312-443-6388</u>
<u>Gene Reineke</u>	<u>IL. BUSH-QUAYLE</u>	<u>217-527-1992</u>
<u>Jill Hanson</u>	<u>BUSH-QUAYLE 92</u>	<u>202-336-7145</u>
<u>Rusty Shorsch</u>	<u>MILITARY AIDE</u>	<u>(202) 395-1747</u>
<u>Russ Concilia</u>	<u>MILITARY AIDE</u>	<u>202 395-1747</u>
<u>Ann Kinsey</u>	<u>Williamson Eve Senate</u>	<u>312/641-1992</u>
<u>Carla Eudy</u>	<u>Williamson for Senate</u>	<u>312/641-1992</u>
<u>Meredith Swann</u>	<u>HYATT HOTELS</u>	<u>708-696-1234</u>
<u>Marsha Van</u>	<u>Hyatt O'Hare</u>	<u>708-696-1234</u>
<u>KATHY WHALEN</u>	<u>HYATT O'HARE</u>	<u>708-696-1234</u>

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS FOR THE NORTHWEST SUBURBAN
REPUBLICAN FAMILY PICNIC
BUSSE WOODS FOREST PRESERVE, ELK GROVE, ILLINOIS
SUNDAY AUGUST 2, 1992

- 1) Governor Jim Edgar
- 2) Lieutenant Governor Bob Kustra
- 3) Secretary of State George Ryan
- 4) Rich Williamson, Republican nominee for U.S. Senate
- 5) Carl Hansen, Event Co-chairman
- 6) State Senator Marty Butler, Event Co-chairman
- 7) Manny Hoffman, Cook County GOP Chairman
- 8) State Representative Lee Daniels, State House Minority Leader
- 9) Jack O'Malley, Cook County State Attorney
- 10) Congressman Phil Crane

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FOR WILLIAMSON FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON
HYATT REGENCY O'HARE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
SUNDAY - AUGUST 2, 1992

- 1) Governor Jim Edgar
- 2) Secretary of State George Ryan
- 3) Master of Ceremonies Worley H. Clark
- 4) Rich Williamson, Republican nominee for U.S. Senate
- 5) Janet Williamson, Rich Williamson's wife
- 6) Manny Hoffman, Cook County GOP Chairman
- 7) Jack O'Malley, Cook County State Attorney

the employer of the labor that is provided. If an employer is forced by a government mandate to increase benefits, the employer will reduce employment or reduce cash wages. A mandate simply cannot force an employer to pay more in compensation than the value of the labor to the employer. This conclusion is supported by a number of empirical studies analyzing other mandates (see, e.g., Gruber and Krueger, 1990).

For uninsured workers, the cost of keeping their jobs with a 7 percent "play-or-pay" payroll tax would be a 7 percent reduction in gross wages, and a larger proportionate drop in after-tax income. In addition, wages, corrected for inflation, would fall by about another 1 percent as newly unemployed workers compete for fewer jobs. The burden would be particularly great because most of the working uninsured are low-wage workers already struggling to make ends meet. For example, the mandate would result in—

- A pay cut of \$1,680 a year for the average 30 year old male high-school graduate, currently earning \$24,000 a year in wages; and
- A pay cut of \$1,260 a year for the average 30 year old male high-school dropout, currently earning \$18,000 a year in wages.

For other workers, 350,000 to 700,000 jobs would be lost. Moreover, if the "play-or-pay" mandate evolves into a universal public insurance program, available to all regardless of employment, job losses could reach two million.

A review of the characteristics of the uninsured workers makes these predictions seem even more realistic. Most of uninsured workers are low-wage, low-skilled workers. These workers have little ability to command costly fringe benefits.

A better approach is to provide direct assistance for low-income workers through tax credits, as the President has proposed. This approach is more "progressive" in terms of income distribution. Income is transferred directly to assist low-income workers, without the risk of job loss or a reduction in wages that a mandate inevitably involves.

"Play-or-pay" has other disadvantages for workers as well.

- With a 7 percent payroll tax, 52 million currently insured workers and dependents with employer-based plans would be forced to change coverage. Another 14 million Americans would be forced to give up their private insurance and would be forced into a "one size fits all" public insurance plan. These shifts in coverage are illustrated in Table 6-5.
- Families that depend on supplemental income from part-time employment of a spouse could be hurt. If the mandate applies to part-time work. Employers will cut back on part-time jobs because of the added cost. On the other hand, if the mandate does not apply, it would fail to close an important gap in coverage and government would be forced to pick up the costs through the back-up public plan.

Jeremy says
OK (emphatically)

Table 6-5. 66 Million Lose Choice of Plan Under Play-or-Pay
(Coverage under new public plan in millions)

	Workers	Dependents	Nonworkers	Total
With a Pay-roll Tax of 7 Percent				
Former Source of Coverage:				
Employer	37	15	0	52
Private Insurance	6	2	6	14
Government	2	4	13	19
Uninsured	12	6	8	26
Total	57	27	28	112

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 29, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF

PAUL BATEMAN
TONY BENEDI
PHILLIP BRADY
ANN BROCK
MICHAEL BUSCH
SANDY BUSHUE
NICK CALIO
SUE CORNICK
BILLY DALE
DAVID DEMAREST
BILL FARISH
CAM FINDLAY
LAURIE FIRESTONE
MARLIN FITZWATER
CLAYTON FONG
JOHN GAUGHAN
BOYDEN GRAY
EDE HOLIDAY
CONSTANCE HORNER
TOM HUFFORD
RON KAUFMAN
BOBBIE KILBERG
CECE KREMER

WILLIAM KRISTOL
MICHAEL LUCAS
CHRISTINA MARTIN
TIM MCBRIDE
DAN MCGROARTY
LAURA MELILLO
HENSON MOORE
JANE MOORE
ROGER PORTER
PATTY PRESOCK
SUSAN PORTER ROSE
STEVEN PROVOST
BRENT SCOWCROFT
DORRANCE SMITH
KATHY SUPER
PEGGY SWIFT
DAVID VALDEZ
CLAYTON YEUTTER
ROSE ZAMARIA
USSS/PPD OPS
WHCA OPS
MEDICAL UNIT
AIRLIFT OPS
WHTV

THROUGH:

TIMOTHY J. MCBRIDE
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

FROM:

ED MURNANE 
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
DIRECTOR OF PRESIDENTIAL ADVANCE

SUBJECT:

TRIP OF THE PRESIDENT TO ROSEMONT AND ELK
GROVE VILLAGE, ILLINOIS ON AUGUST 2, 1992

For your use and planning purposes, the attached is a preliminary outline schedule for the Trip of the President to Rosemont and Elk Grove Village, Illinois, August 2, 1992. Please keep in mind the following information has not been finally approved and is subject to change.

Attachments

PRELIMINARY OUTLINE SCHEDULE
Sunday, August 2, 1992

GUEST AND STAFF INSTRUCTIONS:

9:15 am Vans depart West Basement en route Andrews Air Force Base.

9:35 am Guests and Staff with own transportation should arrive Distinguished Visitor's Lounge, Andrews Air Force Base at this time for check-in.

9:45 am MARINE ONE departs Camp David en route Andrews Air Force Base.

(Flying Time: 35 Minutes)

10:20 am MARINE ONE arrives Andrews Air Force Base.

10:30 am AIR FORCE ONE departs Andrews Air Force Base en route Chicago, Illinois.
(E.D.T.)

(Flying Time: 1 Hour 40 Minutes)
(Time Change: Back 1 Hour)
(Interchange: No)

11:10 am AIR FORCE ONE arrives Chicago O'Hare International Airport, Chicago, Illinois.
(C.D.T.)

11:20 am MOTORCADE departs Chicago O'Hare International Airport en route Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont, Illinois.

(Drive Time: 5 Minutes)

11:25 am MOTORCADE arrives Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel.

* MAJOR DONOR PHOTO
- Closed Press
(11:30 am - 11:55 am)

* FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON FOR RICH WILLIAMSON
- Open Press
- Remarks
- Teleprompter
- 750 attendees
(12:00 pm - 12:30 pm)

* PRIVATE TIME
(12:35 pm - 1:05 pm)

1:10 pm MOTORCADE departs Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel,
Rosemont, Illinois en route Ned Brown Preserve
(Busse South), Elk Grove Village, Illinois.

(Drive Time: 15 Minutes)

1:25 pm MOTORCADE arrives Ned Brown Preserve (Busse
South), Elk Grove Village, Illinois.

* SOFTBALL GAME/HORSESHOES
- Open Press
(1:30 pm - 1:45 pm)

* PICNIC LUNCH
- Open Press
(1:50 pm - 2:05 pm)

* ADDRESS 12TH ANNUAL NORTHWEST SUBURBAN
REPUBLICAN FAMILY PICNIC
- Open Press
- Remarks
(2:10 pm - 2:35 pm)

2:45 pm MOTORCADE departs Ned Brown Preserve (Busse
South), Elk Grove Village, Illinois en route
Chicago O'Hare International Airport.

(Drive Time: 15 Minutes)

3:00 pm MOTORCADE arrives Chicago O'Hare International
Airport.

3:05 pm AIR FORCE ONE departs Chicago, Illinois
(C.D.T.) en route Andrews Air Force Base.

(Flying Time: 1 Hour 35 Minutes)
(Time Change: Ahead 1 Hour)
(Interchange: No)

5:40 pm
(E.D.T.)

AIR FORCE ONE arrives Andrews Air Force Base.

5:50 pm

MARINE ONE departs Andrews Air Force Base en route
White House.

(Flying Time: 10 Minutes)

6:00 pm

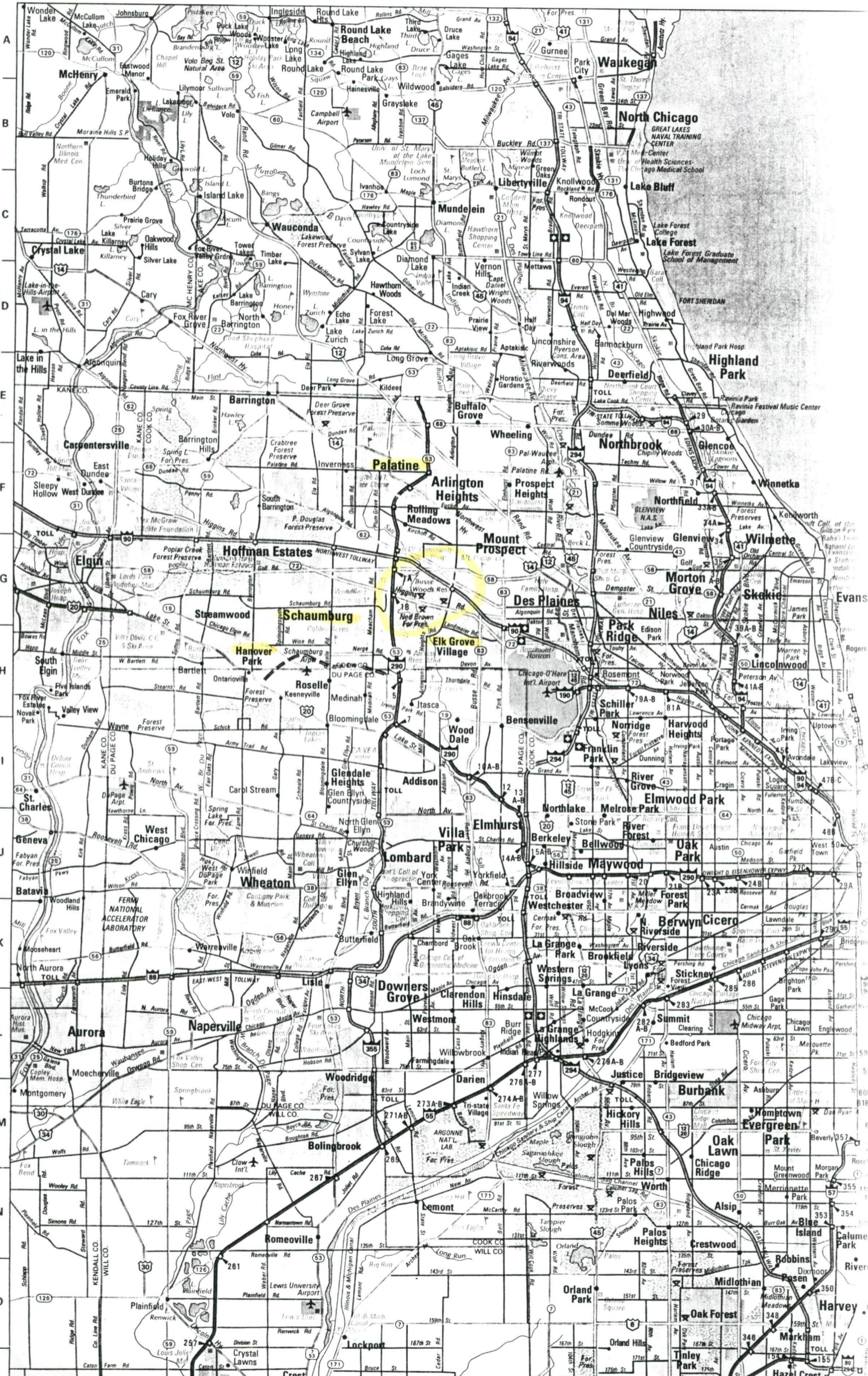
MARINE ONE arrives White House.



- Adler Planetarium, G-18
- The Art Institute of Chicago, E-17
- Bahai Temple, F-10
- Buckingham Fountain, E-17
- Chicago Historical Society
- Chicago Zoological Park, K-7
- Field Museum of Natural History, G-17
- The Frank Lloyd Wright Historic District, J-8

- Great America Amusement
- John Hancock Center, B-1
- Morton Arboretum, K-4
- Museum of Science & Industry
- Santa Fe Speedway, M-6
- Sears Tower, E-15
- Shedd Aquarium, G-18
- University of Chicago, L-11

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7/23/92

Sunday, Aug. 2 - CHICAGO, O'HARE HYATT

photo of 11:55 500-1000

contact: Dana Grigoroff

\$250/plate, will have eaten

GOV. → RICH → POTUS 12:00 - 12:30

Pam Kinsen 312-641-1992

1:25

PICNIC 1:25

12th yr. S NW Repub. org's

Contact: Carl Hansen

3,000 - 4,000 forest preserve

\$5 a family, free beer & corn

donated by candidates in the area

11:00 - 5:00

Lee Gunter - another PR person (708) 866-2440

free pony/elephant rides, petting zoo

Speaking from flatbed trailer

GOV., RICH → POTUS

Debbie (312) 641-1992

PR

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Rosemont, Illinois)

For Immediate Release

August 2, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT RICH WILLIAMSON FOR SENATE
FUNDRAISING BRUNCH

Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel
Rosemont, Illinois

12:15 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very, very much. What a wonderful welcome. And that makes me convinced that I'm going to win in November, too. (Applause.)

Let me thank Rich Williamson. And good morning and my respects to Jane, and of course, to Jim Edgar, who is just doing a superb job as Governor of this state. You ought to be very, very proud of him. (Applause.)

And Rich couldn't have a better man at his side than Secretary of State George Ryan, longtime friend. (Applause.) And I'm grateful also to Lieutenant Governor Bob Kustre, who was out there at the airport to say hello; and to the State's Attorney Jack O'Malley. My old friend, Congressman Phil Crane, with us today. And if you want some heavy lifting done in the fundraising, get H. Clark involved. H, thank you very, very much for what you've done here. (Applause.)

And also, I want to salute our State Chairman Al Jourdan. And National Committeewoman Mary Jo Arndt is here today. (Applause.) I see she brought some of her family with her; that's good.

It's great to be back here in Chicago. I was half tempted to call the Mayor while I'm in town. (Laughter.) My guess is that he was pretty upset by his party's recent gathering in New York. He thought Chicago had the nickname, "The Windy City." (Laughter.)

But this afternoon, I want to tell you a story about a young girl -- poor in pocket but rich in hope -- who left her German village to come to America. She came in search of something larger than herself -- a future for her children and for their children. Here in Chicago, she married another immigrant. She took in laundry, he sold clothes. They lived in a tiny apartment and never gave up hope that their daughter would have a better future -- and their daughter's son an even better one.

That's how this country was born. And that's how it grew into the most proud, the most free nation on the face of the Earth. America became great through millions of stories like this -- stories of men and women who left behind their homes in order to take a chance on a dream for their children here in "the land of opportunity."

If that young woman I just told you about were here today, she would see how her sacrifice made the American Dream come true for her grandson. And she would see with pride that he stands

MORE

here today -- determined to make that dream come true for all of us, the sons and the daughters of Illinois -- the whole country. Helen Salisbury would be proud to see the next senator from Illinois, her grandson -- Rich Williamson. (Applause.)

As he said, Rich and I go back a long way. Rich and his dog, Mac, knew Millie before she was a best-selling author. (Laughter.) So I'm here out of friendship for a brilliant, dedicated leader. But I'm also here for what's good for the United States of America. And I thought George Ryan put it very, very well when he spelled out what's at stake here -- because Rich's race and the race I'm involved in have a lot in common. If you really want to make a change in this country, let's change the institution that hasn't changed for 38 years and change control of the United States Congress. And Rich can do a lot to help -- (applause.)

In the dog days of summer, it's very easy to be attracted to the new candidate -- the one who says the things the polls say the people want to hear. But by the fall, the American people look more closely and they ask this question: "Who do we trust to change America?" "Who has the ideas to carry us forward to a better future?"

Rich Williamson is a leader worthy of your trust. Just as we've changed the world we now have the ideas to change America. Rich and I both believe that to lead a great nation you must first trust the people you lead.

Look at the two sides in this election --- and the choice is very clear. On one side you have people advocating a nation "of the government, by the government, for the government." Rich and I have a very different philosophy. We agree with another son of Illinois -- America should be a nation "of the people, by the people, and for the people." (Applause.)

Let me just take one issue today -- discuss one issue to show the Grand Canyon of philosophy that separates the two sides in this election. It is one of the most pressing concerns that we face today: I'm talking about health care. Our health care system doesn't work today -- we all know that. Thirty-four million Americans are without insurance. Millions more worry that they cannot afford the rising costs of health care.

What are we going to do about it? Well, the other side and I have both put forward plans -- you can look them over. I invite comparison. The other plan offers health care reform. My plan offers health care reform. The other plan is printed on plain, white bond paper, and my plan is printed on plain, white bond paper.

From there the differences are wider than an Illinois cornfield. The other plan will dump 52 million Americans into a new government bureaucracy -- and my plan will help 90 million Americans afford private insurance to take care of their health care needs. (Applause.)

The other plan would slap at least a seven-percent payroll tax on middle-income Americans -- and my plan would provide tax relief to Americans, to help them pay for their own health care.

The other plan will cost America at least 700,000 jobs -- and my plan helps small business afford health insurance so they can hire more people. The other plan will create lines at hospitals so long you'll think they were selling Bears tickets inside. (Laughter.) My plan will allow you to get the care you need when you need it. And my plan will preserve the quality of health care in this country.

The other plan is going to put bureaucrats in charge of setting health care prices -- and my plan attacks the root cause of

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rising costs: faulty insurance, too much paperwork, far too many frivolous lawsuits out there. (Applause.)

Understand what's at stake here. If the Governor of Arkansas is elected with a Democratic Congress -- and a new Democratic senator from Illinois -- within a year the government will run health care in this country. Our health care system will combine the efficiency of the House post office with the compassion of the KGB. I am not going to let that happen. (Applause.)

Give me Rich Williamson in the Senate, and we will fight against those who put the government first all the time. We'll fight for what works for America. We will fight for what's right for America.

That's what this election is all about. Not about change alone because change always happens. The question is, who do you trust to change America?

On health care, taxes, education and every other issue we face, Rich and I say the same thing: Let others listen to the polls; let others listen to the polls -- Rich and I want to fight for what's right for the United States of America. (Applause.)

Rich touched on it and he and I share a strong love of a certain proud American tradition -- one that his kids, Ricky and Lisa, already shared with us today. I want to close by asking all of you to listen once again to these familiar words. I believe with all my heart that Americans must join and once again pledge allegiance to the finest vision of the United States of America -- "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

That is the country I love -- the country Rich loves -- the country you love. When I ask you to help that country by believing in this good man -- working for him -- and voting for him, I'm sure you'll answer in the words of the motto of this great city of Chicago: "I will."

God bless you all. Thank you very, very much for this fantastic turnout and this wonderful support. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

12:27 P.M. CDT