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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

01-Sep-1992 04:50pm

TO: (See Below)
FROM: Claire F. Turney
Office of Communications
SUBJECT: STAFFED SPEECH - NETWORK T.V. ADDRESS

Provost

Presidential Remarks
Network Television Address
September 1, 1992
Draft

Good evening everyone.

This has been a trying ^{month} ~~summer~~ for many Americans -- we have faced a string of natural disasters. *Fires in Northern California. Floods in the midwest.*

A typhoon in Guam. Tornadoes in Wisconsin. ^a And of course, Hurricane Andrew -- which has caused havoc in Louisiana, and destroyed several communities in South Florida. Not since the streets of San Francisco shook almost a century ago, has America witnessed such ^a fury of nature.

In the past week, I have twice visited Louisiana and Florida. I have talked to people who tell me of a feeling few of us can imagine -- of being lost in your very own neighborhood. No houses, no street signs, no landmarks remain.

Yet amidst this incredible physical destruction, I have heard tales of generosity and courage. Like the man in

Homestead, who stood on a street corner, gazing at a pile of busted timber that he once called "home." To a bystander, he said: "don't worry about me, it's my neighbor we must help first."

well underway
^

America holds out its hand to nature's victims to

Tonight, ~~I can report that~~ a massive national effort is ~~now~~ helping our "neighbors" -- the victims of Hurricane Andrew. The basic essentials of food, water and medical assistance are being provided for everyone. Tonight, families left homeless sleep in

Say, "You are not alone."

Most people know they can't shower, but can't we spare the victims their dignity

tent cities. And even as some Floridians take their first shower in a week, money and information is already being made available to help rebuild homes, businesses, and entire communities.

This effort ^{has generated} ~~has required~~ unprecedented cooperation. My thanks go to state and local government, federal agencies, private charities, and the dedicated men and women of the U.S. armed services.

The people of Florida and Louisiana want all Americans to know that the road from relief to recovery will be long, with many turns. After the camera crews have departed, Andrew's victims want to know that they can still count on us -- to help them rebuild.

We in government at every level will make that commitment. And I know all Americans will join us.

Yesterday, I met at the White House with the leaders of our nation's largest charitable, civic and religious organizations. All are mobilizing to help South Florida recover, and I encourage every American to support ^{relief efforts} ~~their favorite charity~~ ⁱⁿ at this time of need.

The people of Florida and Louisiana need money -- but they also need building materials, sheets of plywood, and plastic roofing. Government will meet many of these needs, but we can't do it alone. So tonight, a distinguished Florida business leader -- Alva ^h ~~h~~ Chapman -- has agreed to head a special national private ^h ~~h~~ sector recovery effort to help South Florida rebuild.

If you want to help the people of South Florida, and you don't know where to turn, please call ^{these} two numbers. The first (insert 1-800 number) is for the National Red Cross. The second (insert 1-800 number) is for the Florida Relief Fund, established by Florida Governor Lawton Chiles. Both agencies will put your assistance to work immediately, where it can do the most good.

In the past seven days, we have seen on our TV screens -- real tears, real sorrow, real hurt. Livelihoods have been destroyed, and lives have been lost. *-- even young lives --*

Yet, let us remember, had this disaster occurred in any other nation, hundreds and even thousands would have died, and recovery would have been beyond human reach.

In Florida, some are already off their knees, talking about how to walk again.

Yes, this is a tribute to our technology, and our material well-being, but mostly it is a tribute to our spirit.

The winds of Andrew blew a whirlwind of devastation, but we know they can never extinguish the American spirit -- a spirit capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance.

We have seen that spirit in action the past eight days. With this spirit, and your enduring commitment, our neighbors in South Florida and Louisiana will recover.

Thank you and God Bless You.

#

See suggested conclusion

CONCLUSION

Yes, this is a tribute to our technology, and our material well-being, but mostly it is a tribute to our unyielding spirit.

The winds of Andrew blew a whirlwind of devastation, but we know they can never conquer the soul of a nation -- our is one of compassion and kindness and conviction.

We are a nation of neighbors and even in our most worried moments, America has shown its resolve.

As we carry our commitment forward for the people of South Florida and Louisiana, let us embrace the words of Lincoln: "Having thus chosen our course, without guile and with pure purpose, let us renew our trust in God, and go forward without fear and with [strong] hearts."

God bless you all and goodnight.

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Yes, this is a tribute to our technology, and our material well-being, but mostly it is a tribute to our spirit. ^{unyielding}

The winds of Andrew blew a whirlwind of devastation, but we know they can never ~~extinguish the American spirit~~ ^{conquer the soul of a nation -- ours} -- a spirit ^{is one of compassion and kindness and conviction} capable of ~~compassion and sacrifice and endurance.~~

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Thank you and God Bless You.

We are a nation of neighbors and even in our most worried moments, America ^{# # #} has shown its resolve.

As we carry our commitment through ~~for the our next victims~~ the people of South Florida and Louisiana, let us ~~console ourselves~~

~~in the words wisdom of Lincoln~~

embrace the words of Lincoln.

"

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 1, 1992

TELEVISION ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT
ON HURRICANE RELIEF

The Oval Office

9:00 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Good evening, everyone. Eight days ago, the people of South Florida and Louisiana were confronted by perhaps the most destructive natural disaster in our history. Tonight, I want to report to the nation on the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew and the effort required to help Andrew's survivors back on their feet.

In the past week I've twice visited Louisiana and Florida. And in Florida, where the storm was strongest, up to a quarter million people have lost their homes -- many huddled beneath the busted timbers of what was once a living room or a kitchen. There's no running water, no electricity. Little children are left without even a toy to play with.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew, a relief effort has risen -- unprecedented in size and impact. And tonight, as we speak, almost 20,000 troops are on the ground, assisting in everything from providing meals to erecting tent cities. Basic human needs -- food, water, shelter and medical assistance -- are being provided.

In Florida, a curfew is in place, and the National Guard and local police patrol the streets. It's a tribute to these officers and to the people of this region that looting has been kept to a minimum. Social Security checks are being delivered on time. Financial help is being made available to families who have lost their homes and their jobs.

This relief effort has generated incredible cooperation. My thanks go to so many people who slept so little the past eight days: to state and local government officials, federal agencies, private charities and the heroic men and women of the United States military. Most especially, my appreciation goes out to the volunteers.

When we arrived in Florida, some of the first people we met were from South Carolina, victims of Hurricane Hugo who had spent the night driving so they could help others through their ordeal. We met doctors and firefighters spending sleepless vacations lending a helping hand. Through the eloquence of their action, I've been reminded that America will always be a nation of neighbors.

Although the relief effort is well underway, urgent needs still exist. And so tonight I make a special appeal to the generous spirit of the American people. People in Florida and Louisiana want to stay in their homes. They're in desperate need of rolls of plastic to cover open roofs, lumber to board up walls and cots to sleep on. They also need diapers and baby formula and other infant supplies. And fresh volunteers are needed to staff medical facilities or help with the cleanup.

Right now, America's churches and charities are mobilizing to meet these needs. And I encourage all Americans to

MORE

pitch in, in any way you can. If you don't know where to turn and you want to help right now, please call the American Red Cross at 1-800-842-2200. 1-800-842-2200. Once our relief effort is complete, we will accelerate the process of recovery.

Already today we announced plans to rebuild Homestead Air Force Base, the lynchpin of the economy in devastated areas. And a distinguished Florida business leader, Alvah Chapman, has agreed to head a national private sector effort to help rebuild south Florida. It's called "We Will Rebuild." This effort has my strong support, and the support of Florida Governor Chiles.

All of us are in this for the long haul. If you want to be a part of this effort, please write: "We Will Rebuild." And the address is: Post Office Box 010790, Miami, Florida, and the zip code is 33131.

In the past eight days we've seen on our TV screens real tears, real sorrow, real hurt. Livelihoods have been destroyed. Lives -- even young lives -- have been tragically lost. But already in Florida and Louisiana, we're talking not just of relief but of recovery. This is a tribute to what is inside us.

And, yes, Andrew blew a whirlwind of devastation. But he could never extinguish the American spirit, a spirit of compassion and sacrifice and endurance. We have seen that spirit in action the past eight days. And with this spirit and your enduring commitment, our neighbors in south Florida and Louisiana will recover.

Thank you for your generosity. And our prayers are with all who stood in Andrew's path.

Good night.

END

9:05 P.M. EDT

Branson

Gov Aschcroft

Jack & Owners of
Peter Herschend Silver
Brothers Dollar
City

Jer Kit Bond

Repub Sen Candidate
Bill Webster

(504) Carrie
Bunnels
Dallas
Morning
News
911-8222

Sheriff E. Cray
Bayou helps
Vista Central Industries
morgan
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01-Sep-1992 04:50pm

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FROM: Claire F. Turney
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Yet amidst this incredible physical destruction, I have heard tales of generosity and courage. Like the man in

" . . . of your high resolve, however great the cost . . . human dignity and kindness shall not perish from the earth."

" The impersonal hand of government can never replace the helping hand of a neighbor. "

Hubert Humphrey

Not reacted
disbelief
determination