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**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Draft Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**OA/ID Number:** 13475  
**Folder ID Number:** 13475-002

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**Folder Title:**  
Swearing-in of Secretary of Transportation Samuel K. Skinner, 2/6/89

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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For Immediate Release

February 6, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
AND SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION SAMUEL K. SKINNER  
AT SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Federal Aviation Administration  
Washington, D.C.

2:42 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Well, Barbara and I are delighted to be here. And, Governor Thompson, delighted to see you, sir. But I'm here today to welcome into our Cabinet a man who I believe is destined to go down in history as one of the truly outstanding Secretaries of Transportation -- Sam Skinner. (Applause.) He does indeed have big shoes to fill. And I see one of his predecessors sitting over here, Jim Burnley, who did an outstanding job.

And Sam, though, has made -- he comes here having made a name for himself as a miracle worker of sorts in transportation. Several years ago, Thompson put him in charge of the Regional Transportation Authority of Northeastern Illinois. And at that time the RTA, as it is known, was plagued with financial troubles and declining levels of service. And some said that Sam was inheriting an impossible job. But he rolled up his sleeves and set to work and, in short order, he put the RTA on a sound financial footing for the first time in years.

His expertise in transportation doesn't stop there. He's an instrument rated pilot who has flown in and out of Chicago's O'Hare Airport, one of the busiest in the nation -- (laughter) -- more times than he can count. And here he is -- (laughter. But when it comes to air travel, he'll bring a pilot's perspective to the highest levels of our government, and that means a perspective that puts safety first, above all other considerations.

You'd think all this would be enough, but I haven't quite finished his qualifications for the job. Besides overseeing the federal government's role in maintaining and improving our nation's transportation system -- the networks -- the Secretary of Transportation has another critical duty. He commands the Coast Guard -- and the Coast Guard serves on the front lines of our war on drugs. And I can't think of anyone in America who has Sam Skinner's background in transportation and has been a distinguished U.S. Attorney, prosecuting a number of major cases. Outstanding combination.

And, yes, he is the ideal man for a job that will, in the years ahead, present extraordinary challenges. I'm sure that I don't

certainly justifiable pride. And I know that you join with me in saying that we won't rest until every possible step has been taken to make air travel in America as safe as it possibly can be.

By the way, in one area critical to safe skies, Sam is hitting the ground running. Next week he will head a delegation to ICAO -- Montreal -- the special session of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization. He has my mandate to do all he can at that meeting to hasten the day when the international community puts an end to terrorism in the sky.

Aviation is not, of course, the only area in which Secretary Skinner and you will work together for a better America. I look forward to his leadership in the others areas -- highways and bridges and urban mass transit, intercity rail, and maritime transportation. And I think once you get to know him you'll see why I say that I can't think of anyone I'd rather have in charge than Sam Skinner.

And having said so much about him, let me now say a few words to our new Secretary about how I feel about you all. It would be hard, Sam, to find a more dedicated group of people in the entire government than the men and women in the Department of Transportation. And thanks in part to their effort, America's transportation is the best system in the world. And they represent a long and proud tradition of reaching back to the very founding of our Republic -- for roads, shipping, and protecting our coasts from smugglers have been concerns of our government from the very beginning. Somebody said of Sam that you're a visionary -- said of Sam that he's a visionary who thinks big. Well, I expect that you'll find that your new colleagues are visionaries who think big, as well. And I know you're as proud to serve with them as I am.

And so, as they say in the railroad business, welcome aboard. It's great to have you on the team. And so now, let's get on with the with the swearing in. Congratulations. (Applause.)

(Secretary Skinner is sworn in.) (Applause.)

GOVERNOR THOMPSON: Following the brilliant career in federal law enforcement of which the President so eloquently spoke, Sam Skinner has served the people of Illinois for the past 12 years with rare fidelity, integrity and honor. He made things move and he got things done. And it is with the high hopes borne of that experience that we in Illinois now proudly give him to the nation. Ladies and gentlemen, the Secretary of Transportation. (Applause.)

SECRETARY SKINNER: Thank you, Mr. President, for your kind words and for making me part of your team. I want to personally acknowledge all my friends here, especially Barbara Bush, my good friend for many years; my family, my mother and my brother; the Governor; my good friend, Judge Flaum; and all of you. I wouldn't be here if it weren't for your efforts and I know it.

Mr. President, the Department of Transportation's team is, in fact, made up of many members. Each one plays an important role. I have asked some of these outstanding members of that team to join us, from each of our units, and I would like to introduce them

Pathfinder, a cooperative effort by the Federal Highway Administration, the California Department of Transportation, and General Motors that applies advanced technology to solve metropolitan area congestion problems.

Romell Cooks of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has energized a network of health professionals to act as allies with government in the safety belt usage and antidrunk driving campaigns.

Barbara Schroeder, one of the two female wage-grade employees at the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation. In a nontraditional job as a labor line handler; and as a single parent with three daughters, she gives freely of her time to numerous volunteer efforts.

Donald Simonds of the FAA is a full performance level air traffic controller, and has been actively involved in the recruitment of minority candidates for that critical job.

Anthony A. Schiavone, Superintendent of the James River Reserve Fleet at the Maritime Administration, maintains custody of approximately 125 oceangoing merchant-type vessels that are on ready reserve for national defense purposes.

Susan Hedgepeth, Chief of the Exemption Branch in the Office of Hazardous Materials Transportation, develops special requirements for the transportation of hazardous materials.

Sondra F. Talbert of the Federal Railroad Administration, moved into the Department's Upward Mobility Training Program in 1975, and is the first female inspector at the Interstate Commerce Commission in the Federal Railroad Administration.

United States Coast Guard Petty Officer Kelly M. Mogk, was recently awarded the Coast Guard Air Medal for heroic achievement in aerial flight while serving as a helicopter rescue swimmer on January 2, 1989.

Let's give these outstanding employees a round of applause. (Applause.)

Mr. President, these individuals' achievements reflect the spirit of this Department. They are our unsung heroes -- the dedicated public servants who serve the American traveler, the pilot, the truck driver, the boater and the commuter.

The Department's team faces many challenges. We must be in the forefront in the fight against terrorism. We must do everything we can to stop the flow of drugs into this country. We must keep our aviation system both safe and competitive. And we must maintain our significant and important presence in the maritime industry. We must also continue to build and maintain our infrastructure -- and I want to acknowledge, as I look on the next step, are Congressman Martin, are Congressman Mineta, Congressman Coughlin -- we must work with Congress, and I will work with Congress, to develop a visionary and comprehensive transportation policy for the 21st century -- a policy that recognizes the

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 02/02/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF SAMUEL K. SKINNER  
(02/02 7:00 p.m. draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

(Judge)  
February 2, 1989  
7:00 p.m.

1989 FEB -2 PM 7:51

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING IN OF SAMUEL K. SKINNER  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1989

I am here today to welcome into the Cabinet a man who I believe is destined to go down in history as one of the truly outstanding Secretaries of Transportation -- Sam Skinner.

Sam has already made a name for himself as a miracle worker in transportation. Several years ago, my good friend Governor Jim Thompson of Illinois put him in charge of the Regional Transportation Authority of Northeast Illinois. At the time the R.T.A., as it is known, was plagued with financial troubles and declining levels of service. Some said that Sam's job was impossible. But Sam rolled up his sleeves and set to work. And in short order he put the R.T.A. on a sound financial footing for the first time in years.

But Sam's expertise in transportation does not stop there. He's an instrument rated pilot who has flown in and out of Chicago's O'Hare Airport, the busiest in the nation, more times than he can count. When it comes to air travel, he will bring a pilot's perspective to the highest levels of our government, and that means a perspective that puts safety first, above all other considerations.

You'd think all this would be enough, but I haven't finished Sam's qualifications for this job. Besides overseeing the Federal government's role in maintaining and improving our nation's transportation networks, the Secretary of Transportation has, as all of you know, one other critical duty. He commands

the Coast Guard -- and the Coast Guard serves on the front lines of our war on drugs. I can't think of anyone in America who has Sam Skinner's background in transportation and has been a distinguished U.S. Attorney, prosecuting a number of major cases.

Yes, Sam Skinner is the ideal man for a job that will, in the years ahead, present extraordinary challenges. I'm sure that I don't need to remind anyone in this audience of the high priority my Administration places on the war on drugs. I pledged in my inaugural address that this scourge will stop -- and I am determined that it will. Sam will be working closely with Bill Bennett and I know that they are going to make a great team.

Let me mention another area in which Sam will face challenges -- aviation. The U.S. is the safest place in the world to fly, and it's getting safer. That safety record is your record. This Department carries a great deal of the responsibility for the safety of the skies -- and carries it with ability and pride. And I know that you join with me in saying that we won't rest until air travel in America is as safe as it can be.

By the way, in one area critical to safe skies, Sam is hitting the ground running -- forgive the pun. Next week he will head a delegation to Montreal to attend a special session of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization. Sam has my mandate to do all he can at that meeting to hasten the day when the international community puts an end to terrorism in the skies.

Aviation is not, of course, the only area in which Sam and you will work together for a better America. Highways, bridges, urban mass transit, intercity rail, and maritime transportation will all demand attention. I think once you get to know him you'll see why I say that I can't think of anyone I'd rather have in charge than Sam Skinner.

Having said so much to you about Sam, let me now say a few words to Sam about you. Sam, it would be hard to find a more dedicated group of people in the entire government than the men and women of the Department of Transportation. Thanks in part to their efforts, America's transportation system is the best in the world. They represent a long and proud tradition, reaching back to the very founding of our Republic -- for roads, shipping, and protecting our coasts from smugglers have been concerns of our government from the start. Somebody said of you, Sam, that you're a visionary who thinks big. I expect that you'll find that your new colleagues are also visionaries who think big. And I know you are as proud to serve with them as I am.

So, Sam, as they say in the railroad business, welcome aboard. It's great to have you on the team.

[Now we will witness the swearing-in.]

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/2/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/2/89 C.O.B.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF SECRETARY SKINNER

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
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SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**

Please forward your comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by c.o.b. TODAY, February 2, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

*12:15 pm 2/2/89*  
*McClure - no comments*

**James W. Cicconi**  
 Assistant to the President  
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
 Ext. 2702

(Judge)  
February 1, 1989  
6:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING IN OF SAMUEL K. SKINNER  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1989

I am here today to welcome into the Cabinet a man who I believe is destined to go down in history as one of the truly outstanding Secretaries of Transportation -- Sam Skinner.

Sam has already made a name for himself as a miracle worker in transportation. Several years ago, my good friend Governor Jim Thompson of Illinois put him in charge of the Regional Transportation Authority of Northeast Illinois. At the time the R.T.A., as it is known, was plagued with financial troubles and declining levels of service. Some said that Sam's job was impossible. But Sam rolled up his sleeves and set to work. And in short order he put the R.T.A. on a sound financial footing for the first time in years.

But Sam's expertise in transportation does not stop there. He's an instrument rated pilot who has flown in and out of Chicago's O'Hare Airport, the busiest in the nation, more times than he can count. When it comes to air travel, he will bring a pilot's perspective to the highest levels of our government, and that means a perspective that puts safety first, above all other considerations.

You'd think all this would be enough, but I haven't finished Sam's qualifications for this job. Besides overseeing the Federal government's role in maintaining and improving our nation's transportation networks, the Secretary of Transportation has, as all of you know, one other critical duty. He commands

the Coast Guard -- and the Coast Guard serves on the front lines of our war on drugs. I can't think of anyone in America who has Sam Skinner's background in transportation and has been a distinguished U.S. Attorney, prosecuting a number of major cases.

Yes, Sam Skinner is the ideal man for a job that will, in the years ahead, present extraordinary challenges. I'm sure that I don't need to remind anyone in this audience of the high priority my Administration places on the war on drugs. I pledged in my inaugural address that this scourge will stop -- and I am determined that it will. Sam will be working closely with Bill Bennett and I know that they are going to make a great team.

In aviation, Sam will face more challenges. Airline deregulation has proven a clear success. Air travel is no longer restricted to a well-he<sup>e</sup>aled elite. It is within reach of virtually all Americans. Average airfares today are 39 percent lower than they were just before deregulation. 39 percent lower -- what an achievement. And even as prices have dropped safety has improved. Last year was the safest year ever for air travelers in the United States.

That record of safety is your record, as well. For this Department carries a great deal of the responsibility for the safety of the skies -- and carries it with ability and pride. You deserve more credit than can ever be given to you for the job you're doing to make sure that America's air traffic network remains a model of safety. And I know that you join with me in saying that we won't rest until air travel is as safe as it can be.

With rising volumes and aging equipment, we're going to have to do a lot of work if we're going to keep air travel safe and to make it even safer. I can't think of anyone I'd rather have in charge than Sam Skinner.

Having said so much to you about Sam, let me say a few words to Sam about you. Sam, it would be hard to find a more dedicated group of people in the entire government than the men and women of the Department of Transportation. Thanks in part to their efforts, America's transportation system is the best in the world. They represent a long and proud tradition, reaching back to the very founding of our Republic -- for roads, shipping, and protecting our coasts from smugglers have been concerns of our government from the start. Somebody said of you, Sam, that you're a visionary who thinks big. I expect that you'll find that your new colleagues are also visionaries who think big. And I know you are as proud to serve with them as I am.

So, Sam, as they say in the railroad business, welcome aboard. It's great to have you on the team.

**SWEARING IN OF SAMUEL K. SKINNER  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1989**

**I AM HERE TODAY TO WELCOME INTO THE CABINET A MAN WHO I BELIEVE IS DESTINED TO GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS ONE OF THE TRULY OUTSTANDING SECRETARIES OF TRANSPORTATION -- SAM SKINNER.**

**SAM HAS ALREADY MADE A NAME FOR HIMSELF AS A MIRACLE WORKER IN TRANSPORTATION. SEVERAL YEARS AGO, MY GOOD FRIEND GOVERNOR JIM THOMPSON OF ILLINOIS PUT HIM IN CHARGE OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF NORTHEAST ILLINOIS.**

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**AT THE TIME THE R.T.A., AS IT IS KNOWN, WAS PLAGUED WITH FINANCIAL TROUBLES AND DECLINING LEVELS OF SERVICE. SOME SAID THAT SAM'S JOB WAS IMPOSSIBLE. BUT SAM ROLLED UP HIS SLEEVES AND SET TO WORK. AND IN SHORT ORDER HE PUT THE R.T.A. ON A SOUND FINANCIAL FOOTING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS.**

**BUT SAM'S EXPERTISE IN TRANSPORTATION DOES NOT STOP THERE. HE'S AN INSTRUMENT RATED PILOT WHO HAS FLOWN IN AND OUT OF CHICAGO'S O'HARE AIRPORT, ONE OF THE BUSIEST IN THE NATION, MORE TIMES THAN HE CAN COUNT.**

WHEN IT COMES TO AIR TRAVEL, HE WILL BRING A PILOT'S PERSPECTIVE TO THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF OUR GOVERNMENT, AND THAT MEANS A PERSPECTIVE THAT PUTS SAFETY FIRST, ABOVE ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.

YOU'D THINK ALL THIS WOULD BE ENOUGH, BUT I HAVEN'T FINISHED SAM'S QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS JOB. BESIDES OVERSEEING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING OUR NATION'S TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS, THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION HAS, AS ALL OF YOU KNOW, ONE OTHER CRITICAL DUTY.

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HE COMMANDS THE COAST GUARD -- AND THE COAST GUARD SERVES ON THE FRONT LINES OF OUR WAR ON DRUGS. I CAN'T THINK OF ANYONE IN AMERICA WHO HAS SAM SKINNER'S BACKGROUND IN TRANSPORTATION AND HAS BEEN A DISTINGUISHED U.S. ATTORNEY, PROSECUTING A NUMBER OF MAJOR CASES.

YES, SAM SKINNER IS THE IDEAL MAN FOR A JOB THAT WILL, IN THE YEARS AHEAD, PRESENT EXTRAORDINARY CHALLENGES. I'M SURE THAT I DON'T NEED TO REMIND ANYONE IN THIS AUDIENCE OF THE HIGH PRIORITY MY ADMINISTRATION PLACES ON THE WAR ON DRUGS.

I PLEDGED IN MY INAUGURAL ADDRESS THAT THIS SCOURGE WILL STOP -- AND I AM DETERMINED THAT IT WILL. SAM WILL BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH BILL BENNETT AND I KNOW THAT THEY ARE GOING TO MAKE A GREAT TEAM.

LET ME MENTION ANOTHER AREA IN WHICH SAM WILL FACE CHALLENGES -- AVIATION. THE U.S. IS THE SAFEST PLACE IN THE WORLD TO FLY, AND IT'S GETTING SAFER. THAT SAFETY RECORD IS YOUR RECORD. THIS DEPARTMENT CARRIES A GREAT DEAL OF THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SAFETY OF THE SKIES -- AND CARRIES IT WITH ABILITY AND PRIDE.

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AND I KNOW THAT YOU JOIN WITH ME IN SAYING THAT WE WON'T REST UNTIL AIR TRAVEL IN AMERICA IS AS SAFE AS IT CAN BE.

BY THE WAY, IN ONE AREA CRITICAL TO SAFE SKIES, SAM IS HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING -- FORGIVE THE PUN. NEXT WEEK HE WILL HEAD A DELEGATION TO MONTREAL TO ATTEND A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION. SAM HAS MY MANDATE TO DO ALL HE CAN AT THAT MEETING TO HASTEN THE DAY WHEN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY PUTS AN END TO TERRORISM IN THE SKIES.

AVIATION IS NOT, OF COURSE, THE ONLY AREA IN WHICH SAM AND YOU WILL WORK TOGETHER FOR A BETTER AMERICA. I LOOK FORWARD TO HIS LEADERSHIP IN THE AREAS OF HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES, URBAN MASS TRANSIT, INTERCITY RAIL, AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION. I THINK ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW HIM YOU'LL SEE WHY I SAY THAT I CAN'T THINK OF ANYONE I'D RATHER HAVE IN CHARGE THAN SAM SKINNER.

HAVING SAID SO MUCH TO YOU ABOUT SAM, LET ME NOW SAY A FEW WORDS TO SAM ABOUT YOU.

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SAM, IT WOULD BE HARD TO FIND A MORE DEDICATED GROUP OF PEOPLE IN THE ENTIRE GOVERNMENT THAN THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. THANKS IN PART TO THEIR EFFORTS, AMERICA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD. THEY REPRESENT A LONG AND PROUD TRADITION, REACHING BACK TO THE VERY FOUNDING OF OUR REPUBLIC -- FOR ROADS, SHIPPING, AND PROTECTING OUR COASTS FROM SMUGGLERS HAVE BEEN CONCERNS OF OUR GOVERNMENT FROM THE START. SOMEBODY SAID OF YOU, SAM, THAT YOU'RE A VISIONARY WHO THINKS BIG.

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**I EXPECT THAT YOU'LL FIND THAT YOUR NEW COLLEAGUES ARE ALSO VISIONARIES WHO THINK BIG. AND I KNOW YOU ARE AS PROUD TO SERVE WITH THEM AS I AM.**

**SO, SAM, AS THEY SAY IN THE RAILROAD BUSINESS, WELCOME ABOARD. IT'S GREAT TO HAVE YOU ON THE TEAM.**

**[NOW WE WILL WITNESS THE SWEARING-IN.]**

(Judge)  
February 2, 1989  
7:00 p.m.

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So, Sam, as they say in the railroad business, welcome aboard. It's great to have you on the team.

[Now we will witness the swearing-in.]

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/2/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/2/89 C.O.B. 4:00

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF SECRETARY SKINNER

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VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: 4:00  
 Please forward your comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by ~~C.O.B.~~ TODAY, February 2, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *okay Gordon RWheel*

James W. Cicconi  
 Assistant to the President  
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
 Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 2, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM:

ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks: Swearing-In of Secretary Skinner

The draft remarks for the swearing-in of Secretary Skinner are excellent in showing his breadth of experience and in giving appropriate praise to the employees of the Department of Transportation. This is a department that often has not received much presidential attention in the past. They will appreciate it.

My only concern from a policy standpoint in the draft remarks concerns the second full paragraph on page two dealing with airline deregulation. Some recent studies have begun to question the unambiguous success of airline deregulation, particularly in those markets which are served by only a few carriers and where prices have gone up sharply recently.

One needs to be very careful in citing figures on air fares and you will want to check and recheck the figures such as the claimed 39 percent drop since deregulation. Is this in nominal or constant dollars? Does this apply to all air fares or on selected routes? When does one mark the beginning of airline deregulation? Given the controversy surrounding such numbers, I suggest deleting the sentences dealing with air fares.

The most important part of the paragraph deals with air safety -- which is what most Americans view as the central role of the Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration. Perhaps you could indicate that even with more passengers and more flights than in any year in our history, last year was the safest year ever for air travelers in the United States.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

cc: James W. Cicconi

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/2/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/2/89 C.O.B.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF SECRETARY SKINNER

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**

Please forward your comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by c.o.b. TODAY, February 2, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

(Judge)  
February 1, 1989  
6:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING IN OF SAMUEL K. SKINNER  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1989

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Sam has already made a name for himself as a miracle worker in transportation. Several years ago, my good friend Governor Jim Thompson of Illinois put him in charge of the Regional Transportation Authority of Northeast Illinois. At the time the R.T.A., as it is known, was plagued with financial troubles and declining levels of service. Some said that Sam's job was impossible. But Sam rolled up his sleeves and set to work. And in short order he put the R.T.A. on a sound financial footing for the first time in years.

But Sam's expertise in transportation <sup>NOT END</sup> does ~~not stop~~ there. He's an instrument rated pilot who has flown in and out of Chicago's O'Hare Airport, the busiest in the nation, more times than he can count. When it comes to air travel, he will bring a pilot's perspective to the highest levels of our government, and that means a perspective that puts safety first, above all other considerations.

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With rising volumes and aging equipment, we're going to have to do a lot of work if we're going to keep air travel safe and to make it even safer. I can't think of anyone I'd rather have in charge than Sam Skinner.

Having said so much to you about Sam, let me say a few words to Sam about you. Sam, it would be hard to find a more dedicated group of people in the entire government than the men and women of the Department of Transportation. Thanks in part to their efforts, America's transportation system is the best in the world. They represent a long and proud tradition, reaching back to the very founding of our Republic -- for roads, shipping, and protecting our coasts from smugglers have been concerns of our government from the start. Somebody said of you, Sam, that you're a visionary who thinks big. I expect that you'll find that your new colleagues are also visionaries who think big. And I know you are as proud to serve with them as I am.

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February 1, 1989  
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The US is the safest place in the world to fly, and it's getting safer.

That record of safety is your record, as well. For this and in particular the men and women of the F.A.A., Department carries a great deal of the responsibility for the safety of the skies -- and carries it with ability and pride. You deserve more credit than can ever be given to you for the job you're doing to make sure that America's air traffic network remains a model of safety. And I know that you join with me in saying that we won't rest until air travel is as safe as it can be.

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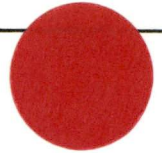
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~~There are major challenges ahead in urban mass transit, to integrity, rail, roads,~~  
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So, Sam, as they say in the railroad business, welcome aboard. It's great to have you on the team.

[ Now, we will witness the swearing-in... ]



# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/2/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/2/89 C.O.B.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF SECRETARY SKINNER

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
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SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by c.o.b. TODAY, February 2, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*GW*

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

(Judge)  
February 1, 1989  
6:00 p.m.

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*15 This accurate or is it Atlanta? Was Atlanta...*

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Too much focus on air travel?

What about highway systems  
railroads, highway safety

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SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING-IN OF SECRETARY SKINNER

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SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**

Please forward your comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, by c.o.b. TODAY, February 2, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

All comments

**RESPONSE:**

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

(Judge)  
February 1, 1989  
6:00 p.m.

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the Coast Guard -- and the Coast Guard serves on the front lines of our war on drugs. I can't think of anyone in America who has Sam Skinner's background in transportation and has been a distinguished U.S. Attorney, prosecuting a number of major cases.

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OUR MISSION IS

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So, Sam, as they say in the railroad business, welcome aboard. It's great to have you on the team.

(Judge)  
February 1, 1989  
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*Staff*

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February 1, 1989  
draft 6-

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the Coast Guard -- and the Coast Guard serves on the front lines of our war on drugs. I can't think of anyone in America who has Sam Skinner's background in transportation and has been a distinguished assistant U.S. Attorney, prosecuting a number of major cases.

Yes, Sam Skinner is the ideal man for a job that will, in the years ahead, present extraordinary challenges. I'm sure that I don't need to remind anyone in this audience of the high priority my Administration places on the war on drugs. I pledged in my inaugural address that this scourge will stop -- and I am determined that it will. Sam will be working closely with Bill Bennett and I know that they are going to make a great team.

In aviation, Sam will face more challenges. Airline deregulation has proven a clear success. Air travel is no longer restricted to a well-healed elite. It is within reach of virtually all Americans. Average airfares today are 39 percent lower than they were just before deregulation. 39 percent lower -- what an achievement. And even as prices have dropped safety has improved. Last year was the safest year ever for air travelers in the United States.

That record of safety is your record, as well. For this Department carries a great deal of the responsibility for the safety of the skies -- and carries it with ability and pride. You deserve more credit than can ever be given to you for the job you're doing to make sure that America's air traffic network remains a model of safety. And I know that you join with me in

saying that we won't rest until air travel is as safe as it can be.

With rising volumes and aging equipment, we're going to have to do a lot of work if we're going to keep air travel safe and to make it even safer. ~~And with the federal budget extremely tight, it may be time to look for imaginative new ways to finance improvements, including privatization and increasing the flexibility with which we allocate funds to meet airport capacity needs.~~ I can't think of anyone I'd rather have <sup>*M. Chavez*</sup> making those ~~decisions~~ than Sam Skinner.

Having said so much to you about Sam, let me say a few words to Sam about you. Sam, you won't find a more dedicated group of people in the entire government than the men and women of the Department of Transportation. Thanks in part to their efforts, America's transportation system is the best in the world. They represent a long and proud tradition, reaching back to the very founding of our Republic -- for roads, shipping, and protecting our coasts from smugglers have been concerns of our government from the start. Somebody said of you, Sam, that you're a visionary who thinks big. I expect that you'll find that your new colleagues are also visionaries who think big. ~~AND~~ I know you are as proud to serve with them as I am.

So, Sam, as they say in the railroad business, welcome aboard. It's great to have you on the team.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



February 2, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: C. DEAN MCGRATH, JR. *CDM*  
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Swearing In of Samuel K.  
Skinner as Secretary of Transportation

Counsel's office has reviewed the above-referenced Presidential remarks, and we have no legal objection to their delivery.

cc: James W. Cicconi

(Judge)  
February 2, 1989  
7:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SWEARING IN OF SAMUEL K. SKINNER  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1989

I am here today to welcome into the Cabinet a man who I believe is destined to go down in history as one of the truly outstanding Secretaries of Transportation -- Sam Skinner.

Sam has already made a name for himself as a miracle worker in transportation. Several years ago, my good friend Governor Jim Thompson of Illinois put him in charge of the Regional Transportation Authority of Northeast Illinois. At the time the R.T.A., as it is known, was plagued with financial troubles and declining levels of service. Some said that Sam's job was impossible. But Sam rolled up his sleeves and set to work. And in short order he put the R.T.A. on a sound financial footing for the first time in years.

But Sam's expertise in transportation does not stop there. He's an instrument rated pilot who has flown in and out of Chicago's O'Hare Airport, the busiest in the nation, more times than he can count... When it comes to air travel, he will bring a pilot's perspective to the highest levels of our government, and that means a perspective that puts safety first, above all other considerations.

You'd think all this would be enough, but I haven't finished Sam's qualifications for this job. Besides overseeing the Federal government's role in maintaining and improving our nation's transportation networks, the Secretary of Transportation has, as all of you know, one other critical duty. He commands

the Coast Guard -- and the Coast Guard serves on the front lines of our war on drugs. I can't think of anyone in America who has Sam Skinner's background in transportation and has been a distinguished U.S. Attorney, prosecuting a number of major cases.

Yes, Sam Skinner is the ideal man for a job that will, in the years ahead, present extraordinary challenges. I'm sure that I don't need to remind anyone in this audience of the high priority my Administration places on the war on drugs. I pledged in my inaugural address that this scourge will stop -- and I am determined that it will. Sam will be working closely with Bill Bennett and I know that they are going to make a great team.

Let me mention another area in which Sam will face challenges -- aviation. The U.S. is the safest place in the world to fly, and it's getting safer. That safety record is your record. This Department carries a great deal of the responsibility for the safety of the skies -- and carries it with ability and pride. And I know that you join with me in saying that we won't rest until air travel in America is as safe as it can be.

By the way, in one area critical to safe skies, Sam is hitting the ground running -- forgive the pun. Next week he will head a delegation to Montreal to attend a special session of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization. Sam has my mandate to do all he can at that meeting to hasten the day when the international community puts an end to terrorism in the skies.

Aviation is not, of course, the only area in which Sam and you will work together for a better America. Highways, bridges, urban mass transit, intercity rail, and maritime transportation will all demand attention. I think once you get to know him you'll see why I say that I can't think of anyone I'd rather have in charge than Sam Skinner.

Having said so much to you about Sam, let me now say a few words to Sam about you. Sam, it would be hard to find a more dedicated group of people in the entire government than the men and women of the Department of Transportation. Thanks in part to their efforts, America's transportation system is the best in the world. They represent a long and proud tradition, reaching back to the very founding of our Republic -- for roads, shipping, and protecting our coasts from smugglers have been concerns of our government from the start. Somebody said of you, Sam, that you're a visionary who thinks big. I expect that you'll find that your new colleagues are also visionaries who think big. And I know you are as proud to serve with them as I am.

So, Sam, as they say in the railroad business, welcome aboard. It's great to have you on the team.

[Now we will witness the swearing-in.]