

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):

FOIA Number:

S

# FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.**

---

**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Draft Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

---

**OA/ID Number:** 13483  
**Folder ID Number:** 13483-003

---

**Folder Title:**  
Department of Agriculture Radio Address, 4/18/89

---

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

---

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 17, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: MICHAEL J. ASTRUE *MA*  
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Proposed Presidential Remarks: Agriculture  
Radio Address

This will confirm our oral advice to your office that Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced proposed Presidential remarks, and we have no legal objection to their delivery.

cc: James W. Cicconi

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 NOON

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EVANS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, April 17, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *JK*  
*JK*

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

2703

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 NOON

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EVANS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, April 17, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

April 18, 1989

TO: CHRISS WINSTON

The NSC concurs with the attached Agriculture Radio Address.

*Brent Scowcroft*  
Brent Scowcroft

cc: James Cicconi

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

(McNally)  
April 15, 1989  
1:30 p.m.  
Draft two  
(Radio.Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

1989 APR 15 PM 2:03

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.

Well, American farmers got good news last week when the agricultural talks in Geneva ended. There was a renewed commitment by the GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- for farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for the next round, in Uruguay, have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- elimination of all subsidies, import barriers, and other tricks that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist.

America is behind you on this. We will not take any actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture.

Now, all America is deeply concerned about conditions in our rural communities. And today we are establishing a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Last year's drought was a "reality check" for just about every American. The rains wouldn't come. And no Act of Congress was going to repeal the laws of nature. We saw that our farmers and our farmland can't be taken for granted -- won't be taken for granted -- and that our rural economies must be developed and diversified. And this means more efficient use of existing federal resources.

But look, we know that no Washington broadcast about improved efficiency is going to get anybody rushing off to start their tractors. The farm crisis is not numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide extra money to growers hurt by the drought, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. And Secretary Yeutter is authorizing eligible farmers to get an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments.

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. And the good news for

farmers is it leaves average spending on farm price income support programs at a level three to four times higher than the average during the last decade.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions.

Thank you.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 04/17/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: -----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
(04/17 5:30 p.m. Draft Three)

	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EVANS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

1989 APR 17 PM 8:15

April 17, 1979

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: EDWARD E. McNALLY *EMW*  
THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *CW*  
SUBJECT: DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE RADIO NEWS CONFERENCE

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your consideration and review are draft remarks for your opening statement for tomorrow afternoon's radio news conference at the Department of Agriculture.

II. DISCUSSION

On at 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18, 1989 you are scheduled to join Secretary Clayton Yeutter at the Department of Agriculture radio studio. Your news conference will be broadcast live via more than 700 rural radio stations.

After a brief opening statement by you (see attached), both you and the Secretary of Agriculture will field questions on farm issues from approximately eleven farm broadcasters.

(McNally)  
April 17, 1989, 5:30 p.m.  
Draft three  
(Radio.Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

Good afternoon. I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

[[You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.]]

Well, American farmers got good news at the GATT agricultural talks in Geneva two weeks ago. G-A-T-T -- known as "GATT" -- was set up to provide international rules of trade. And there was a renewed commitment by the 96 participating nations to long-term agricultural reform -- benefitting farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for this trade round have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- the eventual elimination of export subsidies, import barriers, and other devices that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist. On a level playing field -- where neither side has the home team advantage -- American farmers can compete with anybody. And we'd have an export boom.

The American people are behind you in these negotiations. We will not take actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture. And we want to get rid of the impediments that keep us from exporting.

The American public is also deeply concerned about economic conditions in our rural communities. We need to diversify our rural economies and create more jobs in rural areas. In response, we <sup>are</sup> recently established <sup>ing</sup> a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Economic stress in rural areas is not just numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide some extra money to farmers early in the crop year, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. This will mean an additional 10 percent of projected deficiency payments -- or a total of about \$8<sup>5</sup>00 million for American farmers.

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions.

Thank you.

# # #

- 6 -

WE NEED TO DIVERSIFY OUR RURAL ECONOMIES AND CREATE MORE JOBS IN RURAL AREAS. IN RESPONSE, WE ARE ESTABLISHING A NEW WORKING GROUP ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT. CHAIRED BY SECRETARY YEUTTER HERE, IT WILL HAVE SENIOR LEADERS FROM EVERY ARM OF GOVERNMENT WITH OUTREACH TO RURAL AMERICA. AND WE WELCOME YOUR IDEAS.

ECONOMIC STRESS IN RURAL AREAS IS NOT JUST NUMBERS AND STATISTICS AND BUSHEL OF WHEAT. IT IS PEOPLE AND PRIDE AND SWEAT AND FAMILIES THAT NEED HELP NOW.

- 7 -

TO PROVIDE SOME EXTRA MONEY TO FARMERS EARLY IN THE CROP YEAR, TODAY WE ARE ANNOUNCING ADDITIONAL ADVANCE DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS FOR FARMERS WHO SIGN UP FOR THE 1989 WHEAT, FEED GRAIN, RICE AND UPLAND COTTON PROGRAMS. THIS WILL MEAN AN ADDITIONAL 10 PERCENT OF PROJECTED DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS -- OR A TOTAL OF ABOUT \$850 MILLION FOR AMERICAN FARMERS.

ONE LAST THOUGHT BEFORE WE TAKE SOME QUESTIONS FROM FARM BROADCASTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989  
1:15 P.M.

GOOD AFTERNOON. I AM DELIGHTED TO BE TALKING WITH YOU -- LIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN WASHINGTON -- HERE WITH SECRETARY CLAYTON YEUTTER.

- 2 -

[[YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES IT SEEMS LIKE THE UNITED STATES FARMER IS LIKE THE GOODHEARTED GUY AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD BAR WHO BUYS EVERYBODY A BEER AND NEVER GETS A ROUND IN RETURN.]]

WELL, AMERICAN FARMERS GOT GOOD NEWS AT THE GATT AGRICULTURAL TALKS IN GENEVA TWO WEEKS AGO. G-A-T-T -- KNOWN AS "GATT" -- WAS SET UP TO PROVIDE INTERNATIONAL RULES OF TRADE.

- 3 -

AND THERE WAS A RENEWED COMMITMENT BY THE 96 PARTICIPATING NATIONS TO LONG-TERM AGRICULTURAL REFORM -- BENEFITTING FARMERS, CONSUMERS AND TAXPAYERS AROUND THE WORLD. AND THERE WAS A NEW "ROADMAP" FOR THE FINAL TWO YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS.

AMERICA'S GOALS FOR THIS TRADE ROUND HAVE NOT CHANGED. THE BOTTOM LINE IS FAIRNESS FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER.

- 4 -

WE SEEK A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FOR OUR FARMERS -- THE EVENTUAL ELIMINATION OF EXPORT SUBSIDIES, IMPORT BARRIERS, AND OTHER DEVICES THAT DISTORT TRADE AND CREATE BOGUS INCENTIVES TO GROW PRODUCTS FOR WHICH NO MARKETS EXIST. ON A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD -- WHERE NEITHER SIDE HAS THE HOME TEAM ADVANTAGE -- AMERICAN FARMERS CAN COMPETE WITH ANYBODY. AND WE'D HAVE AN EXPORT BOOM.

- 5 -

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE BEHIND YOU IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. WE WILL NOT TAKE ACTIONS -- SHORT-TERM OR LONG-TERM -- THAT AREN'T MATCHED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND OTHER DEVELOPED NATIONS. WE'RE NOT ABOUT TO DISARM UNILATERALLY IN AGRICULTURE. AND WE WANT TO GET RID OF THE IMPEDIMENTS THAT KEEP US FROM EXPORTING.

THE AMERICAN PUBLIC IS ALSO DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN OUR RURAL COMMUNITIES.

- 6 -

WE NEED TO DIVERSIFY OUR RURAL ECONOMIES AND CREATE MORE JOBS IN RURAL AREAS. IN RESPONSE, WE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED A NEW WORKING GROUP ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT. CHAIRED BY SECRETARY YEUTTER HERE, IT WILL HAVE SENIOR LEADERS FROM EVERY ARM OF GOVERNMENT WITH OUTREACH TO RURAL AMERICA. AND WE WELCOME YOUR IDEAS.

ECONOMIC STRESS IN RURAL AREAS IS NOT JUST NUMBERS AND STATISTICS AND BUSHELS OF WHEAT. IT IS PEOPLE AND PRIDE AND SWEAT AND FAMILIES THAT NEED HELP NOW.

- 7 -

TO PROVIDE SOME EXTRA MONEY TO FARMERS EARLY IN THE CROP YEAR, TODAY WE ARE ANNOUNCING ADDITIONAL ADVANCE DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS FOR FARMERS WHO SIGN UP FOR THE 1989 WHEAT, FEED GRAIN, RICE AND UPLAND COTTON PROGRAMS. THIS WILL MEAN AN ADDITIONAL 10 PERCENT OF PROJECTED DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS -- OR A TOTAL OF ABOUT \$800 MILLION FOR AMERICAN FARMERS.

ONE LAST THOUGHT BEFORE WE TAKE SOME QUESTIONS FROM FARM BROADCASTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

- 8 -

A BREAKTHROUGH BUDGET COMPROMISE WAS REACHED WITH CONGRESS ON FRIDAY. IT CAME EARLY, AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR ALL AMERICANS.

WE ARE LISTENING. WE ARE WITH THE AMERICAN FARMER IN THESE TOUGH TIMES. AND WE ARE HERE TODAY TO TAKE YOUR QUESTIONS. THANK YOU.

# # #

REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989  
1:15 P.M.

GOOD AFTERNOON. I AM DELIGHTED TO BE TALKING WITH YOU -- LIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN WASHINGTON -- HERE WITH SECRETARY CLAYTON YEUTTER.

- 2 -

[[YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES IT SEEMS LIKE THE UNITED STATES FARMER IS LIKE THE GOODHEARTED GUY AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD BAR WHO BUYS EVERYBODY A BEER AND NEVER GETS A ROUND IN RETURN.]]

WELL, AMERICAN FARMERS GOT GOOD NEWS AT THE GATT AGRICULTURAL TALKS IN GENEVA TWO WEEKS AGO. G-A-T-T -- KNOWN AS "GATT" -- WAS SET UP TO PROVIDE INTERNATIONAL RULES OF TRADE.

- 3 -

AND THERE WAS A RENEWED COMMITMENT BY THE 96 PARTICIPATING NATIONS TO LONG-TERM AGRICULTURAL REFORM -- BENEFITTING FARMERS, CONSUMERS AND TAXPAYERS AROUND THE WORLD. AND THERE WAS A NEW "ROADMAP" FOR THE FINAL TWO YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS.

AMERICA'S GOALS FOR THIS TRADE ROUND HAVE NOT CHANGED. THE BOTTOM LINE IS FAIRNESS FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER.

- 4 -

WE SEEK A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FOR OUR FARMERS -- THE EVENTUAL ELIMINATION OF EXPORT SUBSIDIES, IMPORT BARRIERS, AND OTHER DEVICES THAT DISTORT TRADE AND CREATE BOGUS INCENTIVES TO GROW PRODUCTS FOR WHICH NO MARKETS EXIST. ON A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD -- WHERE NEITHER SIDE HAS THE HOME TEAM ADVANTAGE -- AMERICAN FARMERS CAN COMPETE WITH ANYBODY. AND WE'D HAVE AN EXPORT BOOM.

- 5 -

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE BEHIND YOU IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS. WE WILL NOT TAKE ACTIONS -- SHORT-TERM OR LONG-TERM -- THAT AREN'T MATCHED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND OTHER DEVELOPED NATIONS. WE'RE NOT ABOUT TO DISARM UNILATERALLY IN AGRICULTURE. AND WE WANT TO GET RID OF THE IMPEDIMENTS THAT KEEP US FROM EXPORTING.

THE AMERICAN PUBLIC IS ALSO DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN OUR RURAL COMMUNITIES.

- 6 -

WE NEED TO DIVERSIFY OUR RURAL ECONOMIES AND CREATE MORE JOBS IN RURAL AREAS. IN RESPONSE, WE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED A NEW WORKING GROUP ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT. CHAIRED BY SECRETARY YEUTTER HERE, IT WILL HAVE SENIOR LEADERS FROM EVERY ARM OF GOVERNMENT WITH OUTREACH TO RURAL AMERICA. AND WE WELCOME YOUR IDEAS.

ECONOMIC STRESS IN RURAL AREAS IS NOT JUST NUMBERS AND STATISTICS AND BUSHELS OF WHEAT. IT IS PEOPLE AND PRIDE AND SWEAT AND FAMILIES THAT NEED HELP NOW.

- 7 -

TO PROVIDE SOME EXTRA MONEY TO FARMERS EARLY IN THE CROP YEAR, TODAY WE ARE ANNOUNCING ADDITIONAL ADVANCE DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS FOR FARMERS WHO SIGN UP FOR THE 1989 WHEAT, FEED GRAIN, RICE AND UPLAND COTTON PROGRAMS. THIS WILL MEAN AN ADDITIONAL 10 PERCENT OF PROJECTED DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS -- OR A TOTAL OF ABOUT \$800 MILLION FOR AMERICAN FARMERS.

ONE LAST THOUGHT BEFORE WE TAKE SOME QUESTIONS FROM FARM BROADCASTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

- 8 -

A BREAKTHROUGH BUDGET COMPROMISE WAS REACHED WITH CONGRESS ON FRIDAY. IT CAME EARLY, AND THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR ALL AMERICANS.

WE ARE LISTENING. WE ARE WITH THE AMERICAN FARMER IN THESE TOUGH TIMES. AND WE ARE HERE TODAY TO TAKE YOUR QUESTIONS. THANK YOU.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 17, 1979

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: EDWARD E. McNALLY *EMW*  
THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *CW*  
SUBJECT: DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE RADIO NEWS CONFERENCE

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your consideration and review are draft remarks for your opening statement for tomorrow afternoon's radio news conference at the Department of Agriculture.

II. DISCUSSION

On at 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18, 1989 you are scheduled to join Secretary Clayton Yeutter at the Department of Agriculture radio studio. Your news conference will be broadcast live via more than 700 rural radio stations.

After a brief opening statement by you (see attached), both you and the Secretary of Agriculture will field questions on farm issues from approximately eleven farm broadcasters.

(McNally)  
April 17, 1989, 5:30 p.m.  
Draft three  
(Radio.Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

Good afternoon. I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

[[You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.]]

Well, American farmers got good news at the GATT agricultural talks in Geneva two weeks ago. G-A-T-T -- known as "GATT" -- was set up to provide international rules of trade. And there was a renewed commitment by the 96 participating nations to long-term agricultural reform -- benefitting farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for this trade round have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- the eventual elimination of export subsidies, import barriers, and other devices that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist. On a level playing field -- where neither side has the home team advantage -- American farmers can compete with anybody. And we'd have an export boom.

The American people are behind you in these negotiations. We will not take actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture. And we want to get rid of the impediments that keep us from exporting.

The American public is also deeply concerned about economic conditions in our rural communities. We need to diversify our rural economies and create more jobs in rural areas. In response, we recently established a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Economic stress in rural areas is not just numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide some extra money to farmers early in the crop year, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. This will mean an additional 10 percent of projected deficiency payments -- or a total of about \$800 million for American farmers.

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions.

Thank you.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 NOON

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>MCCLURE</u> <i>don't have</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>SCOWCROFT</u> <i>To the Pres.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON <i>→</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EVANS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>GRAY</u> <i>no comment via phone</i>	<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 any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, April 17, 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

(McNally)  
April 15, 1989  
1:30 p.m.  
Draft two  
(Radio.Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

1989 APR 15 PM 2:03

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.

Well, American farmers <sup>at the agricultural talks in Geneva two weeks ago</sup> got good news ~~last week~~ when the ~~agricultural talks in Geneva ended~~. There was a renewed commitment by the <sup>96</sup>GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- ~~for~~ <sup>benefit</sup> farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

(GATT explanation)

America's goals for the <sup>is trade</sup> next round, ~~in Uruguay~~, have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- <sup>the eventual</sup> elimination of <sup>devices</sup> all subsidies, import barriers, and other ~~tricks~~ that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist. <sup>(insert A.)</sup>

effort → foreign

<sup>me</sup> American <sup>people are</sup> is behind you <sup>in these negotiations</sup> on this. We will not take ~~any~~ actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture. <sup>We want to get rid of the impediments that keep us from exporting.</sup>

*(Yeutter)* ~~The~~ <sup>(Public)</sup> ~~all American~~ <sup>(also)</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>economic</sup> ~~deeply concerned about~~ ~~conditions in our~~ ~~rural communities,~~ ~~And today we are~~ ~~establishing~~ ~~a new Working~~ ~~Group on Rural Development.~~ ~~Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here,~~ ~~it will have senior leaders from every arm of government with~~ ~~outreach to rural America.~~ ~~And we welcome your ideas.~~

*(The need to diversify our rural economics and create more jobs in rural areas)*

*(Yeutter)* ~~Last year's drought was a "reality check" for just about every American. The rains wouldn't come. And no Act of Congress was going to repeal the laws of nature. We saw that our farmers and our farmland can't be taken for granted -- won't be taken for granted -- and that our rural economies must be developed and diversified. And this means more efficient use of existing federal resources.~~

*(Yeutter)* ~~But look, we know that no Washington broadcast about improved efficiency is going to get anybody rushing off to start their tractors. The farm crisis is not numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide extra money to growers hurt by the drought, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. And Secretary Yeutter is authorizing eligible farmers to get an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments,~~

*(Some) cash flow for*

*(Farmers) early in the crop year,*

*(Yeutter)*

*(Yeutter)* ~~a total of about \$500 million for American farmers.~~

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. ~~And the good news for~~

~~farmers is it leaves average spending on farm price income support programs at a level three to four times higher than the average during the last decade.~~

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions.

Thank you.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 NOON

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>EVANS</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, April 17, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

See Comments

**RESPONSE:**

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

(McNally)  
April 15, 1989  
1:30 p.m.  
Draft two  
(Radio.Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

2009 APR 15 PM 2:03

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

*(Grady 4849)*  
You know, ~~it's easy for some to forget that~~ sometimes it seems like the United States farmer ~~is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.~~ *is the most productive in the world. Let me just say that we're aware of -- and grateful for -- America's breadbasket.*

Well, American farmers got good news last week when the agricultural talks in Geneva ended. There was a renewed commitment by the GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- for farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for the next round, in Uruguay, have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- elimination of all subsidies, import barriers, and other tricks that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist.

*(Grady 4849)* *if we're going to reduce our own*  
America is behind you on this. ~~We will not take any actions~~ *subsidies.*  
~~We fully expect that our efforts will be~~  
~~-- short-term or long-term -- that aren't~~ *matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture.*

Now, all America is deeply concerned about conditions in our rural communities. And today we are establishing a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Last year's drought was a "reality check" for just about every American. The rains wouldn't come. And no Act of Congress was going to repeal the laws of nature. We saw that our farmers and our farmland can't be taken for granted -- won't be taken for granted -- and that our rural economies must be developed and diversified. And this means more efficient use of existing federal resources.

But look, we know that no Washington broadcast about improved efficiency is going to get anybody rushing off to start their tractors. The farm crisis is not numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide extra money to growers hurt by the drought, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. ~~And~~ Secretary Yeutter is authorizing eligible farmers to get an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments.

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. And the good news for

farmers is it leaves average spending on farm price income support programs at a level three to four times higher than the average during the last decade.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions.

Thank you.

# # #

YEUTTER COMMENTS

*Yeutter*



4/17/89  
11:30 a.m.  
Draft Four

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.

Well, American farmers received good news at the agricultural talks in Geneva two weeks ago. There was a renewed commitment by the (96) GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- to the benefit of farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for this trade round have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- the eventual elimination of export subsidies, import barriers, and other tricks that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist. With a level playing field I believe American farmers can compete with anybody, and I further believe we'd have an export boom.

*want A*

*insert*

*insert*

The American people are fully supportive of our farmers in this negotiation. We will not take any actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in

agriculture. We want to get rid of the impediments that keep us from exporting.

*insult*

The American public is also deeply concerned about the need to diversify our rural economics and create more jobs in rural areas. In response we have recently established a Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter, it will have senior leaders from every arm of the Executive Branch with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

*stat.*

Economic stress in rural areas is not just numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide some extra cash flow for farmers early in this crop year, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments in the form of certificates for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. This will be an additional 10 percent of projected deficiency payments, or about \$850 million in total for American farmers.

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. And the good news for farmers is it leaves average spending on farm price and income support programs at a level three or four times higher than the average during the last decade.

*leave in.*

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions. Thank you.

# # #

*intl rules of trade*

*Phil Lukens*

Document No. 02700288

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 NOON

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>EVANS</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 any comments to Chriess Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, April 17, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *From Secretary Yeutter - see retyped version*

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

(McNally)  
April 15, 1989  
1:30 p.m.  
Draft two  
(Radio, Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

1989 APR 15 11 03

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.

Well, American farmers got good news last week when the agricultural talks in Geneva ended. There was a renewed commitment by the GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- ~~for~~ *to the benefit of* farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for ~~the next round in Uruguay~~ *this trade* have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- *(the eventual)* elimination of ~~subsidies~~ *export* subsidies, import barriers, and other tricks that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist.

*The people are* America ~~is~~ behind you on this. We will not take any actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture.

The need to diversify our rural economies and create more jobs in rural areas.

The public is also New, all Americans are deeply concerned about economic conditions in our rural communities. In response, we are establishing a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of the executive branch of government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Last year's drought was a "reality check" for just about every American. The rains wouldn't come. And no Act of Congress was going to repeal the laws of nature. We saw that our farmers and our farmland can't be taken for granted -- won't be taken for granted -- and that our rural economies must be developed and diversified. And this means more efficient use of existing federal resources.

Economic stress in rural areas

But look, we know that no Washington broadcast about improved efficiency is going to get anybody rushing off to start their tractors. The farm crisis is not just numbers and statistics

Farmers

and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide some extra cash flow for farmers hurt by the drought, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. This will be

And Secretary Yeutter is authorizing eligible farmers to get an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments, or about \$500 million in total for American farmers. One last thought before we take some questions from farm

broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. And the good news for

3

farmers is it leaves average spending on farm price<sup>and</sup> income support programs at a level three to four times higher than the average during the last decade.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions.  
Thank you.

# # #

(McNally)  
April 15, 1989  
1:30 p.m.  
Draft two  
(Radio.Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.

Well, American farmers got good news last week when the agricultural talks in Geneva ended. There was a renewed commitment by the GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- for farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for the next round, in Uruguay, have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- elimination of all subsidies, import barriers, and other tricks that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist.

America is behind you on this. We will not take any actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture.

Now, all America is deeply concerned about conditions in our rural communities. And today we are establishing a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Last year's drought was a "reality check" for just about every American. The rains wouldn't come. And no Act of Congress was going to repeal the laws of nature. We saw that our farmers and our farmland can't be taken for granted -- won't be taken for granted -- and that our rural economies must be developed and diversified. And this means more efficient use of existing federal resources.

But look, we know that no Washington broadcast about improved efficiency is going to get anybody rushing off to start their tractors. The farm crisis is not numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide extra money to growers hurt by the drought, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. And Secretary Yeutter is authorizing eligible farmers to get an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments.

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. And the good news for

farmers is it leaves average spending on farm price income support programs at a level three to four times higher than the average during the last decade.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions. Thank you.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 NOON

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST <i>See comments</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EVANS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, April 17, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

*EW*

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

(McNally)  
April 15, 1989  
1:30 p.m.  
Draft two  
(Radio.A)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.

Well, American farmers got good news last week when the agricultural talks in Geneva ended. There was a renewed commitment by the GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- for farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for the next round, in Uruguay, have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- elimination of all subsidies, import barriers, and other tricks that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist.

America is behind you on this. We will not take any actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture.

→ Farmers do not use acronyms such as this.  
Use alternative phrase to explain.

Now, all America is deeply concerned about conditions in our rural communities. And today we are establishing a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Last year's drought was a "reality check" for just about every American. The rains wouldn't come. And no Act of Congress was going to repeal the laws of nature. We saw that our farmers and our farmland can't be taken for granted -- won't be taken for granted -- and that our rural economies must be developed and diversified. And this means more efficient use of existing federal resources.

But look, we know that no Washington broadcast about improved efficiency is going to get anybody rushing off to start their tractors. The farm crisis is not numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide extra money to growers hurt by the drought, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. And Secretary Yeutter is authorizing eligible farmers to get an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments.

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. And the good news for

farmers is it leaves average spending on farm price income support programs at a level three to four times higher than the average during the last decade.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions.

Thank you.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 NOON

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EVANS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, April 17, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

*See comments  
JC*

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

(McNally)  
April 15, 1989  
1:30 p.m.  
Draft two  
(Radio.Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you --  
live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here  
with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer  
is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys  
everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.

Well, American farmers got good news last week when the  
agricultural talks in Geneva ended. There was a renewed commit-  
ment by the GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- for  
farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was  
a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for the next round, in Uruguay, have not  
changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer.

We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- elimination of  
*foreign* ~~all~~ subsidies, import barriers, and other tricks that distort  
trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no  
markets exist.

America is behind you on this. We will not take any actions  
-- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European  
Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm  
unilaterally in agriculture.

Now, all America is deeply concerned about conditions in our rural communities. And today we are establishing a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Last year's drought was a "reality check" for just about every American. The rains wouldn't come. And no Act of Congress was going to repeal the laws of nature. We saw that our farmers and our farmland can't be taken for granted -- won't be taken for granted -- and that our rural economies must be developed and diversified. And this means more efficient use of existing federal resources.

But look, we know that no Washington broadcast about improved efficiency is going to get anybody rushing off to start their tractors. The farm crisis is not numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide extra money to growers hurt by the drought, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. And Secretary Yeutter is authorizing eligible farmers to get an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments.

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. And the good news for

farmers is it leaves average spending on farm price income support programs at a level three to four times higher than the average during the last decade.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions. Thank you.

# # #

*But didn't not  
substantially cut  
farm subsidies  
if so - delet the  
line  
AD*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 17, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON  
FROM COOPER EVANS *CE*  
SUBJECT AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

I suggest that the text of the address be modified slightly to more fully recognize the fact that the drought continues in much of rural America.

At the end of paragraph 3 on page 2, consider adding the following:

" Also, I am asking Secretary Yeutter to reconvene the Interagency Drought Task Force which was so effective in 1988. The weather continues to be extremely dry in parts of the country. I want the Task Force to closely monitor the situation and, in the unlikely event the drought continues, to make appropriate recommendations."

(See attached.)

CC: James Cicconi  
David Bates  
Michael Jackson  
Lehmann Li

A serious lack of rain continues in major producing areas in spite of official projections that the odds for a second year of drought are less than one percent. Drought persists in much of the best corn and soybean areas in Nebraska, Iowa, and Illinois. Both south and west Texas are extremely dry. The winter wheat crop has suffered serious damage in the High Plains. Livestock feed is critically short in many areas.

Members of Congress are asking for immediate action on a number of specific relief measures and are planning to introduce legislation.

Farm broadcasters are keenly aware of this and will quickly recognize that paying more advance deficiency payments now is largely a move to help the 1990 budget.

The text of the address could be made far more responsive by including a brief announcement that the President is reactivating the 1988 interagency drought task force to follow the situation closely and recommend appropriate action.

(McNally)  
April 15, 1989  
1:30 p.m.  
Draft two  
(Radio.Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you --  
live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here  
with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer  
is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys  
everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.

Well, American farmers got good news last week when the  
agricultural talks in Geneva ended. There was a renewed commit-  
ment by the GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- for  
farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was  
a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for the next round, in Uruguay, have not  
changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer.  
We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- elimination of  
all subsidies, import barriers, and other tricks that distort  
trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no  
markets exist.

America is behind you on this. We will not take any actions  
-- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European  
Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm  
unilaterally in agriculture.

1989 APR 15 PM 2:03

Now, all America is deeply concerned about conditions in our rural communities. And today we are establishing a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Last year's drought was a "reality check" for just about every American. The rains wouldn't come. And no Act of Congress was going to repeal the laws of nature. We saw that our farmers and our farmland can't be taken for granted -- won't be taken for granted -- and that our rural economies must be developed and diversified. And this means more efficient use of existing federal resources.

But look, we know that no Washington broadcast about improved efficiency is going to get anybody rushing off to start their tractors. The farm crisis is not numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide extra money to growers hurt by the drought, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. ~~And Secretary Yeutter is authorizing~~ eligible farmers <sup>will</sup> ~~to~~ get an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments. <sup>See attached.</sup>

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. And the good news for

farmers is it leaves average spending on farm ~~price~~ income support programs at a level three to four times higher than the average during the last decade.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions.

Thank you.

# # #

*(L.t.)*  
*David Bates*

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/15/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4/17/89 NOON

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

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

REMARKS: Please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, April 17, 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

(McNally)  
April 15, 1989  
1:30 p.m.  
Draft two  
(Radio.Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

1989 APR 15 PM 2:03

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.

Well, American farmers got good news last week when the agricultural talks in Geneva ended. There was a renewed commitment by the GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- for farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for the next round, in Uruguay, have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- elimination of all subsidies, import barriers, and other tricks that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist.

America is behind you on this. We will not take any actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture.

Now, all America is deeply concerned about conditions in our rural communities. And ~~today~~ we are establishing a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of <sup>the executive branch</sup> government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Last year's drought was a "reality check" for just about every American. The rains wouldn't come. And no Act of Congress was going to repeal the laws of nature. We saw that our farmers and our farmland can't be taken for granted -- won't be taken for granted -- and that our rural economies must be developed and diversified. And this means more efficient use of existing federal resources.

But look, we know that no Washington broadcast about improved efficiency is going to get anybody rushing off to start their tractors. The farm crisis is not numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide extra money to growers hurt by the drought, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. And Secretary Yeutter is authorizing eligible farmers to get an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments.

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. And the good news for

*And*  
*?* (2 different programs)  
(USDA should find out which one) ✓

farmers is it leaves average spending on farm price income support programs at a level three to four times higher than the average during the last decade.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions.  
Thank you.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 17, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON  
FROM COOPER EVANS *CE*  
SUBJECT AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS

I suggest that the text of the address be modified slightly to more fully recognize the fact that the drought continues in much of rural America.

At the end of paragraph 3 on page 2, consider adding the following:

" Also, I am asking Secretary Yeutter to reconvene the Interagency Drought Task Force which was so effective in 1988. The weather continues to be extremely dry in parts of the country. I want the Task Force to closely monitor the situation and, in the unlikely event the drought continues, to make appropriate recommendations."

(See attached.)

CC: James Cicconi  
David Bates  
Michael Jackson  
Lehmann Li

*→ He said Yeutter is briefing the President this morning on the drought situation. After a trip w/ Dole & Kassebaum to Kansas to review the situation first hand, he does not think that the above paragraph therefore need s to*

*12:30 KG in the O&AS*

A serious lack of rain continues in major producing areas in spite of official projections that the odds for a second year of drought are less than one percent. Drought persists in much of the best corn and soybean areas in Nebraska, Iowa, and Illinois. Both south and west Texas are extremely dry. The winter wheat crop has suffered serious damage in the High Plains. Livestock feed is critically short in many areas.

Members of Congress are asking for immediate action on a number of specific relief measures and are planning to introduce legislation.

Farm broadcasters are keenly aware of this and will quickly recognize that paying more advance deficiency payments now is largely a move to help the 1990 budget.

The text of the address could be made far more responsive by including a brief announcement that the President is reactivating the 1988 interagency drought task force to follow the situation closely and recommend appropriate action.

(McNally)  
April 15, 1989  
1:30 p.m.  
Draft two  
(Radio.Ag)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AGRICULTURE RADIO ADDRESS  
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989

Good (afternoon). I am delighted to be talking with you -- live from the Department of Agriculture in Washington -- here with Secretary Clayton Yeutter.

You know, sometimes it seems like the United States farmer is like the goodhearted guy at the neighborhood bar who buys everybody a beer and never gets a round in return.

Well, American farmers got good news last week when the agricultural talks in Geneva ended. There was a renewed commitment by the GATT nations to long-term agricultural reform -- for farmers, consumers and taxpayers around the world. And there was a new "roadmap" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for the next round, in Uruguay, have not changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- elimination of all subsidies, import barriers, and other tricks that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist.

America is behind you on this. We will not take any actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture.

Now, all America is deeply concerned about conditions in our rural communities. And today we are establishing a new Working Group on Rural Development. Chaired by Secretary Yeutter here, it will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And we welcome your ideas.

Last year's drought was a "reality check" for just about every American. The rains wouldn't come. And no Act of Congress was going to repeal the laws of nature. We saw that our farmers and our farmland can't be taken for granted -- won't be taken for granted -- and that our rural economies must be developed and diversified. And this means more efficient use of existing federal resources.

But look, we know that no Washington broadcast about improved efficiency is going to get anybody rushing off to start their tractors. The farm crisis is not numbers and statistics and bushels of wheat. It is people and pride and sweat and families that need help now. To provide extra money to growers hurt by the drought, today we are announcing additional advance deficiency payments for farmers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. ~~And Secretary Yeutter is authorizing~~ eligible farmers <sup>will</sup> ~~to~~ get an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments. <sup>See attached.</sup>

One last thought before we take some questions from farm broadcasters throughout the country. A breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans. And the good news for

farmers is it leaves average spending on farm ~~price~~ income support programs at a level three to four times higher than the average during the last decade.

We are listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we are here today to take your questions. Thank you.

# # #

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS

FOR

PRESIDENT BUSH'S OPENING REMARKS

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Live Radio Conference

*Good afternoon. Talking w/you live from the DOA —*  
-- I am delighted to ~~be here today~~ with Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter ~~in the Department of Agriculture's radio studio.~~ Rural radio stations are still a prime means of reaching into America's heartland, and USDA under Clayton's leadership does a fine job of keeping America's farmers up to the minute on news from the Department.

*guy at the bar*

-- U.S. agriculture got good news last week as the GATT agricultural negotiations ended in Geneva with the GATT nations reconfirming that long-term agricultural reform is in the best interest of farmers, consumers and taxpayers throughout the world. In Geneva, we laid the groundwork to continue to negotiate new rules to govern agricultural trade. With this agreement, we now have a "roadmap" on how we will conduct the final two years of the negotiations.

-- Our goals for the outcome of the Uruguay Round have not changed, be assured. *The bottom line is fairness for the Amer. farmer. Mark Twain...* We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- elimination of all subsidies, import barriers, and other practices that distort trade and create incentives to grow products for which there are no markets. While we will

*Best in the world. I'mo Amer. economy - and other nations too.*

remain flexible in our discussions throughout the final 20 months, we will not take any actions -- either short or long-term -- which are not matched by the European Community and other developed countries. In other words, we will not disarm unilaterally in agriculture.

-- In addition to the all-important impact of trade negotiations on American agriculture, I am deeply concerned about overall conditions in our rural communities. Because of this concern, today I am establishing a Working Group on Rural Development which will report to my Economic Policy Council. Secretary Yeutter will chair the working group which will have representation at the senior policy level from every arm of government with outreach to rural America.

~~[Included in the task force are: Vice President Quayle's office, and the Departments of Treasury, Commerce, Labor, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, and Education; the Office of Management and Budget, the Council of Economic Advisors, the Small Business Administration, and the White House Office of Policy Development.]~~

-- Events such as last year's drought reinforce the need to develop and diversify the rural economy in the year's ahead. The working group will ensure that the needs of rural America are met by better use and more efficient coordination of existing federal resources. With the drought still in mind, many of you know Secretary Yeutter, Senators Dole and Kassebaum, and Congressman Roberts joined with Kansas Governor Hayden and Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Sam Brownback last Friday to tour drought-stricken areas of that state. We have reason for concern, not only in Kansas but in other growing areas as well where sufficient rain just has not come.

-- To provide extra operating capital to producers whose incomes were reduced due to last year's drought, today we are announcing that additional advance deficiency payments will be available to producers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. Secretary Yeutter is authorizing eligible producers of these crops to receive an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments.

*Act of Congress cannot repeal laws of nature.*

-- One last thought before I take some questions from farm broadcasters around the country -- and that concerns budgetary concerns. (A budget compromise was reached Friday between the Administration and Congress.) Even with cuts in the budget for agriculture, average spending on farm price income support

programs is still three to four times higher than the average during the last decade. My Presidency supports American agriculture 100 percent -- today, tomorrow and throughout my Administration.

# # #

## **SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS**

### **FOR**

## **PRESIDENT BUSH'S OPENING REMARKS**

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Live Radio Conference

- I am delighted to be here today with Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter in the Department of Agriculture's radio studio. Rural radio stations are still a prime means of reaching into America's heartland, and USDA under Clayton's leadership does a fine job of keeping America's farmers up to the minute on news from the Department.
- U.S. agriculture got good news last week as the GATT agricultural negotiations ended in Geneva with the GATT nations reconfirming that long-term agricultural reform is in the best interest of farmers, consumers and taxpayers throughout the world. In Geneva, we laid the groundwork to continue to negotiate new rules to govern agricultural trade. With this agreement, we now have a "roadmap" on how we will conduct the final two years of the negotiations.
- Our goals for the outcome of the Uruguay Round have not changed, be assured. We seek a level playing field for our farmers -- elimination of all subsidies, import barriers, and other practices that distort trade and create incentives to grow products for which there are no markets. While we will remain flexible in our discussions throughout the final 20 months, we will not take any actions -- either short or long-term -- which are not matched by the European Community and other developed countries. In other words, we will not disarm unilaterally in agriculture.
- In addition to the all-important impact of trade negotiations on American agriculture, I am deeply concerned about overall conditions in our rural communities. Because of this concern, today I am establishing a Working Group on Rural Development which will report to my Economic Policy Council. Secretary Yeutter will chair the working group which will have representation at the senior policy level from every arm of government with outreach to rural America.

[Included in the task force are: Vice President Quayle's office, and the Departments of Treasury, Commerce, Labor, Health and Human Services,

Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, and Education; the Office of Management and Budget, the Council of Economic Advisors, the Small Business Administration, and the White House Office of Policy Development.]

- Events such as last year's drought reinforce the need to develop and diversify the rural economy in the year's ahead. The working group will ensure that the needs of rural America are met by better use and more efficient coordination of existing federal resources. With the drought still in mind, many of you know Secretary Yeutter, Senators Dole and Kassebaum, and Congressman Roberts joined with Kansas Governor Hayden and Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Sam Brownback last Friday to tour drought-stricken areas of that state. We have reason for concern, not only in Kansas but in other growing areas as well where sufficient rain just has not come.
- To provide extra operating capital to producers whose incomes were reduced due to last year's drought, today we are announcing that additional advance deficiency payments will be available to producers who sign up for the 1989 wheat, feed grain, rice and upland cotton programs. Secretary Yeutter is authorizing eligible producers of these crops to receive an additional advance of 10 percent of their projected deficiency payments.
- One last thought before I take some questions from farm broadcasters around the country -- and that concerns budgetary concerns. (A budget compromise was reached \_\_\_ between the Administration and Congress.) Even with cuts in the budget for agriculture, average spending on farm price income support programs is still three to four times higher than the average during the last decade. My Presidency supports American agriculture 100 percent -- today, tomorrow and throughout my Administration.

**QUESTIONS TO BE PLANTED**  
**FOR THE PRESIDENT TO ANSWER**

**Q: In your opening statement, Mr. President, you mentioned that the recent talks in Geneva will move agricultural global reform forward. Are you pleased with the outcome of those negotiations?**

- A:**
- I am very pleased with the work that Ambassador Carla Hills, U.S. Trade Representative, and Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter did in those negotiations that took place in Geneva about 10 days ago.
  - As I said in my opening comments, we have the nations of the GATT committed, for the first time ever, to put all of their agricultural policies that are harmful to farmers, taxpayers and consumers on the table to eventually negotiate away. This is a laudable achievement.
  - The final 20 months of the Uruguay Round talks will be an arduous exercise. Carla and Clayton will spend a great deal of time on these negotiations to make sure that we have a sound package that will lead to expanded global trade in agriculture and a more level playing field for American farmers.

**Q: Mr. President, many people in the Congress feel that these talks could postpone the legislative process for the 1990 Farm Bill. Do you think that there will or should be a delay?**

- A:**
- No, I don't think there should be a delay. Since the 1985 Farm Bill expires at the end of calendar year 1990, Clayton has already been working with both the Senate and House Agriculture Committees on the new 1990 Farm Bill.
  - I know he is scheduled to testify tomorrow before the Senate Agriculture Committee on this very issue. Clayton I hope that you can work with the Congress to make sure that the next Farm Bill provides more flexibility for farmers. So we don't have the government being so involved in their decisionmaking process. Farmers are some of the wisest businessmen in the United States, and if we untie their hands of so many government regulations, they will be able to better compete with our foreign counterparts.
  - In addition, Clayton, we should try to get a bill that gives us a great

deal of leverage for the final Uruguay Round negotiations.

**Q:** Many farmers feel that agriculture is taking a large cut in the 1990 budget. You pledged during your campaign that you wouldn't balance the budget on the back of the farmer. So, why did you call for these cuts?

- A:**
- You are right, I did make that pledge and I am living up to it. The budget deficit is serious business that affects every American -- including farmers. If we fail to address the deficit problem, we can look for rising interest rates among other things.
  - High interest rates in the 1970's, as you all well remember, were the underlying cause of the farm economic crisis early in this decade. We simply cannot permit the economy to swing that far again. Thus, the need for budget cuts.
  - Far from balancing the budget on the back of the farmer, I believe the cuts are about as fair and equitable as any citizen could ask for. No one likes belt-tightening, but all of us can appreciate the need for increased fiscal responsibility.

[Note: If, as anticipated, the budget compromise cuts \$500-600 million from the agricultural budget instead of the earlier expect \$1.1 billion, these figures can be used to demonstrate further compassion for the farm sector.]

**Q:** You are known as the "Education President." Not much is being heard about agricultural education these days; will you comment?

- A:**
- Education is the foundation of America's future; I couldn't be more bullish on any subject. And I am committed to agricultural education as a major part of this foundation.
  - Farming and agri-business need young men and women schooled in agricultural economics and related subjects. But even further down the road, we can see our overall competitiveness as a by-product of agricultural education.
  - The research of tomorrow will be done by the students of today; the future of agriculture's competitive playing field -- the trade and technology of the 21st century -- begins in ag classrooms around the country.

**Q:** What about research, Mr. President? What future uses are in store for American agricultural products?

- A:**
- I wish I had a crystal ball for this one! I am not an expert on new product uses for America's crops -- I have one here beside me, however, and I'll give the mike to him in a minute. But before I do,

**PROPOSED LIST OF FARM BROADCASTER QUESTIONERS**

The following farm broadcasters have been chosen for geographical reasons as well as they are extremely cooperative. These eleven questioners alone cover 718 radio stations!

1. Orion Samuelson  
Chicago, Illinois  
Tribune Radio Net -- 45 stations
2. Mark Vail (Current President of the National Association of Farm Broadcasters)  
Topeka, Kansas  
Kansas Agricultural Network -- 32 stations
3. Dix Harper  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
Tobacco Radio New -- 250 stations
4. Gary Digiuseppe  
Centertown, Missouri  
Brownfield Net -- 130 stations
5. Roddy Peeples  
San Angelo, Texas  
Voice of Southwest Agriculture -- 60 stations
6. Gary Stewart  
Seattle, Washington  
Northwest Ag News Net -- 30 stations
7. George Gatley  
Yuma, Arizona  
Western Ag-Radio Net -- 28 stations
8. Ed Slusarczyk  
Utica, New York  
Ag Radio Net -- 56 stations
9. Cindy Zimmerman  
Ocala, Florida  
Independent Florida Agrinet -- 33 stations
10. David Kranz  
Sacramento, CA  
California Farm Bureau -- 45 stations
11. Lynn Ketelsen  
Willmar, MN  
Linder Farm Network -- 9 stations

- Utica, New York  
Ag Radio Net -- 56 stations
9. Cindy Zimmerman  
Ocala, Florida  
Independent Florida Agrinet -- 33 stations
10. David Kranz  
Sacramento, CA  
California Farm Bureau -- 45 stations
11. Lynn Ketelsen  
Willmar, MN  
Linder Farm Network -- 9 stations

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 16, 1989

Memorandum to Chriss Winston

From: Roger B. Porter *RBP by J*  
Jim Pinkerton *J*

Re: Comments on Central America, USDA, and Tennessee  
drafts

=====

We have no comments on the Central America draft.

Our comments on the USDA draft are as follows:

First, will everyone in the audience know what "GATT" is? There might be some benefit to providing more of a transition from the 2nd and 3rd grafs on the first page.

Second, in the 4th graf on p.1, we suggest replacing "tricks" with "devices. On the first line of the next graf down, we would delete "any." We don't need to gratuitously tie our hands on these sensitive policy questions.

Third, we would delete the graf that starts on the bottom of p. 2 on the budget. The fact is that agriculture programs will get less as a result of the budget agreement. Most farmers will know this, and therefore our point about "three to four times higher" is nothing to brag about. The budget will probably come up in the Q and A session. That's the right time to use these statistics. As a substitute for this graf, we would restate the good news that we have to announce: the opening up of foreign markets, the new rural task force, and the advance deficiency payments.

We are very impressed with the Tennessee draft. The richness of detail will impress the audience, not to mention the team. The penultimate graf generates real emotion. Our only comment: the President may need help on the pronunciation of the surname "Hawhee" at the top of pg. 3.

#

cc: Bill Roper  
John Gardner

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 18, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
ON U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM RADIO BROADCAST

The U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C.

1:18 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Clayton Yeutter -- our distinguished Secretary of Agriculture. And, Gary, thank you for monitoring us here and, Brenda, thank you for that -- those words of welcome.

You know, American farmers got good news at the GATT agricultural talks in Geneva a couple of weeks ago. G-A-T-T -- known as "GATT" -- was set up to provide these international rules of trade. And there was a renewed commitment by the 96 participating nations to long-term agricultural reform -- benefitting farmers, consumers and taxpayers all around the world. And there was a new "road map" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for this trade round have not changed. Clayt, you fought for this when you were the U.S. Trade Representative and now as Secretary of Agriculture. The goals haven't changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. And we seek a level playing field for our farmers -- the eventual elimination of export subsidies, import barriers, and other devices that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist. On a level playing field -- where neither side has the home team advantage -- American farmers can compete with anybody in the world. And we'd have an export boom if we had that kind of international market.

The American people are behind you in these negotiations. We will not take actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and the other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture. And we want to get ride of the impediments that keep us from exporting.

American public is also deeply concerned about economic conditions in our rural communities. And that means need to diversify in our rural economies, creating more jobs in these rural areas. In a response, we're developing a new Working Group on Rural Development. It's chaired by the Secretary of Agriculture, and I know he'll be glad to talk about that. It will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And to the listeners today, we would welcome your ideas.

to the questions from the farm broadcasters -- a breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans.

Were listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we're here today to take some questions. And thank you very much.

Q Mr. President, I'd like to pursue the area of agricultural trade. Until this morning, we had been using our agricultural trade through the Export Enhancement Program to maintain and perhaps to gain some new markets. There are those who say that we should use our food exports as a foreign policy tool as well. Do you and your administration see using the food that we can produce for other countries as a foreign policy tool?

THE PRESIDENT: No, sir, not if I'm interpreting your question correctly, because when I think of foreign policy tool, my mind goes back to singling out agriculture in a trade embargo against the Soviet Union. And I will not do that as President of the United States. I know our able Secretary of Agriculture is on the same side of this one. We will not use food as a diplomatic tool. We are rebuilding confidence in American agriculture in terms of reliability in foreign markets and we're going to have to continue to do that. And one way to reverse that out and set back exports would be to use food as a diplomatic tool. And I'm not going to do that.

Q Mr. President, we appreciate -- all the farm broadcasters appreciate your openness and Secretary Yeutter's openness to American agriculture. You mentioned the advanced deficiency payment increases, and being the fact that Kansas crop, especially wheat, so devastated by the drought conditions, will this be the sum total of federal action for producers who've lost crops to drought increase in deficiency payments?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I wouldn't say the sum total, and I'd let Secretary Yeutter share with you, as he did with me in the Oval Office, his views on his recent trip to Kansas where he saw firsthand the suffering and the concern of American farmers. So I wouldn't say this will be all that can be done. I do think that because farmers are still experiencing these dry conditions in the Midwest and in other parts of the nation, that this program will help, advancing the payments.

But, on the other hand, I'd leave to Clayton what steps further we might take, but I can tell you this: because of his standing in the agricultural community and his day-to-day contact with farmers, I will be very open-minded over in the White House if he comes over with additional suggestions or recommendations. So this should not be viewed as the definitive answer. We hope it is something that will help the farm family.

SECRETARY YEUTTER: I'll do just a quick supplement to that so that we don't cut into the valuable time of the President of the United States, but just to say, as you know, Mark, I visited Kansas, along with Senators Dole and Kassebaum and Congressman

Committee that agriculture is being asked to take more than its fair share of cuts in spending. Now, in your campaign, you assured farmers that the budget would not be balanced on their backs, and I just wonder, how do you react to these concerns?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, Roddy, first, greetings to Tom Green County out there, and I'm delighted to be talking to you. Secondly, my view is this: we are in perilous budget deficit times. We have got to get the deficit down, and the best thing -- the best thing we can do to help the American farmer is to get these interest rates down. And the best way to do that is to make the tough decision on the spending side of our budget. Now, having said that, I feel that farmers are fair play. I mentioned earlier the grain embargo. One of the things that irks the farmers properly is that they were asked to carry the whole burden. And here we're not. Yes, Ag has taken a hit, but so is a wide array of programs across the board. And I think what we've done here is fair. The program is still there and vigorous and high levels of spending -- \$11 billion I think is the figure. And so I hope that nobody feels that this is an unfair approach to getting the deficit down.

But I can guarantee you that if we are successful -- and I've done this, incidentally, this first step, without raising taxes on the American farmer -- if we are successful here, then you're going to have the biggest benefit to the farmers at all. You're going to have a lower interest rate, a continued growing economy. And then if we succeed overseas, you're going to have a vigorous new market for ag products. So please -- I can understand Chairman de la Garza, my friend from South Texas -- and who was it? -- Charlie Stenholm, who is out there from east and north of you -- but I'll tell you, I think in the final analysis, we'll convince them that this is an equitable approach to our budget.

Q Mr. President, it's a real privilege to have this opportunity to visit with you today. And I'd like to return to what you opened with, and that's the good news of the GATT talks and the effect that might be soon on the new farm bill. I know that Secretary Yeutter has referred to that; he said he may want to alter the content, have more leverage in the GATT negotiations. Would you comment on that, please?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, Dick, first, thank you, sir, for the greeting, and I'll let Clayton in a minute go into a little more detail. But what happened over there was that an international community reluctant to discuss agriculture has finally understood that we've got to go forward. Now, we have agricultural -- Export Enhancement Program. Others have had that for a long time. Others gripe when the United States farmer gets the same incentive built into the system that they themselves have enjoyed for a long time. We understand that; we understand the screams coming from them.

But the good news is we've got this on the agenda, we will be able to move forward now to freer markets and to less protection. And so the upcoming farm bill can indeed be used as leverage, you might say, because we are not going to unilaterally disarm, if you will. We're not going to take cuts unilaterally based on some verbal assurance from people that have excluded our products

But, as President Bush said, we certainly want to do the right things in next year's farm bill to contribute to that negotiating environment. In other words, we sure don't want to give away any negotiating leverage, and, if possible, we've got to try to enhance it. In that regard, by the way, I'm going to be testifying to the Senate Ag Committee tomorrow morning in the first hearing that'll be held on the farm bill. You may want to take a look at my testimony when it's available tomorrow because it'll have some statements on this subject that'll be quite definitive and specific.

Q Mr. President, you frequently linked Ag and exports in public comments and once suggested that Secretary Yeutter was hardly changing his job in moving from USTR to Agriculture. With the steep debt we've got and with the favorable import balance agriculture brings, should U.S. producers be worried the government's use for them now is strictly as earners of currency to stanch the flow of assets out of this country?

THE PRESIDENT: No, they shouldn't have any concern on that because we are -- let me just repeat, using this phrase "unilateral disarmament." We are not going to unilaterally disarm. And I still feel deep in my heart that if we can get fewer barriers, the American farmer can compete in all kinds of areas -- and I'm including dairy in this, where we haven't competed much before. And so, we're not going to take unilateral hits in agriculture because agriculture in many areas is benefitting our whole international trade position.

SECRETARY YEUTTER: And we do want to be big export earners, as a matter of fact. Gary, as you well know, the more markets we can open up overseas, the more exports we'll have. And agriculture will continue to make a very positive contribution to the trade balance. And that'll be good because that'll also result in higher farm incomes and that's what all of us want and the President's strongly supportive of that.

THE PRESIDENT: Gary, there was one person that wasn't sure that Secretary Yeutter was doing exactly the same thing, and that was Mrs. Yeutter. Because I think they had had plans to go back to the private sector. And I got with Clayton and I said, look, it is absolutely essential to our country that you agree to serve as Secretary of Agriculture. And it was one of best decisions, I think, that I've made. And, of course, I was grateful that he set aside his private sector plan and his wife very graciously understood this, so he once again could serve, and did it in a portfolio here that is just vital -- and not just in your area of question, international trade, but to our whole economy. So, I'm grateful the Secretary did differentiate here.

SECRETARY YEUTTER: Thank you, Mr. President. That's a very gracious and generous comment and a true story. Your time with us, is up, I'm sorry to say, Mr. President. But, on behalf of everybody in American Agriculture, I want to thank you for coming and then I'll stay on and answer a few more questions.

THE PRESIDENT: Well -- and I would apologize to those whose questions I didn't get to take. And I was talking to Clayt --

agriculture in America.

So, thanks for your hospitality. And, as Douglas MacArthur said, I shall return. Thank you very much.

END

1:34 P.M. EDT

*Manally*

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 18, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
ON U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM RADIO BROADCAST

The U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C.

1:18 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Clayton Yeutter -- our distinguished Secretary of Agriculture. And, Gary, thank you for monitoring us here and, Brenda, thank you for that -- those words of welcome.

You know, American farmers got good news at the GATT agricultural talks in Geneva a couple of weeks ago. G-A-T-T -- known as "GATT" -- was set up to provide these international rules of trade. And there was a renewed commitment by the 96 participating nations to long-term agricultural reform -- benefitting farmers, consumers and taxpayers all around the world. And there was a new "road map" for the final two years of negotiations.

America's goals for this trade round have not changed. Clayt, you fought for this when you were the U.S. Trade Representative and now as Secretary of Agriculture. The goals haven't changed. The bottom line is fairness for the American farmer. And we seek a level playing field for our farmers -- the eventual elimination of export subsidies, import barriers, and other devices that distort trade and create bogus incentives to grow products for which no markets exist. On a level playing field -- where neither side has the home team advantage -- American farmers can compete with anybody in the world. And we'd have an export boom if we had that kind of international market.

The American people are behind you in these negotiations. We will not take actions -- short-term or long-term -- that aren't matched by the European Community and the other developed nations. We're not about to disarm unilaterally in agriculture. And we want to get ride of the impediments that keep us from exporting.

American public is also deeply concerned about economic conditions in our rural communities. And that means need to diversify in our rural economies, creating more jobs in these rural areas. In a response, we're developing a new Working Group on Rural Development. It's chaired by the Secretary of Agriculture, and I know he'll be glad to talk about that. It will have senior leaders from every arm of government with outreach to rural America. And to the listeners today, we would welcome your ideas.

to the questions from the farm broadcasters -- a breakthrough budget compromise was reached with Congress on Friday. It came early, and that's good news for all Americans.

Were listening. We are with the American farmer in these tough times. And we're here today to take some questions. And thank you very much.

Q Mr. President, I'd like to pursue the area of agricultural trade. Until this morning, we had been using our agricultural trade through the Export Enhancement Program to maintain and perhaps to gain some new markets. There are those who say that we should use our food exports as a foreign policy tool as well. Do you and your administration see using the food that we can produce for other countries as a foreign policy tool?

THE PRESIDENT: No, sir, not if I'm interpreting your question correctly, because when I think of foreign policy tool, my mind goes back to singling out agriculture in a trade embargo against the Soviet Union. And I will not do that as President of the United States. I know our able Secretary of Agriculture is on the same side of this one. We will not use food as a diplomatic tool. We are rebuilding confidence in American agriculture in terms of reliability in foreign markets and we're going to have to continue to do that. And one way to reverse that out and set back exports would be to use food as a diplomatic tool. And I'm not going to do that.

Q Mr. President, we appreciate -- all the farm broadcasters appreciate your openness and Secretary Yeutter's openness to American agriculture. You mentioned the advanced deficiency payment increases, and being the fact that Kansas crop, especially wheat, so devastated by the drought conditions, will this be the sum total of federal action for producers who've lost crops to drought increase in deficiency payments?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I wouldn't say the sum total, and I'd let Secretary Yeutter share with you, as he did with me in the Oval Office, his views on his recent trip to Kansas where he saw firsthand the suffering and the concern of American farmers. So I wouldn't say this will be all that can be done. I do think that because farmers are still experiencing these dry conditions in the Midwest and in other parts of the nation, that this program will help, advancing the payments.

But, on the other hand, I'd leave to Clayton what steps further we might take, but I can tell you this: because of his standing in the agricultural community and his day-to-day contact with farmers, I will be very open-minded over in the White House if he comes over with additional suggestions or recommendations. So this should not be viewed as the definitive answer. We hope it is something that will help the farm family.

SECRETARY YEUTTER: I'll do just a quick supplement to that so that we don't cut into the valuable time of the President of the United States, but just to say, as you know, Mark, I visited Kansas, along with Senators Dole and Kassebaum and Congressman

Committee that agriculture is being asked to take more than its fair share of cuts in spending. Now, in your campaign, you assured farmers that the budget would not be balanced on their backs, and I just wonder, how do you react to these concerns?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, Roddy, first, greetings to Tom Green County out there, and I'm delighted to be talking to you. Secondly, my view is this: we are in perilous budget deficit times. We have got to get the deficit down, and the best thing -- the best thing we can do to help the American farmer is to get these interest rates down. And the best way to do that is to make the tough decision on the spending side of our budget. Now, having said that, I feel that farmers are fair play. I mentioned earlier the grain embargo. One of the things that irks the farmers properly is that they were asked to carry the whole burden. And here we're not. Yes, Ag has taken a hit, but so is a wide array of programs across the board. And I think what we've done here is fair. The program is still there and vigorous and high levels of spending -- \$11 billion I think is the figure. And so I hope that nobody feels that this is an unfair approach to getting the deficit down.

But I can guarantee you that if we are successful -- and I've done this, incidentally, this first step, without raising taxes on the American farmer -- if we are successful here, then you're going to have the biggest benefit to the farmers at all. You're going to have a lower interest rate, a continued growing economy. And then if we succeed overseas, you're going to have a vigorous new market for ag products. So please -- I can understand Chairman de la Garza, my friend from South Texas -- and who was it? -- Charlie Stenholm, who is out there from east and north of you -- but I'll tell you, I think in the final analysis, we'll convince them that this is an equitable approach to our budget.

Q Mr. President, it's a real privilege to have this opportunity to visit with you today. And I'd like to return to what you opened with, and that's the good news of the GATT talks and the effect that might be soon on the new farm bill. I know that Secretary Yeutter has referred to that; he said he may want to alter the content, have more leverage in the GATT negotiations. Would you comment on that, please?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, Dick, first, thank you, sir, for the greeting, and I'll let Clayton in a minute go into a little more detail. But what happened over there was that an international community reluctant to discuss agriculture has finally understood that we've got to go forward. Now, we have agricultural -- Export Enhancement Program. Others have had that for a long time. Others gripe when the United States farmer gets the same incentive built into the system that they themselves have enjoyed for a long time. We understand that; we understand the screams coming from them.

But the good news is we've got this on the agenda, we will be able to move forward now to freer markets and to less protection. And so the upcoming farm bill can indeed be used as leverage, you might say, because we are not going to unilaterally disarm, if you will. We're not going to take cuts unilaterally based on some verbal assurance from people that have excluded our products

But, as President Bush said, we certainly want to do the right things in next year's farm bill to contribute to that negotiating environment. In other words, we sure don't want to give away any negotiating leverage, and, if possible, we've got to try to enhance it. In that regard, by the way, I'm going to be testifying to the Senate Ag Committee tomorrow morning in the first hearing that'll be held on the farm bill. You may want to take a look at my testimony when it's available tomorrow because it'll have some statements on this subject that'll be quite definitive and specific.

Q Mr. President, you frequently linked Ag and exports in public comments and once suggested that Secretary Yeutter was hardly changing his job in moving from USTR to Agriculture. With the steep debt we've got and with the favorable import balance agriculture brings, should U.S. producers be worried the government's use for them now is strictly as earners of currency to stanch the flow of assets out of this country?

THE PRESIDENT: No, they shouldn't have any concern on that because we are -- let me just repeat, using this phrase "unilateral disarmament." We are not going to unilaterally disarm. And I still feel deep in my heart that if we can get fewer barriers, the American farmer can compete in all kinds of areas -- and I'm including dairy in this, where we haven't competed much before. And so, we're not going to take unilateral hits in agriculture because agriculture in many areas is benefitting our whole international trade position.

SECRETARY YEUTTER: And we do want to be big export earners, as a matter of fact. Gary, as you well know, the more markets we can open up overseas, the more exports we'll have. And agriculture will continue to make a very positive contribution to the trade balance. And that'll be good because that'll also result in higher farm incomes and that's what all of us want and the President's strongly supportive of that.

THE PRESIDENT: Gary, there was one person that wasn't sure that Secretary Yeutter was doing exactly the same thing, and that was Mrs. Yeutter. Because I think they had had plans to go back to the private sector. And I got with Clayton and I said, look, it is absolutely essential to our country that you agree to serve as Secretary of Agriculture. And it was one of best decisions, I think, that I've made. And, of course, I was grateful that he set aside his private sector plan and his wife very graciously understood this, so he once again could serve, and did it in a portfolio here that is just vital -- and not just in your area of question, international trade, but to our whole economy. So, I'm grateful the Secretary did differentiate here.

SECRETARY YEUTTER: Thank you, Mr. President. That's a very gracious and generous comment and a true story. Your time with us, is up, I'm sorry to say, Mr. President. But, on behalf of everybody in American Agriculture, I want to thank you for coming and then I'll stay on and answer a few more questions.

THE PRESIDENT: Well -- and I would apologize to those whose questions I didn't get to take. And I was talking to Clayt --

agriculture in America.

So, thanks for your hospitality. And, as Douglas MacArthur said, I shall return. Thank you very much.

END

1:34 P.M. EDT