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FOIA Number:

2011-2184-F

# FOIA MARKER

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**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

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**OA/ID Number:** 13485  
**Folder ID Number:** 13485-007

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**Folder Title:**  
White House Correspondence Dinner, 4/29/89

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>

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**PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENTS DINNER  
WASHINGTON HILTON  
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1989  
8:00 P.M.**

**THANK YOU.**

**THANK YOU, JERRY ((O'LEARY, ASSOC. PRESIDENT)).**

**AND CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR LEADERSHIP THIS PAST YEAR.**

**- 2 -**

**CONGRATS ALSO TO YOUR SUCCESSOR, JOHANNA NEUMANN.**

**JOHANNA -- COME BY SOMETIME**

**AND I'LL TELL YOU HOW MUCH FUN IT IS**

**TO BE A NEW PRESIDENT.**

**JOHANNA, YOU HAVE A BIG ADVANTAGE OVER ME. ((PAUSE))**

**YOU CAN BLAME THINGS ON YOUR PREDECESSOR.**

- 3 -

IN THE TV DEBATES  
THEY KEPT ASKING VICE PRESIDENT QUAYLE  
ABOUT THE FIRST THING HE'D DO AS PRESIDENT.  
CHEER UP DAN. ((PAUSE))  
THEY'RE STILL ASKING ME THE SAME QUESTION.

- 4 -

I HAVEN'T WATCHED MUCH TV LATELY.  
BUT I UNDERSTAND OPRAH LOST WEIGHT.  
PHIL WORE A SKIRT.  
GERALDO GOT HIS NOSE BUSTED.  
AND DOWNEY LOST TO THE SKINHEADS.  
EASY TO SEE WHY I'M NOT MAKING NEWS.

- 5 -

NEVER MAKE NEWS, MY EYE.

HERE'S A SCOOP FOR YOU --

MY FIRST NOMINEE TO THE SUPREME COURT WILL BE:

((PAUSE))

JOHN TOWER. ((PAUSE))

WHAT WE NEED IS A LITTLE JUSTICE.

---

- 6 -

I HEAR MY SCHEDULE

KEEPS YOU WORKING UNTIL LATE.

THAT YOU'RE NOT GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP.

FIRST TIME I'VE

BEEN ACCUSED OF KEEPING ANYBODY AWAKE.

- 7 -

LESLIE STAHL ASKED IF I MOVE TOO CAUTIOUSLY.

I SAID: "CAN I GET BACK TO YOU ON THAT?"

---

- 8 -

I'VE HAD A NUMBER OF YOU UP TO THE FAMILY QUARTERS.

AND GERRY BOYD --

JUST IN CASE IT EVER COMES UP --

I DO HAVE PHOTOS OF YOU BOUNCING ON LINCOLN'S BED.

- 9 -

I DON'T MEAN TO KNOCK THE NEW YORK TIMES.

IN FACT, MY DAUGHTER DORO IS A GUEST AT THEIR TABLE --  
((POINT TO DORO)) OVER THERE, I GUESS.

BUT I'VE GOT TO COMPLAIN ABOUT THAT LAST EDITORIAL --

[[DORO: "DAAAAAD..."]] ((PAUSE))

SORRY, DORO -- AM I EMBARRASSING YOU?

((RIP UP PREVIOUS CARD))

WELL, NOW YOU KNOW HOW THE DUKAKIS KIDS  
FELT WHEN THEIR DAD RODE IN THAT TANK.

- 10 -

NEWT GINGRICH DOESN'T HAVE A TANK.  
BUT NEWT IS THE ONLY GUY WHOSE CAR  
HAS A DASHBOARD STATUE OF FRANK LORENZO.

- 11 -

THEN THERE'S JIM BAKER.  
YOU THINK OF HIM AS SECRETARY OF STATE.  
I THINK OF HIM AS AN ENVIRONMENTALIST.  
BUT JIM WILL BE BEST REMEMBERED FOR THE WILDERNESS ACT.  
THAT'S THE ACT HE WAS CAUGHT COMMITTING  
IN THE WILDERNESS.

I ASKED JIM BAKER IF HE WANTED TO  
GO FISH FOR ALASKAN SALMON.  
HE ASKED: "REGULAR, OR UNLEADED?"

---

- 12 -

JIM MORRIS IS HERE TONIGHT.  
I GET THE FEELING HE'S  
ABOUT TO SNUFF OUT SOME  
OF MY "THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT." ((PAUSE))

BUT I'VE SEEN JIM'S IMPRESSION OF ME.  
FRANKLY, I CAN'T MAKE HEAD OR TAIL  
OUT OF WHAT HE'S SAYING.  
HIS SYNTAX IS ALL TWISTED.

- 13 -

IT SHOULDN'T BE TOO HARD TO UPSTAGE ME, JIM.  
A FEW WEEKS AGO I WAS UPSTAGED BY A WIG.

I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING ABOUT BARBARA.  
EVER SINCE SHE DRANK THAT RADIOACTIVE IODINE  
SHE'S BEEN DOUBLING AS A NIGHT LIGHT.

---

- 14 -

HER NEW NICKNAME?  
"THE THREE MILE ISLAND FOX."

AND IT BOTHERS ME,  
AT THE END OF A PRESS CONFERENCE  
WHEN HELEN THOMAS STANDS UP AND SAYS:  
"THANK YOU, BARBARA'S HUSBAND."

- 15 -

ALL THE GOOD PRESS MAY BE GOING TO MILLIE'S HEAD,  
THOUGH.

TODAY, WE SET OUT HER BOWL OF ALPO  
AND SHE ASKED TO SEE THE WINE LIST.

- 16 -

LAST WEEK YOU REPORTED IN THE PAPERS HOW I TOOK A  
LITTLE GIRL FROM PENNSYLVANIA OUT OF THE WHITE HOUSE  
TOUR LINE TO SHOW HER THE PUPPIES. WELL, THIS MORNING  
I DID IT AGAIN -- THIS TIME WITH A KID FROM CALIFORNIA.  
AND IT GAVE ME AN IDEA. WHY NOT LET SOMEONE WE PULLED  
OUT OF LINE -- AN AVERAGE AMERICAN TOURIST -- TELL YOU  
WHAT HE THINKS OF THE PRESIDENCY?

((TURN BACK TO CURTAIN))

SON, CAN YOU COME OUT HERE AND TALK TO THESE PEOPLE?

[[GUEST ENTERS, TAKES THE PODIUM]]

- 17 -

THANK YOU, GARY SHANGLING. ((PAUSE))

BUT THAT'S THE LAST TIME I PULL ANYONE OUT OF LINE.

OOPS -- IT'S GETTING LATE.

((PAUSE -- LOOK AT WATCH))

THERE WON'T BE TIME TONIGHT  
FOR THE SLIDE SHOW  
OF MY TRIP TO HONDURAS.

- 18 -

BUT LET ME JUST CLOSE BY SAYING:  
TONIGHT MARKS THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WHITE  
HOUSE CORRESPONDENTS ASSOCIATION -- THE DIAMOND  
ANNIVERSARY.

HIGH QUALITY DIAMONDS ARE RARE -- AND FORMED UNDER  
INTENSE PRESSURE. PEOPLE OFTEN TALK ABOUT THE PRESSURE  
OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE, BUT SELDOM RECOGNIZE THE INTENSE  
PRESSURE THAT YOUR PROFESSION, AND ESPECIALLY THIS  
PRESS CORPS, FACES VIRTUALLY EVERY DAY.

EVEN MORE UNIQUE IS THE TRADITION OF HUMOR -- FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE PODIUM -- THAT HELPS KEEP OUR RESPONSIBILITIES IN PERSPECTIVE.

SO I'LL RAISE A GLASS TO YOU -- TOASTING THE DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY OF THIS TRADITION. AND TO JIM MORRIS I SAY: REMEMBER JIM -- "KINDER AND GENTLER"... "KINDER AND GENTLER"...

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# # #

JOKE FILE

\_\_\_\_\_ has asked me to read an announcement: ((PAUSE))

All door prize winners  
Please see Nick Brady  
About picking up your free S&L.

You know tonight  
Marks my first one thousand days -- ah --  
One hundred days -- ((PAUSE))  
Only seems like a thousand.

It's been a wonderful honeymoon.  
I just received a sympathy note from Mike Tyson.

Mike told me he loves his work.  
But I suggested he become a journalist.  
He wouldn't have to wait so long between fights.

I shouldn't complain.  
It's just that sometimes I feel like Jim Fowler  
on Marlin's Fitzwater's "Wild Kingdom."

I know many of you are here tonight  
Because of your commitment to the profession  
Your deep respect for the presidency --  
And because you couldn't get in to the Gridiron.

Looking around the room reminds me  
That only a select few reporters  
Are assigned to the world's most exciting political beat.  
And those not lucky enough to cover  
Chicago politics have to settle for the White House.

I'm told Oprah just opened a restaurant in Chicago.

It's a theme restaurant.

A sign inside says:

"Stay real. ((PAUSE)) Never dull. ((PAUSE)) No rules."

Sounds like one of my press conferences.

When we left the White House tonight

I told Barbara

I'd be spending the evening with the media elite.

She wants to know which one of you is Morton Downey.

I haven't watched much TV lately.

But I understand Oprah lost weight.

Phil wore a skirt.

Geraldo got his nose busted.

And Downey lost to the skinheads.

Easy to see why I'm not making news.

Actually, tonight is a milestone.

I'm nearing the conclusion of my first 100 jokes.

A story in yesterday's paper

Accused me of drift and a lack of focus.

At least I think it did.

Before I finished it

My mind wandered off to something else.

Seriously, it's discouraging.

Last month Elvis made more news than me.

My new goal for the next 100 days:

To get on TV more than Sam Skinner.

Steve Studdert's getting desperate.  
Next week he's booked me  
To do "Hollywood Squares."

We planted a tree in Bismarck.  
The environmental angle was a good one.  
Until we realized Steve had invited representatives  
From the paper industry.

I keep asking Steve:  
"Remember the 40th anniversary of D-Day?  
Why can't we do TV events more like Deaver?"  
So now we're booked to commemorate  
29 years since the Bay of Pigs.

Some people say I'm stressing style over substance.  
Maybe I can convince them they're wrong  
Over a game of horseshoes.

Now the IRS is challenging me on my home office deductions.  
They want proof  
Someone's working in the White House.

They say I'm being too cautious.  
Even Barbara says I should take the rear-view mirror  
Off my exercise bike.

Leslie Stahl asked if I've proceeded too cautiously.  
I said: "Can I get back to you on that?"

What you're seeing these days is the real George Bush.  
Just being myself.  
No longer controlled by "handlers." ((PAUSE))

I hope I said that the way Roger Ailes told me to.

But things are good with Congress.

We agreed on the Contras.

We agreed on the budget.

Only one thing we can't agree on:

Who's going to be President.

I know what it is

Everyone in Congress wants from me.

But it's too late.

All six puppies are spoken for.

A reporter asked what I thought about the ethics problems

Facing the man who ranks just behind

The President and Vice President.

I said I'd rather not comment

On the difficulties of Prime Minister Takeshita.

I was warned I'd be sharing tonight's platform

With a professional joke teller.

A presidential impersonator who has brought laughter to millions.

I thought: "What's Michael Dukakis doing back in town?"

Jim Morris is here tonight.

I'm inviting him to the White House

To impersonate a balanced budget.

I hate to disillusion anyone.

But thousands of those handwritten notes

That people think came from me

Were actually forged by Jim Morris.

It shouldn't be too hard to upstage me, Jim.

A few weeks ago I was upstaged by a wig.

The Secret Service issued me a new wristwatch.  
It's been ticking like crazy.  
Turns out it's a geiger counter.

Governor Sununu's doing a great job.  
And John, I'm grateful for your loyalty and support.  
But I'd appreciate it if you'd stop calling me  
"The second most powerful man in the White House."

Actually, the staff is great.  
But you have to be careful.  
Everything you say, they do.  
Before dinner the other night I said to Barbara:  
"How about a little Chinese?"  
Next thing I know  
I'm shaking hands with Deng Xiaoping.

John's kept the speechwriters out of the White House Mess.  
Now at lunch no one knows what to say.

But you're not hearing much about turf battles.  
Only real turf battle in DC these days  
Is between Marion Barry  
And the Grand Jury  
Over Charles Lewis' time.

Bill Bennett's doing well as the new drug czar.  
But he's getting a little carried away.  
He named his new daughter Anastasia.

I guess you all have heard about the sequel  
They're making for "Rain Man."  
It's about a White House official who travels across the country  
With a reporter,  
Talking on background the whole way.  
It's called "Dar-Man."

Some of Dick's deficit ideas are a little radical.  
He wanted to get one thousand tickets  
For the Pennsylvania lottery.

It is said Dick Darman cuts his own hair.  
I've seen his haircuts.  
I hope he does a better job of cutting the budget.  
Otherwise, I'm hiring Don King.

Then there's Marlin.  
When all America was swept up by Ollie North haircuts  
He went out and copied John Poindexter.

You're too hard on Marlin.  
Especially ribbing him about his hairstyle.  
You grew up with the Dick Van Dyke Show.  
And every time Marlin walks in for a briefing,  
You react as if it's Mel.

He's really not Mel.  
Of course,  
Marlin's no Morey Amsterdam, either.

And he's a little caught up  
In this whole Kansas thing.  
Marlin keeps calling Millie "Toto."

Maybe you read that the puppies  
Are sleeping on the Washington Post and the New York Times.  
First time the White House has used the press to prevent leaks.

It was Marlin's idea.  
He calls it "yellow journalism."

Boyden Gray has a Plymouth that runs on Ethanol.  
Now he's talking about a car that'll run on sea water.  
Catch is, the water's got to come from Prince William Sound.

For years they've packed sardines in oil  
And now Exxon's gone and taken out the middleman.

I asked Jim Baker if he wanted to go fish for salmon.  
He asked: "Regular or unleaded?"

You think of him as Secretary of State.  
But Jim will be best remembered for the Wilderness Act.  
That's the act he was caught committing in the wilderness.

Things are getting nasty in Alaska  
The other day a group of baby seals  
Were clubbing Exxon officials.

We've asked the Pentagon to help with the clean up.  
But I don't know.  
It's the defense contractors  
Who are experts at skimming.

Now NBC's doing a new sitcom about Alaskan Yuppies.  
It's called "WD 40-something."

Forgive me if I seem a bit distracted.  
I just heard that Peter Ueberroth  
Bought Air Force One.

You know he's been trying to buy Eastern.  
At least he got out of baseball.  
Before he got into gambling.

Now I hear the deal fell through.  
Ueberroth wanted three passenger sections:  
1st Class, Coach -- and bleachers.

Have you read about this \$39,000 Concorde tour?  
The tail fell off  
And Bill Buckley announced it on the intercom.  
No one panicked.  
No one could understand what he was talking about.

I'm glad to see some conservative publications  
Trying to reach a broader audience.  
I hear something's coming out next month called:  
"National Review -- The Swimsuit Issue."

I hear commentators saying something should be done  
about the climate of fear in this city.  
Let's face it.  
If they were serious about eliminating  
Terror and intimidation in Washington,  
They would have kicked out Bob Novak years ago.

But when you write about Washington,  
I think you should make the point  
To would-be tourists  
That most of this senseless violence  
Is isolated in one small area.  
The McLaughlin Group.

We hear John McLaughlin is personally leading  
A crusade to wipe out new gangs in Washington.  
Starting with "The Capital Gang."

I hear Mayor Barry is getting tough  
With a new law bound to strike fear  
In the hearts of criminals:  
You use a gun -- You go to a Lee Atwater guitar recital.

And you can't avoid the squabbles  
About the precise definition of "semi-automatic."  
I'm not so sure myself.  
Heck, it sounds to me like  
The editorial policy at the Washington Post.

Did you see that Nancy Reagan joined a drug bust in L.A.?  
They're remaking the movie "Colors"  
With her in the lead.  
It's going to be called: "Pastels."

Imagine the fear in those thugs  
When they heard the words everyone dreads:  
"First Lady. Freeze."

President Reagan began as an actor  
And apparently Gorbachev plans to finish as one.

He wants to star in a re-make of Mikhail's Navy.

Things are really changing for the Soviets.  
True, they still quote Lenin and Marx.  
But now it's John and Groucho.

Gorbachev asked me to refrain from  
Doing or saying anything that would encourage  
High-level defections.

I said: "Look, I had nothing to do with  
Connie Chung going to CBS."

I asked Gorbachev to prove his new openness  
By letting the Soviet press print  
The views of a conservative American columnist.  
So they ran George Will's piece calling me a lap dog.

There was some confusion over the Soviet upheavals.  
Jim Baker ran in and said:  
"The Georgians are revolting!"  
I said: "It's been eight years.  
Let's lay off the Carters."

But I do believe we're on our way  
To a kinder and gentler America.  
Especially since Sam Donaldson left the White House.

I can't stay very long tonight.  
My old friend Jerry Ford  
Is coming over to play horseshoes.  
And I've got to get up early  
To board up the White House windows.

In the TV debates

They kept asking Vice President Quayle  
About the first thing he'd do as President.  
Cheer up Dan. ((PAUSE))  
They're still asking me the same question.

I hear my schedule  
Keeps you working until late.  
That you're not getting enough sleep.  
First time I've  
Been accused of keeping anybody awake.

A story in yesterday's paper  
Accused me of drift and a lack of focus. ((PAUSE))  
What was I just saying?

People wondered how I picked the sites  
We traveled to this week.  
It's no secret.  
North Dakota's the only place  
I can still dominate the news.

Hey, it was a good trip. ((PAUSE))  
Made page two. ((PAUSE))  
Second section. ((PAUSE))  
Third graph. ((PAUSE))  
Under the fold. ((PAUSE))  
The Bismarck Sun.

I've had a number of you up to the family quarters.  
And Gerry Boyd --  
Just in case it ever comes up --  
I do have photos of you bouncing on Lincoln's bed.

Never make news, my eye.

Here's a scoop for you --

My first nominee to the Supreme Court will be: ((PAUSE))

John Tower. ((PAUSE))

What we need is a little justice.

Now they're saying Bill Bennett has presidential ambitions.  
He's bringing the military into the drug war.  
But Bill, you know the rules --  
Ride one tank and you're out.

Oops -- It's getting late.  
(PAUSE -- LOOK AT WATCH)  
There won't be time tonight  
For the slide show  
Of my trip to Honduras.

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENTS' DINNER  
RAY SILLER

Hi, I'm Jim Morris' act.

Hi, my name is Jim Morris, I'd like to do my impression of President George Bush, and it goes something like this.  
(Turn around a la impressionist.)

I get the feeling Jim Morris is about to snuff out some of my thousand points of light.

With Jim Morris in the room, I sense I'm about to have an out of body experience.

I've seen Jim Morris' impressions of me. Frankly, I can't make head or tail out of what he's saying. Jim 's syntax is all twisted.

Remember Jim . . . kinder and gentler . . . kinder and gentler.

Guess I should give you an update on Barbara. She's feeling fine. She had swallowed that radioactive drink . . . which worked out well. Around the White House we used her as a nightlight.

Her new nickname is "The Three Mile Island Fox."

Barbara was really thoughtful. She showed up at a Cabinet meeting and gave us all free dental x-rays.

The polls have Barbara edging more \_\_\_\_\_ in popularity. However, I was noted Mr. Congeniality.

After seeing Barbara's stand in the polls, I phoned Adler's Men's Store and ordered a royal blue suit . . . and a triple strand of pearls.

It bothers me, at the end of a press conference, when Helen Thomas stands up and says, "Thank you, Barbara's Husband."

I asked Barbara what I might do to match her popularity. She said, "Well, it's George Washington's bicentennial. Maybe you could rest his old wig."

Barbara turned down an interview with Charles Bierbauer on CNN. She heard Ted Turner planned to colorize her hair.

Tomorrow we celebrate the 200th anniversary of George Washington's Inauguration. I'm not a superstitious man. But I am grateful 200 years ago they didn't swear in Michael Washington.

You wonder how successful Washington would be if he were President today. He'd toss a silver dollar across the Potomac and they'd accuse him of being reckless with the budget. He'd chop down the cherry tree and take heat from the Sierra Club. And when he crossed the Delaware he'd stand up in the boat and they'd say he was drifting.

Salman Rushdie is still in hiding. He heard Newt Gingrich is investigating his book sales to the Iranian Teamsters. (Is that the group Wright sold to?)

Newt Gingrich makes Lee Atwater look like Mother Teresa.

Newt is the only guy whose car has a dashboard statue of Donald Lorenzo.

Salman Rushdie came out of hiding today and admitted he's the one who read Jim Wright and Salman Rushdie's books.

I was puzzled by the title of Salman Rushdie's book. I thought the Satanic Verses was anything written by \_\_\_\_\_  
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(McNally/Martin)  
April 29, 1989  
9:00 a.m.  
Draft Five  
(B:CORRES)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENTS DINNER  
WASHINGTON HILTON  
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1989  
8:00 P.M.

Thank you.

Thank you, Jerry ((O'LEARY, W.H. CORRES. ASSOC. PRESIDENT)).

And congratulations on your leadership this past year.

Congrats also to your successor, Johanna Neumann.

Johanna -- Come by sometime

And I'll tell you how much fun it is

To be a new president.

Johanna, you have a big advantage over me. ((PAUSE))

You can blame things on your predecessor.

Before we left the White House tonight

I told my grandkids

I'd be spending the evening with the media elite.

They want to know which one of you is Morton Downey.

I haven't watched much TV lately.

But I understand Oprah lost weight.

Phil wore a skirt.

Geraldo got his nose busted.

And Downey lost to the skinheads.

Easy to see why I'm not making news.

Geraldo was so successful

With his documentary on Devil Worship

Now he's doing a Special on

"People Who Like Newt Gingrich."

Newt is the only guy whose car  
Has a dashboard statue of Frank Lorenzo.

In the TV debates  
They kept asking Vice President Quayle  
About the first thing he'd do as President.  
Cheer up Dan. ((PAUSE))  
They're still asking me the same question.

*I hear*  
~~Some complain~~ my schedule  
Keeps ~~the~~ <sup>you</sup> press working until late.  
That ~~they're~~ <sup>you're</sup> not getting enough sleep.  
First time I've  
Been accused of keeping ~~someone~~ <sup>anybody</sup> awake.

A story in yesterday's paper  
Accused me of drift and a lack of focus. ((PAUSE))  
What was I just saying?

Leslie Stahl asked if I've proceeded too cautiously.  
I said: "Can I get back to you on that?"

All this talk of crime.  
How do you define "semi-automatic," anyway?  
It sounds to me like  
The editorial policy at the Washington Post.

People wondered how ~~Steve Studdert~~ <sup>I</sup> picked the sites  
We traveled to this week.  
It's no secret.  
North Dakota's the only place  
I can still dominate the news.

Questions  
whether  
It's funny.

3  
*it was a good trip*  
Hey, ~~the trip wasn't all that bad.~~ ((PAUSE))

So ✓ Made page two. ((PAUSE))

? Second section. ((PAUSE))

Third graph. ((PAUSE))

Under the fold. ((PAUSE))

The Bismarck Sun.

Jim Morris is here tonight.

I get the feeling he's

About to snuff out some

Of my thousand points of light. ((PAUSE))

But I've seen Jim's impression of me.

Frankly, I can't make head or tail out of what he's saying.

His syntax is all twisted.

It shouldn't be too hard to upstage me, Jim.

A few weeks ago I was upstaged by a wig.

I'll tell you one thing about Barbara.

Ever since she drank that radioactive iodine

She's been doubling as a night light.

Her new nickname *↖* -- ?

"The Three Mile Island Fox."

And it bothers me,

At the end of a press conference

When Helen Thomas stands up and says:

"Thank you, Barbara's husband."

All the good press may be going to Millie's head, though.

Today, we set out her bowl of Alpo

And she asked to see the wine list.

?  
 Barbara woke up at three this morning  
 And thought she saw Lincoln's ghost.  
 It was just Brit Hume in a seersucker suit.

?  
 I've had a number of you up to the family quarters.  
 And Gerry Boyd --  
 Just in case it ever comes up --  
 I do have photos of you bouncing on Lincoln's bed.

Never make news, my eye.  
 Here's a scoop for you --  
 My first nominee to the Supreme Court will be: ((PAUSE))  
John Tower. ((PAUSE))  
 What we need is a little justice.

*Now in ins*  
 ?  
 They say Bill Bennett has presidential ambitions.  
 He's bringing the military into the drug war.  
 But Bill, you know the rules --  
 Ride one tank and you're out.

?  
 You know I love movies.  
 Caught the sequel to "Rain Man."  
 It's about a White House official who travels across the country  
 With a reporter,  
 Talking on background the whole way.  
 It's called "Dar-Man".

Boyden Gray has a Plymouth that runs on Methanol.  
 Now he talks about a car that runs on sea water.  
 The water's got to come from Prince William Sound.

!  
 Things are getting nasty in Alaska.  
 The other day a group of baby seals  
 Were clubbing Exxon officials.

I asked Jim Baker if he wanted to go fish for salmon.  
He asked: "Regular or unleaded?"

You think of him as Secretary of State.

*But*

Jim will be best remembered for the Wilderness Act.

That's the act he was caught committing in the wilderness.

Oops -- It's getting late.

((PAUSE -- LOOK AT WATCH))

There won't be time tonight

For the slide show

Of my trip to Honduras.

But let me just close by saying:

Tonight marks the 75th anniversary of the White House  
Correspondents Association -- the diamond anniversary.

High quality diamonds are rare -- and formed under intense  
pressure. People often talk about the pressure of government  
service, but seldom recognize the intense pressure that your  
profession, and especially this press corps, faces virtually  
every day. Even more unique is the tradition of humor -- from  
both sides of the podium -- that helps keep our responsibilities  
in perspective.

So I'll raise a glass to you -- toasting the diamond  
anniversary of this tradition. And remember Jim -- "kinder and  
gentler"... "kinder and gentler"...

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(Turn around a la impressionist.)

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With Jim Morris in the room, I sense I'm about to have an out of body experience.

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Remember Jim . . . kinder and gentler . . . kinder and gentler.

Guess I should give you an update on Barbara. She's feeling fine. She had swallowed that radioactive drink . . . which worked out well. Around the White House we used her as a nightlight.

Her new nickname is "The Three Mile Island Fox."

Barbara was really thoughtful. She showed up at a Cabinet meeting and gave us all free dental x-rays.

The polls have Barbara edging me out in popularity. However, I was voted Mr. Congeniality.

After seeing Barbara's standings in the polls, I phoned Adler's Men's Store and ordered a royal blue suit . . . and a triple strand of pearls.

It bothers me, at the end of a press conference, when Helen Thomas stands up and says, "Thank you, Barbara's Husband."

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This week we went around the country speaking to various groups. On the flight back to Andrews, we experienced some turbulence. Turns out it was Peter Ueberroth on the wing waving his checkbook at our pilot.

Peter failed in his bid to buy Eastern Airlines. His background as baseball commissioner may have gotten in the way. He wanted to have all planes equipped with spitting and no spitting sections.

Peter was going to insist that all planes take off from a squatting position. I'm not sure we want to mix baseball with the airlines. Can you see Pete Rose sitting in the cockpit betting the pilot how fast he can land?

Connie Chung and Maury Povitch made a bid to buy the Eastern Shuttle...and change the name to the Love Connection.

Did you hear the Japanese purchased the Willard Hotel? They're buying every building in sight. I'm worried. Today at the White House, they replaced the Executive Mess with a sushi bar.

Hope you enjoyed your salads. The chef tried a new dressing... similar to Thousand Island...called Prince William Sound.

Exxon assures us they've turned the corner in Prince William sound. I'm not so sure. This will be the first year the salmon skid upstream.

Lee Atwater just opened another restaurant...this time in Alaska. It's not doing too well. It only takes Exxon credit cards.

How many of you know George Washington was considered trendy and way ahead of his time? It's true. 200 years ago he was wearing the Barbara Bush cut.

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