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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

OA/ID Number: 13486
Folder ID Number: 13486-003

Folder Title:
Asian-Pacific Heritage Week, 5/8/89

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 5, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: CURT SMITH *CS*

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *cw*

RE: ASIAN/PACIFIC HERITAGE WEEK REMARKS

I. SUMMARY

At 10:15 a.m. Monday, May 8, you will address over 200 hundred Asian-Americans in the Rose Garden. There, you will sign a proclamation naming this Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week.

II. DISCUSSION

The enclosed remarks focus on the contributions of Asian/Pacific Americans to this country's quality of life. In particular, they discuss the values which distinguish the Asian/Pacific community.

You will find two bracketed paragraphs at the end of the speech. We are awaiting the approval from Boyden Gray's office in order to use these comments. If they are approved, we will insert them into the text.

(Smith/Wallace)
May 5, 1989
Draft Four
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

- o Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans.

- o You know, an Asian proverb says, "Intelligence consists in recognizing opportunity." Well, if that's true, it's clear that you may be one of the most intelligent groups I have welcomed to the White House! For you have recognized opportunity, and seized it. And I am delighted to be with you.

- o We gather today in a special week -- Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Yesterday marked the 146th anniversary of the day the first Japanese immigrated to America. And Wednesday celebrates the 120th birthday of an event Chinese-Americans made possible -- the driving of the Golden Spike to complete the first Transcontinental Railroad.

- o We meet, too, as special friends. And, in particular, I want to thank three people. Jeanie Jew, who created the idea for this week and is the granddaughter of a Chinese pioneer who helped build that railroad; Frank Horton, the chief sponsor of

the Heritage Week legislation; and Ruby Moy, Chairman of the Congressional Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week Caucus.

o Perhaps most of all, we assemble here for a special reason: To salute the millions of refugees and immigrants from Asia and the Pacific who braved the unknown and ventured to our shores. And to salute a community which has enriched America's community -- socially, culturally, economically, spiritually.

o Someone once told me of a restaurant in China where three American tourists walked in wearing the most outlandish safari clothes, complete with Panama hats, backpacks, videocameras, a brace of walkmans and a few Chinese phrases picked up from a stateside friend who happens to own a wok.

o The friends stood around looking for a waiter, and finally one asked in a loud voice: "How do we get his attention?" ((PAUSE))

o Ladies and gentlemen, that's one way to "get attention." But as we proclaim this Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, let me observe that you have chosen another way. You've done it through excellence, with the value of your lives.

o Those values are, of course, discipline and self-sacrifice. Humility and compassion. An abiding belief in work. A soaring love of freedom. Values which brought your parents,

your grandparents, and some of you to America. Values which are now uplifting America.

o I think, for example, of pioneers like Gerald Tsai, Jr. of American Can. Or Jenlan Gee [Jen-lane JEE], the California Teacher of the Year. Or Henry Tang and I.M. Pei. Or Sichan Siv of our own White House staff.

o My friends, they -- you -- are building a better America. And creating new jobs. You're enhancing our medical schools, the law, our small and large businesses. In short, honoring your heritage by the lives you lead.

o For that, I congratulate you. And, in a personal sense, I want to thank you, too. For as Ambassador to China, I came, with Barbara, to love that heritage. And in countless ways -- with countless friends -- to see, and share, what lies at its center: the family.

o Ten weeks ago, on a trip to the Pacific Rim, Barbara and I visited the nondenominational church we'd attended in Beijing. It's different now, bigger. But the values -- the heritage -- are the same. And the memories are even better. Like when our daughter Doro was baptized -- the first person to be publicly baptized in China in over 40 years.

o Yes, the Asian/Pacific community has a special place in my heart. And so does an old Chinese proverb which I have often cited. It goes, "One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade."

o For decades, Asian-Americans have planted the trees of prosperity, opportunity, and human dignity. And in coming years, more than ever, I know that my children -- America's children -- will thank you for the shade.

o God bless you, thank you for coming here, and God bless the United States of America.

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[[o Finally, before I sign the proclamation declaring this week as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, it gives me great pleasure to announce two nominations that I will submit to the Senate for confirmation to positions within my administration.]]

[[o I will be sending the name of Julia Chang Block to the Senate to be the next United States Ambassador to Nepal and the name of Kyo Jhin (Kee-o Gin) to be the Chief Counsel for advocacy in the Small Business Administration. I look forward to having both of these qualified, capable individuals join our team.]]

To _____

Date 5/5 Time 11:40

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Phone _____

Area Code Number Extension

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| TELEPHONED | | PLEASE CALL | |
| CALLED TO SEE YOU | | WILL CALL AGAIN | |
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RETURNED YOUR CALL

Message N/C on
SB person

Asian/Pacific

Operator J

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WASHINGTON

May 5, 1989

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your grandparents, and some of you to America. Values which are now uplifting America.

o I think, for example, of pioneers like Gerald Tsai, Jr. of American Can. Or Jenlan Gee [Jen-lane JEE], the California Teacher of the Year. Or Henry Tang and I.M. Pei. Or Sichan Siv of our own White House staff.

o My friends, they -- you -- are building a better America. And creating new jobs. You're enhancing our medical schools, the law, our small and large businesses. In short, honoring your heritage by the lives you lead.

o For that, I congratulate you. And, in a personal sense, I want to thank you, too. For as Ambassador to China, I came, with Barbara, to love that heritage. And in countless ways -- with countless friends -- to see, and share, what lies at its center: the family.

o Ten weeks ago, on a trip to the Pacific Rim, Barbara and I visited the nondenominational church we'd attended in Beijing. It's different now, bigger. But the values -- the heritage -- are the same. And the memories are even better. Like when our daughter Doro was baptized -- the first person to be publicly baptized in China in over 40 years.

o Yes, the Asian/Pacific community has a special place in my heart. And so does an old Chinese proverb which I have often cited. It goes, "One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade."

o For decades, Asian-Americans have planted the trees of prosperity, opportunity, and human dignity. And in coming years, more than ever, I know that my children -- America's children -- will thank you for the shade.

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REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989
10:15 A.M.

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O YOU KNOW, AN ASIAN PROVERB SAYS, "INTELLIGENCE
CONSISTS IN RECOGNIZING OPPORTUNITY." WELL, IF THAT'S
TRUE, IT'S CLEAR THAT YOU MAY BE ONE OF THE MOST
INTELLIGENT GROUPS I HAVE WELCOMED TO THE WHITE HOUSE!
FOR YOU HAVE RECOGNIZED OPPORTUNITY, AND SEIZED IT.
AND I AM DELIGHTED TO BE WITH YOU.

- 2 -

O WE GATHER TODAY IN A SPECIAL WEEK --
ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK. YESTERDAY MARKED
THE 146TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAY THE FIRST JAPANESE
IMMIGRATED TO AMERICA. AND WEDNESDAY CELEBRATES THE
120TH BIRTHDAY OF AN EVENT CHINESE-AMERICANS MADE
POSSIBLE -- THE DRIVING OF THE GOLDEN SPIKE TO COMPLETE
THE FIRST TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD.

- 3 -

O WE MEET, TOO, AS SPECIAL FRIENDS. AND, IN PARTICULAR, I WANT TO THANK THREE PEOPLE. JEANIE JEW, WHO CREATED THE IDEA FOR THIS WEEK AND IS THE GRANDDAUGHTER OF A CHINESE PIONEER WHO HELPED BUILD THAT RAILROAD; FRANK HORTON, THE CHIEF SPONSOR OF THE HERITAGE WEEK LEGISLATION; AND RUBY MOY, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK CAUCUS.

- 4 -

0 PERHAPS MOST OF ALL, WE ASSEMBLE HERE FOR A SPECIAL REASON: TO SALUTE THE MILLIONS OF REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS FROM ASIA AND THE PACIFIC WHO BRAVED THE UNKNOWN AND VENTURED TO OUR SHORES. AND TO SALUTE A COMMUNITY WHICH HAS ENRICHED AMERICA'S COMMUNITY -- SOCIALLY, CULTURALLY, ECONOMICALLY, SPIRITUALLY.

- 5 -

O LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AS WE PROCLAIM THIS
ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK, LET ME OBSERVE
THAT YOU HAVE EARNED THIS RECOGNITION. YOU'VE DONE IT
THROUGH EXCELLENCE, WITH THE VALUE OF YOUR LIVES.

- 6 -

O THOSE VALUES ARE, OF COURSE, DISCIPLINE AND SELF-SACRIFICE. HUMILITY AND COMPASSION. AN ABIDING BELIEF IN WORK. A SOARING LOVE OF FREEDOM. VALUES WHICH BROUGHT YOUR PARENTS, YOUR GRANDPARENTS, AND SOME OF YOU TO AMERICA. VALUES WHICH ARE NOW UPLIFTING AMERICA.

- 8 -

O MY FRIENDS, THEY -- YOU -- ARE BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA. AND CREATING NEW JOBS. YOU'RE ENHANCING OUR MEDICAL SCHOOLS, THE LAW, OUR SMALL AND LARGE BUSINESSES. IN SHORT, HONORING YOUR HERITAGE BY THE LIVES YOU LEAD.

- 9 -

O FOR THAT, I CONGRATULATE YOU. AND, IN A PERSONAL SENSE, I WANT TO THANK YOU, TOO. FOR AS CHIEF OF THE U.S. LIAISON OFFICE IN CHINA, I CAME, WITH BARBARA, TO LOVE THAT HERITAGE. AND IN COUNTLESS WAYS -- WITH COUNTLESS FRIENDS -- TO SEE, AND SHARE, WHAT LIES AT ITS CENTER: THE FAMILY.

- 10 -

O TEN WEEKS AGO, ON A TRIP TO THE PACIFIC RIM, BARBARA AND I VISITED THE NONDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH WE'D ATTENDED IN BEIJING. IT'S DIFFERENT NOW, BIGGER. BUT THE VALUES -- THE HERITAGE -- ARE THE SAME. AND THE MEMORIES ARE EVEN BETTER. I'LL NEVER FORGET WHEN OUR DAUGHTER DOROTHY WAS BAPTIZED THERE IN CHINA.

0 YES, THE ASIAN/PACIFIC COMMUNITY HAS A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY HEART. AND SO DOES AN OLD CHINESE PROVERB WHICH I HAVE OFTEN CITED. IT GOES, "ONE GENERATION PLANTS THE TREES; ANOTHER GETS THE SHADE."

0 FOR DECADES, ASIAN-AMERICANS HAVE PLANTED THE TREES OF PROSPERITY, OPPORTUNITY, AND HUMAN DIGNITY. AND IN COMING YEARS, MORE THAN EVER, I KNOW THAT MY

- 12 -

CHILDREN -- AMERICA'S CHILDREN -- WILL THANK YOU FOR
THE SHADE.

O FINALLY, BEFORE I SIGN THE PROCLAMATION
DECLARING THIS WEEK AS ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE
WEEK, IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO ANNOUNCE TWO
NOMINATIONS THAT I WILL SUBMIT TO THE SENATE FOR
CONFIRMATION TO POSITIONS WITHIN MY ADMINISTRATION.

- 13 -

O I WILL BE SENDING THE NAME OF JULIA CHANG BLOCH TO THE SENATE TO BE THE NEXT UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO NEPAL AND THE NAME OF KYO JHIN (KEE-O GIN) TO BE THE CHIEF COUNSEL FOR ADVOCACY IN THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION. I LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING BOTH OF THESE QUALIFIED, CAPABLE INDIVIDUALS JOIN OUR TEAM.

O GOD BLESS YOU, THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE, AND GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/5/89 9:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN/PACIFIC HERITAGE WEEK

| | 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"/> |
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| CARD | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| CICCONI | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | WINSTON | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
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| FITZWATER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GRAY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| HAGIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 9:00 AM, Friday, May 5, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*See page 3 -
real inaccuracy -
SWS*

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

1989 MAY -4 PM 2:00

(Smith/Wallace)
May 4, 1989
Draft Three
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

- o Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans.

- o You know, an Oriental proverb says, "The two words, 'peace' and 'tranquility,' are worth a thousand pieces of gold." Well, my pleasure in welcoming you to the White House would be worth a thousand times that total.

- o We gather today in a special week -- Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Yesterday marked the 146th anniversary of the day the first Japanese immigrated to America. And Wednesday celebrates the 120th birthday of an event Chinese-Americans made possible -- the driving of the Golden Spike to complete the first Transcontinental Railroad.

- o We meet, too, as special friends. And, in particular, I want to thank three people. Jeanie Jew, who created the idea for this week and is the grand-daughter of a Chinese pioneer who helped build that railroad. Frank Horton, the chief sponsor of the Heritage Week legislation. And Ruby Moy, Chairman of the Congressional Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week Caucus.

o Perhaps most of all, we assemble here for a special reason: To salute the millions of immigrants from Asia and the Pacific who braved the unknown and ventured to our shores. And to salute a community which has enriched America's community -- socially, culturally, economically, spiritually.

o Someone once told me of a restaurant in China where three American tourists walked in wearing the most outlandish safari clothes, complete with Panama hats, backpacks, videocameras, a brace of walkmans and a few Chinese phrases picked up from a stateside friend who happens to own a wok.

o The friends stood around looking for a waiter, and finally one asked in a loud voice: "How do we attract attention?"

o Ladies and gentlemen, that's one way to "attract attention." But as we proclaim this Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, let me observe that you have chosen another way. You've done it quietly, through excellence, with the values of your lives.

o Those values are, of course, discipline and self-sacrifice. Humility and compassion. An abiding belief in work. A soaring love of freedom. Values which brought your parents,

your grandparents, and some of you to America. Values which are now uplifting America.

o I think, for example, of pioneers like Gerald Tsai, Jr. of American Can. Or Jenlan Gee [Jen-lane JEE], the California Teacher of the Year. Or Henry Tang and I.M. Pei. Or Sichan Siv of our White House staff.

o In 1976, Sichan escaped from Cambodia, spent three months in a refugee camp in Thailand, and finally made his way to the United States. Since then, to quote his words, "I have experienced the real values of freedom, peace, prosperity, independence, and democracy. The correct spelling of these words is A-M-E-R-I-C-A."

o My friends, he -- you -- came to find a better life. And you're finding it. You came to build a better America. And you're building it. Creating new jobs. Enhancing our medical schools, the law, our small and large businesses. In short, honoring your heritage by the lives you lead.

o For that, I congratulate you. And, in a personal sense, I want to thank you, too. For as Ambassador to China, I came, with Barbara, to love that heritage. And in countless ways -- with countless friends -- to see, and share, what lies at its center: the family.

*he was
not
this -*

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o Yes, the Asian/Pacific community has a special place in my heart. And so does an old Chinese proverb which I have often cited. It goes, "One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade."

o For decades, Asian-Americans have planted the trees of prosperity, opportunity, and human dignity. And in coming years, more than ever, I know that my children -- America's children -- will thank you for the shade.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 5, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Asian/Pacific Heritage
Week

The draft is well written and appropriate for the Rose Garden ceremony. We have no suggested changes from a policy standpoint and approve of the draft in its present form.

cc: James W. Cicconi

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| HAGIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 9:00 AM, Friday, May 5, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *Rehmann hi*

*No Comment
5/5/89*

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 5, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON/CURT SMITH

FROM:

SICHAN SIV *JS*

SUBJECT:

Suggested insert for Asian Week remarks

Immediately before last paragraph which begins, "God bless..., please insert:

o Finally, before I sign the proclamation declaring this week as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, it gives me great pleasure to announce two nominations that I will submit to the Senate for confirmation to positions within my administration.

o I will be sending the name of Julia Chang Block to the Senate to be the next United States Ambassador to Nepal and the name of Kyo Jhin (Kee-o Gin) to be the Chief Counsel for Advocacy in the Small Business Administration. I look forward to having both of these qualified, capable individuals join our team.

o Resume original text.

Ross Starek from Presidential Personnel called with the above information.

(Smith/Wallace)
May 4, 1989
Draft Three
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

- o Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans.

- o You know, an ^{Asian} ~~Oriental~~ proverb says, "The two words, 'peace' and 'tranquility,' are worth a thousand pieces of gold." Well, my pleasure in welcoming you to the White House would be worth a thousand times that total.

- o We gather today in a special week -- Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Yesterday marked the 146th anniversary of the day the first Japanese immigrated to America. And Wednesday celebrates the 120th birthday of an event Chinese-Americans made possible -- the driving of the Golden Spike to complete the first Transcontinental Railroad.

- o We meet, too, as special friends. And, in particular, I want to thank three people. Jeanie Jew, who created the idea for this week and is the grand-daughter of a Chinese pioneer who helped build that railroad. Frank Horton, the chief sponsor of the Heritage Week legislation. And Ruby Moy, Chairman of the Congressional Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week Caucus.

o Perhaps most of all, we assemble here for a special reason: To salute the millions of ^{refugees and} immigrants from Asia and the Pacific who braved the unknown and ventured to our shores. And to salute a community which has enriched America's community -- socially, culturally, economically, spiritually.

o Someone once told me of a restaurant in China where three American tourists walked in wearing the most outlandish safari clothes, complete with Panama hats, backpacks, videocameras, a brace of walkmans and a few Chinese phrases picked up from a stateside friend who happens to own a wok.

o The friends stood around looking for a waiter, and finally one asked in a loud voice: "How do we attract attention?"

o Ladies and gentlemen, that's one way to "attract attention." But as we proclaim this Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, let me observe that you have chosen another way. You've done it quietly, through excellence, with the values of your lives.

o Those values are, of course, discipline and self-sacrifice. Humility and compassion. An abiding belief in work. A soaring love of freedom. Values which brought your parents,

your grandparents, and some of you to America. Values which are now uplifting America.

o I think, for example, of pioneers like Gerald Tsai, Jr. of American Can. Or Jenlan Gee [Jen-lane JEE], the California Teacher of the Year. Or Henry Tang and I.M. Pei. Or Sichan Siv of our White House staff.

o In 1976, Sichan escaped from Cambodia, spent three months in a refugee camp in Thailand, and finally made his way to the United States. Since then, to quote his words, "I have experienced the real values of freedom, peace, prosperity, independence, and democracy. The correct spelling of these words is A-M-E-R-I-C-A."

o My friends, he -- you -- ^{and most of} ~~came~~ ^{what about} ~~to find a better life.~~ ^{Native Americans?} And you're finding it. You came to build a better America. And you're building it. Creating new jobs. Enhancing our medical schools, the law, our small and large businesses. In short, honoring your heritage by the lives you lead.

o For that, I congratulate you. And, in a personal sense, I want to thank you, too. For as Ambassador to China, I came, with Barbara, to love that heritage. And in countless ways -- with countless friends -- to see, and share, what lies at its center: the family.

o Ten weeks ago, on a trip to the Pacific Rim, Barbara and I visited the non-denominational church we'd attended in Beijing. It's different now, bigger. But the values -- the heritage -- are the same. And the memories are even better. Like when our daughter Dora was baptized -- the first person to be publicly baptized in China in over 40 years.

o Yes, the Asian/Pacific community has a special place in my heart. And so does an old Chinese proverb which I have often cited. It goes, "One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade."

o For decades, Asian-Americans have planted the trees of prosperity, opportunity, and human dignity. And in coming years, more than ever, I know that my children -- America's children -- will thank you for the shade.

INSERT

o God bless you, thank you for coming here, and God bless the United States of America.

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one of the

it's clear that

o You know, an Asian proverb, says, "Intelligence consists in recognizing opportunity." Well, if that is true, ~~let me observe this, you~~ may be the most intelligent group I have welcomed to the White House! For you have recognized opportunity, and seized. And I am delighted to be with you.

it.

(Smith/Wallace)
May 4, 1989
Draft Three
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

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o God bless you, thank you for coming here, and God bless the United States of America.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/5/89 9:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN/PACIFIC HERITAGE WEEK

| | ACTION FYI | | | ACTION FYI | |
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| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SUNUNU | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NEWMAN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| DARMAN | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | STUDDERT - <i>n/c</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BATES <i>N/C per phone</i> | <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"/> |
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REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 9:00 AM, Friday, May 5, 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

1989 MAY -A PM 2:10

(Smith/Wallace)
May 4, 1989
Draft Three
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

o Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans.

o You know, an ~~Oriental~~ ^{Asian or Chinese} proverb says, "The two words, 'peace' and 'tranquility,' are worth a thousand pieces of gold." Well, my pleasure in welcoming you to the White House ~~would be worth a thousand times that total.~~ ^{cannot be measured in gold.}

change wording too exaggerating, not credible

o We gather today in a special week -- Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Yesterday marked the 146th anniversary of the day the first Japanese immigrated to America. And Wednesday celebrates the 120th birthday of an event Chinese-Americans made possible -- the driving of the Golden Spike to complete the first Transcontinental Railroad.

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o Perhaps most of all, we assemble here for a special reason: To salute the millions of ~~immigrants~~ ^{refugees and} immigrants from Asia and the Pacific who braved the unknown and ventured to our shores. And to salute a community which has enriched America's community -- socially, culturally, economically, spiritually.

o Someone once told me of a restaurant in China where three American tourists walked in wearing the most outlandish safari clothes, complete with Panama hats, backpacks, videocameras, a brace of walkmans and a few Chinese phrases picked up from a stateside friend who happens to own a wok.

o The friends stood around looking for a waiter, and finally one asked in a loud voice: "How do we attract attention?" ^{"How do we get his attention?"} _{Pink}
 ((PAUSE)) ₃

?
 o Ladies and gentlemen, that's one way to ^{"get attention!"} "attract _{Pink} attention." But as we proclaim this Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, let me observe that you have chosen another way. You've done it ~~quietly~~, through excellence, with the values of your lives.

o Those values are, of course, discipline and self-sacrifice. Humility and compassion. An abiding belief in work. A soaring love of freedom. Values which brought your parents,

your grandparents, and some of you to America. Values which are now uplifting America.

o I think, for example, of pioneers like Gerald Tsai, Jr. of American Can. Or Jenlan Gee [Jen-lane JEE], the California Teacher of the Year. Or Henry Tang and I.M. Pei. Or Sichan Siv of our ^{own} White House staff.

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Delete
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~~o My friends, ^{they -- you} he -- you -- came to find a better life. And you're finding it. You came to build a better America. And you're building it. Creating new jobs. Enhancing our medical schools, the law, our small and large businesses. In short, honoring your heritage by the lives you lead.~~

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You're enhancing

o For that, I congratulate you. And, in a personal sense, I want to thank you, too. For as Ambassador to China, I came, with Barbara, to love that heritage. And in countless ways -- with countless friends -- to see, and share, what lies at its center: the family.

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o Yes, the Asian/Pacific community has a special place in my heart. And so does an old Chinese proverb which I have often cited. It goes, "One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade."

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o God bless you, thank you for coming here, and God bless the United States of America.

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3332

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/4/89

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/5/89 9:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN/PACIFIC HERITAGE WEEK



| | ACTION FYI | | | ACTION FYI | |
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| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MCCLURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| HAGIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 9:00 AM, Friday, May 5, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: TO: CHRISS WINSTON May 5, 1989

The NSC concurs in the attached statement.

Brent Scowcroft
Brent Scowcroft

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

cc: Jim Cicconi

1989 MAY -3 PM 2:0

(Smith/Wallace)
May 4, 1989
Draft Three
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 4, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: PATRICIA MACK BRYAN *PMB*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Asian/Pacific Heritage Week

Pursuant to James W. Cicconi's staffing memorandum of May 4, 1989, Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced Presidential remarks. While we have no legal objection to these remarks, we do have the following two comments.

Page 1, Bullet 2: While we defer to your judgment, we find the connection between the proverb and the President's pleasure in welcoming the participants to the Rose Garden event to be so tenuous as to make this bullet confusing.

Page 2, Bullets 2, 3, 4: We are somewhat concerned that these three bullets together may be misconstrued in such a way that it may appear that the President is stereotyping all Asian/Pacific Americans as "quiet, introverts." Again, we ultimately defer to your judgment on this matter.

cc: James W. Cicconi

(Smith/Wallace)
May 4, 1989
Draft Three
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/5/89 9:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN/PACIFIC HERITAGE WEEK

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| SUNUNU | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NEWMAN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 9:00 AM, Friday, May 5, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

All comments

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

1989 MAY 08 PM 2:00

(Smith/Wallace)
May 4, 1989
Draft Three
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

o Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans.

o You know, an Oriental proverb says, "The two words, 'peace' and 'tranquillity,' are worth a thousand pieces of gold." Well, my pleasure in welcoming you to the White House would be worth a thousand times that total.

*this is too
exaggerative
not credible*

o We gather today in a special week -- Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Yesterday marked the 146th anniversary of the day the first Japanese immigrated to America. And Wednesday celebrates the 120th birthday of an event Chinese-Americans made possible -- the driving of the Golden Spike to complete the first Transcontinental Railroad.

o We meet, too, as special friends. And, in particular, I want to thank three people. Jeanie Jew, who created the idea for this week and is the grand-daughter of a Chinese pioneer who helped build that railroad; Frank Horton, the chief sponsor of the Heritage Week legislation; And Ruby Moy, Chairman of the Congressional Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week Caucus.

o Perhaps most of all, we assemble here for a special reason: To salute the millions of immigrants from Asia and the Pacific who braved the unknown and ventured to our shores. And to salute a community which has enriched America's community -- socially, culturally, economically, spiritually.

o Someone once told me of a restaurant in China where three American tourists walked in wearing the most outlandish safari clothes, complete with Panama hats, backpacks, videocameras, a brace of walkmans and a few Chinese phrases picked up from a stateside friend who happens to own a wok.

o The friends stood around looking for a waiter, and finally one asked in a [✓]loud voice: "How do we attract attention?" [PAUSE]

o Ladies and gentlemen, that's one way to "attract attention." But as we proclaim this Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, let me observe that you have chosen another way. You've done it quietly, through excellence, with the values of your lives.

o Those values are, of course, discipline and self-sacrifice. Humility and compassion. An abiding belief in work. A soaring love of freedom. Values which brought your parents,

your grandparents, and some of you to America. Values which are now uplifting America.

o I think, for example, of pioneers like Gerald Tsai, Jr. of American Can. Or Jenlan Gee [Jen-lane JEE], the California Teacher of the Year. Or Henry Tang and I.M. Pei. Or Sichan Siv of our ^{own} White House staff.

o In 1976, Sichan escaped from Cambodia, spent three months in a refugee camp in Thailand, and finally made his way to the United States. Since then, to quote his words, "I have experienced the real values of freedom, peace, prosperity, independence, and democracy. The correct spelling of these words is A-M-E-R-I-C-A."

o My friends, he ^{they - you} -- you -- came to find a better life. And you're finding it. You came to build a better America. And you're building it. Creating new jobs. Enhancing our medical schools, the law, our small and large businesses. In short, honoring your heritage by the lives you lead.

o For that, I congratulate you. And, in a personal sense, I want to thank you, too. For as Ambassador to China, I came, with Barbara, to love that heritage. And in countless ways -- with countless friends -- to see, and share, what lies at its center: the family.

o Ten weeks ago, on a trip to the Pacific Rim, Barbara and I visited the non-denominational church we'd attended in Beijing. It's different now, bigger. But the values -- the heritage -- are the same. And the memories are even better. Like when our daughter Dor~~e~~ was baptized -- the first person to be publicly baptized in China in over 40 years.

o Yes, the Asian/Pacific community has a special place in my heart. And so does an old Chinese proverb which I have often cited. It goes, "One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade."

o For decades, Asian-Americans have planted the trees of prosperity, opportunity, and human dignity. And in coming years, more than ever, I know that my children -- America's children -- will thank you for the shade.

o God bless you, thank you for coming here, and God bless the United States of America.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/5/89 9:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN/PACIFIC HERITAGE WEEK

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REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 9:00 AM, Friday, May 5, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *See changes*

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

1000 MAY -A TH 2:1

(Smith/Wallace)
May 4, 1989
Draft Three
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

- o Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans.

- o You know, an Oriental proverb says, "The two words, 'peace' and 'tranquility,' are worth a thousand pieces of gold." Well, my pleasure in welcoming you to the White House would be worth a thousand times that total.

- o We gather today in a special week -- Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Yesterday marked the 146th anniversary of the day the first Japanese immigrated to America. And Wednesday celebrates the 120th birthday of an event Chinese-Americans made possible -- the driving of the Golden Spike to complete the first Transcontinental Railroad.

- o We meet, too, as special friends. And, in particular, I want to thank three people. ✓ Jeanie Jew, who created the idea for this week and is the grand-~~daughter~~ ✓ daughter of a Chinese pioneer who helped build that railroad. Frank Horton, the chief sponsor of the Heritage Week legislation. And Ruby Moy, Chairman of the Congressional Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week Caucus.

o Perhaps most of all, we assemble here for a special reason: To salute the millions of immigrants from Asia and the Pacific who braved the unknown and ventured to our shores. And to salute a community which has enriched America's community -- socially, culturally, economically, spiritually.

o Someone once told me of a restaurant in China where three American tourists walked in wearing the most outlandish safari clothes, complete with Panama hats, backpacks, videocameras, a brace of walkmans and a few Chinese phrases picked up from a stateside friend who happens to own a wok.

o The friends stood around looking for a waiter, and finally one asked in a loud voice: "How do we attract attention?"

o Ladies and gentlemen, that's one way to "attract attention." But as we proclaim this Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, let me observe that you have chosen another way. You've done it quietly, through excellence, with the values of your lives.

o Those values are, of course, discipline and self-sacrifice. Humility and compassion. An abiding belief in work. A soaring love of freedom. Values which brought your parents,

your grandparents, and some of you to America. Values which are now uplifting America.

o I think, for example, of pioneers like Gerald Tsai, Jr. of American Can. Or Jenlan Gee [Jen-lane JEE], the California Teacher of the Year. Or Henry Tang and I.M. Pei. Or Sichan Siv of our White House staff.

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o For that, I congratulate you. And, in a personal sense, I want to thank you, too. For as Ambassador to China, I came, with Barbara, to love that heritage. And in countless ways -- with countless friends -- to see, and share, what lies at its center: the family.

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o Yes, the Asian/Pacific community has a special place in my heart. And so does an old Chinese proverb which I have often cited. It goes, "One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade."

o For decades, Asian-Americans have planted the trees of prosperity, opportunity, and human dignity. And in coming years, more than ever, I know that my children -- America's children -- will thank you for the shade.

o God bless you, thank you for coming here, and God bless the United States of America.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/5/89 9:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN/PACIFIC HERITAGE WEEK

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REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 9:00 AM, Friday, May 5, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *GBW*
5/5

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 4, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER PORTER *RP*
BILL ROPER *BR*
JIM PINKERTON *JP*

SUBJECT: Asian/Pacific Heritage Week, Small Business Speech
Drafts

Asian/Pacific Heritage Week Speech Draft

Pg. 1, Bullet 2, line 1 It is an Asian proverb, or (if correct), a Chinese proverb, not "Oriental" -- an adjective which has become offensive.

1,2,4 The President is saying here that he values his pleasure in welcoming the group to the White House "a thousand times" the value that the proverb places on peace and tranquillity. Since that is over-generous, we suggest that he simply say that his pleasure in welcoming the group "cannot be measured in gold."

2,3,2 While, we really don't like the "Ugly American" tone of the joke, at a minimum, we suggest one change:

Instead of "How do we attract attention?" we suggest "How do we get their attention," since that is the usual idiom to describe getting a waiter. Thus, the next bullet would change to "Ladies and Gentlemen, that's one way to 'get attention.'"

Small Business Person of the Year

1,3,4 "These are words a small businessman can live by." The joke is good, but, strictly speaking, since the saying is meant ironically, these are words a small businessperson can "understand" rather than live by. Note that it should be "businessperson" rather than "businessman."

#

JAL

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 5/5/89 9:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN/PACIFIC HERITAGE WEEK

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REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 9:00 AM, Friday, May 5, 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

1000 MAY 14 PM 2:00

(Smith/Wallace)
May 4, 1989
Draft Three
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

o Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans.

o You know, an Oriental proverb says, "The two words, 'peace' and 'tranquility,' are worth a thousand pieces of gold." Well, my pleasure in welcoming you to the White House would be worth a thousand times that total.

o We gather today in a special week -- Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Yesterday marked the 146th anniversary of the day the first Japanese immigrated to America. And Wednesday celebrates the 120th birthday of an event Chinese-Americans made possible -- the driving of the Golden Spike to complete the first Transcontinental Railroad.

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1000
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o God bless you, thank you for coming here, and God bless the United States of America.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK, 1989
PROCLAMATION SIGNING CEREMONY

DATE: May 8, 1989
TIME: 10:15 a.m.
LOCATION: Rose Garden

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: SICHAN SIV *Sichan Siv*
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR PUBLIC LIAISON

I. PURPOSE:

To emphasize the President's support for the Asian American community by recognizing their accomplishments and contributions to our society.

II. BACKGROUND:

Each year since 1979 the President has signed a proclamation for Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Asian Americans are coming to Washington, D.C. from around the country to participate in several events related to this week.

III. PARTICIPANTS:

The President

Dais participants:

Anna Chennault, Chairman

National Republican Heritage Groups (Nationalities) Council

Cindy Daub, National Director

Asian Americans for Bush/Quayle '88

John Tsu, Chairman

National Republican Asian Assembly

Violetta de la Pena, National Chair

Asian American Voters Coalition

Elaine Chao, Deputy Secretary

U. S. Department of Transportation

Wendy Gramm, Chairman

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Joy Cherian, Commissioner

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Members of Congress

200 Asian American leaders

Asian American White House Staff (see attached list)

Asian American Senior Administration Officials (see attached list)

IV. PRESS PLAN:

Open press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

The President enters Rose Garden

The President makes remarks

The President signs proclamation

The President exits Rose Garden.

Remarks are provided by speechwriters.

ASIAN AMERICAN WHITE HOUSE STAFF

Sichan Siv
Deputy Assistant to the President for Public Liaison

Lehman Li
Special Assistant to the President
and Executive Secretary, Economic Policy Council

NOTIFIED
5/5

Clayton Fong
Deputy Associate Director
Office of Presidential Personnel

2973 NOTIFIED
5/5

Michael Thieman
Assistant Deputy Director
Office of Presidential Personnel

HE KNOWS

Senior Administration Officials

Elaine Chao
Deputy Secretary of Transportation

Julia Chang Bloch
Ambassador Designate to Nepal

-SHE KNOWS

Wendy Gramm, Chairman
Commodity Futures Trading Commission

-254-6970 NOTIFIED

Joy Cherian, Commissioner
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

634-6726 NOTIFIED

Kyo Jhin
Chief Counsel for Advocacy
Small Business Administration

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/5/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: -----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN/PACIFIC HERITAGE WEEK

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| HAGIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

1989 MAY -5 PM 3-4

May 5, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: CURT SMITH *CS*

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *cw*

RE: ASIAN/PACIFIC HERITAGE WEEK REMARKS

I. SUMMARY

At 10:15 a.m. Monday, May 8, you will address over 200 hundred Asian-Americans in the Rose Garden. There, you will sign a proclamation naming this Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week.

II. DISCUSSION

The enclosed remarks focus on the contributions of Asian/Pacific Americans to this country's quality of life. In particular, they discuss the values which distinguish the Asian/Pacific community.

You will find two bracketed paragraphs at the end of the speech. We are awaiting the approval from Boyden Gray's office in order to use these comments. If they are approved, we will insert them into the text.

(Smith/Wallace)
May 5, 1989
Draft Four
ASIAN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ASIAN HERITAGE WEEK
ROSE GARDEN
MONDAY, MAY 8, 1989

o Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow Americans.

o You know, an Asian proverb says, "Intelligence consists in recognizing opportunity." Well, if that's true, it's clear that you may be one of the most intelligent groups I have welcomed to the White House! For you have recognized opportunity, and seized it. And I am delighted to be with you.

o We gather today in a special week -- Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. Yesterday marked the 146th anniversary of the day the first Japanese immigrated to America. And Wednesday celebrates the 120th birthday of an event Chinese-Americans made possible -- the driving of the Golden Spike to complete the first Transcontinental Railroad.

o We meet, too, as special friends. And, in particular, I want to thank three people. Jeanie Jew, who created the idea for this week and is the granddaughter of a Chinese pioneer who helped build that railroad; Frank Horton, the chief sponsor of

the Heritage Week legislation; and Ruby Moy, Chairman of the Congressional Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week Caucus.

o Perhaps most of all, we assemble here for a special reason: To salute the millions of refugees and immigrants from Asia and the Pacific who braved the unknown and ventured to our shores. And to salute a community which has enriched America's community -- socially, culturally, economically, spiritually.

o Someone once told me of a restaurant in China where three American tourists walked in wearing the most outlandish safari clothes, complete with Panama hats, backpacks, videocameras, a brace of walkmans and a few Chinese phrases picked up from a stateside friend who happens to own a wok.

o The friends stood around looking for a waiter, and finally one asked in a loud voice: "How do we get his attention?" ((PAUSE))

o Ladies and gentlemen, that's one way to "get attention." But as we proclaim this Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, let me observe that you have chosen another way. You've done it through excellence, with the value of your lives.

o Those values are, of course, discipline and self-sacrifice. Humility and compassion. An abiding belief in work. A soaring love of freedom. Values which brought your parents,

your grandparents, and some of you to America. Values which are now uplifting America.

o I think, for example, of pioneers like Gerald Tsai, Jr. of American Can. Or Jenlan Gee [Jen-lane JEE], the California Teacher of the Year. Or Henry Tang and I.M. Pei. Or Sichan Siv of our own White House staff.

o My friends, they -- you -- are building a better America. And creating new jobs. You're enhancing our medical schools, the law, our small and large businesses. In short, honoring your heritage by the lives you lead.

o For that, I congratulate you. And, in a personal sense, I want to thank you, too. For as Ambassador to China, I came, with Barbara, to love that heritage. And in countless ways -- with countless friends -- to see, and share, what lies at its center: the family.

o Ten weeks ago, on a trip to the Pacific Rim, Barbara and I visited the nondenominational church we'd attended in Beijing. It's different now, bigger. But the values -- the heritage -- are the same. And the memories are even better. Like when our daughter Doro was baptized -- the first person to be publicly baptized in China in over 40 years.

o Yes, the Asian/Pacific community has a special place in my heart. And so does an old Chinese proverb which I have often cited. It goes, "One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade."

o For decades, Asian-Americans have planted the trees of prosperity, opportunity, and human dignity. And in coming years, more than ever, I know that my children -- America's children -- will thank you for the shade.

o God bless you, thank you for coming here, and God bless the United States of America.

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[[o Finally, before I sign the proclamation declaring this week as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, it gives me great pleasure to announce two nominations that I will submit to the Senate for confirmation to positions within my administration.]]

[[o I will be sending the name of Julia Chang Block to the Senate to be the next United States Ambassador to Nepal and the name of Kyo Jhin (Kee-o Gin) to be the Chief Counsel for advocacy in the Small Business Administration. I look forward to having both of these qualified, capable individuals join our team.]]

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 8, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT SIGNING CEREMONY FOR
ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK PROCLAMATION

The Rose Garden

10:15 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Welcome to the Rose Garden. Ladies and gentlemen and fellow Americans, you know, an Asian proverb says "intelligence consists in recognizing opportunity." Well, if that's true, it's clear that we are recognizing opportunity in putting the flag back where it belongs. (Laughter.) No, intelligence consists in recognizing opportunity, and it's clear that you may be one of the most intelligent groups that we've welcomed to the White House, for you've recognized opportunity and seized it, and I am just delighted to be with you.

I'd like to welcome a very special visitor, President Hammer DeRoburt of Nauru out in the Pacific -- (applause) -- a friend of the United States, welcome, sir. And I think it's appropriate he's here, head of an island-state in the Pacific -- most appropriate that you join us here today, sir. Thank you.

We gather in a special week, Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, and yesterday marked the 146th anniversary of the day the first Japanese immigrated to America, and Wednesday celebrates the 120th birthday of an event that Chinese-Americans made possible, the driving of the golden spike to complete the first transcontinental railroad. (Applause.) And we meet, too, as special friends, and in particular, I want to thank three people -- Jeanie Jew, who created the idea for this week and is the granddaughter of a Chinese pioneer who helped build that railroad; Frank Horton, the chief sponsor of the Heritage Week legislation, and Ruby Moy, chairman of the Congressional Asia/Pacific American Heritage Week Caucus.

Perhaps most of all we assemble here for a special reason, to salute the millions of refugees and immigrants from Asia and the Pacific who braved the unknown and ventured to our shores, and to salute a community which has enriched America's community socially, culturally, economically, spiritually.

Ladies and gentlemen, as we proclaim this Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week let me observe that you have earned this recognition. You've done it through excellence, with the value of your lives. Those values are of, course, discipline and self-sacrifice; humility and compassion; an abiding belief in work; a soaring love of freedom -- values which brought your parents, your grandparents, and some of you, right here to America -- values which are now uplifting America.

I think, for example, of pioneers like Gerald Tsai, Jr. or Jenlan Gee, the California Teacher of the Year; or Henry Tang and I.M. Pei -- of our own Sichan Siv who fled the killing fields of Cambodia and a daring escape -- now at work right here in the White House. Let me mention my trusted advisor, Lehmann Li, who's been at my side for a long time. You talk about a bright individual, he's a walking encyclopedia.

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My friends, they, you, are building a better America and creating new jobs. You're enhancing our medical schools, the law, our small and large businesses. In short, honoring your heritage by the lives you lead, and for that I congratulate you. And in a personal sense I want to thank you, too, for as Chief of the United States Liaison Office in China, I came with Barbara to love that heritage. And in countless ways, with countless friends, to see and share what lies at its center -- the family. Ten weeks ago on a trip back to Asia and to the Pacific Rim, Barbara and I visited the nondenominational church that we'd attended in Beijing. And it's different now -- it's bigger.

But the values, the heritage, are the same, and the memories are even better. And I'll never forget when our own daughter was baptized right there in China.

Yes, the Asian/Pacific community has a special place in my heart, and so does an old Chinese proverb which I've often cited. It goes: One generation plants the trees, another gets the shade.

For decades, Asian Americans have planted the trees of prosperity, opportunity and human dignity. And in coming years, more than ever, I know that my children, America's children, will thank you for the shade.

And finally, before I sign this proclamation declaring this week as Asia Pacific American Heritage Week, it gives me great pleasure to announce two nominations that I will submit to the Senate for confirmation to positions within my administration. I'll be sending the name of Julia Chang Bloch to the Senate to be the next -- (applause) -- United States Ambassador -- please -- (laughter and applause) -- the next United States Ambassador to Nepal. And the name of Kyo Jhin to be Chief Counsel -- Kyo -- Chief Counsel for Advocacy in the SBA. (Applause.) And I salute, also, Katherine Chang Dress, sworn in today as an Assistant Secretary of the Interior. (Applause.)

We are so lucky, and we welcome these qualified, capable individuals to our team.

God bless all of you. Thank you for coming here to Washington on this beautiful day. And now, let's sign this proclamation. (Applause.) Thank you very much.

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10:23 A.M. EDT