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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: 13497
Folder ID Number: 13497-007

Folder Title:
Ways and Means Bicentennial Dinner 7/24/89

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	25	6	4	3

TO POTUS 7/24 4:55pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS BICENTENNIAL DINNER
THE CAPITOL
JULY 24, 1989

Thank you. Speaker Foley, Leaders Michel and Gephardt, Chairman Rostenkowski, and especially all members and former members of this great committee: Bar and I are delighted to be here tonight, in this special room -- a room full of great memories for all of us.

I remember very well that day in 1967 when Barber Conable and I reported for duty -- the newest, least influential members to grace this dias. In those days, there were no subcommittees, no travel.... Just stacks of ominous looking papers and an overcrowded agenda. And a Chairman who knew more about the tax law than anyone in America. I am of course talking about my esteemed friend, Wilbur Mills.

I learned a lot from him, but I guess the lesson that has stayed with me most is the way Wilbur treated us all. Once on the committee, you were part of a team. Democrat, Republican -- no difference. The Chairman had time for you -- time to help you learn and grow. Wilbur, I salute you -- and I am grateful to you.

Johnny Byrnes of Wisconsin was ranking member then -- bright, energetic, and able. I learned a lot from Johnny, too.

Oh, we lost whatever partisan battles that came up -- we were whipped before we started by the Mills mastery -- but we always had a chance to speak up in hearings.

And now we're in a different era -- a different time. The committee is bigger. There are subcommittees. Somehow things seem more complex.

But this is the Ways and Means Committee. It's special -- always was, always will be.

I salute my friend, Bill Archer, who came into the Congress from our home district the year I went out. We are friends. I value his counsel.

And as for the Chairman -- well, I have to be careful here. At this very moment in history we are circling, pawing the ground once in awhile. Positioning . . . working for what we believe.

But let's face it: Dan is my respected friend. He is a great Chairman. He loves this committee, as I do. And long after reconciliation has passed, or some amendment goes up or down, I will say proudly: I served on Ways and Means. I served under a great Chairman -- and Dan Rostenkowski, my friend, is a great Chairman, too.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

89 JUL 24 P12: 50

DATE: 7/24/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:

SUBJECT: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE BICENTENNIAL DINNER

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

July 24, 1989

1989 JUL 24 11:11

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *W*

FROM: DANIEL MCGROARTY *D.McG*

SUBJECT: WAYS AND MEANS BICENTENNIAL DINNER

I. SUMMARY

This evening at 6:30, you will attend the Bicentennial Dinner for the House Ways and Means Committee, at the Capitol. After short remarks by Congressman Archer and Speaker Foley, you will make brief remarks. You will be introduced by Cokie Roberts, and followed at the dias by Chairman Rostenkowski.

II. DISCUSSION

These remarks focus on the crucial work done on Ways and Means, from the perspective of your own service on the Committee.

McGroarty/Martin.
July 24, 1989
11:00 am
[WAYS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS BICENTENNIAL DINNER
THE CAPITOL
JULY 24, 1989
6:30 P.M.

Thank you, Cokie. I am delighted to be here this evening to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the oldest committee in the history of Congress, with so many Ways and Means members, past and present.

I would be remiss if I didn't salute a few special friends here tonight. Speaker Tom Foley and Majority Leader Dick Gephart; Republican Leader Bob Michel; my good friend and fellow Texan Bill Archer, and my Chairman from my time on the Committee, Wilbur Mills.

Finally, my dear friend -- ever since we served on this Committee together -- the Chairman, Dan Rostenkowski, who told me last December in his inimitable fashion that I would be here tonight. He told me that same day that I was the eighth member of Ways and Means to become President in its two hundred years.

Two hundred years is a long time -- a proud tradition for those of us who have had the honor to serve on Ways and Means. They say the only two things in life that you can count on are

death and taxes. That means until God says your time is up -- your fate's in the hands of Ways and Means.

I began my career in Washington at this end of Pennsylvania Avenue, on this Committee. I took my seat down at the end of the table, and got a real political education.

Ways and Means is the engine room of democracy. Taxes, trade, growth, debt, the deficit, social security -- whatever the issue, Ways and Means is where the work gets done. This is where we forge **consensus** from the clashing of different views.

In this room sit the men and women whose decisions shape our nation -- who match national will and national resources. I've always maintained the deepest respect for the work you do -- and the way you do it.

What I learned as a member of Ways and Means has been invaluable. What I remember most about my time here is the collegiality. The sleeves-up atmosphere. The open and honest exchange of views. But above all, the readiness on both sides of the aisle to resolve honest differences in a spirit of good will -- for the good of this nation.

That's the spirit that upholds the finest tradition in the long history of this committee -- and it's the spirit that's going to see us through the tough work ahead.

It's a pleasure to be with you tonight -- to be among friends -- to share in this celebration. I will always be honored to call myself an alumnus of Ways and Means.

#

1989 JUL 24 11 15

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS BICENTENNIAL DINNER
THE CAPITOL
JULY 24, 1989

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I learned a lot from him, but I guess the lesson that has stayed with me most is the way Wilbur treated us all. Once on the committee, you were part of a team. Democrat, Republican -- no difference. The Chairman had time for you -- time to help you learn and grow.

He sat patiently at the head of this table, all other members being gone elsewhere giving the least time to the least Republican
Wilbur, I salute you -- and I am grateful to you.

Johnny Byrnes of Wisconsin was ranking member then -- bright, energetic, and able. I learned a lot from Johnny, too.

to stand with Walter Reuther in to applaud the head of the organization that

passed out the watchdog of the Treasury awards

perhaps commended that me

Oh, we lost ~~whatever~~ ^{every} partisan battles ^{ever} that came up -- we were ^{never mind,} whipped before we started by the Mills mastery -- but we always had a chance to speak up in hearings.

And now we're in a different era -- a different time. The committee is bigger. There are subcommittees. Somehow things seem more complex.

But this is the Ways and Means Committee. It's special -- always was, always will be.

Our friendship goes back a long way.

insert

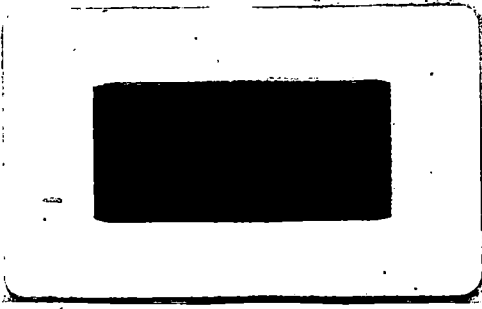
I salute my friend, Bill Archer, ^(Bill) who came into the Congress from our home district the year I went out. ~~We are friends.~~ ^{I respect him and} I value his counsel. ^{He has never forgotten the people in our District - he never will.}

And as for the Chairman -- well, I have to be careful here. At this very moment in history we are circling, pawing the ground once in awhile. Positioning ^{each} . . . working for what ^{each} we believe. ^{I understand that. I appreciate that.}

But let's face it: Dan ^{Rostenkowski} is my respected friend. ~~He is a great Chairman.~~ He loves this committee, as ^{we all} do. And long after reconciliation has passed, or some amendment goes up or down, ^{on the Committee on} I will say proudly: I served on Ways and Means. I served under a great Chairman -- and Dan Rostenkowski, my friend, is a great Chairman, too.

#

*on this is repealed
on that is extended*



#1 insert
*

I vowed not to talk substance tonight
but very recently, ^{and will recall this,} I had a substantive
conversation with ^{the chairman,} Poland's son.

Somewhat to my surprise -

He told me ~~very~~ directly - that
lower tax rates are needed, ~~that~~
~~labor reform is necessary~~, and
that more capital must be
attracted by not ~~even~~ taxing capital
at the same rate as income.

You all will be impressed, as I am,
by ^{Chairman} ~~General~~ Taruzelski is an ^{avg} impressive man



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 24, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: ROBERT J. PORTMAN *RJP*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Ways and Means Committee
Bicentennial Dinner

Pursuant to your staffing request of July 21, 1989, Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced Presidential remarks. We have no legal objection to the contents of these remarks.

Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

cc: James W. Cicconi

89 JUL 24 4 9: 55

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 24, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: NICK CALIO, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

RE: Comments on Ways and Means Speech

I propose that the language below be substituted for paragraph 2 on page 1. The "salute" does not cover all the necessary people. Moreover, it is inaccurate in that Proxmire won't be there -- he has nothing to do with the Committee. The "salute" is also a little abrupt given that this promises to be a warm and sentimental evening and given the relationship between the President and Rostenkowski.

Insert A { "I would be remiss if I didn't salute a few special friends here tonight. Speaker Tom Foley and Majority Leader Dick Gephardt; Republican Leader Bob Michel; my good friend and fellow Texan Bill Archer; and my Chairman from my time on the Committee, Wilbur Mills. Finally, my dear friend, ever since we served on this Committee together, the Chairman, Dan Rostenkowski, who told me last December in his inimitable fashion that I would be here tonight. He told me that same day that I was the eighth member of Ways and Means to become President in its 200 years."

cc: Jim Cicconi

89 JUL 24 110 : 02

v A.F.
✓

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 7/21/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 7/24/89 10:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE BICENTENNIAL DINNER

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>	BOSKIN	<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 directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 10:00 AM, Monday, July 24, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

89 JUL 24 8:54

[Signature] No Comments

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

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 7/21/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 7/24/89 10:00 AM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE BICENTENNIAL DINNER

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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 10:00 AM, Monday, July 24, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

JK
JW

89 JUL 24 9:35

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

McGroarty/Martin
July 21, 1989
4:10 pm
[WAYS]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS BICENTENNIAL DINNER
THE CAPITOL
JULY 24, 1989
6:30 P.M.

Thank you. I am delighted to be here this evening to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the oldest committee in the history of Congress, with so many Ways and Means members, past and present.

I want to salute a few special friends here tonight. Dan Rostenkowski, Chairman of Ways and Means. My good friend and fellow Texan Bill Archer, ranking minority member. And I want to say a special hello to a special guest: Senator William Proxmire.

Two hundred years is a long time -- a proud tradition for those of us who have had the honor to serve on Ways and Means. They say the only two things in life that you can count on are death and taxes. That means until God says your time is up -- your fate's in the hands of Ways and Means.

I began my career in Washington at this end of Pennsylvania Avenue, on this Committee. I took my seat down at the end of the table, and got a real political education.

Ways and Means is the engine room of democracy. Taxes, trade, growth, debt, the deficit, social security -- whatever the issue, Ways and Means is where the work gets done. This is where we forge consensus from the clashing of different views.

In this room sit the men and women whose decisions shape our nation -- who match national will and national resources. I've always maintained the deepest respect for the work you do -- and the way you do it.

What I learned as a member of Ways and Means has been invaluable. What I remember most about my time here is the collegiality. The sleeves-up atmosphere. The open and honest exchange of views. But above all, the readiness on both sides of the aisle to resolve honest differences in a spirit of good will -- for the good of this nation.

That's the spirit that upholds the finest tradition in the long history of this committee -- and it's the spirit that's going to see us through the tough work ahead.

It's a pleasure to be with you tonight -- to be among friends -- to share in this celebration. I will always be honored to call myself an alumnus of Ways and Means.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

7/21/89

7/24/89 10:00 AM

DATE: _____ ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: _____

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE BICENTENNIAL DINNER

	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"/>
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BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<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 directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 10:00 AM, Monday, July 24, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

27:11v 7/27/89 *[Signature]* No Comments

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

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

7/21/89

7/24/89 10:00 AM

DATE: _____ ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE BICENTENNIAL DINNER

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER <i>N/C phone</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN <i>N/C phone</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT <i>N/C phone</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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 <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN <i>N/C phone</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

McGroarty/Martin
July 21, 1989
4:10 pm
[WAYS]

1000 JUL 21 11 47

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JULY 24, 1989
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#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 24, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*
SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Ways and Means Committee
Bicentennial Dinner

The draft remarks look good. We have no suggested changes from a policy standpoint and approve of the draft in its present form.

cc: James W. Cicconi

89 JUL 24 P2: 28

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

7/21/89

7/24/89 10:00 AM

DATE: _____ ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE BICENTENNIAL DINNER

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<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:

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RESPONSE:

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

McGroarty/Martin
July 21, 1989
4:10 pm
[WAYS]

1989 JUL 21 11 42

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS BICENTENNIAL DINNER
THE CAPITOL
JULY 24, 1989
6:30 P.M.

Thank you. I am delighted to be here this evening to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the oldest committee in the history of Congress, with so many Ways and Means members, past and present.

I want to salute a few special friends here tonight. Dan Rostenkowski, Chairman of Ways and Means. My good friend and fellow Texan Bill Archer, ranking minority member. And I want to say a special hello to a special guest: Senator William Proxmire.

Two hundred years is a long time -- a proud tradition for those of us who have had the honor to serve on Ways and Means. They say the only two things in life that you can count on are death and taxes. That means until God says your time is up -- your fate's in the hands of Ways and Means.

I began my career in Washington at this end of Pennsylvania Avenue, on this Committee. I took my seat down at the end of the table, and got a real political education.

Ways and Means is the engine room of democracy. Taxes, trade, growth, debt, the deficit, social security -- whatever the issue, Ways and Means is where the work gets done. This is where we forge consensus from the clashing of different views.

In this room sit the men and women whose decisions shape our nation -- who match national will and national resources. I've always maintained the deepest respect for the work you do -- and the way you do it.

What I learned as a member of Ways and Means has been invaluable. What I remember most about my time here is the collegiality. The sleeves-up atmosphere. The open and honest exchange of views. But above all, the readiness on both sides of the aisle to resolve honest differences in a spirit of good will -- for the good of this nation.

That's the spirit that upholds the finest tradition in the long history of this committee -- and it's the spirit that's going to see us through the tough work ahead.

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**REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS BICENTENNIAL DINNER
THE CAPITOL
JULY 24, 1989
6:30 P.M.**

**THANK YOU. SPEAKER FOLEY, LEADERS MICHEL AND
GEPHART, CHAIRMAN ROSTENKOWSKI, AND ESPECIALLY ALL
MEMBERS AND FORMER MEMBERS OF THIS GREAT COMMITTEE:
BAR AND I ARE DELIGHTED TO BE HERE TONIGHT, IN THIS
SPECIAL ROOM -- A ROOM FULL OF GREAT MEMORIES FOR ALL
OF US.**

- 2 -

I REMEMBER VERY WELL THAT DAY IN 1967 WHEN BARBER CONABLE AND I REPORTED FOR DUTY -- THE NEWEST, LEAST INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS TO GRACE THIS DIAS. IN THOSE DAYS, THERE WERE NO SUBCOMMITTEES, NO TRAVEL.... JUST STACKS OF OMINOUS LOOKING PAPERS AND AN OVER-CROWDED AGENDA. AND A CHAIRMAN WHO KNEW MORE ABOUT THE TAX LAW THAN ANYONE IN AMERICA. I AM OF COURSE TALKING ABOUT MY ESTEEMED FRIEND, WILBUR MILLS.

- 3 -

I LEARNED A LOT FROM HIM, BUT I GUESS THE LESSON THAT HAS STAYED WITH ME MOST IS THE WAY WILBUR TREATED US ALL. ONCE ON THE COMMITTEE, YOU WERE PART OF A TEAM. DEMOCRAT, REPUBLICAN -- NO DIFFERENCE. THE CHAIRMAN HAD TIME FOR YOU -- TIME TO HELP YOU LEARN AND GROW.

- 4 -

HE SAT PATIENTLY AT THE HEAD OF THIS TABLE, ALL OTHER MEMBERS HAVING GONE ELSEWHERE GIVING THE LOWEST REPUBLICAN TIME TO FLAIL AWAY AT WALTER REUTHER OR TO APPLAUD THE HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION THAT PASSED OUT THE WATCHDOG OF THE TREASURY AWARDS. WILBUR, I SALUTE YOU -- AND I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU.

JOHNNY BYRNES OF WISCONSIN WAS RANKING MEMBER THEN -- BRIGHT, ENERGETIC, AND ABLE. I LEARNED A LOT FROM JOHNNY, TOO.

- 5 -

OH, WE LOST EVERY PARTISAN BATTLE THAT EVER CAME UP -- WE WERE WHIPPED BEFORE WE STARTED BY THE MILLS MASTERY -- BUT, NEVER MIND, WE ALWAYS HAD A CHANCE TO SPEAK UP IN HEARINGS.

AND NOW WE'RE IN A DIFFERENT ERA -- A DIFFERENT TIME. THE COMMITTEE IS BIGGER. THERE ARE SUBCOMMITTEES. SOMEHOW THINGS SEEM MORE COMPLEX.

BUT THIS IS THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE. IT'S SPECIAL -- ALWAYS WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE.

- 6 -

I SALUTE MY FRIEND, BILL ARCHER. OUR FRIENDSHIP GOES BACK A LONG WAY. BILL CAME INTO THE CONGRESS FROM OUR HOME DISTRICT THE YEAR I WENT OUT. I RESPECT HIM AND I VALUE HIS COUNSEL. HE HAS NEVER FORGOTTEN THE PEOPLE IN OUR DISTRICT -- HE NEVER WILL.

I VOWED NOT TO TALK SUBSTANCE TONIGHT BUT VERY RECENTLY, AND HE'LL RECALL THIS, I HAD A SUBSTANTIVE CONVERSATION WITH THE CHAIRMAN, POLAND'S SON.

- 7 -

SOMEWHAT TO MY SURPRISE -- HE TOLD ME --
DIRECTLY -- THAT LOWER TAX RATES ARE NEEDED, AND THAT
MORE CAPITAL MUST BE ATTRACTED BY NOT TAXING CAPITAL AT
THE SAME RATE AS INCOME.

CHAIRMAN JARUZELSKI IS A VERY IMPRESSIVE MAN.

AND AS FOR THIS CHAIRMAN -- WELL, I HAVE TO BE
CAREFUL HERE. AT THIS VERY MOMENT IN HISTORY WE ARE
CIRCLING, PAWING THE GROUND ONCE IN AWHILE.

- 8 -

POSITIONING . . . EACH WORKING FOR WHAT EACH BELIEVES.
I UNDERSTAND THAT. I APPRECIATE THAT.

BUT LET'S FACE IT: DAN ROSTENKOWSKI IS MY
RESPECTED FRIEND. HE LOVES THIS COMMITTEE, AS WE ALL
DO. AND LONG AFTER RECONCILIATION HAS PASSED, OR SOME
AMENDMENT GOES UP OR DOWN, OR THIS IS REPEALED, OR THAT
IS EXTENDED, I WILL SAY PROUDLY: I SERVED ON THE
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

- 9 -

**I SERVED UNDER A GREAT CHAIRMAN -- AND DAN
ROSTENKOWSKI, MY FRIEND, IS A GREAT CHAIRMAN, TOO.**

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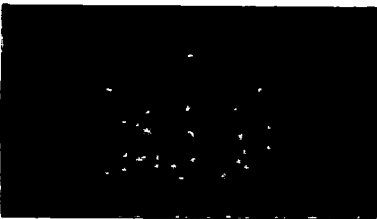
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Johnny Byrnes of Wisconsin was the ranking member... bright energetic able. I learned a lot from John Byrnes, too.... Oh we lost whatever partisan battles came up- we were whipped before we started by the mills mastery, but we always had a chance to speak up in hearings.

And now we're in a different era, a different time. The committee is bigger. There are sub committees. Somehow things seem much more complex.

But this is the Ways and Means Committee. It is special... was, always will be.

I salute my friend Bill Archer who came into the Congress from our home district the year that I went out. We are friends. I value his counsel.

And as for the new chairman, Well I have to be careful here. At this very moment in history we are circling, pawing the ground once in awhile, positioning... working for what we believe..... But let's face it.. Dan is my respected friend....He is a great Chairman. He loves this Committee as I do.and long after reconciliation has passed, or some amendment goes up or down, I will say proudly. I served on W & M/

I served under a great chairman. and Dan Rostenkowski, my friend, is a great chairman too.

Thank you Dan..... Speker Foley, Leaders Michel and Gephart, and especially

all Members and former members of this great committee... Bar and I are

~~delighted~~ delighted to be here tonight, in this special room... a room full of great memories for all of us.

I rememabr very well that day in 1967 when Barber Conable and I reported for duty- the newest least influential members to grace this dias.....In those days there were no sub committees, no travel... just stacks of ominous looking appers an overcrowded agenda, and a Chairman

that knew more abotu the tax law than anyone in the USA/. I am of course talking about

my esteembd friend Wilbur mills. I learned a lot from him. but I guess the lesson

I learned that has stayed with me most is the whe lesson relating on how Wil;bur

treated us all. Once on the committeee you were a part of the team... Democratt,

Republican-- no difference. The Chairman had time for you. Time ot help you learn and grow.

Wilbur I salute you and I am grateful to you.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

7/21/89

7/24/89 10:00 AM

DATE: _____ ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE BICENTENNIAL DINNER

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>	BOSKIN	<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 directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 10:00 AM, Monday, July 24, 1989, with an info copy to my office. Thank you.

NC

RESPONSE:

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

McGroarty/Martin
July 21, 1989
4:10 pm
[WAYS]

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 24, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *W*

FROM: DANIEL MCGROARTY *D. McGroarty*

SUBJECT: WAYS AND MEANS BICENTENNIAL DINNER

I. SUMMARY

This evening at 6:30, you will attend the Bicentennial Dinner for the House Ways and Means Committee, at the Capitol. After short remarks by Congressman Archer and Speaker Foley, you will make brief remarks. You will be introduced by Cokie Roberts, and followed at the dias by Chairman Rostenkowski.

II. DISCUSSION

These remarks focus on the crucial work done on Ways and Means, from the perspective of your own service on the Committee.

McGroarty/Martin
July 24, 1989
11:00 am
[WAYS]

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Thank you, Cokie. I am delighted to be here this evening to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the oldest committee in the history of Congress, with so many Ways and Means members, past and present.

I would be remiss if I didn't salute a few special friends here tonight. Speaker Tom Foley and Majority Leader Dick Gephart; Republican Leader Bob Michel; my good friend and fellow Texan Bill Archer, and my Chairman from my time on the Committee, Wilbur Mills.

Finally, my dear friend -- ever since we served on this Committee together -- the Chairman, Dan Rostenkowski, who told me last December in his inimitable fashion that I **would be here tonight**. He told me that same day that I was the eighth member of Ways and Means to become President in its two hundred years.

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death and taxes. That means until God says your time is up -- your fate's in the hands of Ways and Means.

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