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#2004

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Houston, Texas)

For Immediate Release

December 7, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS" RALLY

Andrew Winzer Park
Houston, Texas

2:10 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Mayor Whitmire, Kathy, thank you. Thank all of you from Sugar Plum Day Care, too, right here in the front row. Thank you for that warm introduction, Mayor. I'm especially pleased to have with me two key members of my administration -- both of them actively involved in the fight against drugs. They were announced when I came in. But one of them, Nick Brady, is the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States right here. (Applause.) And of course, our drug control director -- we call him the Czar -- who is doing an outstanding job -- Bill Bennett -- fighting every single day to win the battle against drugs. (Applause.)

I, of course, want to pay my respects to your distinguished and able Police Chief, Lee Brown -- (applause) -- Kathy's counterpart in the county, my friend of longstanding, Judge Lindsay -- John Lindsay over here. (Applause.) And of course, another close friend of mine who's working on the legislative side, one of Houston's great congressmen, Congressman Fields right over here. (Applause.)

And thank all of you -- all of you in Acres Homes community -- not for standing up to greet us today -- but for standing up for Houston every day. And I should single out for special thanks from this President, Erma Scales and Thelma LaStrap for all they have done to make this day possible. (Applause.)

As our distinguished Mayor said, Acres Homes was a part of my congressional district twenty-some years ago. In fact -- little-known fact -- this was the home turf for the George Bush All-Star championship women's softball team. (Applause.) And I just had a little reunion with our -- I think I see some -- maybe the third baseman -- no, but I just saw Bobby Moore. He and I started this team in 1960. And we had good teams, and these -- I want to say girls -- they were then; now women -- but they almost won the state championship. Travelled all over the state and played out of De Soto Park, which is just down the road a little bit. So I do feel at home. In fact, I even preached in a church here. Well, I didn't exactly preach in it, but I was Reverend Floyd Williams' guest at Antioch, down the road a ways. And I understand he's here today, also. (Applause.) And what wonderful work he has done for this community.

But let me reminisce just one second more. It's great to be back here. It's great to be back in Texas, especially after that little rough sea over there in Malta, halfway across the -- all the way across the Atlantic and halfway around the world. But glad to be back on dry land. Got the weather report. I wasn't sure it was going to be dry, but it is.

But the talks there in Malta -- the talks that I had with -- representing you all with President Gorbachev remind us all that we live in dramatic and exciting times -- times that present great opportunities -- opportunities for great and historic change. And that's true not just in Eastern Europe -- where people are seeking

MORE

freedom to travel and freedom to vote -- the freedoms that we just take for granted here in Houston and here in the United States -- but right here in the United States, in places like Acres Homes, where brave men and women -- and I mean brave -- brave men and women have used "People Power" to fight for another kind of freedom. The freedom from fear, the freedom from crime, and the freedom from drugs. (Applause.)

And just as with that new freedom in Eastern Europe, freedom from drugs isn't something the government can give you. You have got to take a stand. You've got to "take back the streets." And that's exactly what you did, right here in Winzer Park.

Acres Homes has a proud history. Once the largest unincorporated black community in the South, its quiet, tree-lined neighborhoods were mainstream America, the embodiment, if you will, of the American dream.

But in recent years, the dream on Main Street has become the nightmare on Elm Street, a twisted, backwards world where our children and our playgrounds are taken away by an evil menace called cocaine, often out there in broad daylight.

By 1987, 25 to 30 drug dealers were operating right here -- right here in Winzer Park. And the circular driveway behind us at Carver and Dolly Wright was so clogged with the cars of the drug buyers that police called it "Crack-in-the-Box." (Laughter.)

That's when your community people and your police came together to declare a new "Independence Day" -- April 9, 1988. One thousand people swept into the park. And one thousand people swept the drug dealers out of the park. (Applause.)

They haven't come back. And they better not. Because I've heard what they say about you, the members of the Acres Homes War on Drugs. They say you are community-based. And they say you are tough as nails. And they say you're not afraid of anything or anybody. (Applause.) And looking out at you today, I believe that.

You were united. You were determined. You got mad. You were angry. But you were right.

One thousand people -- one thousand people took back what's yours. Took back your parks. Took back your kids. And you not only put the drug dealers out. You put pride back in. And you were among the first to assemble and rally and move forward with a plan to fight drugs. And you were among the first to recognize that the community's future is in the hands of the community. And efforts like yours are a critical part of Bill Bennett's plan, of America's battle plan -- the new national strategy that I submitted to Congress earlier this fall. We invited Congress to join us in a new comprehensive partnership with America's communities.

First, drug education. The 1990 budget has provided over a \$200 million increase for school and community prevention programs like those that have proven so successful right here. We've got to teach our children to stay away from drugs. We've got to stop illegal drug use before it even gets started. (Applause.)

And second, drug treatment and prevention. Too many people in too many cities simply aren't getting the help they need. That's not right. And that's why the budget -- the '90 budget -- has boosted spending on drug treatment and prevention -- and especially cocaine treatment -- by about \$375 million.

And third, for those who cannot learn or will not seek help, we have a plan for them, too. Because we're going to take back the streets by taking them off the streets. (Applause.) And that means helping your able police chief. That means punishing those who do evil.

And to some ears, the very word evil is embarrassing, an

obsolete reference to some old-fashioned attitude. Well, we've all heard the supposedly sophisticated arguments that turn right and wrong into empty concepts, words without meaning.

But the people in this park know better. You see, you have seen violent crime close up and firsthand. And you know that crime -- and crime fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil, if you will. And you know that a community that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong can never protect itself.

What's the difference, then, between the wonderful young kids behind me --- this great-looking group back there -- and the kids who huddle a few blocks from where we stand, using and dealing drugs? Same neighborhood. Same schools. Same Houston. But a different choice. Often a choice made by the parents. Always a choice made by the kids.

Roy Douglas Malonson said it right here in Acres Homes the same night I addressed the entire nation on drugs. He said, "The bottom line is we're going to have to take a stance and quit blaming others for the problem. We need personal accountability."

Roy couldn't be more right. Only the American people can make this change in attitude. Only you can cultivate character and a sense of values in our kids. It's not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We can't do it by looking to the government alone.

But as you have proven here in Acres Homes, and particularly in this park, parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. You -- and probably only you -- can teach our kids right from wrong. Erma Scales says, "We need to teach a system of values. Parents need to spend more time with their kids and go back to being parents, not just being buddies." (Applause.)

And Erma, I bet you agree with me that it's time we went back to teaching what I like to call the four "R's" -- reading, writing, arithmetic and respect in the schools of this country. (Applause.) And while we're at it, I might add, respect for the teachers who give their lives to help educate these wonderful kids. (Applause.)

What I've called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of individuals and institutions who live not just for themselves but also to serve others -- is really what we're talking about here today.

Each day at the White House, I announce now a daily "point of light" -- an individual or group working to rid our communities of drugs or homelessness or hunger or illiteracy, loneliness -- so many other problems. And nowhere in America is there a group more deserving than today's Presidential Point of Light -- a bright star in our nationwide battle -- the Acres Homes War on Drugs. (Applause.) And thank you -- thank all of you for demonstrating that each point of light counts. Each point can mean one life changed. One life saved. But we need thousands, thousands in every city and every neighborhood. And if anyone wants to know just how bright that light can be when a thousand points come together -- look around you. Look at the home of strong hearts, clear minds, and indomitable wills. Look at the people of Winzer Park.

Thank you for this warm greeting on this December day. God bless you all. I hope every one of you have a wonderful, Merry Christmas. God bless you and God bless the United States of America. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

**THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS" / ADDRESS: "TIZEN" PARK
HOUSTON, TEXAS / THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 1989 / 2:00 P.M.**

**THANK YOU FOR THAT WARM INTRODUCTION. I'M
ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO HAVE TWO KEY MEMBERS IN MY
ADMINISTRATION'S FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS HERE TODAY --
SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY NICK BRADY AND OUR DRUG
CONTROL DIRECTOR BILL BENNETT. AND I WANT TO PAY MY
RESPECTS TO YOUR MAYOR KATHY WHITMIRE. \ **

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**AND THANK YOU -- ALL OF YOU IN THE ACRES HOMES
COMMUNITY -- NOT FOR STANDING UP TO GREET US TODAY --
BUT FOR STANDING UP FOR HOUSTON EVERY DAY. \ \ \ I
SHOULD SINGLE OUT FOR SPECIAL THANKS ERMA SCALES AND
THELMA LASTRAP FOR ALL THEY'VE DONE TO MAKE THIS DAY
POSSIBLE.**

**IT IS NICE TO BE BACK HERE. ACRES HOMES WAS A PART
OF MY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 20 ODD YEARS AGO.**

IN FACT, THIS WAS THE HOME TURF FOR THE GEORGE BUSH ALL-STARS -- A WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM COACHED BY MY FRIEND BOBBY MOORE, THAT CAME CLOSE TO WINNING THE CITY CHAMPIONSHIP. IN FACT, I'LL BET THERE ARE SOME ALL-STARS OUT THERE TODAY.

IT'S ALWAYS GREAT TO BE BACK IN TEXAS. AND ESPECIALLY AFTER THAT LITTLE STORM IN MALTA -- IT'S GREAT JUST TO BE BACK ON DRY LAND.

**THE TALKS IN MALTA REMIND US ALL THAT WE LIVE IN DRAMATIC AND EXCITING TIMES -- TIMES THAT PRESENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GREAT AND HISTORIC CHANGE. THAT'S TRUE NOT ONLY IN EASTERN EUROPE -- WHERE PEOPLE ARE SEEKING FREEDOM TO TRAVEL AND FREEDOM TO VOTE -- BUT RIGHT HERE IN THE U.S.A., IN PLACES LIKE ACRES HOMES, WHERE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN HAVE USED "PEOPLE POWER" TO FIGHT FOR ANOTHER KIND OF FREEDOM. FREEDOM FROM FEAR. FREEDOM FROM CRIME. FREEDOM FROM DRUGS. \\
**

AND, AS WITH THE NEW FREEDOM IN EASTERN EUROPE, FREEDOM FROM DRUGS ISN'T SOMETHING THE GOVERNMENT CAN GIVE YOU. \\ YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE A STAND. YOU'VE GOT TO "TAKE BACK THE STREETS." AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU DID, RIGHT HERE IN WINZER PARK. \\\

ACRES HOMES HAS A PROUD HISTORY. ONCE THE LARGEST UNINCORPORATED BLACK COMMUNITY IN THE SOUTH, ITS QUIET, TREE-LINED NEIGHBORHOODS WERE MAINSTREAM AMERICA, THE EMBODIMENT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM.

BUT IN RECENT YEARS, THE DREAM ON MAIN STREET HAS BECOME THE NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET, A TWISTED, BACKWARDS WORLD WHERE OUR CHILDREN AND OUR PLAYGROUNDS ARE TAKEN AWAY BY AN EVIL MENACE CALLED COCAINE, OFTEN IN BROAD DAYLIGHT.

BY 1987, 25 TO 30 DRUG DEALERS WERE OPERATING IN WINZER PARK. THE CIRCULAR DRIVEWAY BEHIND US AT CARVER AND DOLLY WRIGHT WAS SO CLOGGED WITH THE CARS OF DRUG-BUYERS THAT POLICE CALLED IT "CRACK-IN-THE-BOX."

THAT'S WHEN YOUR COMMUNITY PEOPLE AND YOUR POLICE
CAME TOGETHER TO DECLARE A NEW "INDEPENDENCE DAY" --
APRIL 9, 1988. ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE SWEEP INTO THE
PARK. AND ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE SWEEP THE DRUG DEALERS
OUT. \\\

THEY HAVEN'T COME BACK. AND THEY BETTER NOT.
BECAUSE I'VE HEARD WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT YOU, THE MEMBERS
OF THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS. THEY SAY YOU ARE
COMMUNITY-BASED.

THEY SAY YOU ARE TOUGH. AND THEY SAY YOU'RE NOT AFRAID
OF ANYTHING OR ANYBODY. \\\

LOOKING OUT AT YOU TODAY, I BELIEVE IT.

YOU WERE UNITED. YOU WERE DETERMINED. YOU WERE
ANGRY. AND YOU WERE RIGHT. \\\

ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE TOOK BACK WHAT'S YOURS. TOOK
BACK YOUR PARKS. TOOK BACK YOUR KIDS. AND YOU NOT
ONLY PUT THE DRUG DEALERS OUT. YOU PUT PRIDE
BACK IN. \\\

TODAY, THE KIDS OF WINZER PARK ARE SHOOTING HOOPS, NOT HEROIN. AND THE ONLY "CRACK" FOUND IN THIS PLAYGROUND IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE SOUNDS OF SUMMER -- THE CRACK OF THE BAT.

YOU WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO ASSEMBLE AND RALLY AND MOVE FORWARD WITH A PLAN TO FIGHT DRUGS. YOU WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE COMMUNITY'S FUTURE IS IN THE COMMUNITY'S HANDS. \\
\\

EFFORTS LIKE YOURS ARE A CRITICAL PART OF AMERICA'S BATTLE-PLAN, THE NEW, NATIONAL STRATEGY I SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS EARLIER THIS FALL. WE INVITED CONGRESS TO JOIN US IN A NEW, COMPREHENSIVE PARTNERSHIP WITH AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES. \\
\\

FIRST, DRUG EDUCATION. THE 1990 BUDGET HAS PROVIDED OVER A \$200 MILLION INCREASE FOR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PREVENTION PROGRAMS LIKE THOSE THAT HAVE PROVEN SO SUCCESSFUL HERE.

WE HAVE GOT TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN TO STAY AWAY FROM DRUGS. WE HAVE GOT TO STOP ILLEGAL DRUG USE BEFORE IT STARTS. \\\

SECOND, DRUG TREATMENT AND PREVENTION. TOO MANY PEOPLE IN TOO MANY CITIES SIMPLY AREN'T GETTING THE HELP THEY NEED. THAT'S NOT RIGHT. AND THAT'S WHY THE 1990 BUDGET HAS BOOSTED SPENDING ON DRUG TREATMENT AND PREVENTION -- AND ESPECIALLY COCAINE TREATMENT -- BY ABOUT \$375 MILLION.

AND THIRD -- FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT LEARN OR WILL NOT SEEK HELP -- WE HAVE A PLAN FOR THEM, TOO. BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO TAKE BACK THE STREETS BY TAKING THEM OFF THE STREETS. \\\

THAT MEANS PUNISHING THOSE WHO DO EVIL.

TO SOME EARS, THE VERY WORD "EVIL" IS EMBARRASSING, AN OBSOLETE REFERENCE TO OLD-FASHIONED ATTITUDES.

WE'VE ALL HEARD THE SUPPOSEDLY SOPHISTICATED ARGUMENTS THAT TURN "RIGHT" AND "WRONG" INTO EMPTY CONCEPTS, WORDS WITHOUT MEANING.

BUT THE PEOPLE IN THIS PARK KNOW BETTER. YOU SEE VIOLENT CRIME CLOSE-UP AND FIRST-HAND. YOU KNOW THAT CRIME -- AND CRIME-FIGHTING -- IS USUALLY A QUESTION OF RIGHT AND WRONG. GOOD AND EVIL. AND YOU KNOW THAT A COMMUNITY THAT CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG CAN NEVER PROTECT ITSELF. \\

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WONDERFUL YOUNG KIDS BEHIND ME AND THE KIDS WHO HUDDLE A FEW BLOCKS FROM WHERE WE STAND, USING AND DEALING DRUGS? SAME NEIGHBORHOOD. SAME SCHOOLS. SAME HOUSTON. BUT A DIFFERENT CHOICE. OFTEN A CHOICE MADE BY THE PARENTS. AND ALWAYS A CHOICE MADE BY THE KIDS.

ROY DOUGLAS MALONSON SAID IT RIGHT HERE IN ACRES HOMES, THE SAME NIGHT I ADDRESSED THE NATION ON DRUGS.

HE SAID: "THE BOTTOM LINE IS WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE A STANCE AND QUIT BLAMING OTHERS FOR THE PROBLEM. WE NEED PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY."

ROY MALONSON COULDN'T BE MORE RIGHT. ONLY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN MAKE THIS CHANGE IN ATTITUDE. ONLY YOU CAN CULTIVATE CHARACTER AND A SENSE OF VALUES IN OUR KIDS. IT IS NOT A FEDERAL PROBLEM FOR WHICH THERE IS A SIMPLE FEDERAL SOLUTION. WE CAN'T DO IT BY LOOKING TO THE GOVERNMENT ALONE.

BUT AS YOU HAVE PROVEN HERE IN ACRES HOMES, PARENTS AND TEACHERS AND RELIGIOUS AND NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS CAN DO IT. YOU -- AND PROBABLY ONLY YOU -- CAN TEACH OUR KIDS RIGHT FROM WRONG. ERMA SCALES SAYS "WE NEED TO TEACH A SYSTEM OF VALUES. PARENTS...NEED TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH THEIR KIDS AND...GO BACK TO BEING PARENTS, NOT JUST BEING BUDDIES."

AND ERMA, IT'S ALSO TIME WE WENT BACK TO TEACHING WHAT I LIKE TO CALL THE FOUR "R'S" -- READING, WRITING, 'RITHMETIC -- AND RESPECT. \\\

WHAT I HAVE CALLED THE "THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT" -- THAT GALAXY OF INDIVIDUALS AND INSTITUTIONS WHO LIVE NOT JUST FOR THEMSELVES BUT ALSO TO SERVE OTHERS -- IS REALLY WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HERE TODAY.

EACH DAY AT THE WHITE HOUSE, I ANNOUNCE A DAILY "POINT OF LIGHT" -- AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP WORKING TO RID OUR COMMUNITIES OF DRUGS, HOMELESSNESS, HUNGER, ILLITERACY, LONELINESS AND SO MANY OTHER PROBLEMS. AND NOWHERE IN AMERICA IS THERE A GROUP MORE DESERVING THAN TODAY'S PRESIDENTIAL POINT OF LIGHT -- A BRIGHT STAR IN OUR NATION-WIDE BATTLE -- THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS.

THANK YOU FOR DEMONSTRATING THAT EACH POINT OF LIGHT COUNTS.

**EACH POINT CAN MEAN ONE LIFE CHANGED. ONE LIFE SAVED.
BUT WE NEED THOUSANDS, THOUSANDS IN EVERY CITY AND
NEIGHBORHOOD. AND IF ANYONE WANTS TO KNOW JUST HOW
BRIGHT THAT LIGHT CAN BE WHEN A THOUSAND POINTS COME
TOGETHER -- LOOK AROUND YOU. LOOK AT THE HOME OF
STRONG HEARTS, CLEAR MINDS, AND INDOMITABLE WILLS.
LOOK AT THE PEOPLE OF WINZER PARK. \ \ **

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR WARM GREETING ON THIS DECEMBER
DAY. GOD BLESS YOU ALL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. GOD BLESS
TEXAS -- AND GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.**

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/6/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS RALLY

	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"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>BENNETT</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WRAY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>PETERSMEYER</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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

December 5, 1989

1989 DEC -5 PM 7:34

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *W*
FROM: EDWARD McNALLY *EM*
SUBJECT: REMARKS AT THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS RALLY

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, December 7, 1989 at 2:00 p.m., you will address an anti-drug rally in the Acres Homes neighborhood of Houston. You will speak outdoors to about 1,000 people in Andrew Winzer Park, named after a local policeman who was killed in a traffic accident while on duty.

II. DISCUSSION

In 1987, the Houston Police Department, frustrated by the increase in drug trafficking in Acres Homes, called a community meeting to ask for citizens' help. The result was the formation of the Acres Homes War on Drugs committee, a group of private citizens who mobilize the community to help the police stop drug dealers. The committee and the police held a rally in 1988 declaring Winzer Park off limits to drug dealers, and the park has remained drug free ever since.

This event highlights the Acres Homes War on Drugs as a model program worthy of emulation by others, and designates them as your Daily Point of Light. The speech is an opportunity to point out the need for total community involvement in the national war against drugs.

McNally/Simon
December 5, 1989
Draft Three (B:ACRES)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS"
ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 1989, 2:00 P.M.

[[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS]]

Thank you for that warm introduction. And thank you -- all of you in the Acres Homes community -- not for standing up to greet us today -- but for standing up for Houston every day. \\\

It's great to be back in Texas. And especially after that little storm in Malta -- it's great just to be back on dry land.

And after our long weekend at sea, it's a rare pleasure to be able to come back -- and not be asked if I caught any fish. \\\

The talks in Malta remind us all that we live in dramatic and exciting times -- times that present opportunities for great and historic change. That's true not only in Eastern Europe -- where people are seeking freedom to travel and freedom to vote -- but right here in the U.S.A., in places like Acres Homes, where brave men and women have used "People Power" to fight for another kind of freedom. Freedom from fear. Freedom from crime.

Freedom from drugs. \\\

And, as with the new freedom in Eastern Europe, freedom from drugs isn't something the government can give you. \\\ You've got to take a stand. You've got to "take back the streets." And that's exactly what you did, right here in Winzer Park. \\\

Acres Homes has a proud history. Once the largest unincorporated black community in the South, its quiet, tree-

lined neighborhoods were mainstream America, the embodiment of the American dream.

But in recent years, the dream on Main Street has become the nightmare on Elm Street, a twisted, backwards world where our children and our playgrounds are taken away by an evil menace called cocaine, often in broad daylight.

By 1987, 25 to 30 drug dealers were operating in Winzer Park. The circular driveway behind us at Carver and Dolly Wright was so clogged with the cars of drug-buyers that police called it "Crack-in-the-Box."

That's when your community people and your police came together to declare a new "Independence Day" -- April 9, 1988. One thousand people swept into the park. And one thousand people swept the drug dealers out. \\\

They haven't come back. And they better not. Because I've heard what they say about you, the members of the Acres Homes War on Drugs. They say you are community-based. They say you are tough. And they say you're not afraid of anything or anybody.\\\

Looking out at you today, I believe it.

You were united. You were determined. You were angry. And you were right. \\\

One thousand people took back what's yours. Took back your parks. Took back your kids. And you not only put the drug dealers out. You put pride back in. \\\

Today, the kids of Winzer Park are shooting hoops, not heroin. And the only "crack" found in this playground is one of

my favorite sounds of summer -- the crack of the bat.

You were among the first to assemble and rally and move forward with a plan to fight drugs. You were among the first to recognize that the community's future is in the community's hands. \\

Efforts like yours are a critical part of America's battle-plan, the new, national strategy I submitted to Congress earlier this fall. We invited Congress to join us in a new, comprehensive partnership with America's communities. \\

First, drug education. Our new package provides for a [[quarter-of-a-billion]] increase for school and community prevention programs like those that have proven so successful here. We have got to teach our children to stay away from drugs. We have got to stop illegal drug use before it starts. \\ \\

Second, drug treatment. Too many people in too many cities simply aren't getting the help they need. That's not right. And that's why our plan will boost spending on drug treatment -- and especially cocaine treatment -- by [[\$321 million]].

And third -- for those who cannot learn or will not seek help -- we have a plan for them, too. Because we're going to take back the streets by taking them off the streets. \\ \\ \\

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is embarrassing, an obsolete reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated arguments that turn "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts, words without meaning.

But the people in this park know better. You see violent crime close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime-fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a community that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong can never protect itself. \

What's the difference between the wonderful young kids behind me and the kids who huddle a few blocks from where we stand, using and dealing drugs? Same neighborhood. Same schools. Same Houston. But a different choice. Often a choice made by the parents. And always a choice made by the kids.

Roy Douglas Malonson [[PRESIDENT OF THE ACRES HOMES CITIZENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE]] said it right here in Acres Homes, the same night I addressed the nation on drugs. He said: "The bottom line is we're going to have to take a stance and quit blaming others for the problem. We need personal accountability."

Roy Malonson couldn't be more right. Only the American people can make this change in attitude. Only you can cultivate character and a sense of values in our kids. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We can't do it by looking to the government alone.

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And Erma, it's also time we went back to teaching what I like to call the four "R's" -- reading, writing, 'rithmetic -- and respect. \\\

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Thank you for your warm greeting on this December day. God bless you all this holiday season. God bless Texas -- and God bless the U.S.A.

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*Comments from Mick Warman's
office*

McNally/Simon
December 5, 1989
Draft Three (B:ACRES)

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The talks in Malta remind us all that we live in dramatic and exciting times -- times that present opportunities for great and historic change. That's true not only in Eastern Europe -- where people are seeking freedom to travel and freedom to vote -- but right here in the U.S.A., in places like Acres Homes, where brave men and women have used "People Power" to fight for another kind of freedom. Freedom from fear. Freedom from crime.

Freedom from drugs. \\\

And, as with the new freedom in Eastern Europe, freedom from drugs isn't something the government can give you. \\\ You've got to take a stand. You've got to "take back the streets." And that's exactly what you did, right here in Winzer Park. \\\

Acres Homes has a proud history. Once the largest unincorporated black community in the South, its quiet, tree-

lined neighborhoods were mainstream America, the embodiment of the American dream.

But in recent years, the dream on Main Street has become the nightmare on Elm Street, a twisted, backwards world where our children and our playgrounds are taken away by an evil menace called cocaine, often in broad daylight.

By 1987, 25 to 30 drug dealers were operating in Winzer Park. The circular driveway behind us at Carver and Dolly Wright was so clogged with the cars of drug-buyers that police called it "Crack-in-the-Box."

That's when your community people and your police came together to declare a new "Independence Day" -- April 9, 1988. One thousand people swept into the park. And one thousand people swept the drug dealers out. \\\

They haven't come back. And they better not. Because I've heard what they say about you, the members of the Acres Homes War on Drugs. They say you are community-based. They say you are tough. And they say you're not afraid of anything or anybody.\\\

Looking out at you today, I believe it.

You were united. You were determined. You were angry. And you were right. \\\

One thousand people took back what's yours. Took back your parks. Took back your kids. And you not only put the drug dealers out. You put pride back in. \\\

Today, the kids of Winzer Park are shooting hoops, not heroin. And the only "crack" found in this playground is one of

my favorite sounds of summer -- the crack of the bat.

You were among the first to assemble and rally and move forward with a plan to fight drugs. You were among the first to recognize that the community's future is in the community's hands. \

Efforts like yours are a critical part of America's battle-plan, the new, national strategy I submitted to Congress earlier this fall. We invited Congress to join us in a new, ^{has} comprehensive partnership with America's communities. \

First, drug education. ^{The 1990 budget provided over a \$200 million} ~~Our new package provides for a~~ ~~[[quarter-of-a-billion]]~~ increase for school and community prevention programs like those that have proven so successful here. We have got to teach our children to stay away from drugs. We have got to stop illegal drug use before it starts. \\\

Second, drug treatment, ^{and prevention} Too many people in too many cities simply aren't getting the help they need. That's not right. And that's why ~~our plan will~~ ^{the 1990 budget has} ~~(boost)~~ ^{and prevention} spending on drug treatment -- and especially cocaine treatment -- by ^{about \$375 million,} ~~[[4321 million]]~~.

And third -- for those who cannot learn or will not seek help -- we have a plan for them, too. Because we're going to take back the streets by taking them off the streets. \\\

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is embarrassing, an obsolete reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated arguments that turn "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts, words without meaning.

But the people in this park know better. You see violent crime close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime-fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a community that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong can never protect itself. \

What's the difference between the wonderful young kids behind me and the kids who huddle a few blocks from where we stand, using and dealing drugs? Same neighborhood. Same schools. Same Houston. But a different choice. Often a choice made by the parents. And always a choice made by the kids.

Roy Douglas Malonson [[PRESIDENT OF THE ACRES HOMES CITIZENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE]] said it right here in Acres Homes, the same night I addressed the nation on drugs. He said: "The bottom line is we're going to have to take a stance and quit blaming others for the problem. We need personal accountability."

Roy Malonson couldn't be more right. Only the American people can make this change in attitude. Only you can cultivate character and a sense of values in our kids. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We can't do it by looking to the government alone.

But as you have proven here in Acres Homes, parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. You -- and probably only you -- can teach our kids right from wrong. Erma Scales [[CHAIRWOMAN OF THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS]] says "We need to teach a system of values. Parents...need to spend more time with their kids and...go back to being parents, not

just being buddies."

And Erma, it's also time we went back to teaching what I like to call the four "R's" -- reading, writing, 'rithmetic -- and respect. \\\

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of individuals and institutions who live not just for themselves but also to serve others -- is really what we're talking about here today.

Each day at the White House, I announce a daily "point of light" -- an individual or group working to rid our communities of drugs, homelessness, hunger, illiteracy, loneliness and so many other problems. And nowhere in America is there a group more deserving than today's Presidential Point of Light -- a bright star in our nation-wide battle -- the Acres Homes War on Drugs. Thank you for demonstrating that each point of light counts. Each point can mean one life changed. One life saved. But we need thousands, thousands in every city and neighborhood. And if anyone wants to know just how bright that light can be when a thousand points come together -- look around you. Look at the home of strong hearts, clear minds, and indomitable wills. Look at the people of Winzer Park. \\\

Thank you for your warm greeting on this December day. God bless you all this holiday season. God bless Texas -- and God bless the U.S.A.

#

Jon Lindsay

Bennett

Grady

Scals

Whitman

Chief Brown

H. Rep. Sylvester Turner

Father Tyson

Rev. Jones

Thelma LaSteph

Councilman

Gorayuski

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 5, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *CW*
FROM: EDWARD McNALLY *EM*
SUBJECT: REMARKS AT THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS RALLY

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, December 7, 1989 at 2:00 p.m., you will address an anti-drug rally in the Acres Homes neighborhood of Houston. You will speak outdoors to about 1,000 people in Andrew Winzer Park, named after a local policeman who was killed in a traffic accident while on duty.

II. DISCUSSION

In 1987, the Houston Police Department, frustrated by the increase in drug trafficking in Acres Homes, called a community meeting to ask for citizens' help. The result was the formation of the Acres Homes War on Drugs committee, a group of private citizens who mobilize the community to help the police stop drug dealers. The committee and the police held a rally in 1988 declaring Winzer Park off limits to drug dealers, and the park has remained drug free ever since.

This event highlights the Acres Homes War on Drugs as a model program worthy of emulation by others, and designates them as your Daily Point of Light. The speech is an opportunity to point out the need for total community involvement in the national war against drugs.

McNally/Simon
December 5, 1989
Draft Three (B:ACRES)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS"
ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 1989, 2:00 P.M.

[[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS]]

Thank you for that warm introduction. And thank you -- all of you in the Acres Homes community -- not for standing up to greet us today -- but for standing up for Houston every day. \\\

It's great to be back in Texas. And especially after that little storm in Malta -- it's great just to be back on dry land.

And after our long weekend at sea, it's a rare pleasure to be able to come back -- and not be asked if I caught any fish. \\\

The talks in Malta remind us all that we live in dramatic and exciting times -- times that present opportunities for great and historic change. That's true not only in Eastern Europe -- where people are seeking freedom to travel and freedom to vote -- but right here in the U.S.A., in places like Acres Homes, where brave men and women have used "People Power" to fight for another kind of freedom. Freedom from fear. Freedom from crime.

**Freedom from drugs. **

And, as with the new freedom in Eastern Europe, freedom from drugs isn't something the government can give you. \\\ You've got to take a stand. You've got to "take back the streets." And **that's exactly what you did, right here in Winzer Park.** \\\

Acres Homes has a proud history. Once the largest unincorporated black community in the South, its quiet, tree-

lined neighborhoods were mainstream America, the embodiment of the American dream.

But in recent years, the dream on Main Street has become the nightmare on Elm Street, a twisted, backwards world where our children and our playgrounds are taken away by an evil menace called cocaine, often in broad daylight.

By 1987, 25 to 30 drug dealers were operating in Winzer Park. The circular driveway behind us at Carver and Dolly Wright was so clogged with the cars of drug-buyers that police called it "Crack-in-the-Box."

That's when your community people and your police came together to declare a new "Independence Day" -- April 9, 1988. One thousand people swept into the park. And one thousand people swept the drug dealers out. \\\

They haven't come back. And they better not. Because I've heard what they say about you, the members of the Acres Homes War on Drugs. They say you are community-based. They say you are tough. And they say you're not afraid of anything or anybody.\\\

Looking out at you today, I believe it.

You were united. You were determined. You were angry. And you were right. \\\

One thousand people took back what's yours. Took back your parks. Took back your kids. And you not only put the drug dealers out. You put pride back in. \\\

Today, the kids of Winzer Park are shooting hoops, not heroin. And the only "crack" found in this playground is one of

my favorite sounds of summer -- the crack of the bat.

You were among the first to assemble and rally and move forward with a plan to fight drugs. You were among the first to recognize that the community's future is in the community's hands. \\

Efforts like yours are a critical part of America's battle-plan, the new, national strategy I submitted to Congress earlier this fall. We invited Congress to join us in a new, comprehensive partnership with America's communities. \\

First, drug education. Our new package provides for a [[quarter-of-a-billion]] increase for school and community prevention programs like those that have proven so successful here. We have got to teach our children to stay away from drugs. We have got to stop illegal drug use before it starts. \\ \\

Second, drug treatment. Too many people in too many cities simply aren't getting the help they need. That's not right. And that's why our plan will boost spending on drug treatment -- and especially cocaine treatment -- by [[\$321 million]].

And third -- for those who cannot learn or will not seek help -- we have a plan for them, too. Because we're going to take back the streets by taking them off the streets. \\ \\ \\

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is embarrassing, an obsolete reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated arguments that turn "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts, words without meaning.

But the people in this park know better. You see violent crime close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime-fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a community that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong can never protect itself. \\

What's the difference between the wonderful young kids behind me and the kids who huddle a few blocks from where we stand, using and dealing drugs? Same neighborhood. Same schools. Same Houston. But a different choice. Often a choice made by the parents. And always a choice made by the kids.

Roy Douglas Malonson [[PRESIDENT OF THE ACRES HOMES CITIZENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE]] said it right here in Acres Homes, the same night I addressed the nation on drugs. He said: "The bottom line is we're going to have to take a stance and quit blaming others for the problem. We need personal accountability."

Roy Malonson couldn't be more right. Only the American people can make this change in attitude. Only you can cultivate character and a sense of values in our kids. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We can't do it by looking to the government alone.

But as you have proven here in Acres Homes, parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. You -- and probably only you -- can teach our kids right from wrong. Erma Scales [[CHAIRWOMAN OF THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS]] says "We need to teach a system of values. Parents...need to spend more time with their kids and...go back to being parents, not

just being buddies."

And Erma, it's also time we went back to teaching what I like to call the four "R's" -- reading, writing, 'rithmetic -- and respect. \\\

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of individuals and institutions who live not just for themselves but also to serve others -- is really what we're talking about here today.

Each day at the White House, I announce a daily "point of light" -- an individual or group working to rid our communities of drugs, homelessness, hunger, illiteracy, loneliness and so many other problems. And nowhere in America is there a group more deserving than today's Presidential Point of Light -- a bright star in our nation-wide battle -- the Acres Homes War on Drugs. Thank you for demonstrating that each point of light counts. Each point can mean one life changed. One life saved. But we need thousands, thousands in every city and neighborhood. And if anyone wants to know just how bright that light can be when a thousand points come together -- look around you. Look at the home of strong hearts, clear minds, and indomitable wills. Look at the people of Winzer Park. \\\

Thank you for your warm greeting on this December day. God bless you all this holiday season. God bless Texas -- and God bless the U.S.A.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 5, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: The Acres Homes "War on
Drugs " Andrew Winzer Park, Houston, Texas,
Thursday, December 7, 1989, 2:00 p.m.

The remarks are well written and should go over well with this audience. We have no suggested changes from a policy standpoint and approve of the draft remarks in their present form.

89 DEC 5 4:55

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 PM, TUES., DEC. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS"
ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1989, 2:00 PM

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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please provide comments/edits on the attached directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to my office, by 2:00 PM, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5. Thank you.

RESPONSE: _____

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

McNally/Simon
December 4, 1989
Draft Two (B:ACRES)

1989 DEC -4 PM 5: 57

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS"
ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 1989, 2:00 P.M.

[[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS]]

Thank you for that warm introduction. And thank you -- all of you in the Acres Homes community -- not for standing up to greet us today -- but for standing up for Houston every day. \\\

It's great to be back in Texas. And especially after that little storm in Malta -- it's great just to be back on dry land.

And after our long weekend at sea, it's a rare pleasure to be able to come back -- and not be asked if I caught any fish.\\

The talks in Malta remind us all that we live in dramatic and exciting times -- times that present opportunities for great and historic change. That's true not only in Eastern Europe -- where people are seeking freedom to travel and freedom to vote -- but right here in the U.S.A., in places like Acres Homes, where brave men and women have used "People Power" to fight for another kind of freedom. Freedom from fear. Freedom from drugs. \\\

And, as with the new freedom in Eastern Europe, freedom from drugs isn't something the government can give you. \\ You've got to take a stand. You've got to "take back the streets." And that's exactly what you did, right here in Winzer Park. \\\

Acres Homes has a proud history. Once the largest unincorporated black community in the South, its quiet, tree-lined neighborhoods were mainstream America, the American dream.

But in recent years, the dream on Main Street became the nightmare on Elm Street, a twisted, backwards world where our children and our playgrounds were taken away by an evil menace called cocaine, often in broad daylight.

By 1987, 25 to 30 drug dealers were operating in Winzer Park. The circular driveway behind us at Carver and Dolly Wright was so clogged with the cars of drug-buyers that police called it "Crack-in-the-Box."

That's when your people and your police came together to declare a new "Independence Day" -- April 9, 1988. One thousand people swept into the park. And one thousand people swept the drug dealers out. \\\

They haven't come back. And they better not. Because I've heard what they say about you, the members of the Acres Homes War on Drugs. They say you are community-based. They say you are tough. And they say you're not afraid of anything or anybody.\\\

Looking out at you today, I believe it.

You were united. You were determined. You were angry. And you were right. \\\

One thousand people took back what's yours. Took back your parks. Took back your kids. And you not only put the drug dealers out. You put pride back in. \\\

Today, the kids of Winzer Park are shooting hoops, not drugs. And the only "crack" found in this playground is one of my favorite sounds of summer -- the crack of the bat.

You were among the first to assemble and rally and move forward with a plan. You were among the first to recognize that the community's future is in the community's hands. \\

Efforts like yours are a critical part of America's battle-plan, the new, national strategy I submitted to Congress earlier this fall. We invited Congress to join us in a new, comprehensive partnership with America's cities and states. \\

First, drug education. Our new package provides for a [[quarter-of-a-billion]] increase for school and community prevention programs like those that have proven so successful here. We have got to teach our children. We have got to stop illegal drug use before it starts. \\

Second, drug treatment. Too many people in too many cities simply aren't getting the help they need. That's not right. And that's why our plan will boost spending on drug treatment -- and especially cocaine treatment -- by [[\$321 million]].

And third -- for those who cannot learn or will not seek help -- we have a plan for them, too. Because we're going to take back the streets by taking them off the streets. \\

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is an embarrassment, an obsolete reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated arguments that turn "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts, words without meaning.

But the people in this park know better. You see violent crime close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime-

fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a community that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong will never protect itself. \\

What's the difference between the wonderful young kids behind me and the kids who huddle a few blocks from where we stand, using and dealing drugs? Same neighborhood. Same schools. Same Houston. But a different choice. Often a choice made by the parents. And always a choice made by the kids.

Roy Douglas Malonson [[PRESIDENT OF THE ACRES HOMES CITIZENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE]] said it right here in Acres Homes, the same night I addressed the nation on drugs. He said: "The bottom line is we're going to have to take a stance and quit blaming others for the problem. We need personal accountability."

Roy Malonson is right. Only the American people can make this change in attitude. Only you can cultivate character in our kids. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We can't do it by looking to the government.

But as you have proven here in Acres Homes, parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. You -- and probably only you -- can teach our kids right from wrong. Erma Scales [[CHAIRWOMAN OF THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS]] says "We need to teach a system of values. Parents...need to spend more time with their kids and...go back to being parents, not just being buddies."

And Erma, it's also time we went back to teaching what I like to call the four "R's" -- reading, writing, 'rithmetic -- and respect. \\\

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of small units of society that exist to serve others -- can also help to cultivate the character of our children by working to prevent neighborhood crime.

Each day at the White House, I announce a daily "point of light" -- an individual or organization that epitomizes the best in community service. And nowhere in America is there a group more deserving than today's Presidential Point of Light -- a bright star in our nation-wide battle -- the Acres Homes War on Drugs. \\\

Now, this is the "Lone Star State," and that means each point of light counts. Each point can mean one life changed. One life saved. But we need thousands, thousands in every city and neighborhood. And if anyone wants to know just how bright that light can be when a thousand come together -- look around you. Look at the home of strong hearts, clear minds, and indomitable wills. Look at the people of Winzer Park. \\\

Thank you for your warm greeting on this December day. God bless you all this holiday season. God bless Texas -- and God bless the U.S.A.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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December 5, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON
Deputy Assistant to the President for
Communications

FROM: BRENT O. HATCH *B.O.H.*
Associate Counsel to the President

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: The Acres Homes "War on
Drugs" - Andrew Winzer Park; Houston, Texas

At your request, Counsel's office has reviewed the above-
referenced Presidential remarks. We have no legal objections.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this matter.

cc: James W. Cicconi

89 DEC 5 4:26

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 PM, TUES., DEC. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS"
 ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON, TEXAS
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1989, 2:00 PM

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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FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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REMARKS: Please provide comments/edits on the attached directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to my office, by 2:00 PM, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5. Thank you.

RESPONSE: _____

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

McNally/Simon
December 4, 1989
Draft Two (B:ACRES)

1989 DEC -4 PM 5:57

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS"
ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 1989, 2:00 P.M.

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What's the difference between the wonderful young kids behind me and the kids who huddle a few blocks from where we stand, using and dealing drugs? Same neighborhood. Same schools. Same Houston. But a different choice. Often a choice made by the parents. And always a choice made by the kids.

Roy Douglas Malonson [[PRESIDENT OF THE ACRES HOMES CITIZENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE]] said it right here in Acres Homes, the same night I addressed the nation on drugs. He said: "The bottom line is we're going to have to take a stance and quit blaming others for the problem. We need personal accountability."

Roy Malonson is right. Only the American people can make this change in attitude. Only you can cultivate character in our kids. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We can't do it by looking to the government.

But as you have proven here in Acres Homes, parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. You -- and probably only you -- can teach our kids right from wrong. Erma Scales [[CHAIRWOMAN OF THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS]] says "We need to teach a system of values. Parents...need to spend more time with their kids and...go back to being parents, not just being buddies."

And Erma, it's also time we went back to teaching what I like to call the four "R's" -- reading, writing, 'rithmetic -- and respect. \\\

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of small units of society that exist to serve others -- can also help to cultivate the character of our children by working to prevent neighborhood crime.

Each day at the White House, I announce a daily "point of light" -- an individual or organization that epitomizes the best in community service. And nowhere in America is there a group more deserving than today's Presidential Point of Light -- a bright star in our nation-wide battle -- the Acres Homes War on Drugs. \\\

Now, this is the "Lone Star State," and that means each point of light counts. Each point can mean one life changed. One life saved. But we need thousands, thousands in every city and neighborhood. And if anyone wants to know just how bright that light can be when a thousand come together -- look around you. Look at the home of strong hearts, clear minds, and indomitable wills. Look at the people of Winzer Park. \\\

Thank you for your warm greeting on this December day. God bless you all this holiday season. God bless Texas -- and God bless the U.S.A.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 PM, TUES., DEC. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS"

ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON, TEXAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1989, 2:00 PM

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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please provide comments/edits on the attached directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to my office, by 2:00 PM, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

ok
SR

89 DEC 5 3:36

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

McNally/Simon
December 4, 1989
Draft Two (B:ACRES)

1989 DEC -4 PM 5: 57

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THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 1989, 2:00 P.M.

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And after our long weekend at sea, it's a rare pleasure to be able to come back -- and not be asked if I caught any fish. \\\

The talks in Malta remind us all that we live in dramatic and exciting times -- times that present opportunities for great and historic change. That's true not only in Eastern Europe -- where people are seeking freedom to travel and freedom to vote -- but right here in the U.S.A., in places like Acres Homes, where brave men and women have used "People Power" to fight for another kind of freedom. Freedom from fear. Freedom from drugs. \\\

And, as with the new freedom in Eastern Europe, freedom from drugs isn't something the government can give you. \\\ You've got to take a stand. You've got to "take back the streets." And that's exactly what you did, right here in Winzer Park. \\\

Acres Homes has a proud history. Once the largest unincorporated black community in the South, its quiet, tree-lined neighborhoods were mainstream America, the American dream.

But in recent years, the dream on Main Street became the nightmare on Elm Street, a twisted, backwards world where our children and our playgrounds were taken away by an evil menace called cocaine, often in broad daylight.

By 1987, 25 to 30 drug dealers were operating in Winzer Park. The circular driveway behind us at Carver and Dolly Wright was so clogged with the cars of drug-buyers that police called it "Crack-in-the-Box."

That's when your people and your police came together to declare a new "Independence Day" -- April 9, 1988. One thousand people swept into the park. And one thousand people swept the drug dealers out. \\\

They haven't come back. And they better not. Because I've heard what they say about you, the members of the Acres Homes War on Drugs. They say you are community-based. They say you are tough. And they say you're not afraid of anything or anybody.\\\

Looking out at you today, I believe it.

You were united. You were determined. You were angry. And you were right. \\\

One thousand people took back what's yours. Took back your parks. Took back your kids. And you not only put the drug dealers out. You put pride back in. \\\

Today, the kids of Winzer Park are shooting hoops, not drugs. And the only "crack" found in this playground is one of my favorite sounds of summer -- the crack of the bat.

You were among the first to assemble and rally and move forward with a plan. You were among the first to recognize that the community's future is in the community's hands. \\

Efforts like yours are a critical part of America's battle-plan, the new, national strategy I submitted to Congress earlier this fall. We invited Congress to join us in a new, comprehensive partnership with America's cities and states. \\

First, drug education. Our new package provides for a [[quarter-of-a-billion]] increase for school and community prevention programs like those that have proven so successful here. We have got to teach our children. We have got to stop illegal drug use before it starts. \\

Second, drug treatment. Too many people in too many cities simply aren't getting the help they need. That's not right. And that's why our plan will boost spending on drug treatment -- and especially cocaine treatment -- by [[\$321 million]].

And third -- for those who cannot learn or will not seek help -- we have a plan for them, too. Because we're going to take back the streets by taking them off the streets. \\

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is an embarrassment, an obsolete reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated arguments that turn "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts, words without meaning.

But the people in this park know better. You see violent crime close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime-

fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a community that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong will never protect itself. \\

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#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date:

12/5/89

TO:

Chriss Winston

FROM:

CLARK KENT ERVIN
Office of National Service
x6266

CKE

- Action
- Your Comment
- Let's Talk
- FYI

Attached are our comments on the President's upcoming Houston speech.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 PM, TUES., DEC. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS"
 ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON, TEXAS
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1989, 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: _____

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89 DEC 5 11:36

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

McNally/Simon
December 4, 1989
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Acres Homes has a proud history. Once the largest unincorporated black community in the South, its quiet, tree-lined neighborhoods were mainstream America, the American dream.

Freedom from crime

Embodiment of the

The picture of

Note: No - should be kept past tense. It became bad - and then the community turned it around. - not all

But in recent years, the dream on Main Street became a nightmare on Elm Street, a twisted, backwards world where our children and our playgrounds were taken away by an evil menace called cocaine, often in broad daylight.

snatched from us

By 1987, 25 to 30 drug dealers were operating in Winzer Park. The circular driveway behind us at Carver and Dolly Wright was so clogged with the cars of drug-buyers that police called it "Crack-in-the-Box."

That's when your people and your police came together to declare a new "Independence Day" -- April 9, 1988. One thousand people swept into the park. And one thousand people swept the drug dealers out.

community

like prints of light against a dark sky

They haven't come back. And they better not. Because I've heard what they say about you, the members of the Acres Homes War on Drugs. They say you are community-based. They say you are tough. And they say you're not afraid of anything or anybody.

These dealers

Looking out at you today, I believe it.

You were united. You were determined. You were angry. And you were right.

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Today, the kids of Winzer Park are shooting hoops, not drugs. And the only "crack" found in this playground is one of my favorite sounds of summer -- the crack of the bat.

heroin

Can ✓

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could be more

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essentially

But different kids. Different values.

to fight drugs
3

You were among the first to assemble and rally and move forward with a plan. You were among the first to recognize that the community's future is in the community's hands. \\
\\

Efforts like yours are a critical part of America's battle-plan, the new, national strategy I submitted to Congress earlier this fall. We invited Congress to join us in a new, comprehensive partnership with America's ~~cities and states~~. \\
\\ *communities*

First, drug education. Our new package provides for a [[quarter-of-a-billion]] increase for school and community prevention programs like those that have proven so successful here. We have got to teach our children. We have got to stop illegal drug use before it starts. \\
\\ *to stay away from drugs*

Second, drug treatment. Too many people in too many cities simply aren't getting the help they need. That's not right. And that's why our plan will boost spending on drug treatment -- and especially cocaine treatment -- by [[\$321 million]].

And third -- for those who cannot learn or will not seek help -- we have a plan for them, too. Because we're going to take back the streets by taking them off the streets. \\
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To some ears, the very word "evil" is an embarrassment, an obsolete reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated arguments that turn "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts, words without meaning.

But the people in this park know better. You see violent crime close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime-

Crime to you is not cold statistics, not something you read about in the papers or watch on T.V. Crime doesn't happen to somebody else. Crime touches almost every one of you directly. (see back)

Who among you has not lost a relative, a friend or a neighbor
to murder, violence or theft?

One fathered
community, make
whole again.

And Erma, it's also time we went back to teaching what I like to call the four "R's" -- reading, writing, 'rithmetic -- and respect. \\\

individuals and institutions who live not just for themselves but also

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of ~~small units of society that exist to serve others~~ -- can also help to cultivate the character of our children by ~~working to prevent neighborhood crime~~.

is really what we're talking about here today

Each day at the White House, I announce a daily "point of light" -- an individual or organization that ~~epitomizes the best in community service~~. And nowhere in America is there a group more deserving than today's Presidential Point of Light -- a bright star in our nation-wide battle -- the Acres Homes War on Drugs. \\\

group

Alone, no point of light can solve all of our problems,

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#

working to rid our communities of drugs, AIDS, illiteracy, homelessness, hunger and other dire problems.

Thank you for demonstrating to the rest of the nation that "From now on in America, my definition of a successful life must include serving others."

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 PM, TUES., DEC. 5

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OK as drafted - JWC 12/5/89

89 DEC 5 2:45

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

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#

McNally/Simon
December 1, 1989
Draft One (B:ACRES)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOME "WAR ON DRUGS"
P.O. ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON
THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 1989, __:__ A.M.

[[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS]]

Thank you for that warm introduction. And thank you -- all of you in the Acres Home community -- not for standing up to greet us today -- but for standing up for Houston every day. \\

It's great to be back in Texas. And especially after that little storm in Malta -- it's great just to be back on dry land.

And after our long weekend at sea, it's a rare pleasure to be able to come back -- and not be asked if I caught any fish.\\

The talks in Malta remind us all that we live in dramatic and exciting times -- times that present opportunities for great and historic change. That's true not only in Eastern Europe -- where people are seeking freedom to travel and freedom to vote -- but right here in the U.S.A., in places like Acres Home, where brave men and women have used "People Power" to fight for another kind of freedom. Freedom from fear. **Freedom from drugs**. \\

And, as with the new freedom in Eastern Europe, freedom from drugs isn't something the government can give you. \\ You've got to take a stand. You've got to "take back the streets." **And that's exactly what you did, right here in Winzer Park.** \\

Acres Home has a proud history. Once the largest unincorporated black community in the South, its quiet, tree-lined neighborhoods were mainstream America, the American dream.

But in recent years, the dream on Main Street became the nightmare on Elm Street, a twisted, backwards world where our children and our playgrounds were taken away by an evil menace called cocaine, often in broad daylight.

By 1987, 25 to 30 drug dealers were operating in Winzer Park. The circular driveway behind us at Carver and Dolly Wright was so clogged with the cars of drug-buyers that police called it "Crack-in-the-Box."

That's when your people and your police came together to declare a new "Independence Day" -- April 9, 1988. One thousand people swept into the park. And one thousand people swept the drug dealers out. \\\

They haven't been back. And they better not. Because I've heard what they say about you, the members of the Acres Home War on Drugs. They say you are community-based. They say you are tough. And they say you're not afraid of anything or anybody.\\\

Looking out at you today, I believe it.

You were united. You were determined. You were angry. And you were right. \\\

One thousand people took back what's yours. Took back your parks. Took back your kids. And you not only put the drug dealers out. You put pride back in. \\\

Today, the kids of Winzer Park are shooting hoops, not drugs. And the only "crack" found in this playground is one of my favorite sounds of summer -- the crack of the bat.

You were among the first to assemble and rally and move forward with a plan. You were among the first to recognize that the community's future is in the community's hands. \\
 \

You proved that you can stand up to drug dealers, and win. \\
 \ You proved what many have long-suspected -- that the cocaine cowboys are cowards. \ And along the way, you provided a model for other community-based efforts across Texas and across the country, a battle-plan for the 1990's.

~~Community~~ efforts like yours are a critical part of America's battle-plan, the new, national strategy I submitted to Congress earlier this fall. We invited Congress to join us in a new, comprehensive partnership with America's cities and states. ~~The plan is as simple as it is complete.~~ \\
 \

First, drug education. We have asked Congress for a quarter-of-a-billion increase for school and community prevention programs like those that have proven so successful here. We have got to teach our children. We have got to stop illegal drug use before it starts. \\\

Second, drug treatment. Too many people in too many cities simply aren't getting the help they need. That's not right. And that's why we have asked Congress to boost spending on drug treatment -- and especially cocaine treatment -- by \$321 million.

And third -- for those who cannot learn or will not seek help -- we have a plan for them, too. Because we're going to take back the streets by taking them off the streets. \\\

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is an embarrassment, an obsolete reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated arguments that turn "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts, words without meaning.

But the people in this park know better. You see violent crime close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime-fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a community that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong will never protect itself. \\\

You know, I noticed on my way in that some of the windows in the stores and homes along the way are now covered with bars.

Well, I've got some news. **The wrong people are behind bars.**

There are people out there intent on doing wicked things. These drug gang members are society's scavengers. Cowardly. Amoral. When they spot someone vulnerable -- the elderly woman who has to cross a drug infested corner from the bus stop to her front door -- they see their fellow man the way a jackal sees a wounded doe.

As such barbarous acts reveal, a criminal thinks in a way simply unlike that of any other person. Some would like to believe that society is more to blame for crime than the criminal.

Some say crime is caused by parents who are too distant. Others say it's parents who pamper their kids too much. Some say crime is caused by America's poverty. Others say it's America's prosperity that's to blame. TV violence. Boredom. Passionate

impulses. Everything and everyone is blamed. **Except the criminal.** \\
criminal. \\
 \

You who have struggled for this park know otherwise. The fact of the matter is, the criminal chooses his way of life, his companions, the kinds of crime he commits. **He is not the victim -- he is the victimizer.** \\
 \ And it's about time to drive that point home.

The law-abiding community you represent has a duty to punish wrongdoers. Punishment is not -- as some may see it -- an unseemly indulgence in revenge. Just punishment is a moral, civilized response to wrong. Punishment is necessary not only as a deterrent to future crimes, but for its own sake. Which is to say -- **for the sake of justice.** \\
 \

This tradition of justice speaks not of a society that disparages human life, but rather, one that treasures innocent human life as precious and unique. In Larry McMurtry's classic Texas novel, Lonesome Dove, two Rangers finally put an end to a brutal gang's deadly rampage. One of the outlaws turns out to be Jake Spoon, the Rangers' old partner.

"It's a bad situation," says Captain Call, moments before arresting his old friend. "But there he is... He put himself in it." \\\

McMurtry's saga -- like the lives of the real-life Texas pioneers who inspired it -- reveals some simple truths. Most Americans believe that each of us faces the innate temptation to succumb to evil -- and yet always has the freedom to instead

choose to do good. We're talking about individual responsibility. We're talking about character. \\
 \

What's the difference between the wonderful young athletes behind me and the kids who huddle a few blocks from where we stand, using and dealing drugs? Same neighborhood. Same schools. Same Houston. But a different choice. Often a choice made by the parents. And always a choice made by the kids.

Roy Douglas Malonson [[PRESIDENT OF THE ACRES HOME CITIZENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE]] said it right here in Acres Home, the same night I addressed the nation on drugs. He said: "The bottom line is we're going to have to take a stance and quit slamming others for the problem. We need personal accountability."

Roy Malonson is right. We need to cultivate character in our kids. And, ~~as plain-talking Harry Truman said: "We must not permit the existence of conditions which cause our children to believe that crime is inevitable and normal."~~

Only the American people can make this change in attitude, this cultivation of character. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We can't do it by looking to the government.

But as you have proven here in Acres Home, parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. You -- and probably only you -- can teach our kids right from wrong. Erma Scales [[CHAIRWOMAN OF THE ACRES HOME WAR ON DRUGS]] says "We need to teach a system of values. Parents...need to spend

more time with their kids and...go back to being parents, not just being buddies."

And Erma, it's also time we went back to teaching what I like to call the four "R's" -- reading, writing, 'rithmetic -- and respect. \\\

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of small units of society that exist to serve others -- can also help to cultivate the character of our children by working to prevent neighborhood crime.

Each day at the White House, I announce a daily "point of light" -- an individual or organization that epitomizes the best in community service. And nowhere in America is there a group more deserving than today's Presidential Point of Light -- a bright star in our nation-wide battle -- the Acres Home War on Drugs. \\\

Now, this is the "Lone Star State," and that means each point of light counts. Each point can mean one life changed. One life saved. But we ~~do~~ need thousands, thousands in every city and neighborhood. And if anyone wants to know just how bright that light can be when a thousand come together -- look around you. Look at the home of strong hearts, clear minds, and indomitable wills. Look at the people of Winzer Park. \\\

Thank you for your warm greeting on this December morning. God bless you all this ^{holiday} ~~Christmas~~ season. God bless Texas -- and God bless the U.S.A.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 12/4/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 PM, TUES., DEC. 5

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS"
ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1989, 2:00 PM

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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please provide comments/edits on the attached directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, with a copy to my office, by 2:00 PM, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Please see comments.
12/5/89

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

McNally/Simon
December 4, 1989
Draft Two (B:ACRES)

1989 DEC -4 PM 5: 57

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS"
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Thank you for that warm introduction. And thank you -- all of you in the Acres Homes community -- not for standing up to greet us today -- but for standing up for Houston every day. \\\

It's great to be back in Texas. And especially after that little storm in Malta -- it's great just to be back on dry land.

And after our long weekend at sea, it's a rare pleasure to be able to come back -- and not be asked if I caught any fish. \\\

The talks in Malta remind us all that we live in dramatic and exciting times -- times that present opportunities for great and historic change. That's true not only in Eastern Europe -- where people are seeking freedom to travel and freedom to vote -- but right here in the U.S.A., in places like Acres Homes, where brave men and women have used "People Power" to fight for another kind of freedom. Freedom from fear. Freedom from drugs. \\\

And, as with the new freedom in Eastern Europe, freedom from drugs isn't something the government can give you. \\\ You've got to take a stand. You've got to "take back the streets." And that's exactly what you did, right here in Winzer Park. \\\

Acres Homes has a proud history. Once the largest unincorporated black community in the South, its quiet, tree-lined neighborhoods were mainstream America, the American dream.

But in recent years, the dream on Main Street became the nightmare on Elm Street, a twisted, backwards world where our children and our playgrounds were taken away by an evil menace called cocaine, often in broad daylight.

By 1987, 25 to 30 drug dealers were operating in Winzer Park. The circular driveway behind us at Carver and Dolly Wright was so clogged with the cars of drug-buyers that police called it "Crack-in-the-Box."

That's when your people and your police came together to declare a new "Independence Day" -- April 9, 1988. One thousand people swept into the park. And one thousand people swept the drug dealers out. \\\

They haven't come back. And they better not. Because I've heard what they say about you, the members of the Acres Homes War on Drugs. They say you are ^{serious about saving this} community-based. They say you are tough. And they say you're not afraid of anything or anybody. \\\

Looking out at you today, I believe it.

You were united. You were determined. You were angry. And you were right. \\\

One thousand people took back what's yours. Took back your parks. Took back your kids. And you not only put the drug dealers out. You put pride back in. \\\

Today, the kids of Winzer Park are shooting hoops, not drugs. And the only "crack" found in this playground is one of my favorite sounds of summer -- the crack of the bat.

You were among the first to assemble and rally and move forward with a plan. You were among the first to recognize that the community's future is in the community's hands. \\

Efforts like yours are a critical part of America's battle-plan, the new, national strategy I submitted to Congress earlier this fall. We invited Congress to join us in a new, comprehensive partnership with America's cities and states. \\

First, drug education. Our new package provides for a [[quarter-of-a-billion]] increase for school and community prevention programs like those that have proven so successful here. We have got to teach our children. We have got to stop illegal drug use before it starts. \\

Second, drug treatment. Too many people in too many cities simply aren't getting the help they need. That's not right. And that's why our plan will boost spending on drug treatment -- and especially cocaine treatment -- by [[\$321 million]].

And third -- for those who cannot learn or will not seek help -- we have a plan for them, too. Because we're going to take back the streets by taking them off the streets. \\

That means punishing those who do evil.

To some ears, the very word "evil" is an embarrassment, an obsolete reference to old-fashioned attitudes. We've all heard the supposedly sophisticated arguments that turn "right" and "wrong" into empty concepts, words without meaning.

But the people in this park know better. You see violent crime close-up and first-hand. You know that crime -- and crime-

fighting -- is usually a question of right and wrong. Good and evil. And you know that a community that cannot understand the difference between right and wrong will never protect itself. \\\

What's the difference between the wonderful young kids behind me and the kids who huddle a few blocks from where we stand, using and dealing drugs? Same neighborhood. Same schools. Same Houston. But a different choice. Often a choice made by the parents. And always a choice made by the kids.

Roy Douglas Malonson [[PRESIDENT OF THE ACRES HOMES CITIZENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE]] said it right here in Acres Homes, the same night I addressed the nation on drugs. He said: "The bottom line is we're going to have to take a stance and quit blaming others for the problem. We need personal accountability."

Roy Malonson is right. Only the American people can make this change in attitude. Only you can cultivate character in our kids. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We can't do it by ^{only} looking to the government.

But as you have proven here in Acres Homes, parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. You -- and probably only you -- can teach our kids right from wrong. Erma Scales [[CHAIRWOMAN OF THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS]] says "We need to teach a system of values. Parents...need to spend more time with their kids and...go back to being parents, not just being buddies."

And Erma, it's also time we went back to teaching what I like to call the four "R's" -- reading, writing, 'rithmetic -- and respect. \\\

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of small units of society that exist to serve others -- can also help to cultivate the character of our children by working to prevent neighborhood crime.

Each day at the White House, I announce a daily "point of light" -- an individual or organization that epitomizes the best in community service. And nowhere in America is there a group more deserving than today's Presidential Point of Light -- a bright star in our nation-wide battle -- the Acres Homes War on Drugs. \\\

Now, this is the "Lone Star State," and that means each point of light counts. Each point can mean one life changed. One life saved. But we need thousands, thousands in every city and neighborhood. And if anyone wants to know just how bright that light can be when a thousand come together -- look around you. Look at the home of strong hearts, clear minds, and indomitable wills. Look at the people of Winzer Park. \\\

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 ANDREW WINZER PARK, HOUSTON, TEXAS
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FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT <i>u/c</i>	<input checked="" 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

McNally/Simon
December 4, 1989
Draft Two (B:ACRES)

1989 DEC -4 PM 5:57

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And, as with the new freedom in Eastern Europe, freedom from drugs isn't something the government can give you. \\
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3

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First, drug education. Our new package provides for a [[quarter-of-a-billion]] increase for school and community prevention programs like those that have proven so successful here. We have got to teach our children, ^{to stay away from drugs.} We have got to stop illegal drug use before it starts. \\\

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Roy Malonson ~~is~~ ^{couldn't be made} right. Only the American people can make this change in attitude. Only you can ^{instill} ~~cultivate~~ character, ^{and a sense of values} in our kids. It is not a federal problem for which there is a simple federal solution. We can't do it by looking to the government, ^{alone.}

But as you have proven here in Acres Homes, parents and teachers and religious and neighborhood leaders can do it. You -- and probably only you -- can teach our kids right from wrong. Erma Scales [[CHAIRWOMAN OF THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS]] says "We need to teach a system of values. Parents...need to spend more time with their kids and...go back to being parents, not just being buddies."

And Erma, it's also time we went back to teaching what I like to call the four "R's" -- reading, writing, 'rithmetic -- and respect. \\\

What I have called the "Thousand Points of Light" -- that galaxy of ~~small units of society that exist to serve others~~ -- *individuals and institutions who live not just for themselves but also* -- *is really what we're talking about here today,* can also help to cultivate the character of our children by ~~working to prevent neighborhood crime.~~

Each day at the White House, I announce a daily "point of light" -- an individual or ~~organization that epitomizes the best~~ *group working to rid our communities of drugs, homelessness, hunger, illiteracy, loneliness and so many other problems.* ~~in community service.~~ And nowhere in America is there a group more deserving than today's Presidential Point of Light -- a bright star in our nation-wide battle -- the Acres Homes War on Drugs. \\\

You see.
Now, some may say no point of light can solve all of our problems;
Now, this is the "Lone Star State," ~~and that means~~ each point of light counts. Each point can mean one life changed. One life saved. But we need thousands, thousands in every city and neighborhood. And if anyone wants to know just how bright that light can be when a thousand ^{points} come together -- look around you. Look at the home of strong hearts, clear minds, and indomitable wills. Look at the people of Winzer Park. \\\

Thank you for your warm greeting on this December day. God bless you all this holiday season. God bless Texas -- and God bless the U.S.A.

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Thank you for demons haunting

**THE ACRES HOMES "WAR ON DRUGS" / ANDREW WINZER PARK
HOUSTON, TEXAS / THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 1989 / 2:00 P.M.**

**THANK YOU FOR THAT WARM INTRODUCTION. I'M
ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO HAVE TWO KEY MEMBERS IN MY
ADMINISTRATION'S FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS HERE TODAY --
SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY NICK BRADY AND OUR DRUG
CONTROL DIRECTOR BILL BENNETT. AND I WANT TO PAY MY
RESPECTS TO YOUR MAYOR KATHY WHITMIRE. \ **

- 2 -

**AND THANK YOU -- ALL OF YOU IN THE ACRES HOMES
COMMUNITY -- NOT FOR STANDING UP TO GREET US TODAY --
BUT FOR STANDING UP FOR HOUSTON EVERY DAY. \ \ \ I
SHOULD SINGLE OUT FOR SPECIAL THANKS ERMA SCALES AND
THELMA LASTRAP FOR ALL THEY'VE DONE TO MAKE THIS DAY
POSSIBLE.**

**IT IS NICE TO BE BACK HERE. ACRES HOMES WAS A PART
OF MY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 20 ODD YEARS AGO.**

IN FACT, THIS WAS THE HOME TURF FOR THE GEORGE BUSH ALL-STARS -- A WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM COACHED BY MY FRIEND BOBBY MOORE, THAT CAME CLOSE TO WINNING THE CITY CHAMPIONSHIP. IN FACT, I'LL BET THERE ARE SOME ALL-STARS OUT THERE TODAY.

IT'S ALWAYS GREAT TO BE BACK IN TEXAS. AND ESPECIALLY AFTER THAT LITTLE STORM IN MALTA -- IT'S GREAT JUST TO BE BACK ON DRY LAND.

**THE TALKS IN MALTA REMIND US ALL THAT WE LIVE IN DRAMATIC AND EXCITING TIMES -- TIMES THAT PRESENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GREAT AND HISTORIC CHANGE. THAT'S TRUE NOT ONLY IN EASTERN EUROPE -- WHERE PEOPLE ARE SEEKING FREEDOM TO TRAVEL AND FREEDOM TO VOTE -- BUT RIGHT HERE IN THE U.S.A., IN PLACES LIKE ACRES HOMES, WHERE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN HAVE USED "PEOPLE POWER" TO FIGHT FOR ANOTHER KIND OF FREEDOM. FREEDOM FROM FEAR. FREEDOM FROM CRIME. FREEDOM FROM DRUGS. **

AND, AS WITH THE NEW FREEDOM IN EASTERN EUROPE, FREEDOM FROM DRUGS ISN'T SOMETHING THE GOVERNMENT CAN GIVE YOU. \\ YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE A STAND. YOU'VE GOT TO "TAKE BACK THE STREETS." AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU DID, RIGHT HERE IN WINZER PARK. \\\

ACRES HOMES HAS A PROUD HISTORY. ONCE THE LARGEST UNINCORPORATED BLACK COMMUNITY IN THE SOUTH, ITS QUIET, TREE-LINED NEIGHBORHOODS WERE MAINSTREAM AMERICA, THE EMBODIMENT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM.

BUT IN RECENT YEARS, THE DREAM ON MAIN STREET HAS BECOME THE NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET, A TWISTED, BACKWARDS WORLD WHERE OUR CHILDREN AND OUR PLAYGROUNDS ARE TAKEN AWAY BY AN EVIL MENACE CALLED COCAINE, OFTEN IN BROAD DAYLIGHT.

BY 1987, 25 TO 30 DRUG DEALERS WERE OPERATING IN WINZER PARK. THE CIRCULAR DRIVEWAY BEHIND US AT CARVER AND DOLLY WRIGHT WAS SO CLOGGED WITH THE CARS OF DRUG-BUYERS THAT POLICE CALLED IT "CRACK-IN-THE-BOX."

THAT'S WHEN YOUR COMMUNITY PEOPLE AND YOUR POLICE
CAME TOGETHER TO DECLARE A NEW "INDEPENDENCE DAY" --
APRIL 9, 1988. ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE SWEEP INTO THE
PARK. AND ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE SWEEP THE DRUG DEALERS
OUT. \\\

THEY HAVEN'T COME BACK. AND THEY BETTER NOT.
BECAUSE I'VE HEARD WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT YOU, THE MEMBERS
OF THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS. THEY SAY YOU ARE
COMMUNITY-BASED.

THEY SAY YOU ARE TOUGH. AND THEY SAY YOU'RE NOT AFRAID
OF ANYTHING OR ANYBODY. \\\

LOOKING OUT AT YOU TODAY, I BELIEVE IT.

YOU WERE UNITED. YOU WERE DETERMINED. YOU WERE
ANGRY. AND YOU WERE RIGHT. \\\

ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE TOOK BACK WHAT'S YOURS. TOOK
BACK YOUR PARKS. TOOK BACK YOUR KIDS. AND YOU NOT
ONLY PUT THE DRUG DEALERS OUT. YOU PUT PRIDE
BACK IN. \\\

TODAY, THE KIDS OF WINZER PARK ARE SHOOTING HOOPS, NOT HEROIN. AND THE ONLY "CRACK" FOUND IN THIS PLAYGROUND IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE SOUNDS OF SUMMER -- THE CRACK OF THE BAT.

YOU WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO ASSEMBLE AND RALLY AND MOVE FORWARD WITH A PLAN TO FIGHT DRUGS. YOU WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE COMMUNITY'S FUTURE IS IN THE COMMUNITY'S HANDS. \\
\\

EFFORTS LIKE YOURS ARE A CRITICAL PART OF AMERICA'S BATTLE-PLAN, THE NEW, NATIONAL STRATEGY I SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS EARLIER THIS FALL. WE INVITED CONGRESS TO JOIN US IN A NEW, COMPREHENSIVE PARTNERSHIP WITH AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES. \\
\\

FIRST, DRUG EDUCATION. THE 1990 BUDGET HAS PROVIDED OVER A \$200 MILLION INCREASE FOR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PREVENTION PROGRAMS LIKE THOSE THAT HAVE PROVEN SO SUCCESSFUL HERE.

WE HAVE GOT TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN TO STAY AWAY FROM DRUGS. WE HAVE GOT TO STOP ILLEGAL DRUG USE BEFORE IT STARTS. \\\

SECOND, DRUG TREATMENT AND PREVENTION. TOO MANY PEOPLE IN TOO MANY CITIES SIMPLY AREN'T GETTING THE HELP THEY NEED. THAT'S NOT RIGHT. AND THAT'S WHY THE 1990 BUDGET HAS BOOSTED SPENDING ON DRUG TREATMENT AND PREVENTION -- AND ESPECIALLY COCAINE TREATMENT -- BY ABOUT \$375 MILLION.

AND THIRD -- FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT LEARN OR WILL NOT SEEK HELP -- WE HAVE A PLAN FOR THEM, TOO. BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO TAKE BACK THE STREETS BY TAKING THEM OFF THE STREETS. \\\

THAT MEANS PUNISHING THOSE WHO DO EVIL.

TO SOME EARS, THE VERY WORD "EVIL" IS EMBARRASSING, AN OBSOLETE REFERENCE TO OLD-FASHIONED ATTITUDES.

WE'VE ALL HEARD THE SUPPOSEDLY SOPHISTICATED ARGUMENTS THAT TURN "RIGHT" AND "WRONG" INTO EMPTY CONCEPTS, WORDS WITHOUT MEANING.

BUT THE PEOPLE IN THIS PARK KNOW BETTER. YOU SEE VIOLENT CRIME CLOSE-UP AND FIRST-HAND. YOU KNOW THAT CRIME -- AND CRIME-FIGHTING -- IS USUALLY A QUESTION OF RIGHT AND WRONG. GOOD AND EVIL. AND YOU KNOW THAT A COMMUNITY THAT CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG CAN NEVER PROTECT ITSELF. \\
\\

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WONDERFUL YOUNG KIDS BEHIND ME AND THE KIDS WHO HUDDLE A FEW BLOCKS FROM WHERE WE STAND, USING AND DEALING DRUGS? SAME NEIGHBORHOOD. SAME SCHOOLS. SAME HOUSTON. BUT A DIFFERENT CHOICE. OFTEN A CHOICE MADE BY THE PARENTS. AND ALWAYS A CHOICE MADE BY THE KIDS.

ROY DOUGLAS MALONSON SAID IT RIGHT HERE IN ACRES HOMES, THE SAME NIGHT I ADDRESSED THE NATION ON DRUGS.

HE SAID: "THE BOTTOM LINE IS WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE A STANCE AND QUIT BLAMING OTHERS FOR THE PROBLEM. WE NEED PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY."

ROY MALONSON COULDN'T BE MORE RIGHT. ONLY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN MAKE THIS CHANGE IN ATTITUDE. ONLY YOU CAN CULTIVATE CHARACTER AND A SENSE OF VALUES IN OUR KIDS. IT IS NOT A FEDERAL PROBLEM FOR WHICH THERE IS A SIMPLE FEDERAL SOLUTION. WE CAN'T DO IT BY LOOKING TO THE GOVERNMENT ALONE.

BUT AS YOU HAVE PROVEN HERE IN ACRES HOMES, PARENTS AND TEACHERS AND RELIGIOUS AND NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS CAN DO IT. YOU -- AND PROBABLY ONLY YOU -- CAN TEACH OUR KIDS RIGHT FROM WRONG. ERMA SCALES SAYS "WE NEED TO TEACH A SYSTEM OF VALUES. PARENTS...NEED TO SPEND MORE TIME WITH THEIR KIDS AND...GO BACK TO BEING PARENTS, NOT JUST BEING BUDDIES."

AND ERMA, IT'S ALSO TIME WE WENT BACK TO TEACHING WHAT I LIKE TO CALL THE FOUR "R'S" -- READING, WRITING, 'RITHMETIC -- AND RESPECT. \\\

WHAT I HAVE CALLED THE "THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT" -- THAT GALAXY OF INDIVIDUALS AND INSTITUTIONS WHO LIVE NOT JUST FOR THEMSELVES BUT ALSO TO SERVE OTHERS -- IS REALLY WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HERE TODAY.

EACH DAY AT THE WHITE HOUSE, I ANNOUNCE A DAILY "POINT OF LIGHT" -- AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP WORKING TO RID OUR COMMUNITIES OF DRUGS, HOMELESSNESS, HUNGER, ILLITERACY, LONELINESS AND SO MANY OTHER PROBLEMS. AND NOWHERE IN AMERICA IS THERE A GROUP MORE DESERVING THAN TODAY'S PRESIDENTIAL POINT OF LIGHT -- A BRIGHT STAR IN OUR NATION-WIDE BATTLE -- THE ACRES HOMES WAR ON DRUGS.

THANK YOU FOR DEMONSTRATING THAT EACH POINT OF LIGHT COUNTS.

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**EACH POINT CAN MEAN ONE LIFE CHANGED. ONE LIFE SAVED.
BUT WE NEED THOUSANDS, THOUSANDS IN EVERY CITY AND
NEIGHBORHOOD. AND IF ANYONE WANTS TO KNOW JUST HOW
BRIGHT THAT LIGHT CAN BE WHEN A THOUSAND POINTS COME
TOGETHER -- LOOK AROUND YOU. LOOK AT THE HOME OF
STRONG HEARTS, CLEAR MINDS, AND INDOMITABLE HILLS.
LOOK AT THE PEOPLE OF WINZER PARK. **

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR WARM GREETING ON THIS DECEMBER
DAY. GOD BLESS YOU ALL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. GOD BLESS
TEXAS -- AND GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.**

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