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Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13522
Folder ID Number: 13522-004

Folder Title:
California Chamber of Commerce Dinner 3/1/90 [OA 4728] [2]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	25	6	7	7

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 23, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON
Deputy Assistant to the President for
Communications

FROM: BRENT O. HATCH 
Associate Counsel to the President

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks -- California Chamber of
Commerce

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

90 FEB 26 P2:33

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/23/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/26/90 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CALIFORNIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☒
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☐	☐	PORTER	☒	☒
DARMAN	☒	☒	ROGICH	☒	☒
BATES	☒	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☐	☒
CICCONI	☐	☒	WINSTON	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☒	☒	PINKERTON	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	PETERSMEYER	☒	☒
GRAY	☒	☒	BENNETT	☒	☒
HAGIN	☐	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, February 26, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

(Lange/Cawley)
February 23, 1989
11:45 A.M.
[CALCOMM.DOC]

1990 FEB 23 PM 12:36

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CALIFORNIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
CENTENNIAL DINNER GALA
CENTURY PLAZA HOTEL, LOS ANGELES
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1990
7:40 P.M.

((Thank you, Governor Deukmejian. It's great to be back in California -- and to be invited to such a wonderful party!

You know, when we landed at the airport, I was deeply touched to see a red carpet rolled out. A twenty-one gun salute. Balloons. Confetti. Truly moving.

But then I looked around, and realized it was the L.A. Coliseum Commission, welcoming Al Davis back from a visit to Oakland... [note: They're working on him to keep the Raiders in L.A., rather than moving them back to Oakland.]

Of course, on the way over here I did encounter a few demonstrators. One protester, from U.C.L.A., was shouting "U.S. out of Panama. U.S. out of El Salvador. And U.S.C. out of Los Angeles." [big rivalry between U.C.L.A. & U.S.C.]

But something that really impresses me about California is the West Coast's will to survive -- even triumph -- in adversity. New ways to cope spring up, no matter **what** kind of disaster strikes. Somebody told me there's even a new support group in Malibu, called "Parents Without Perrier."))

Well, what brings me here tonight is the same appeal that brought so many to California a century ago. A sense that something powerful is happening here.

Your heritage was borne by those with the imagination and courage to press westward. After the century of shared progress you celebrate tonight -- from sailing ships to silicon chips -- you're **still** the state that sets the pace. Breaks the barriers. And defines the future.

The gold rush never really ended in California. It just took on new and truer colors. From the green abundance of your agriculture, to the black gold in the earth, the silver screen, and the wealth of the blue Pacific.

The list of California's first-place rankings reads like the What's What of American Business. Number one in aerospace, construction, education, exports... in businesses owned by women, and by black Americans... in numbers of college graduates, scientists, engineers, Nobel Laureates, patents and Ph.d's: **California leads America. And America leads the world.**

But California business isn't just first class -- it's world class. Home to over forty Fortune 500 firms, a dynamic job-creating small business sector, and a gross **state** product that outside of America ranks among the top five **nations**.

So if California is the rock-solid edifice of America's economic strength, the California Chamber should be a room with a view. With a vision for the future. Where decisions are made, and actions taken, that will lead the rest of the country in the coming century.

You understand that California's economic prospects don't depend simply on natural resources -- or your geographic position

on the Pacific Rim. What will truly lead California to success in the new century is her people -- and the way the way they do business.

As labor markets get tighter, businesses like yours will need to turn to sources of talent once left untapped. Youth at risk, who need to see the connection between school and work. The underskilled, who need training. Older and more experienced workers, who need new skills. The disabled, who only need a chance to prove their abilities. And dual-career families, who need flexible, creative child care solutions.

Flexible workplace policies will allow you to find and keep the best talent. And one of the most promising of these new business frontiers is telecommuting: taking advantage of new technology to encourage your people to work at home, one or two days a week.

A typical 20 minute roundtrip commute to work over the course of a year adds up to two very stressful 40 hour **weeks** lost on the road. But if only **five percent** of the commuters in L.A. County telecommuted **one day** each week, they'd save 205 **million** miles of travel each year -- and keep 47,000 tons of pollutants from entering the atmosphere. Not a bad deal.

Especially if you consider that here in California, it's been shown that productivity goes **up** for telecommuters -- an average of 20 percent or more.

So I'd like to commend Governor Deukmejian for encouraging telecommuting -- as well as companies like U.S. West, Pacific

Bell, and the Traveler's, who are experimenting with it. Because it means more than a better bottom line. It also means saving energy, improving air quality, and preserving the environment we all share.

That's a measure of the enlightened management here in California: Along with looking inward, for better ways to run your operations, **you're also looking outward** -- as active partners in your communities.

After the oil spill at Huntington beach, businesses donated supplies, employees, food, helicopters and heavy equipment to the clean-up -- in an impressive community-wide volunteer effort, at **every** level. In the same way, after the San Francisco earthquake, local companies donated millions of dollars, tons of supplies, and thousands of hours of employee time.

But some of the challenges your communities face will demand long-term, consistent, collective effort. Work without much immediate payoff -- but with profound, long-term results.

To make sure our educational system gives our kids the skills they need to thrive in the future, new partnerships between schools and business need to gain more momentum. Projects to improve schools -- like the California Compact -- show great promise, and deserve all the help you can give them.

In fact, I understand there are already over 3,000 educational partnerships here in California -- from multi-million dollar projects for sweeping reform, to Adopt-a-School programs, to low-cost volunteer efforts. Our schools need your time and

talents. If you're already involved, keep at it. If you're not, this is your year.

And where the most troubling challenge to our communities is concerned -- the enslavement of illegal drugs -- your members can help us turn the tables against the dealers, forever. So-called "casual" users and their money keep these merchants of death in business. So anyone who still considers drugs a victimless diversion needs to hear this: You shame yourselves and your country. America now condemns what has too long been condoned. We've \\ had \\ enough.

We need to make it very clear to every American that if you do drugs, you don't get hired. Many of you already do pre-employment drug screening. Let me encourage all of you: If a recreational drug user asks you for a job, **Just \\ say \\ no.**

Many of you are also involved with the nation-wide Partnership for a Drug Free America, and getting far-reaching results. But let me **also** encourage you to get involved with local efforts, **at street level.**

On every block, in every town and every city in America, there should be a home or a business willing to serve as a **safe-house for kids** -- where they can go for help. For information about drugs. For refuge from dealers. Or just for the comfort of a caring, listening heart. **Ladies and gentlemen, our kids need our help.**

That will mean a lot to your communities. But there's one thing more, that we should consider for the sake of the world

community. We've all watched -- with wonder and delight -- the transformations that took place in Eastern Europe during the Revolution of '89.

It is in **this** decade, as the political dust settles, that much of the real work begins. So many are struggling to regain their footing now. **And now is the time for America to do quiet but crucial work.**

Every business and community organization in California and across the country -- business leagues, Rotaries, Elks, clubs of **every** kind -- all can find ways to help the people of Eastern Europe make the transition to market economies.

In this, your National Chamber is on the right track. You and your members should consider donating some time and expertise to the emerging businesses now struggling in Eastern Europe. **Whatever your specialty** -- strategic planning, marketing, inventory, line operations -- **it is needed now, in Eastern Europe.** Find a sister city there -- or a business that would benefit from what you know of free enterprise and free markets -- and put your talents to work. **Today there is an unprecedented opportunity -- and an urgent need -- for American business leaders to lead the world toward free enterprise.**

You know, back in 1890, there were a lot of newspaper articles suggesting that California was in decline -- or as one observer put it, "in a state of decadence." The critics claimed that agriculture was struggling. Industry was strangling. And it looked like the gold had all been rushed.

Well, you know what happened. California became a world-class economic super-power. Today you are called upon -- and privileged as few have been before -- to bring the world new and unprecedented prosperity.

Show the world that commerce has conscience. In your own businesses -- in your communities -- and in the community of nations: gather strength. \\

And use it, to help people. ///

Let me wish this chamber a very happy 100th birthday! God bless you. And God bless the great state of California.

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RESPONSE:

Please see suggestions pp. 3,4

Legislative Affairs

2/26/90

90 FEB 26 P2:33

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

(Lange/Cawley)
February 23, 1989
11:45 A.M.
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Congressional Acknowledgements? (Sen. Wilson? Rep. Pashayan?)

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on the Pacific Rim. What will **truly** lead California to success in the new century is her people -- and the way ~~the way~~ they do business. ✓

As labor markets get tighter, businesses like yours will need to turn to sources of talent once left untapped. Youth at risk, who need to see the connection between school and work. The underskilled, who need training. Older and more experienced workers, who need new skills. The disabled, who only need a chance to prove their abilities. And dual-career families, who need flexible, creative child care solutions.

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To make sure our educational system gives our kids the skills they need to thrive in the future, ~~new~~ partnerships between schools and business ^{es} need to ~~gain more momentum.~~ ^{be ~~expanded~~ expanded.}

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#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 26, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*
SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: California Chamber of
Commerce

The draft looks good. We have two suggestions which we believe will improve the remarks. The sentence at the bottom of page six, "Industry was strangling." does not make sense.

On page seven of the draft, we recommend modifying the second to last paragraph to read, "And use it, to help people -- I call it prosperity with a purpose."

If you have any questions or I can help in any other way, please let me know.

90 FEB 26 P 2: 28

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/23/90

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REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

Larry - ok

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

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community. We've all watched -- with wonder and delight -- the transformations that took place in Eastern Europe during the Revolution of '89.

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And use it, to help people. \\\

Let me wish this chamber a very happy 100th birthday! God bless you. And God bless the great state of California.

#

But prosperity has a purpose.
(M.L.)
I call it prosperity with a purpose.

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REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

All comments from Dept. of Commerce

51 FEB 26 2:15 PM '90

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

2

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3

on the Pacific Rim. What will truly lead California to success in the new century is her people -- and the way they do business. *our economy continue to grow and labor markets continue to be tight* ✓
~~As labor markets get tighter,~~ businesses like yours will need to turn to sources of talent once left untapped. Youth at risk, who need to see the connection between school and work. The underskilled, who need training. Older and more experienced workers, who need new skills. The disabled, who only need a chance to prove their abilities. And dual-career families, who need flexible, creative child care solutions.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/23/90

99 FEB 26 AIO: 39

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/26/90 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CALIFORNIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	MCCLURE	☒	☒
SUNUNU	☐	☒	NEWMAN	☐	☐
SCOWCROFT	☐	☐	PORTER	☒	☒
DARMAN	☒	☒	ROGICH	☒	☒
BATES	☒	☒	UNTERMAYER	☐	☐
CARD	☐	☒	ROGERS	☐	☒
CICCONI	☐	☒	WINSTON	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☒	☒	PINKERTON	☒	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	PETERSMEYER	☒	☒
GRAY	☒	☒	BENNETT	☒	☒
HAGIN	☐	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON, Monday, February 26, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

my mic!
AA

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

(Lange/Cawley)
February 23, 1989
11:45 A.M.
[CALCOMM.DOC]

1990 FEB 23 PM 12:36

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:

CALIFORNIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
CENTENNIAL DINNER GALA
CENTURY PLAZA HOTEL, LOS ANGELES
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1990
7:40 P.M.

((Thank you, Governor Deukmejian. It's great to be back in California -- and to be invited to such a wonderful party!

You know, when we landed at the airport, I was deeply touched to see a red carpet rolled out. A twenty-one gun salute. Balloons. Confetti. Truly moving.

But then I looked around, and realized it was the L.A. Coliseum Commission, welcoming Al Davis back from a visit to Oakland... [note: They're working on him to keep the Raiders in L.A., rather than moving them back to Oakland.]

Of course, on the way over here I did encounter a few demonstrators. One protester, from U.C.L.A., was shouting "U.S. out of Panama. U.S. out of El Salvador. And U.S.C. out of Los Angeles." [big rivalry between U.C.L.A. & U.S.C.]

But something that really impresses me about California is the West Coast's will to survive -- even triumph -- in adversity. New ways to cope spring up, no matter **what** kind of disaster strikes. Somebody told me there's even a new support group in Malibu, called "Parents Without Perrier."))

Well, what brings me here tonight is the same appeal that brought so many to California a century ago. A sense that something powerful is happening here.

me!

Your heritage was borne by those with the imagination and courage to press westward. After the century of shared progress you celebrate tonight -- from sailing ships to silicon chips -- you're **still** the state that sets the pace. Breaks the barriers. And defines the future.

The gold rush never really ended in California. It just took on new and truer colors. From the green abundance of your agriculture, to the black gold in the earth, the silver screen, and the wealth of the blue Pacific.

The list of California's first-place rankings reads like the What's What of American Business. Number one in aerospace, construction, education, exports... in businesses owned by women, and by black Americans... in numbers of college graduates, scientists, engineers, Nobel Laureates, patents and Ph.d's: **California leads America. And America leads the world.**

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So if California is the rock-solid edifice of America's economic strength, the California Chamber should be a room with a view. With a vision for the future. Where decisions are made, and actions taken, that will lead the rest of the country in the coming century.

You understand that California's economic prospects don't depend simply on natural resources -- or your geographic position

on the Pacific Rim. What will **truly** lead California to success in the new century is her people -- and the way the way they do business.

As labor markets get tighter, businesses like yours will need to turn to sources of talent once left untapped. Youth at risk, who need to see the connection between school and work. The underskilled, who need training. Older and more experienced workers, who need new skills. The disabled, who only need a chance to prove their abilities. And dual-career families, who need flexible, creative child care solutions.

Flexible workplace policies will allow you to find and keep the best talent. And one of the most promising of these new business frontiers is telecommuting: taking advantage of new technology to encourage your people to work at home, one or two days a week.

A typical 20 minute roundtrip commute to work over the course of a year adds up to two very stressful 40 hour **weeks** lost on the road. But if only **five percent** of the commuters in L.A. County telecommuted **one day** each week, they'd save 205 **million** miles of travel each year -- and keep 47,000 tons of pollutants from entering the atmosphere. Not a bad deal.

Especially if you consider that here in California, it's been shown that productivity goes **up** for telecommuters -- an average of 20 percent or more.

So I'd like to commend Governor Deukmejian for encouraging telecommuting -- as well as companies like U.S. West, Pacific

Bell, and the Traveler's, who are experimenting with it. Because it means more than a better bottom line. It also means saving energy, improving air quality, and preserving the environment we all share.

That's a measure of the enlightened management here in California: Along with looking inward, for better ways to run your operations, **you're also looking outward** -- as active partners in your communities.

After the oil spill at Huntington beach, businesses donated supplies, employees, food, helicopters and heavy equipment to the clean-up -- in an impressive community-wide volunteer effort, at **every** level. In the same way, after the San Francisco earthquake, local companies donated millions of dollars, tons of supplies, and thousands of hours of employee time.

But some of the challenges your communities face will demand long-term, consistent, collective effort. Work without much immediate payoff -- but with profound, long-term results.

To make sure our educational system gives our kids the skills they need to thrive in the future, new partnerships between schools and business need to gain more momentum. Projects to improve schools -- like the California Compact -- show great promise, and deserve all the help you can give them.

In fact, I understand there are already over 3,000 educational partnerships here in California -- from multi-million dollar projects for sweeping reform, to Adopt-a-School programs, to low-cost volunteer efforts. Our schools need your time and

talents. If you're already involved, keep at it. If you're not, *the decade to do it.*
this is your year.

And where the most troubling challenge to our communities is concerned -- the enslavement of illegal drugs -- your members can help us turn the tables against the dealers, forever. So-called "casual" users and their money keep these merchants of death in business. So anyone who still considers drugs a victimless diversion needs to hear this: You shame yourselves and your country. America now condemns what has too long been condoned. We've \\ had \\ enough.

We need to make it very clear to every American that if you do drugs, you don't get hired. Many of you already do pre-employment drug screening. Let me encourage all of you: If a recreational drug user asks you for a job, Just \\ say \\ no.

Many of you are also involved with the nation-wide Partnership for a Drug Free America, and getting far-reaching results. But let me **also** encourage you to get involved with local efforts, **at street level**.

On every block, in every town and every city in America, there should be a home or a business willing to serve as a **safe-house for kids** -- where they can go for help. For information about drugs. For refuge from dealers. Or just for the comfort of a caring, listening heart. **Ladies and gentlemen, our kids need our help.**

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community. We've all watched -- with wonder and delight -- the transformations that took place in Eastern Europe during the Revolution of '89.

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Every business and community organization in California and across the country -- business leagues, Rotaries, Elks, clubs of **every** kind -- **all** can find ways to help the people of Eastern Europe make the transition to market economies.

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And use it, to help people. \\\

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#

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RESPONSE:

O/S.B.

90 FEB 27 49:54

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

(Lange/Cawley)
February 23, 1989
11:45 A.M.
[CALCOMM.DOC]

1990 FEB 23 PM 12:36

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And use it, to help people. ///

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#

Q. Do you think they should wait, then, until Mrs. Chamorro is inaugurated April 25th?

President Reagan. Well, I don't know whether to wait that long or not, but things could take place foreshadowing what the situation is going to be earlier than that.

Q. Do you share that concern, Mr. President?

President Bush. I've expressed myself on this, and at this point I've elected not to take any questions. So, we have a slight difference in policy.

President Reagan. Oh, I was just sitting there. And, yes, he's doing exactly what is right for him. I just have a little more freedom.

President Bush. That's right. Exactly.

Meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu

Q. President Bush, can you comment on what you hope to accomplish with the Prime Minister tomorrow?

President Bush. It's going to be interesting to meet with Prime Minister Kaifu coming because he's just solidified his position in the party and he's been reappointed. And we've got to convince him that we've got to move forward with some of the tough problems, as you know.

President Reagan. Have you met him before?

President Bush. Yes, sir. I've been there a couple of times.

President Reagan. I met him in Japan, too.

President Bush. Yes, impressive. I'm impressed with him. He's a very good man—good man.

Reel them in there, gang.

President Reagan's Health

Q. How are you feeling, Mr. President?

President Reagan. Just fine.

Q. You look very good, sir.

President Reagan. Well, thank you. I'm back riding horses now and then.

Q. Are you?

President Reagan. Yes.

Q. You've got to get back on them, right? Once they throw you, get back on them. Right?

President Reagan. Yes. And as I've told some of you, the old cavalry saying: There's

nothing so good for the inside of a man as the outside of a horse. [Laughter]

Upland Earthquake

Q. Did you feel the earthquake?

President Reagan. No, I was traveling. Nancy did. She was on the phone. She hung up. [Laughter]

Note: A tape was not available for verification of the content of the exchange, which occurred in the afternoon at President Reagan's office in the Fox Plaza.

Remarks at the California Chamber of Commerce Centennial Dinner in Los Angeles

March 1, 1990

Thank you, Governor Deukmejian for those kind words. It's great to be back in California and to be invited to such a wonderful party. I got to L.A. yesterday, and they told me I'd be appearing before the movers and shakers. [Laughter] I thought they were talking about people, not houses. But nevertheless—[laughter]—Steve, I want to congratulate you as the dinner chairman. And to Chairman Stanley Wainer, thank you, sir, for inviting me here tonight.

You know, when we landed at the airport, I was deeply touched to see a red carpet rolled out, 21-gun salute, balloons, confetti—truly moving. And then I looked around and realized it was the L.A. Coliseum Commission welcoming Al Davis back from Oakland. [Laughter]

Some of you all were up in San Francisco, some of the members of the Chamber, and last night we had some demonstrators there. And on the way over here, I did encounter a few demonstrators. One protester from UCLA was shouting, "U.S. out of Panama! U.S. out of El Salvador! USC out of Los Angeles!" [Laughter]

But something that really impresses me about California is the west coast's will to survive, even triumph, in adversity. New ways to cope spring up, no matter what kind of disaster strikes. Somebody told me there's even a new support group in Malibu called Parents Without Perrier. [Laughter]

What brings me here tonight, though, is the same appeal that brought so many to California a century ago: a sense that something powerful is happening here in this State. Your heritage was borne by those with the imagination and courage to press westward. After the century of shared progress that you celebrate tonight—from sailing ships to silicon chips—you're still the State that sets the pace, breaks the barriers, and defines the future.

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But California in business isn't just first-class: it's world-class—home to over 40 Fortune 500 firms, a dynamic job-creating small business sector, and a gross State product that the Duke referred to—my friend George Deukmejian—that outside of America ranks among the top five nations.

So, if California is the rock-solid edifice of America's economic strength, the California Chamber should be a room with a view, with a vision for the future, where decisions are made and actions taken that will lead the rest of the country in the coming century. You understand that California's economic prospects are strong, thanks to your natural resources and your geographic position on the Pacific rim. Let me add, it's fitting that I'll be meeting in California tomorrow and for the weekend with Prime Minister Kaifu of Japan. We have very important business to do with Japan, and these will be important meetings; I think they're fitting that they be held in California.

But what will truly lead California to success in the new century is her people and the way they do business. As our economy continues to grow and labor markets continue to tighten up, businesses like yours will need to turn to sources of talent once left untapped: youth at risk, who need to see

the connection between school and work; the underskilled, who need training; older and more experienced workers, who need new skills; the disabled, who need only a chance to prove their abilities; and dual-career families, who need flexible, creative child-care solutions.

Flexible workplace policies will allow you to find and keep the best talent. And one of the most promising of these new business frontiers is telecommuting: taking advantage of new technology to enable your people to work at home 1 or 2 days a week. Clearly this exciting concept will not apply to every business or every kind of employee, but consider: A typical 20 minute roundtrip commute to work over the course of a year adds up to 2 very stressful 40 hour weeks lost on the road. But if only 5 percent of the commuters in L.A. County telecommuted 1 day each week, they'd save 205 million miles of travel each year and keep 47,000 tons of pollutants from entering the atmosphere. So, telecommuting means saving energy, improving air quality, and quality of life—not a bad deal.

This administration is profoundly committed to protecting the environment that we all share. That's why I'm pleased to say that today we've reached an agreement with a bipartisan group of leaders in the United States Senate for environmentally aggressive and still economically sound revisions to the Clean Air Act. It's a new approach to clean air that will permanently reduce emissions that cause acid rain; greatly reduce the threat from air toxins; and bring clean, healthy air to every city in America, including this important city, Los Angeles.

I know that many of your companies, many represented right here tonight, are involved in forward-looking stewardship efforts for our precious environment. That's a measure of the enlightened management here in California. Along with looking inward for better ways to run your operations, you're also looking outward as active partners in your communities. And we all know that some of your communities will demand long-term—the problems—long-term, consistent, collective effort, work involving worthy sacrifice, but with profound, long-term results.

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As I think of my job, I often think an important priority: Our kids need our help. And that will mean a lot to your communities. But there's one thing more that we should consider for the sake of the world community. We've all watched with wonder and delight the transformations that took place in Eastern Europe during

the Revolution of 1989. We greet the triumph of democracy like a miraculous dawn that might somehow cast the whole world in its light at once. But it is not ordained and will not be the work of miracles. It must be the work of the newly liberated peoples themselves, and it must be America's work.

Forty years ago a world wounded, rent asunder by war, was built with America's leadership. In this decade, nations impoverished by ideology and ravaged by dictatorship—in Eastern Europe, in Latin America—are also ready to be reborn and rebuilt with the tools of free enterprise, the wisdom of free markets, and the skills of American business. As the political dust settles, the real struggle now begins. The cry for democracy, the redemption of the individual voice is only the first step. As I said in my State of the Union Address, democracy is a cornerstone of free societies that must be joined with competition, opportunity, private investment, stewardship, and of course, leadership.

Now is the time for our country, for America, to provide that leadership, to do her quiet but crucial work to help lay the cornerstones of free societies and to widen the circle of freedom. We can rely on what we know. We know that prosperity preserves peace, that the troubled waters of political turmoil are calmed by economic growth, and that our economic influence can be a force for great good.

We are using that influence at the international level, marshaling assistance for nations making a courageous break from their totalitarian past. We're providing direct U.S. aid. And we're working with the Congress and with other nations to do more for these exciting fledgling democracies. But America's leadership in the world does not depend solely on government initiatives. Our influence is profound because our private sector has shown the leadership, and we need your engagement again today.

Every business and community organization, here in California and across the country—business leagues, Rotaries, clubs of every kind—all can find ways to help the people of Eastern Europe and Central America as they make this transition to market economies. In this, your national

chamber is on the right track. Consider donating some time and expertise to the emerging businesses that are now struggling in Eastern Europe. Work with our important friends and neighbors to the south, in Panama and now in Nicaragua, as the transfer of power takes place. Whatever your specialty—strategic planning, marketing, inventory, line operations—it is needed now. Find a sister city or a business that would benefit from what you know of free enterprise and free markets and put your talents to work. Today there is an unprecedented opportunity, certainly an urgent need, for American business leaders to lead the world toward free enterprise.

You know, back in 1890, there were a lot of newspaper articles suggesting that California was in decline or, as one observer put it, "in a state of decadence." The critics claimed that industry and agriculture were struggling. And it looked like the gold had all been rushed. You know what happened. You know the history. California became a world-class economic superpower. Today you are called upon and privileged as few have been before to bring the world new and unprecedented prosperity.

Show the world that commerce has conscience, that prosperity has a purpose, and that any definition of a successful life really must include serving others. In your own businesses, in your communities, and in the community of nations, gather strength and use it to help people.

I am privileged to be President of the United States at this terribly exciting time in not only our history but in the history of freedom and democracy around the world. Let me just say I feel that all of you in this room have an important part to play in this new decade in helping solidify the freedom that people have struggled for, the democracies that they revere, and the future they deserve.

Let me wish this chamber a very happy 100th birthday. Thank you for inviting me. God bless you, and God bless the United States of America. Thank you very, very much. Nice to be with you. Sorry to eat and run like this, but I'm still on Eastern Time.

Note: The President spoke at 7:50 p.m. in the Los Angeles Ballroom at the Century Plaza Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to

Steven Mersamer, dinner chairman; Stanley Wainer, chairman of the board of the chamber; and Al Davis, owner of the Los Angeles Raiders football team, who is considering moving the team to another city. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Points of Light Recognition Program

The President named the following individuals and institutions as exemplars of his commitment to making community service central to the life and work of every American.

The President extends his appreciation to the following:

February 24

George Simmons, of Provo, UT. Mr. Simmons, 78, has spent the last 6 years as a volunteer instructor of a woodworking class at Mt. View High School in Orem. He spends 4 hours per day, 5 days a week, sharing his experiences and talents as a woodworker, assisting students in creating pieces which have won State awards. In addition, he has instructed over 4,000 people in the art of blacksmithing, in hopes of continuing the existence of the nearly extinct trade. Aside from teaching, Mr. Simmons voluntarily drew plans for a health clinic at the senior citizen center in his community.

February 26

Save the Bay, of Providence, RI. This environmental advocacy organization is dedicated to the cleanup and protection of the Narragansett Bay. Save the Bay is composed of 22 paid employees and relies heavily on its corps of 700 volunteers. Volunteers help with managerial tasks, conduct pollution research, and educate members of the community about the dangers of pollution. In 1989 there was a massive oil spill in the Narragansett Bay. The Coast Guard and Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management received hundreds of phone calls from concerned residents who wanted to help. Save the Bay was asked if it would take these calls and mobilize and coordinate volunteers. Over 1,200 volunteers worked on the spill, and Save the Bay made the effort effective.