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Folder Title:
National Leadership Coalition on AIDS 3/29/90 [OA 4727] [1]

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NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990, 11:15 A.M.

THANK YOU, LOUIS SULLIVAN. AND THANKS TO LARRY
WILLIFORD OF ALLSTATE AND B.J. STILES FROM THE
COALITION. DR. JUNE OSBORN, DR. DAVID ROGERS, AND
BELINDA MASON OF THE AIDS COMMISSION, WITH WHOM I JUST
MET. MY FRIEND AND PHYSICIAN, DR. BURTON LEE.

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE WITH YOU, THE LEADERS
WHO GUIDE AMERICAN BUSINESS AS IT HELPS THOSE SUFFERING
WITH HIV AND AIDS. YOU MAKE OUR HEARTS GLAD. AND YOU
MAKE YOUR COUNTRY PROUD.\\

OTHER GENERATIONS HAVE FACED LIFE-THREATENING
MEDICAL CRISES, FROM POLIO TO THE PLAGUE. THIS VIRUS
IS OUR CHALLENGE. NOT A CHALLENGE WE SOUGHT. NOT A
CHALLENGE WE CHOSE. BUT TODAY OUR RESPONSIBILITY IS
CLEAR: WE MUST MEET THIS CHALLENGE. WE MUST BEAT THIS
VIRUS. FOR WHETHER TALKING ABOUT A NATION OR AN
INDIVIDUAL, CHARACTER IS MEASURED NOT BY OUR TRAGEDIES
-- BUT BY OUR RESPONSE TO THOSE TRAGEDIES. \\

AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE LIVING WITH HIV AND AIDS,
OUR RESPONSE IS CLEAR: THEY DESERVE OUR COMPASSION.
THEY DESERVE OUR CARE. AND THEY DESERVE MORE THAN A
CHANCE -- THEY DESERVE A CURE. \\\

AMERICA WILL ACCEPT NOTHING LESS. WE ARE SLASHING
RED TAPE. ACCELERATING SCHEDULES. BOOSTING RESEARCH.
AND SOMEWHERE OUT THERE, THERE'S A NOBEL PRIZE -- AND
THE GRATITUDE OF PLANET EARTH -- WAITING FOR THE MAN OR
WOMAN WHO DISCOVERS THE ANSWER THAT'S ELUDED EVERYONE
ELSE. \\\

WE PRAY THAT DAY WILL COME SOON. BUT UNTIL THAT
DAY -- UNTIL THIS VIRUS CAN BE DEFEATED BY SCIENCE --
THERE'S A BATTLE TO BE WAGED BY SOCIETY. \\\

BECAUSE IN 1990, THE MOST EFFECTIVE WEAPON IN OUR
ARSENAL AGAINST AIDS IS NOT JUST MEDICATION, \\
BUT ALSO EDUCATION. \\\

OUR GOAL IS TO TURN IRRATIONAL FEAR INTO RATIONAL
FACTS.

EVERY AMERICAN MUST LEARN WHAT AIDS IS -- AND WHAT AIDS IS NOT. AND THEY MUST LEARN NOW. YOU IN THIS ROOM ALREADY KNOW. THE HIV VIRUS IS NOT SPREAD BY HANDSHAKES OR HUGS. YOU CAN'T GET IT FROM FOOD OR DRINK. COUGHING OR SNEEZING. OR BY SHARING BATHROOMS OR TOWELS OR CONVERSATION.

THE TRANSMISSION OF HIV IS AS SIMPLE AS IT IS DEADLY. IN MOST CASES, IT'S DETERMINED NOT BY WHAT YOU ARE -- BUT BY WHAT YOU DO -- AND BY WHAT YOU FAIL TO DO. \\\

LET ME STATE IT CLEARLY: PEOPLE ARE PLACED AT RISK NOT BY THEIR DEMOGRAPHICS, BUT BY THEIR DEEDS. BY THEIR BEHAVIOR. \\\

AND SO IT IS OUR DUTY TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT EVERY AMERICAN HAS THE ESSENTIAL INFORMATION NEEDED TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF HIV AND AIDS. BECAUSE WHILE THE IGNORANT MAY DISCRIMINATE AGAINST AIDS -- AIDS WON'T DISCRIMINATE AMONG THE IGNORANT. \\\

LIKE MANY OF YOU, BARBARA AND I HAVE HAD FRIENDS WHO HAVE DIED OF AIDS. OUR LOVE FOR THEM WHEN THEY WERE SICK AND WHEN THEY DIED WAS JUST AS GREAT AND JUST AS INTENSE AS FOR ANYONE LOST TO HEART DISEASE OR CANCER OR ACCIDENTS.

PROBABLY EVERYONE HERE HAS READ THE HEARTBREAKING STORIES ABOUT AIDS BABIES AND THOSE INFECTED BY TRANSFUSIONS. WHEN OUR OWN DAUGHTER WAS DYING OF LEUKEMIA, WE ASKED THE DOCTOR THE SAME QUESTION EVERY HIV FAMILY MUST ASK -- WHY -- WHY THIS WAS HAPPENING TO OUR BEAUTIFUL LITTLE GIRL. AND THE DOCTOR SAID: "YOU HAVE TO REALIZE THAT EVERY WELL PERSON IS A MIRACLE. IT TAKES BILLIONS OF CELLS TO MAKE A WELL PERSON. AND ALL IT TAKES IS ONE CELL TO BE BAD TO DESTROY A WHOLE PERSON."

IN THIS NATION, IN THIS DECADE, THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO DEAL WITH AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SICK. WITH DIGNITY. COMPASSION. CARE. CONFIDENTIALITY. AND WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION. \\\

ONCE DISEASE STRIKES -- WE DON'T BLAME THOSE WHO ARE SUFFERING. WE DON'T SPURN THE ACCIDENT VICTIM WHO DIDN'T WEAR A SEATBELT. WE DON'T REJECT THE CANCER PATIENT WHO DIDN'T QUIT SMOKING. WE TRY TO LOVE THEM AND CARE FOR THEM AND COMFORT THEM. WE DO NOT FIRE THEM, OR EVICT THEM, OR CANCEL THEIR INSURANCE.

TODAY I CALL ON THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO GET ON WITH THE JOB OF PASSING A LAW -- AS EMBODIED IN THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT -- THAT PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THOSE WITH HIV AND AIDS. WE'RE IN A FIGHT AGAINST A DISEASE -- NOT A FIGHT AGAINST PEOPLE. AND WE WON'T TOLERATE DISCRIMINATION. \\\

THE DISEASE IS ATTACKING OUR MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE -- OUR PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY OUR YOUNG. THE STATISTICS ARE NUMBING. YOU HEARD THEM THIS MORNING. BUT JUST LOOK AT THE AMAZING QUILTS HANGING HERE TODAY. THEY PROVE THAT NO ONE IS A STATISTIC. EVERY LIFE HAS ITS OWN FABRIC. ITS OWN COLORS. ITS OWN PURPOSE. ITS OWN SOUL. AND LIKE THE QUILTS, NO TWO ARE ALIKE. \\\

WHEN BARBARA AND I LEFT WASHINGTON FOR CHRISTMAS, OUR LAST STOP WAS A CLINIC UP AT NIH. WE WERE IMPRESSED BY THE DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE THERE -- THE DOCTORS, NURSES, AND HEALTH CARE WORKERS -- AND ESPECIALLY THE BRAVE PEOPLE WHO ARE LIVING WITH HIV. WE LEARNED A LOT ABOUT CARING. A LOT ABOUT FAMILY. AND A LOT ABOUT HOPE. WE SAW THE FACE OF HUMANITY IN THE FACE OF AIDS.

YOU, TOO, ARE IN A POWERFUL, UNIQUE POSITION TO INFLUENCE THE RESPONSE TO HIV AND AIDS. WASHING OUR HANDS OF IT WON'T HELP SOLVE THIS PROBLEM. BUT ROLLING UP OUR SLEEVES WILL. \\\

THE ROSTER OF PARTICIPANTS AT THIS CONFERENCE IS AN HONOR ROLL. ALLSTATE SPONSORED A LANDMARK CONFERENCE ON HIV AND WORK. FORTUNE MAGAZINE LAUNCHED A SURVEY ON C.E.O.'S RESPONSE TO HIV. GENERAL MOTORS PLEDGED TO CONDUCT AN EDUCATION PROGRAM. OTHERS ARE FIGHTING THE SPREAD OF HIV BY FIGHTING TO KEEP SCHOOLS AND WORKPLACES DRUG-FREE. THIS IS AMERICA RESPONDING TO A CRISIS. THIS IS AMERICA AT ITS BEST. \\\

THIS EPIDEMIC IS HAVING A MAJOR IMPACT ON OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM. THE FEDERAL RESPONSE IS UNPRECEDENTED. IN 1982, WE KNEW LITTLE ABOUT AIDS -- AND SPENT ONLY \$8 MILLION. BUT THIS YEAR I HAVE ASKED CONGRESS FOR ALMOST \$3.5 BILLION TO BATTLE HIV. MONEY FOR BASIC RESEARCH. FOR HIV TREATMENT AND EDUCATION. FOR PROTECTING CIVIL RIGHTS. \\\

FROM SEATTLE TO BOSTON, FROM DALLAS TO DETROIT, FEDERAL GRANTS HAVE HELPED COORDINATE THE EFFORTS OF CARE PROVIDERS, BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO SET PRIORITIES AND POOL RESOURCES TO MEET THE TREATMENT NEEDS OF PEOPLE WITH AIDS.

WE'VE INITIATED CLINICAL TRIALS FOR PROMISING NEW THERAPIES FOR HIV. EXPANDED THE AVAILABILITY OF EXPERIMENTAL DRUGS. APPROVED THREE NEW THERAPIES THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME OFFER HELP TO HIV-INFECTED PEOPLE BEFORE THEY BECOME SICK WITH AIDS. WE'VE STARTED A TOLL-FREE NUMBER WHERE HIV PATIENTS AND DOCTORS CAN GET STATE-OF-THE-ART INFORMATION ON NEW TREATMENTS. WORKED WITH THE P.T.A. TO DISTRIBUTE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF COPIES OF THE "AIDS PREVENTION GUIDE" FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES NATIONWIDE.

AND OUR \$10 BILLION WAR ON DRUGS IS ALSO A WAR ON AIDS. IV DRUG USE NOW ACCOUNTS FOR SOME OF THE FASTEST GROWING INFECTION RATES -- AFFLICTING AMERICANS THAT ARE OFTEN AMONG THOSE LEAST ABLE TO GET ADEQUATE MEDICAL HELP.

AMERICA HAS THE MOST SOPHISTICATED HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IN THE WORLD. BUT IT IS NOT WITHOUT ITS PROBLEMS. WE FACE MANY CHALLENGES. OUR SYSTEM DEPENDS ON PRIVATE INSURANCE AND INDIVIDUAL PAYMENTS, AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS. AIDS MAGNIFIES THE CHALLENGES, INCLUDING THE CHALLENGE OF EXPANDING ACCESS, BRINGING COSTS UNDER CONTROL, AND OVERCOMING OBSTACLES TO QUALITY CARE. WITH THESE CONCERNS IN MIND, I ASKED DR. LOUIS SULLIVAN TO LEAD A CABINET-LEVEL REVIEW OF HEALTH CARE IN THE 1990'S. AND BUSINESSES LIKE THOSE YOU REPRESENT MUST PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN HELPING IMPROVE OUR NATION'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

THE CRISIS IS NOT OVER. WE REPORT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NEW CASES EVERY YEAR. AND MANY PREDICT WE CAN EXPECT TO CONTINUE TO DO SO IN THIS DECADE, AND EVEN INTO THE NEXT CENTURY.

AND YET, "WHERE THERE IS LIFE THERE IS HOPE."
THERE ARE HOPEFUL SIGNS. TO BEGIN WITH, WE CAN BE
ENCOURAGED BY THE NEWS THAT CURRENT PROJECTIONS OF THE
INFECTION RATE WILL NOT BE AS HIGH AS WE THOUGHT JUST A
YEAR AGO.

MY ADMINISTRATION RECENTLY ACTED TO EXTEND A-Z-T
COVERAGE TO HELP HIV-INFECTED PEOPLE NOT YET SICK WITH
AIDS. ALL 50 STATES NOW PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR
A-Z-T TREATMENTS. THANKS TO THESE ACTIONS, MORE AND
MORE PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE AND WORK WITH HIV.
KEEP THEM IN YOUR WORKFORCE -- AS I KNOW MANY OF YOU
ARE ALREADY DOING, AS LEADERS IN THIS EFFORT. THEY CAN
SERVE MANY, MANY MORE PRODUCTIVE YEARS WITH NO THREAT
TO YOU, YOUR OTHER WORKERS, OR YOUR COMPANIES. IT WILL
REDUCE COSTS FOR EVERYONE. AND IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO
DO. \\\

THE PACE OF PROGRESS IS PROMISING. THE HIV VIRUS
HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED, ISOLATED, AND ATTACKED WITH
EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENTS IN A SPAN OF LESS THAN 10
YEARS. THE NORMAL, CENTURIES-LONG EVOLUTION OF
DISEASE AND TREATMENT COMPRESSED INTO A DECADE.

AND THIS RACE AGAINST TIME HAS PRODUCED AN EXPLOSION IN KNOWLEDGE AND BASIC UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE NATURE OF DISEASE AND IMMUNOLOGY. LIKE THE UNEXPECTED TECHNOLOGICAL BOONS FROM APOLLO'S RACE TO THE MOON, SOME PHYSICIANS PREDICT THE RACE TO CURE AIDS MAY EVEN LEAD TO A CURE FOR CANCER. \\\

DOLLARS SPENT FOR AIDS RESEARCH ARE DOLLARS SPENT FOR THE BETTER HEALTH OF ALL AMERICANS. AIDS RESEARCH STRIKES AT THE HEART OF MANY HUMAN HEALTH PROBLEMS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE TO AGING AND CANCER. IT INCLUDES RESEARCH ON A CLASS OF VIRUSES NOW INCREASINGLY BELIEVED TO BE THE CAUSE OF NOT ONLY AIDS, BUT ALSO INCURABLE DISEASES LIKE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY, MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND AT LEAST TWO FORMS OF LEUKEMIA.

WE'RE ON A WAR-TIME FOOTING AT NIH AND CDC -- THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL. TONIGHT, LIKE EVERY NIGHT, THE LIGHTS WILL BURN LATE IN BETHESDA AND ATLANTA, AS A GROUP OF AMERICAN PIONEERS WORK TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM. IF THEY DO -- I SHOULD SAY, WHEN THEY DO -- IT WILL BE ONE OF THE GREATEST THINGS OUR NATION COULD DO FOR THE WORLD. \\\

WE'RE GOING TO CONTINUE TO FIGHT LIKE HELL. BUT
WE'RE ALSO GOING TO FIGHT FOR HOPE. AMERICA HAS A
UNIQUE CAPACITY FOR BEATING THE ODDS -- AND ASTOUNDING
THE WORLD. \\\

DURING MY OWN CHILDHOOD, THE SILENT, WHISPERED
TERROR WAS A MYSTERIOUS KILLER CALLED POLIO. LIKE HIV,
THE VIRUS IGNORED CLASS DISTINCTIONS AND GEOGRAPHIC
BOUNDARIES. MONDAY WOULD COME, AND KIDS WHO'D BEEN IN
SCHOOL ON FRIDAY WERE SIMPLY NEVER SEEN AGAIN.
THEATERS WERE CLOSED, SUMMER CAMPS, SWIMMING POOLS.

AS WITH AIDS, THERE WAS A LOT OF IGNORANCE.
THOUSANDS OF STRAY CATS AND DOGS PUT TO DEATH. KIDS
SLEEPING WITH CAMPHOR INHALERS. AT LEAST ONE TOWN WAS
FUMIGATED WITH D.D.T.

THERE WERE TERRIFYING OUTBREAKS IN THE TEENS, IN
THE THIRTIES, IN THE FIFTIES. A CURE WAS SO FAR
DISTANT THE EXPERTS REFUSED TO SPECULATE. \\\ AND
THEN, SUDDENLY, IT WAS OVER. THE DREADED IRON LUNG,
UNUSED, CLUTTERING HOSPITAL HALLWAYS. CHILDREN AGAIN
GROWING UP IN A WORLD WITHOUT FEAR. \\\

MANY COMPARISONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO EPIDEMICS PAST.
CHOLERA. SMALL POX. YELLOW FEVER. NONE OF THEM
PERFECT. SO LET ME BOIL DOWN THE LESSONS OF POLIO TO
TWO:

THERE WAS A LOT OF IGNORANCE -- LET'S LEARN FROM
THAT. AND IN THE DARKEST OF HOURS -- HOPE CAME
UNEXPECTEDLY, POWERFULLY AND WITH FINALITY. LET'S WORK
HARD TO SEE THAT DAY COME TO PASS. \\\

TOGETHER, WE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE, FOR THOSE
WITH HIV AND AIDS -- AND FOR ALL AMERICANS. \\\

THANK YOU. AND MAY GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE
UNTIL 11:25 A.M. EST
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990

TEXT OF REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS

Arlington Ballroom
Crystal Gateway Marriott
Arlington, Virginia

March 29, 1990

I am delighted to be here with you, the leaders who guide American business as it helps those suffering with HIV and AIDS. You make our hearts glad. And you make your country proud.

Other generations have faced life-threatening medical crises, from polio to the plague. This virus is our challenge. Not a challenge we sought. Not a challenge we chose. But today our responsibility is clear: We must meet this challenge. We must beat this virus. For whether talking about a nation or an individual, character is measured not by our tragedies -- but by our response to those tragedies.

And for those who are living with HIV and AIDS, our response is clear: They deserve our compassion. They deserve our care. And they deserve more than a chance -- they deserve a cure.

America will accept nothing less. We are slashing red tape. Accelerating schedules. Boosting research. And somewhere out there, there's a Nobel prize -- and the gratitude of planet Earth -- waiting for the man or woman who discovers the answer that's eluded everyone else.

We pray that day will come soon. But until that day -- until this virus can be defeated by science -- there's a battle to be waged by society.

Because in 1990, the most effective weapon in our arsenal against AIDS is not just medication, but also education.

Our goal is to turn irrational fear into rational facts.

Every American must learn what AIDS is -- and what AIDS is not. And they must learn now. You in this room already know. The HIV virus is not spread by handshakes or hugs. You can't get it from food or drink, coughing or sneezing, or by sharing bathrooms or towels or conversation.

The transmission of HIV is as simple as it is deadly. In most cases, it's determined not by what you are -- but by what you do -- and by what you fail to do.

Let me state it clearly: People are placed at risk not by their demographics, but by their deeds -- by their behavior.

And so it is our duty to make certain that every American has the essential information needed to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS. Because while the ignorant may discriminate against AIDS, AIDS won't discriminate among the ignorant.

Like many of you, Barbara and I have had friends who have died of AIDS. Our love for them when they were sick and when they died was just as great and just as intense as for anyone lost to heart disease or cancer or accidents.

Probably everyone here has read the heartbreaking stories about AIDS babies and those infected by transfusions. When our own daughter was dying of leukemia, we asked the doctor the same question every HIV family must ask -- why -- why this was happening to our beautiful little girl. And the doctor said: "You have to realize that every well person is a miracle. It takes billions of cells to make a well person. And all it takes is one cell to be bad to destroy a whole person."

In this Nation, in this decade, there is only one way to deal with an individual who is sick. With dignity, compassion, care, confidentiality, and without discrimination.

Once disease strikes -- we don't blame those who are suffering. We don't spurn the accident victim who didn't wear a seatbelt. We don't reject the cancer patient who didn't quit smoking. We try to love them and care for them and comfort them. We do not fire them, or evict them, or cancel their insurance.

Today I call on the House of Representatives to get on with the job of passing a law -- as embodied in the Americans with Disabilities Act -- that prohibits discrimination against those with HIV and AIDS. We're in a fight against a disease -- not a fight against people. And we won't tolerate discrimination.

The disease is attacking our most precious resource -- our people, especially our young. The statistics are numbing. You heard them this morning. But just look at the amazing quilts hanging here today. They prove that no one is a statistic. Every life has its own fabric, its own colors, its own purpose, its own soul. And like the quilts, no two are alike.

When Barbara and I left Washington for Christmas, our last stop was a clinic up at NIH. We were impressed by the determination of the people there -- the doctors, nurses, and health care workers -- and especially the brave people who are living with HIV. We learned a lot about caring, a lot about family, and a lot about hope. We saw the face of humanity in the face of AIDS.

You, too, are in a powerful, unique position to influence the response to HIV and AIDS. Washing our hands of it won't help solve this problem, but rolling up our sleeves will.

The roster of participants at this Conference is an honor roll. Allstate sponsored a landmark conference on HIV and work. Fortune magazine launched a survey on C.E.O.'s response to HIV. General Motors pledged to conduct an education program. Others are fighting the spread of HIV by fighting to keep schools and workplaces drug-free. This is America responding to a crisis. This is America at its best.

This epidemic is having a major impact on our health care system. The Federal response is unprecedented. In 1982, we knew little about AIDS -- and spent only \$8 million. But this year I have asked Congress for almost \$3.5 billion to battle HIV -- money for basic research, for HIV treatment and education, for protecting civil rights.

From Seattle to Boston, from Dallas to Detroit, Federal grants have helped coordinate the efforts of care providers, business and community organizations to set priorities and pool resources to meet the treatment needs of people with AIDS.

We've initiated clinical trials for promising new therapies for HIV, expanded the availability of experimental drugs. Approved three new therapies that for the first time offer help to HIV-infected people before they become sick with AIDS. We've started a toll-free number where HIV patients and doctors can get state-of-the-art information on new treatments; worked with the P.T.A. to distribute hundreds of thousands of copies of the "AIDS Prevention Guide" for use in schools and families nationwide.

And our \$10 billion war on drugs is also a war on AIDS. IV drug use now accounts for some of the fastest growing infection rates -- afflicting Americans that are often among those least able to get adequate medical help.

America has the most sophisticated health care system in the world, but it is not without its problems. We face many challenges. Our system depends on private insurance and individual payments, as well as government programs. AIDS magnifies the challenges, including the challenge of expanding access, bringing costs under control, and overcoming obstacles to quality care. With these concerns in mind, I asked Dr. Louis Sullivan to lead a Cabinet-level review of health care in the 1990's, and businesses like those you represent must play a major role in helping improve our Nation's health care system.

The crisis is not over. We report tens of thousands of new cases every year. And many predict we can expect to continue to do so in this decade, and even into the next century.

And yet, "where there is life there is hope." There are hopeful signs. To begin with, we can be encouraged by the news that current projections of the infection rate will not be as high as we thought just a year ago.

My Administration recently acted to extend AZT coverage to help HIV-infected people not yet sick with AIDS. All 50 states now provide Medicaid coverage for AZT treatments. Thanks to these actions, more and more people will be able to live and work with HIV. Keep them in your workforce -- as I know many of you are already doing, as leaders in this effort. They can serve many, many more productive years with no threat to you, your other workers, or your companies. It will reduce costs for everyone. And it's the right thing to do.

The pace of progress is promising. The HIV virus has been identified, isolated, and attacked with experimental treatments in a span of less than 10 years. The normal, centuries-long evolution of disease and treatment compressed into a decade.

And this race against time has produced an explosion in knowledge and basic understanding about the nature of disease and immunology. Like the unexpected technological boons from Apollo's race to the moon, some physicians predict the race to cure AIDS may even lead to a cure for cancer.

Dollars spent for AIDS research are dollars spent for the better health of all Americans. AIDS research strikes at the heart of many human health problems from infectious disease to aging and cancer. It includes research on a class of viruses now increasingly believed to be the cause of not only AIDS, but also incurable diseases like muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis and at least two forms of leukemia.

We're on a war-time footing at NIH and CDC -- the Centers for Disease Control. Tonight, like every night, the lights will burn late in Bethesda and Atlanta, as a group of American pioneers work to solve this problem. If they do -- I should say, when they do -- it will be one of the greatest things our Nation could do for the world.

We're going to continue to fight like hell. But we're also going to fight for hope. America has a unique capacity for beating the odds -- and astounding the world.

During my own childhood, the silent, whispered terror was a mysterious killer called polio. Like HIV, the virus ignored class distinctions and geographic boundaries. Monday would come, and kids who'd been in school on Friday were simply never seen again. Theaters were closed, summer camps, swimming pools.

As with AIDS, there was a lot of ignorance. Thousands of stray cats and dogs put to death. Kids sleeping with camphor inhalers. At least one town was fumigated with D.D.T.

There were terrifying outbreaks in the teens, in the thirties, in the fifties. A cure was so far distant the experts refused to speculate. And then, suddenly, it was over. The dreaded iron lung, unused, cluttering hospital hallways. Children again growing up in a world without fear.

Many comparisons have been made to epidemics past -- cholera, small pox, yellow fever -- none of them perfect. So let me boil down the lessons of polio to two: There was a lot of ignorance - let's learn from that. And in the darkest of hours -- hope came unexpectedly, powerfully and with finality. Let's work hard to see that day come to pass.

Together, we will make a difference, for those with HIV and AIDS -- and for all Americans.

#

PORTER INSERT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 27, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR ROGER B. PORTER

FROM: JIM PINKERTON
HANNS KUTTNER

SUBJECT: AIDS Speech Reference to Health Care System

We have redrafted the health care discussion to bring down expectations. A memo to Jim Cicconi providing the language is attached.

The memo lays out the rationale for the suggestions.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 27, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES W. CICCONI

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: National Leadership Conference on AIDS Speech

Following up on our conversation about the discussion of health care system reform in the speech, I suggest replacing the final three paragraphs on page six with the following:

America has the most sophisticated health care system in the world. But it is not without its problems. We face many challenges. Our system depends on private insurance and individual payments, as well as government programs. AIDS magnifies the challenges, including the challenge of expanding access, bringing costs under control, and overcoming obstacles to quality care.

With these concerns in mind, I asked Dr. Louis Sullivan to lead a Cabinet-level review of health care in the 1990's.

This formulation is broader than the draft, referring to cost and access as equal challenges. The President used a similar formulation in the State of the Union address. Our efforts to develop options relating to malpractice can help address the challenge of "overcoming obstacles to quality care."

The reference to not knowing where the Sullivan review will lead us has been deleted. There are surely some places the review will not lead us; the President's State of the Union discussion suggests that approaches not balancing cost and access are not under consideration. Absent this reference, the last sentence on page six should be deleted because it suggests that we have decided that we want business to foot the tab.

cc: James W. Cicconi

*please
see
①
R.B.*

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/23/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3/26/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>LEE</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 PM, Monday, March 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

McNally/Simon
March 23, 1990

1990 MAR 23 AM 10:59 Draft Three (B:AIDS)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990, 11:15 A.M.

Thank you, _____. [ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS]

There could scarcely be a more important gathering, a more important place for me to be than here with you -- the men and women who guide business and industry as they focus on the best way to help our people suffering with HIV and AIDS.

There are many team players in this struggle. Community service organizations. Religious leaders of all persuasions. AIDS service organizations created by volunteers, many of them also infected with HIV. And corporations and private foundations that together have given over \$100 million to support literally thousands of AIDS projects.

You make our hearts glad. And you make your country proud.

Other generations have faced life-threatening medical crises, from polio to the plague. This virus is our challenge. Not a challenge we sought. Not a challenge we chose. But today our choice is simple:

We ^{MUST} will meet this challenge. We ^{MUST} will beat this virus. For whether talking about a nation or an individual, character is measured not by our tragedies -- but by how we respond to those tragedies. |||

And for those who are living with HIV and AIDS, our response is simple: They deserve our compassion. They deserve our care. ~~And they deserve more than a chance -- they deserve a cure.~~ |||
BUT BEYOND COMPASSION AND CARE, WE MUST FIND

SHOULD NOT
LET ALTERNATION
DRIVE.
THE PLAGUE.

RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE STATED SIMPLY:

America will accept nothing less. We are slashing red tape. Accelerating schedules. Boosting research. And somewhere out there, there's a Nobel prize -- and the gratitude of the planet Earth -- waiting for the man or woman who ^{DISCOVERS} ~~peers into a microscope and sees~~ the answer that's eluded everyone else.

We pray that day will come soon. But until that day -- until this virus can be defeated ^{BY SCIENCE} ~~in our hospitals~~ -- there's a battle to be waged ^{BY SOCIETY.} ~~in our homes.~~ \\\

Because in 1990, the single most effective weapon in our arsenal against AIDS is ~~[not medication, \\\ but]~~ education. \\\

We must increase our efforts to educate the public about AIDS and how it is contracted. Our goal is to turn irrational fear into rational facts.

Because this isn't just a fight against disease. It's also a fight against ignorance. A fight against discrimination. \\\

Almost ^{SOME} ~~three~~ years ago, I described our struggle against the HIV virus as a battle against a "new and mysterious disease."

Today, HIV is not so new and not so mysterious. Today, HIV has joined cancer, heart disease, and accidents as one of the deadly realities of our time.

Of these, HIV is one of the most lethal, one of the most frightening. But HIV is also one of the most preventable.

Every American must learn what AIDS is -- and what AIDS is not. And they must learn now. So let's shoot down some myths. The HIV virus is not spread by handshakes or hugs. You can't get

it from food or drink. Coughing or sneezing. Or by sharing bathrooms or towels or conversation.

[It's not like heart disease, where there's confusion over ever-changing bits of advice on oat bran and olive oil, exercise and eggs.] The transmission of AIDS is as simple as it is deadly. It's determined not by what you are -- but by what you do -- and by what you fail to do. \\\

Let me state it clearly: People are placed at risk not by their demographics, but by their deeds. By their behavior. \\\

And so it is our duty to make certain that every American has the essential information needed to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS. Because while the ignorant may discriminate against AIDS -- AIDS won't discriminate among the ^{UNINFORMED.} ignorant. \\\

Like many of you, Barbara and I have had friends who have died of AIDS. Our love for them when they were sick and when they died was just as great and just as intense as for anyone we have lost to heart disease or cancer or accidents.

In this nation, in this decade, there is only one way to deal with an individual who is sick. With dignity. Compassion. Care. Confidentiality. And without discrimination. \\\

Once disease strikes -- we don't blame those who are suffering. We don't spurn the accident victim who didn't wear a seatbelt. We don't reject the cancer patient who didn't quit smoking. We [~~try to~~] love them and care for them and comfort them, * We do not fire them, or evict them, or cancel their insurance.

* EVEN AS WE SEEK TO EDUCATE THE NEXT GENERATION.

OMIT. THIS IS A BATTLE WE DON'T NEED.

TRANSMISSIONS. MANY OF THESE WITH AIDS.

People with AIDS are no different than people with other disabling and life-threatening diseases. They are our colleagues and co-workers. Our friends. Our families. THEY...ARE...US.

And today I call on the House of Representatives to get on with the job of passing a law -- the Americans with Disabilities Act -- that prohibits discrimination against those with HIV and AIDS.

This is a fight against a disease -- not a fight against people. \\\ And we won't tolerate discrimination. \\\

The disease is attacking our most precious resource -- our people, our young. Unlike many of the diseases that cause disability in our elderly, AIDS affects many Americans now in the prime of life. Ninety-five percent of the 115,000 Americans with AIDS are between the ages of 20 and 59. These were the years they planned to work and create, and save for the future. Now their struggle is to survive.

The statistics are numbing. You heard them this morning. But just look at the amazing quilts which hang around us today. They prove that no ^{PERSON} man is a statistic. Every life has its own fabric. Its own colors. Its own purpose. Its own soul. And like the quilts, no two are alike. \\\

These quilts commemorate the dead. But the most important part of our learning is with the living. And I hope that you will go out and visit the AIDS wards. Meet with the patients and their families. See the face of humanity in the face of AIDS.

When Barbara and I left Washington for the Christmas holidays, our last stop was a clinic at the National Institutes of Health. We were impressed by the ~~mettle and~~ determination of the people there -- the doctors, nurses, and health care workers -- and especially the brave people who are living with HIV. We learned a lot about courage. A lot about family. And a lot about hope.

Recently, we received a letter from seven who we visited. They wrote: "Each of us looks for hope in very personal ways. We seek comfort and warmth from those we love. We seek new answers through participation in experimental drug studies. We seek to enjoy the simplest of pleasures in everyday life. We seek to make peace with ourselves and with those who don't understand us. We seek a voice, a compassionate voice, that can address the concerns of hundreds of thousands of people."

Ladies and gentlemen, the voice they seek must be your voice. The voice of every American. \\\

Your employees will take their cues from you. You are in a powerful, unique position to influence the response to HIV and AIDS. When someone asks: "Who will volunteer to help care for our co-workers with AIDS?" you should be the first to say, "I will." Washing your hands of it won't help solve this problem. But rolling up your sleeves will. \\\

The roster of participants at this Conference is an honor roll. Allstate sponsored a landmark conference to help deal with the impact of HIV at work. The magazine, Fortune, launched a

JIM P.
THOUSANDS
POINTS OF VIEW.

survey that helped us understand the attitudes and actions of C.E.O.'s in responding to HIV. [An industrial giant] asked an HIV expert to brief its key officers -- and pledged to conduct an education program for employees. Others are fighting the spread of HIV by fighting to keep schools and workplaces drug-free. **This is America responding to a crisis. This is America at its best.**

This epidemic is having a major impact on our health care system. It is altering spending patterns by our government. In 1982, we knew little about AIDS -- and spent only \$8 million. By 1990, that has grown to almost \$3 billion -- [more, even, than the budget of the entire FBI -- and almost double what's spent for the National Cancer Institute.]

And I have asked Congress for still more money -- almost \$3.5 billion in the next fiscal year. Money for basic research. For HIV treatment and education. For protecting civil rights.

America has the most sophisticated health care system in the world. But ^{IT FACES MANY CHALLENGES.} ~~it's not enough.~~ Our system depends on private insurance and individual payments, as well as government programs. AIDS magnifies the challenges, including the challenge of providing [fair] access to care to all Americans, ^{rich and poor.} ~~rich and poor.~~

In my State of the Union Address, I asked Dr. Louis Sullivan to lead a Cabinet-level review of health care in the 1990's.

~~We don't know yet where this review will lead us. But we do know that~~ ^{IN HELPING} ~~businesses like those you represent will be a big part~~ ^{OUR NATION'S} ~~of the answer to improving health care~~ ^{SYSTEM.} ~~and increasing access.~~

STOP

① AT END OF INSERT

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The epidemic is not over. We report tens of thousands of new cases every year. And many predict we can expect to continue to do so in this decade, and even into the next century.

And yet, as in every generation, no crisis is without hopeful signs. To begin with, we can be encouraged by the news that current projections of the infection rate will not be as high as we thought just a year ago.

The use of new medicines such as A-Z-T means that more and more people with HIV will be able to live and work because these therapies offer the potential of making it a more manageable disease. Keep them in your workforce. They can serve many, many more productive years with no threat to you, your other workers, or your companies. It will reduce costs for everyone. And it's the right thing to do. \\\

The pace of progress is promising. The HIV virus has been identified, isolated, and attacked with experimental treatments in a span of less than 10 years. The normal, centuries-long evolution of disease and treatment compressed into a decade.

And this race against time has produced an explosion in knowledge and basic understanding about the nature of disease and immunology. [Like the unexpected technological boons from Apollo's race to the moon, some physicians predict the race to cure AIDS may even produce a cure for cancer.]

We're going to continue to fight, ~~like hell~~. But we're also going to fight for hope. America has a unique capacity for beating the odds -- and astounding the world.

During my own childhood, the silent, whispered terror was a mysterious killer called polio. Like HIV, the virus ignored class distinctions and geographic boundaries. Monday would come, and kids who'd been in school on Friday were simply never seen again. Theaters were closed, summer camps, swimming pools.

As with AIDS, there was a lot of ignorance. Thousands of stray cats and dogs put to death. Kids sleeping with camphor inhalers. At least one town was fumigated with D.D.T. -- doing nothing to stop polio -- and unknowingly helping endanger the American eagle.

There were terrifying outbreaks in the teens, in the thirties, in the fifties. A cure was so far distant the experts refused to speculate. One doctor observed: "We have learned very little that is new about the disease, but much that is old about ourselves."

And then, suddenly, it was over. It happened so fast. The dreaded iron lung, unused, cluttering hospital hallways. Children again growing up in a world without fear.

Deop Many comparisons have been made to epidemics past. Cholera. ~~The Plague~~. Yellow fever. None of them perfect. So let me boil down the lessons of polio to two:

? There was a lot of ignorance -- let's learn from that. And in the darkest of hours -- hope came unexpectedly, powerfully and with finality. Let's work hard to see that day come to pass. \\\

Together, we will make a difference, for those with HIV and AIDS -- and for all Americans. \\\

Thank you. And may God bless the United States of America.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 03/27/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: -----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
(03/27 draft 6)

	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"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LEE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

90 MAR 27 P 6:56

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

1990 MAR 27 PM 5:14

March 27, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *CW*

FROM: EDWARD McNALLY *EM*

SUBJECT: REMARKS: NAT'L. LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS

I. SUMMARY

Attached are draft remarks for Thursday morning's keynote address to the National Leadership Coalition on AIDS.

II. DISCUSSION

At 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, March 29, 1990, you are scheduled to arrive onstage at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Crystal City to address approximately 400 CEO's and other key executives. Approximately 40 percent of those attending represent corporations that were pioneers in responding to the AIDS crisis -- while about 60 percent come from interested corporations that are not yet participating in programs designed to cope with AIDS in the workplace.

While the tone of the address (14 minutes, TelePrompter) is very serious, sober, and straightforward, our proposed draft contains very upbeat language about America's ability to respond to this epidemic.

It is a very personal speech, aimed at sending a powerful message about compassion, discrimination, and hope.

McNally/Simon
March 27, 1990
Draft Six (B:AIDS)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990, 11:15 A.M.

Thank you, Louis Sullivan. And thanks to Larry Williford of Allstate and B.J. Stiles from the Coalition here. Dr. David Rogers and Belinda Mason, my appointees to the AIDS Commission, with whom I just met. My friend and physician, Dr. Burton Lee.

There could scarcely be a more important place for me to be than here with you -- the men and women who guide American business as it helps those people suffering with HIV and AIDS.

You make our hearts glad. And you make your country proud.

Other generations have faced life-threatening medical crises, from polio to the plague. This virus is our challenge. Not a challenge we sought. Not a challenge we chose. But today our responsibility is clear: We must meet this challenge. We must beat this virus. For whether talking about a nation or an individual, character is measured not by our tragedies -- but by our response to those tragedies. \\\

And for those who are living with HIV and AIDS, our response is clear: They deserve our compassion. They deserve our care. And they deserve more than a chance -- they deserve a cure. \\\

America will accept nothing less. We are slashing red tape. Accelerating schedules. Boosting research. And somewhere out there, there's a Nobel prize -- and the gratitude of planet Earth -- waiting for the man or woman who discovers the answer that's eluded everyone else. \\\

We pray that day will come soon. But until that day -- until this virus can be defeated by science -- there's a battle to be waged by society. \\\

Because in 1990, the most effective weapon in our arsenal against AIDS is not just medication, \\\ but also education. \\\

Our goal is to turn irrational fear into rational facts.

Because this isn't just a fight against disease. It's also a fight against ignorance. A fight against discrimination. \\\

Today, HIV has joined cancer, heart disease, and accidents as one of the deadly realities of our time.

Of these, HIV is one of the most lethal, one of the most frightening. But HIV is also one of the most preventable.

Every American must learn what AIDS is -- and what AIDS is not. And they must learn now. You in this room already know what so many Americans don't. So, together, let's shoot down some myths. The HIV virus is not spread by handshakes or hugs. You can't get it from food or drink. Coughing or sneezing. Or by sharing bathrooms or towels or conversation.

The transmission of HIV is as simple as it is deadly. In most cases, it's determined not by what you are -- but by what you do -- and by what you fail to do. \\\

Let me state it clearly: People are placed at risk not by their demographics, but by their deeds. By their behavior. \\\

And so it is our duty to make certain that every American has the essential information needed to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS. Because while the ignorant may discriminate against

AIDS -- AIDS won't discriminate among the ignorant. \\\

Like many of you, Barbara and I have had friends who have died of AIDS. Our love for them when they were sick and when they died was just as great and just as intense as for anyone we have lost to heart disease or cancer or accidents.

Probably everyone here has read the heartbreaking stories about AIDS babies and those infected by transfusions. When our own daughter was dying of leukemia, Barbara asked the doctor the same question every HIV family must ask -- why -- why this was happening to our beautiful little girl. And the doctor said: "You have to realize that every well person is a miracle. It takes billions of cells to make a well person. And all it takes is one cell to be bad to destroy a whole person."

We will always remember the love and compassion with which our friends and family responded. In this nation, in this decade, there is only one way to deal with an individual who is sick. With dignity. Compassion. Care. Confidentiality. And without discrimination. \\\

Once disease strikes -- we don't blame those who are suffering. We don't spurn the accident victim who didn't wear a seatbelt. We don't reject the cancer patient who didn't quit smoking. We try to love them and care for them and comfort them. We do not fire them, or evict them, or cancel their insurance.

People with AIDS are our colleagues and co-workers. Our friends. Our families. THEY...ARE...US.

Today I call on the House of Representatives to get on with

the job of passing a law -- as embodied in the Americans with Disabilities Act -- that prohibits discrimination against those with HIV and AIDS. **We're in a fight against a disease -- not a fight against people. And we won't tolerate discrimination. **

The disease is attacking our most precious resource -- our people, especially our young. The statistics are numbing. You heard them this morning. But just look at the amazing quilts hanging here today. They prove that no one is a statistic. Every life has its own fabric. Its own colors. Its own purpose. Its own soul. And like the quilts, no two are alike. \\\

When Barbara and I left Washington for Christmas, our last stop was a clinic up at NIH. We were impressed by the determination of the people there -- the doctors, nurses, and health care workers -- and especially the brave people who are living with HIV. We learned a lot about caring. A lot about family. And a lot about hope. We saw the face of humanity in the face of AIDS.

Recently, we received a letter from seven patients whom we visited. They wrote: "Each of us looks for hope in very personal ways. We seek comfort and warmth from those we love. We seek new answers through participation in experimental drug studies. We seek to enjoy the simplest of pleasures in everyday life. To make peace with ourselves and with those who don't understand us. We seek a voice, a compassionate voice, that can address the concerns of hundreds of thousands of people."

Ladies and gentlemen, the voice they seek must be your voice. The voice of every American. \\\

Your employees will take their cues from you. You are in a powerful, unique position to influence the response to HIV and AIDS. When someone asks: "Who will volunteer to help care for our co-workers with AIDS?" we should be the first to say: "We will." Washing our hands of it won't help solve this problem. But rolling up our sleeves will. \\\

The roster of participants at this Conference is an honor roll. Allstate sponsored a landmark conference on HIV and work. Fortune magazine launched a survey on C.E.O.'s response to HIV. General Motors pledged to conduct an education program. Others are fighting the spread of HIV by fighting to keep schools and workplaces drug-free. This is America responding to a crisis. This is America at its best. \\\

This epidemic is having a major impact on our health care system. It is altering spending patterns by our government. In 1982, we knew little about AIDS -- and spent only \$8 million. But this year I have asked Congress for almost \$3.5 billion to battle HIV. Money for basic research. For HIV treatment and education. For protecting civil rights. \\\

America has the most sophisticated health care system in the world. But it is not without its problems. We face many challenges. Our system depends on private insurance and individual payments, as well as government programs. AIDS magnifies the challenges, including the challenge of expanding access, bringing costs under control, and overcoming obstacles to quality care. With these concerns in mind, I asked Dr. Louis

Sullivan to lead a Cabinet-level review of health care in the 1990's. And businesses like those you represent must play a major role in helping improve our Nation's health care system.

The crisis is not over. We report tens of thousands of new cases every year. And many predict we can expect to continue to do so in this decade, and even into the next century.

And yet, as Barbara so often reminds me, "where there is life there is hope." There are hopeful signs. To begin with, we can be encouraged by the news that current projections of the infection rate will not be as high as we thought just a year ago.

The use of new medicines such as A-Z-T means that more and more people with HIV will be able to live and work because these therapies offer the potential of making it a more manageable disease. Keep them in your workforce -- as I know many of you are already doing, as leaders in this effort. They can serve many, many more productive years with no threat to you, your other workers, or your companies. It will reduce costs for everyone. And it's the right thing to do. \\\

The pace of progress is promising. The HIV virus has been identified, isolated, and attacked with experimental treatments in a span of less than 10 years. The normal, centuries-long evolution of disease and treatment compressed into a decade.

And this race against time has produced an explosion in knowledge and basic understanding about the nature of disease and immunology. Like the unexpected technological boons from Apollo's race to the moon, some physicians predict the race to

cure AIDS may even lead to a cure for cancer. \\\

We're going to continue to fight like hell. But we're also going to fight for hope. America has a unique capacity for beating the odds -- and astounding the world. \\\

During my own childhood, the silent, whispered terror was a mysterious killer called polio. Like HIV, the virus ignored class distinctions and geographic boundaries. Monday would come, and kids who'd been in school on Friday were simply never seen again. Theaters were closed, summer camps, swimming pools.

As with AIDS, there was a lot of ignorance. Thousands of stray cats and dogs put to death. Kids sleeping with camphor inhalers. At least one town was fumigated with D.D.T.

There were terrifying outbreaks in the teens, in the thirties, in the fifties. A cure was so far distant the experts refused to speculate. \\\\ And then, suddenly, it was over. The dreaded iron lung, unused, cluttering hospital hallways. Children again growing up in a world without fear. \\\

Many comparisons have been made to epidemics past. Cholera. Small pox. Yellow fever. None of them perfect. So let me boil down the lessons of polio to two:

There was a lot of ignorance -- let's learn from that. And in the darkest of hours -- hope came unexpectedly, powerfully and with finality. Let's work hard to see that day come to pass. \\\

Together, we will make a difference, for those with HIV and AIDS -- and for all Americans. \\\\

Thank you. And may God bless the United States of America.

#

Still missing

HHS

Comments!

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/23/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3/26/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>
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DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 PM, Monday, March 26, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

50 MAR 26 P 3:49

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

McNally/Simon
March 23, 1990
Draft Three (B:AIDS)

1990 MAR 23 AM 10:59

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990, 11:15 A.M.

Thank you, _____. [ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS]

(sounds
condescending)

~~This is a very important~~
~~There could scarcely be a more important gathering, a more~~ ✓
~~important place for me to be than here with you -- the men and~~
am honored to be

women who guide business and industry as they focus on the best way to help our people suffering with HIV and AIDS.

There are many team players in this struggle. Community service organizations. Religious leaders of all persuasions. AIDS service organizations created by volunteers, many of them also infected with HIV. And corporations and private foundations that together ~~have given over \$100 million to support~~ literally thousands of AIDS projects.

(private funding amount too close in text to exclamation of approval, [people may criticize the amount of Federal spending or lack thereof!])

You make our hearts glad. And you make your country proud.

Other generations have faced life-threatening medical crises, from polio to the plague. This virus is our challenge. Not a challenge we sought. Not a challenge we chose. But today our choice is simple:

We will meet this challenge. We will beat this virus. ~~For whether talking about a nation or an individual, character is measured not by our tragedies -- but by how we respond to those~~
~~tragedies.~~ \ \ \

↓ all this opens us up to criticism for lack of more visible govt. response.

And for those who are living with HIV and AIDS, our response is simple: They deserve our compassion. They deserve And they deserve more than a chance -- they deserve

↑ (You got to be kidding...)

America will accept nothing less. We are slashing red tape. Accelerating schedules. Boosting research. And somewhere out there, there's a Nobel prize -- and the gratitude of the planet Earth -- waiting for the man or woman who peers into a microscope and sees the answer that's eluded everyone else.

We pray that day will come soon. But until that day -- until this virus can be defeated in our hospitals -- there's a battle to be waged in our homes. \\\

Because in 1990, the single most effective weapon in our arsenal against AIDS is not medication, \\ but education. \\\

We must increase our efforts to educate the public about AIDS and how it is contracted. Our goal is to turn irrational fear into rational facts.

Because this isn't just a fight against disease. It's also a fight against ignorance. A fight against discrimination. \\\

Almost three years ago, I described our struggle against the HIV virus as a battle against a "new and mysterious disease."

Today, HIV is not so new and not so mysterious. Today, HIV has joined cancer, heart disease, and accidents as one of the deadly realities of our time.

Of these, HIV is one of the most lethal, one of the most frightening. But HIV is also one of the most preventable.

Every American must learn what AIDS is -- and what AIDS is not. And they must learn now. So let's shoot down some myths. The HIV virus is not spread by handshakes or hugs. You can't get

it from food or drink. Coughing or sneezing. Or by sharing bathrooms or towels or conversation.

It's not like heart disease, where there's confusion over ever-changing bits of advice on oat bran and olive oil, exercise and eggs. The transmission of AIDS is as simple as it is deadly. It's determined not by what you are -- but by what you do -- and by what you fail to do. \\\

Let me state it clearly: People are placed at risk not by their demographics, but by their deeds. By their behavior. \\\

And so it is our duty to make certain that every American has the essential information needed to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS. Because while the ignorant may discriminate against AIDS -- AIDS won't discriminate among the ignorant. \\\

Like many of you, Barbara and I have had friends who have died of AIDS. Our love for them when they were sick and when they died was just as great and just as intense as for anyone we have lost to heart disease or cancer or accidents.

In this nation, in this decade, there is only one way to deal with an individual who is sick. With dignity. Compassion. Care. Confidentiality. And without discrimination. \\\

Once disease strikes -- we don't blame those who are suffering. We don't spurn the accident victim who didn't wear a seatbelt. We don't reject the cancer patient who didn't quit smoking. We try to love them and care for them and comfort them. We do not fire them, or evict them, or cancel their insurance.

People with AIDS are no different than people with other disabling and life-threatening diseases. They are our colleagues and co-workers. Our friends. Our families. THEY...ARE...US.

And today I call on the House of Representatives to get on with the job of passing a law -- the Americans with Disabilities Act -- that prohibits discrimination against those with HIV and AIDS.

This is a fight against a disease -- not a fight against people. \\\ And we won't tolerate discrimination. \\\

The disease is attacking our most precious resource -- our people, our young. Unlike many of the diseases that cause disability in our elderly, AIDS affects many Americans now in the prime of life. Ninety-five percent of the 115,000 Americans with AIDS are between the ages of 20 and 59. These were the years they planned to work and create, and save for the future. Now their struggle is to survive.

The statistics are numbing. You heard them this morning. But just look at the amazing quilts which hang around us today. They prove that no man is a statistic. Every life has its own fabric. Its own colors. Its own purpose. Its own soul. And like the quilts, no two are alike. \\\

These quilts commemorate the dead. But the most important part will be the living. And I hope that you ^{as I have done and} Meet with the patients and the humanity in the face of AIDS. ✓

Redundant. →
This is obvious at top of next page.

When Barbara and I left Washington for the Christmas holidays, our last stop was a clinic at the National Institutes of Health. We were impressed by the mettle and determination of the people there -- the doctors, nurses, and health care workers -- and especially the brave people who are living with HIV. We learned a lot about courage. A lot about family. And a lot about hope.

Recently, we received a letter from seven ^{patients} who we visited. They wrote: "Each of us looks for hope in very personal ways. We seek comfort and warmth from those we love. We seek new answers through participation in experimental drug studies. We seek to enjoy the simplest of pleasures in everyday life. We seek to make peace with ourselves and with those who don't understand us. We seek a voice, a compassionate voice, that can address the concerns of hundreds of thousands of people."

Ladies and gentlemen, the voice they seek must be your voice. The voice of every American. \\\

Your employees will take their cues from you. You are in a powerful, unique position to influence the response to HIV and AIDS. When someone asks: "Who will volunteer to help care for our co-workers with AIDS?" you should be the first to say, "I will." Washing your hands of it won't help solve this problem. But rolling up your sleeves will. \\\

The roster of participants at this Conference is an honor roll. Allstate sponsored a landmark conference to help deal with the impact of HIV at work. The magazine, Fortune, launched a

survey that helped us understand the attitudes and actions of C.E.O.'s in responding to HIV. [An industrial giant] asked an HIV expert to brief its key officers -- and pledged to conduct an education program for employees. Others are fighting the spread of HIV by fighting to keep schools and workplaces drug-free. **This is America responding to a crisis. This is America at its best.**

This epidemic is having a major impact on our health care system. It is altering spending patterns by our government. In 1985 -- and spent only \$8 million. By 1990: \$3 billion -- more, even, than the ~~and almost double what's spent for~~ (the reference is inflammatory.) ✓
→ because AIDS is now public health enemy #1. ✓
for still more money -- almost
each year. Money for basic research.
for. For protecting civil rights.
of our sophisticated health care system in the
Our system depends on private
insurance and individual payments, as well as government
programs. AIDS magnifies the challenges, including the challenge
of providing fair access to care to all Americans, rich and poor.

In my State of the Union Address, I asked Dr. Louis Sullivan to lead a ~~Cabinet-level~~ ^{domestic Policy Council} review of ~~the~~ ^{the} health care ~~in the 1990's~~ ^{delivery system.} ✓

We don't know yet where this review will lead us. But we do know that businesses like those you represent ~~will be a big part~~ ^{must play a key role in} ~~of the answer to~~ ^{providing the answer to} improving health care and increasing access. ✓

"Public Health
Enemy # 1" -
not bad!

The epidemic is not over. We report tens of thousands of new cases every year. And many predict we can expect to continue to do so in this decade, and even into the next century.

And yet, as in every generation, no crisis is without hopeful signs. To begin with, we can be encouraged by the news that current projections of the infection rate will not be as high as we thought just a year ago.

The use of new medicines such as A-Z-T means that more and more people with HIV will be able to live and work because these therapies offer the potential of making it a more manageable disease. Keep them in your workforce. They can serve many, many more productive years with no threat to you, your other workers, or your companies. It will reduce costs for everyone. **And it's the right thing to do.** \\\

The pace of progress is promising. The HIV virus has been identified, isolated, and attacked with experimental treatments in a span of less than 10 years. The normal, centuries-long evolution of disease and treatment compressed into a decade.

And this race against time has produced an explosion in knowledge and basic understanding about the nature of disease and immunology. Like the unexpected technological boons from Apollo's race to the moon, some physicians predict the race to cure AIDS may even produce a cure for cancer. ✓

We're going to continue to fight, ^{The destruction, the death, the lost opportunities.} ~~like hell~~. But we're also going to fight for hope. *An improvement. I like it.* **ue capacity for beating the odds -- and** .

During my own childhood, the silent, whispered terror was a mysterious killer called polio. Like HIV, the virus ignored class distinctions and geographic boundaries. Monday would come, and kids who'd been in school on Friday were simply never seen again. Theaters were closed, summer camps, swimming pools.

As with AIDS, there was a lot of ignorance ^{in dealing with polio.} Thousands of stray cats and dogs put to death. Kids sleeping with camphor inhalers. At least one town was fumigated with D.D.T. -- doing nothing to stop polio -- and unknowingly helping endanger the American eagle. ✓

There were terrifying outbreaks in the teens, in the thirties, in the fifties. A cure was so far distant the experts refused to speculate. One doctor observed: "We have learned very little that is new about the disease, but much that is old about ourselves."

And then, suddenly, it was over. It happened so fast. The dreaded iron lung, unused, cluttering hospital hallways. Children again growing up in a world without fear.

Many comparisons have been made to epidemics past. Cholera. The Plague. Yellow fever. None of them perfect. So let me boil down the lessons of polio to two:

There was a lot of ignorance -- let's learn from that. And in the darkest of hours -- hope came unexpectedly, powerfully and with finality. Let's work hard to see that day come to pass. \\\

Together, we will make a difference, for those with HIV and AIDS -- and for all Americans. \\\\

Thank you. And may God bless the United States of America.

#

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990, 11:15 A.M.

THANK YOU, LOUIS SULLIVAN. AND THANKS TO LARRY
WILLIFORD OF ALLSTATE AND B.J. STILES FROM THE
COALITION. DR. JUNE OSBORN, DR. DAVID ROGERS, AND
BELINDA MASON OF THE AIDS COMMISSION, WITH WHOM I JUST
MET. MY FRIEND AND PHYSICIAN, DR. BURTON LEE.

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE WITH YOU, THE LEADERS
WHO GUIDE AMERICAN BUSINESS AS IT HELPS THOSE SUFFERING
WITH HIV AND AIDS. YOU MAKE OUR HEARTS GLAD. AND YOU
MAKE YOUR COUNTRY PROUD. \ \ \

OTHER GENERATIONS HAVE FACED LIFE-THREATENING
MEDICAL CRISES, FROM POLIO TO THE PLAGUE. THIS VIRUS
IS OUR CHALLENGE. NOT A CHALLENGE WE SOUGHT. NOT A
CHALLENGE WE CHOSE. BUT TODAY OUR RESPONSIBILITY IS
CLEAR: WE MUST MEET THIS CHALLENGE. WE MUST BEAT THIS
VIRUS. FOR WHETHER TALKING ABOUT A NATION OR AN
INDIVIDUAL, CHARACTER IS MEASURED NOT BY OUR TRAGEDIES
-- BUT BY OUR RESPONSE TO THOSE TRAGEDIES. \ \ \

AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE LIVING WITH HIV AND AIDS,
OUR RESPONSE IS CLEAR: THEY DESERVE OUR COMPASSION.
THEY DESERVE OUR CARE. AND THEY DESERVE MORE THAN A
CHANCE -- THEY DESERVE A CURE. \\\

AMERICA WILL ACCEPT NOTHING LESS. WE ARE SLASHING
RED TAPE. ACCELERATING SCHEDULES. BOOSTING RESEARCH.
AND SOMEWHERE OUT THERE, THERE'S A NOBEL PRIZE -- AND
THE GRATITUDE OF PLANET EARTH -- WAITING FOR THE MAN OR
WOMAN WHO DISCOVERS THE ANSWER THAT'S ELUDED EVERYONE
ELSE. \\\

WE PRAY THAT DAY WILL COME SOON. BUT UNTIL THAT
DAY -- UNTIL THIS VIRUS CAN BE DEFEATED BY SCIENCE --
THERE'S A BATTLE TO BE WAGED BY SOCIETY. \\\

BECAUSE IN 1990, THE MOST EFFECTIVE WEAPON IN OUR
ARSENAL AGAINST AIDS IS NOT JUST MEDICATION, \\\ BUT
ALSO EDUCATION. \\\

OUR GOAL IS TO TURN IRRATIONAL FEAR INTO RATIONAL
FACTS.

EVERY AMERICAN MUST LEARN WHAT AIDS IS -- AND WHAT AIDS IS NOT. AND THEY MUST LEARN NOW. YOU IN THIS ROOM ALREADY KNOW. THE HIV VIRUS IS NOT SPREAD BY HANDSHAKES OR HUGS. YOU CAN'T GET IT FROM FOOD OR DRINK. COUGHING OR SNEEZING. OR BY SHARING BATHROOMS OR TOWELS OR CONVERSATION.

THE TRANSMISSION OF HIV IS AS SIMPLE AS IT IS DEADLY. IN MOST CASES, IT'S DETERMINED NOT BY WHAT YOU ARE -- BUT BY WHAT YOU DO -- AND BY WHAT YOU FAIL TO DO. \\\

LET ME STATE IT CLEARLY: PEOPLE ARE PLACED AT RISK NOT BY THEIR DEMOGRAPHICS, BUT BY THEIR DEEDS. BY THEIR BEHAVIOR. \\\

AND SO IT IS OUR DUTY TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT EVERY AMERICAN HAS THE ESSENTIAL INFORMATION NEEDED TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF HIV AND AIDS. BECAUSE WHILE THE IGNORANT MAY DISCRIMINATE AGAINST AIDS -- AIDS WON'T DISCRIMINATE AMONG THE IGNORANT. \\\

LIKE MANY OF YOU, BARBARA AND I HAVE HAD FRIENDS WHO HAVE DIED OF AIDS. OUR LOVE FOR THEM WHEN THEY WERE SICK AND WHEN THEY DIED WAS JUST AS GREAT AND JUST AS INTENSE AS FOR ANYONE LOST TO HEART DISEASE OR CANCER OR ACCIDENTS.

PROBABLY EVERYONE HERE HAS READ THE HEARTBREAKING STORIES ABOUT AIDS BABIES AND THOSE INFECTED BY TRANSFUSIONS. WHEN OUR OWN DAUGHTER WAS DYING OF LEUKEMIA, BARBARA ASKED THE DOCTOR THE SAME QUESTION EVERY HIV FAMILY MUST ASK -- WHY -- WHY THIS WAS HAPPENING TO OUR BEAUTIFUL LITTLE GIRL. AND THE DOCTOR SAID: "YOU HAVE TO REALIZE THAT EVERY WELL PERSON IS A MIRACLE. IT TAKES BILLIONS OF CELLS TO MAKE A WELL PERSON. AND ALL IT TAKES IS ONE CELL TO BE BAD TO DESTROY A WHOLE PERSON."

IN THIS NATION, IN THIS DECADE, THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO DEAL WITH AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SICK. WITH DIGNITY. COMPASSION. CARE. CONFIDENTIALITY. AND WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION. \ \ \

ONCE DISEASE STRIKES -- WE DON'T BLAME THOSE WHO ARE SUFFERING. WE DON'T SPURN THE ACCIDENT VICTIM WHO DIDN'T WEAR A SEATBELT. WE DON'T REJECT THE CANCER PATIENT WHO DIDN'T QUIT SMOKING. WE TRY TO LOVE THEM AND CARE FOR THEM AND COMFORT THEM. WE DO NOT FIRE THEM, OR EVICT THEM, OR CANCEL THEIR INSURANCE.

TODAY I CALL ON THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO GET ON WITH THE JOB OF PASSING A LAW -- AS EMBODIED IN THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT -- THAT PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THOSE WITH HIV AND AIDS. WE'RE IN A FIGHT AGAINST A DISEASE -- NOT A FIGHT AGAINST PEOPLE. AND WE WON'T TOLERATE DISCRIMINATION. \\\

THE DISEASE IS ATTACKING OUR MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE -- OUR PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY OUR YOUNG. THE STATISTICS ARE NUMBING. YOU HEARD THEM THIS MORNING. BUT JUST LOOK AT THE AMAZING QUILTS HANGING HERE TODAY. THEY PROVE THAT NO ONE IS A STATISTIC. EVERY LIFE HAS ITS OWN FABRIC. ITS OWN COLORS. ITS OWN PURPOSE. ITS OWN SOUL. AND LIKE THE QUILTS, NO TWO ARE ALIKE. \\\

WHEN BARBARA AND I LEFT WASHINGTON FOR CHRISTMAS, OUR LAST STOP WAS A CLINIC UP AT NIH. WE WERE IMPRESSED BY THE DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLE THERE -- THE DOCTORS, NURSES, AND HEALTH CARE WORKERS -- AND ESPECIALLY THE BRAVE PEOPLE WHO ARE LIVING WITH HIV. WE LEARNED A LOT ABOUT CARING. A LOT ABOUT FAMILY. AND A LOT ABOUT HOPE. WE SAW THE FACE OF HUMANITY IN THE FACE OF AIDS.

YOU, TOO, ARE IN A POWERFUL, UNIQUE POSITION TO INFLUENCE THE RESPONSE TO HIV AND AIDS. WASHING OUR HANDS OF IT WON'T HELP SOLVE THIS PROBLEM. BUT ROLLING UP OUR SLEEVES WILL. \\\

THE ROSTER OF PARTICIPANTS AT THIS CONFERENCE IS AN HONOR ROLL. ALLSTATE SPONSORED A LANDMARK CONFERENCE ON HIV AND WORK. FORTUNE MAGAZINE LAUNCHED A SURVEY ON C.E.O.'S RESPONSE TO HIV. GENERAL MOTORS PLEDGED TO CONDUCT AN EDUCATION PROGRAM. OTHERS ARE FIGHTING THE SPREAD OF HIV BY FIGHTING TO KEEP SCHOOLS AND WORKPLACES DRUG-FREE. THIS IS AMERICA RESPONDING TO A CRISIS. THIS IS AMERICA AT ITS BEST. \\\

THIS EPIDEMIC IS HAVING A MAJOR IMPACT ON OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM. THE FEDERAL RESPONSE IS UNPRECEDENTED. IN 1982, WE KNEW LITTLE ABOUT AIDS -- AND SPENT ONLY \$8 MILLION. BUT THIS YEAR I HAVE ASKED CONGRESS FOR ALMOST \$3.5 BILLION TO BATTLE HIV. MONEY FOR BASIC RESEARCH. FOR HIV TREATMENT AND EDUCATION. FOR PROTECTING CIVIL RIGHTS. \ \ \

FROM SEATTLE TO BOSTON, FROM DALLAS TO DETROIT, FEDERAL GRANTS HAVE HELPED COORDINATE THE EFFORTS OF CARE PROVIDERS, BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO SET PRIORITIES AND POOL RESOURCES TO MEET THE TREATMENT NEEDS OF PEOPLE WITH AIDS.

WE'VE INITIATED CLINICAL TRIALS FOR PROMISING NEW THERAPIES FOR HIV. EXPANDED THE AVAILABILITY OF EXPERIMENTAL DRUGS. APPROVED THREE NEW THERAPIES THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME OFFER HELP TO HIV-INFECTED PEOPLE BEFORE THEY BECOME SICK WITH AIDS. WE'VE STARTED A TOLL-FREE NUMBER WHERE HIV PATIENTS AND DOCTORS CAN GET STATE-OF-THE-ART INFORMATION ON NEW TREATMENTS. WORKED WITH THE P.T.A. TO DISTRIBUTE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF COPIES OF THE "AIDS PREVENTION GUIDE" FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES NATIONWIDE.

AND OUR \$10 BILLION WAR ON DRUGS IS ALSO A WAR ON AIDS. IV DRUG USE NOW ACCOUNTS FOR SOME OF THE FASTEST GROWING INFECTION RATES -- AFFLICTING AMERICANS THAT ARE OFTEN AMONG THOSE LEAST ABLE TO GET ADEQUATE MEDICAL HELP.

AMERICA HAS THE MOST SOPHISTICATED HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IN THE WORLD. BUT IT IS NOT WITHOUT ITS PROBLEMS. WE FACE MANY CHALLENGES. OUR SYSTEM DEPENDS ON PRIVATE INSURANCE AND INDIVIDUAL PAYMENTS, AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS. AIDS MAGNIFIES THE CHALLENGES, INCLUDING THE CHALLENGE OF EXPANDING ACCESS, BRINGING COSTS UNDER CONTROL, AND OVERCOMING OBSTACLES TO QUALITY CARE. WITH THESE CONCERNS IN MIND, I ASKED DR. LOUIS SULLIVAN TO LEAD A CABINET-LEVEL REVIEW OF HEALTH CARE IN THE 1990'S. AND BUSINESSES LIKE THOSE YOU REPRESENT MUST PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN HELPING IMPROVE OUR NATION'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

THE CRISIS IS NOT OVER. WE REPORT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NEW CASES EVERY YEAR. AND MANY PREDICT WE CAN EXPECT TO CONTINUE TO DO SO IN THIS DECADE, AND EVEN INTO THE NEXT CENTURY.

AND YET, AS BARBARA SO OFTEN REMINDS ME, "WHERE THERE IS LIFE THERE IS HOPE." THERE ARE HOPEFUL SIGNS. TO BEGIN WITH, WE CAN BE ENCOURAGED BY THE NEWS THAT CURRENT PROJECTIONS OF THE INFECTION RATE WILL NOT BE AS HIGH AS WE THOUGHT JUST A YEAR AGO.

MY ADMINISTRATION RECENTLY ACTED TO EXTEND A-Z-T COVERAGE TO HELP HIV-INFECTED PEOPLE NOT YET SICK WITH AIDS. ALL 50 STATES NOW PROVIDE MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR A-Z-T TREATMENTS. THANKS TO THESE ACTIONS, MORE AND MORE PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE AND WORK WITH HIV. KEEP THEM IN YOUR WORKFORCE -- AS I KNOW MANY OF YOU ARE ALREADY DOING, AS LEADERS IN THIS EFFORT. THEY CAN SERVE MANY, MANY MORE PRODUCTIVE YEARS WITH NO THREAT TO YOU, YOUR OTHER WORKERS, OR YOUR COMPANIES. IT WILL REDUCE COSTS FOR EVERYONE. AND IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO. \\\

THE PACE OF PROGRESS IS PROMISING. THE HIV VIRUS HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED, ISOLATED, AND ATTACKED WITH EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENTS IN A SPAN OF LESS THAN 10 YEARS. THE NORMAL, CENTURIES-LONG EVOLUTION OF DISEASE AND TREATMENT COMPRESSED INTO A DECADE.

AND THIS RACE AGAINST TIME HAS PRODUCED AN EXPLOSION IN KNOWLEDGE AND BASIC UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE NATURE OF DISEASE AND IMMUNOLOGY. LIKE THE UNEXPECTED TECHNOLOGICAL BOONS FROM APOLLO'S RACE TO THE MOON, SOME PHYSICIANS PREDICT THE RACE TO CURE AIDS MAY EVEN LEAD TO A CURE FOR CANCER. \\\

DOLLARS SPENT FOR AIDS RESEARCH ARE DOLLARS SPENT FOR THE BETTER HEALTH OF ALL AMERICANS. AIDS RESEARCH STRIKES AT THE HEART OF MANY HUMAN HEALTH PROBLEMS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE TO AGING AND CANCER. IT INCLUDES RESEARCH ON A CLASS OF VIRUSES NOW INCREASINGLY BELIEVED TO BE THE CAUSE OF NOT ONLY AIDS, BUT ALSO INCURABLE DISEASES LIKE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY, MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND AT LEAST TWO FORMS OF LEUKEMIA.

WE'RE ON A WAR-TIME FOOTING AT NIH AND CDC -- THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL. TONIGHT, LIKE EVERY NIGHT, THE LIGHTS WILL BURN LATE IN BETHESDA AND ATLANTA, AS A GROUP OF AMERICAN PIONEERS WORK TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM. IF THEY DO -- I SHOULD SAY, WHEN THEY DO -- IT WILL BE ONE OF THE GREATEST THINGS OUR NATION COULD DO FOR THE WORLD. \\\

WE'RE GOING TO CONTINUE TO FIGHT LIKE HELL. BUT WE'RE ALSO GOING TO FIGHT FOR HOPE. AMERICA HAS A UNIQUE CAPACITY FOR BEATING THE ODDS -- AND ASTOUNDING THE WORLD. \\\

DURING MY OWN CHILDHOOD, THE SILENT, WHISPERED TERROR WAS A MYSTERIOUS KILLER CALLED POLIO. LIKE HIV, THE VIRUS IGNORED CLASS DISTINCTIONS AND GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES. MONDAY WOULD COME, AND KIDS WHO'D BEEN IN SCHOOL ON FRIDAY WERE SIMPLY NEVER SEEN AGAIN. THEATERS WERE CLOSED, SUMMER CAMPS, SWIMMING POOLS.

AS WITH AIDS, THERE WAS A LOT OF IGNORANCE. THOUSANDS OF STRAY CATS AND DOGS PUT TO DEATH. KIDS SLEEPING WITH CAMPHOR INHALERS. AT LEAST ONE TOWN WAS FUMIGATED WITH D.D.T.

THERE WERE TERRIFYING OUTBREAKS IN THE TEENS, IN THE THIRTIES, IN THE FIFTIES. A CURE WAS SO FAR DISTANT THE EXPERTS REFUSED TO SPECULATE. \\\\ AND THEN, SUDDENLY, IT WAS OVER. THE DREADED IRON LUNG, UNUSED, CLUTTERING HOSPITAL HALLWAYS. CHILDREN AGAIN GROWING UP IN A WORLD WITHOUT FEAR. \\\

MANY COMPARISONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO EPIDEMICS PAST.
CHOLERA. SMALL POX. YELLOW FEVER. NONE OF THEM
PERFECT. SO LET ME BOIL DOWN THE LESSONS OF POLIO TO
TWO:

THERE WAS A LOT OF IGNORANCE -- LET'S LEARN FROM
THAT. AND IN THE DARKEST OF HOURS -- HOPE CAME
UNEXPECTEDLY, POWERFULLY AND WITH FINALITY. LET'S WORK
HARD TO SEE THAT DAY COME TO PASS. \\\

TOGETHER, WE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE, FOR THOSE
WITH HIV AND AIDS -- AND FOR ALL AMERICANS. \\\

THANK YOU. AND MAY GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA.

#

McNally/Simon
March 28, 1990 ✓
Draft ~~Six~~ (B:AIDS) ✓
Seven

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990, 11:15 A.M.

Thank you, Louis Sullivan. And thanks to Larry Williford of
Allstate and B.J. Stiles from the Coalition here. *Dr. June Osborn,* ✓
Rogers, and Belinda Mason, *of* ~~my appointees to~~ the AIDS Commission, ✓
with whom I just met. My friend and physician, Dr. Burton Lee. ✓

~~There could scarcely be a more important place for me to be~~ *I am delighted* ✓
~~than~~ here with you -- the men and women who guide American
business as it helps those people suffering with HIV and AIDS.

You make our hearts glad. And you make your country proud.

Other generations have faced life-threatening medical
crises, from polio to the plague. This virus is our challenge.
Not a challenge we sought. Not a challenge we chose. But today
our responsibility is clear: **We must meet this challenge. We
must beat this virus. For whether talking about a nation or an
individual, character is measured not by our tragedies -- but by
our response to those tragedies. **

And for those who are living with HIV and AIDS, our response
is clear: They deserve our compassion. They deserve our care.
And they deserve more than a chance -- they deserve a cure. \\\

America will accept nothing less. We are slashing red tape.
Accelerating schedules. Boosting research. And somewhere out
there, there's a Nobel prize -- and the gratitude of planet Earth
-- waiting for the man or woman who discovers the answer that's
eluded everyone else. \\\

We pray that day will come soon. But until that day -- until this virus can be defeated by science -- there's a battle to be waged by society. \\\

Because in 1990, the most effective weapon in our arsenal against AIDS is not just medication, \\\ but also education. \\\

Our goal is to turn irrational fear into rational facts.

~~Because this isn't just a fight against disease. It's also a fight against ignorance. A fight against discrimination.~~ \\\

Today, HIV has joined cancer, heart disease, and accidents as one of the deadly realities of our time.

Of these, HIV is one of the most lethal, one of the most frightening. But HIV is also one of the most preventable.

Every American must learn what AIDS is -- and what AIDS is not. And they must learn now. You in this room already know what so many Americans don't. So, together, let's shoot down some myths. The HIV virus is not spread by handshakes or hugs. You can't get it from food or drink. Coughing or sneezing. Or by sharing bathrooms or towels or conversation.

The transmission of HIV is as simple as it is deadly. In most cases, it's determined not by what you are -- but by what you do -- and by what you fail to do. \\\

Let me state it clearly: People are placed at risk not by their demographics, but by their deeds. By their behavior. \\\

And so it is our duty to make certain that every American has the essential information needed to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS. Because while the ignorant may discriminate against

POTUS said too much use of the word "discrimination" ?

?

?

AIDS -- AIDS won't discriminate among the ignorant. \\\

Like many of you, Barbara and I have had friends who have died of AIDS. Our love for them when they were sick and when they died was just as great and just as intense as for anyone ~~we~~ ~~have~~ lost to heart disease or cancer or accidents. ✓

Probably everyone here has read the heartbreaking stories about AIDS babies and those infected by transfusions. When our own daughter was dying of leukemia, Barbara asked the doctor the same question every HIV family must ask -- why -- why this was happening to our beautiful little girl. And the doctor said: "You have to realize that every well person is a miracle. It takes billions of cells to make a well person. And all it takes is one cell to be bad to destroy a whole person."

~~We will always remember the love and compassion with which~~ ~~our friends and family responded.~~ In this nation, in this decade, there is only one way to deal with an individual who is sick. With dignity. Compassion. Care. Confidentiality. And without discrimination. \\\ ✓

Once disease strikes -- we don't blame those who are suffering. We don't spurn the accident victim who didn't wear a seatbelt. We don't reject the cancer patient who didn't quit smoking. We try to love them and care for them and comfort them. We do not fire them, or evict them, or cancel their insurance.

~~People with AIDS are our colleagues and co-workers. Our~~ ~~friends. Our families. THEY...ARE...US.~~ ✓

Today I call on the House of Representatives to get on with

the job of passing a law -- as embodied in the Americans with Disabilities Act -- that prohibits discrimination against those with HIV and AIDS. **We're in a fight against a disease -- not a fight against people. And we won't tolerate discrimination. **

The disease is attacking our most precious resource -- our people, especially our young. The statistics are numbing. You heard them this morning. But just look at the amazing quilts hanging here today. They prove that no one is a statistic. Every life has its own fabric. Its own colors. Its own purpose. Its own soul. And like the quilts, no two are alike. \\\

When Barbara and I left Washington for Christmas, our last stop was a clinic up at NIH. We were impressed by the determination of the people there -- the doctors, nurses, and health care workers -- and especially the brave people who are living with HIV. **We learned a lot about caring. A lot about family. And a lot about hope. We saw the face of humanity in the face of AIDS.**

delete?
 Recently, we received a letter from seven patients whom we visited. They wrote: "Each of us looks for hope in very personal ways. We seek comfort and warmth from those we love. We seek new answers through participation in experimental drug studies. We seek to enjoy the simplest of pleasures in everyday life. To make peace with ourselves and with those who don't understand us. We seek a voice, a compassionate voice, that can address the concerns of hundreds of thousands of people."

**Ladies and gentlemen, the voice they seek must be your voice. The voice of every American. **

Your employees will take their cues from you. You are in a powerful, unique position to influence the response to HIV and AIDS. ~~When someone asks: "Who will volunteer to help care for our co-workers with AIDS?" we should be the first to say: "We will."~~ Washing our hands of it won't help solve this problem. But rolling up our sleeves will. \\\

The roster of participants at this Conference is an honor roll. Allstate sponsored a landmark conference on HIV and work. Fortune magazine launched a survey on C.E.O.'s response to HIV. General Motors pledged to conduct an education program. Others are fighting the spread of HIV by fighting to keep schools and workplaces drug-free. **This is America responding to a crisis. This is America at its best.** \\\

This epidemic is having a major impact on our health care system. ~~It is altering spending patterns by our government.~~ *The federal response is unprecedented.* In 1982, we knew little about AIDS -- and spent only \$8 million. But this year I have asked Congress for almost \$3.5 billion to battle HIV. Money for basic research. For HIV treatment and education. For protecting civil rights. \\\

A → America has the most sophisticated health care system in the world. But it is not without its problems. We face many challenges. Our system depends on private insurance and individual payments, as well as government programs. AIDS magnifies the challenges, including the challenge of expanding access, bringing costs under control, and overcoming obstacles to quality care. With these concerns in mind, I asked Dr. Louis

Sullivan to lead a Cabinet-level review of health care in the 1990's. And businesses like those you represent must play a major role in helping improve our Nation's health care system.

The crisis is not over. We report tens of thousands of new cases every year. And many predict we can expect to continue to do so in this decade, and even into the next century.

And yet, as Barbara so often reminds me, "where there is life there is hope." There are hopeful signs. To begin with, we can be encouraged by the news that current projections of the infection rate will not be as high as we thought just a year ago.

~~The use of new medicines such as A-Z-T means that more and more people with HIV will be able to live and work because these therapies offer the potential of making it a more manageable~~

~~disease.~~ Keep them in your workforce -- as I know many of you are already doing, as leaders in this effort. They can serve many, many more productive years with no threat to you, your other workers, or your companies. It will reduce costs for everyone. And it's the right thing to do. \\\

The pace of progress is promising. The HIV virus has been identified, isolated, and attacked with experimental treatments in a span of less than 10 years. The normal, centuries-long evolution of disease and treatment compressed into a decade.

And this race against time has produced an explosion in knowledge and basic understanding about the nature of disease and immunology. Like the unexpected technological boons from Apollo's race to the moon, some physicians predict the race to

My administration announced last August that AZT was proven

*to help HIV-infected people live longer
and not get developed AIDS. ~~Remember~~*

B

cure AIDS may even lead to a cure for cancer. \\\

C We're going to continue to fight like hell. But we're also going to fight for hope. **America has a unique capacity for beating the odds -- and astounding the world.** \\\

During my own childhood, the silent, whispered terror was a mysterious killer called polio. Like HIV, the virus ignored class distinctions and geographic boundaries. Monday would come, and kids who'd been in school on Friday were simply never seen again. Theaters were closed, summer camps, swimming pools.

As with AIDS, there was a lot of ignorance. Thousands of stray cats and dogs put to death. Kids sleeping with camphor inhalers. At least one town was fumigated with D.D.T.

There were terrifying outbreaks in the teens, in the thirties, in the fifties. A cure was so far distant the experts refused to speculate. \\\ And then, suddenly, it was over. The dreaded iron lung, unused, cluttering hospital hallways. Children again growing up in a world without fear. \\\

Many comparisons have been made to epidemics past. Cholera. Small pox. Yellow fever. None of them perfect. So let me boil down the lessons of polio to two:

There was a lot of ignorance -- let's learn from that. And in the darkest of hours -- hope came unexpectedly, powerfully and with finality. Let's work hard to see that day come to pass. \\\

Together, we will make a difference, for those with HIV and AIDS -- and for all Americans. \\\

Thank you. And may God bless the United States of America.

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page 5
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From Seattle to Boston, from Dallas to Detroit, federal grants have helped coordinate the efforts of care providers, business and community organizations to set priorities and pool resources to meet the treatment needs of people with AIDS.

We've initiated clinical trials for promising new therapies for HIV. Expanded the availability of experimental drugs. Approved three new therapies that for the first time offer help to HIV-infected people before they become sick with AIDS. Started a toll-free number where HIV patients and doctors can get state-of-the-art information on new treatments. Worked with the P.T.A. to distribute hundreds of thousands of copies of the "AIDS Prevention Guide" for use in schools and families nationwide.

And our \$10 billion war on drugs is also a war on AIDS. IV drug use now accounts for some of the fastest growing infection rates -- afflicting Americans that are often among those least able to get adequate medical help.

ⓑ page 6

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My Administration recently acted to extend A-Z-T coverage to help HIV-infected people not yet sick with AIDS. All 50 states now provide Medicaid coverage for A-Z-T treatments. Thanks to these actions, more and more people will be able to live and work with HIV.

~~5~~ © page 7

Dollars spent for AIDS research are dollars spent for the better health of all Americans. AIDS research strikes at the heart of many human health problems from infectious disease to aging and cancer. It includes research on a class of viruses now increasingly believed to be the cause of not only AIDS, but also ^{currently} incurable diseases like muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis and at least two forms of leukemia.

We're on a war-time footing at NIH and CDC -- the Center for Disease Control. Tonight, like every night, the lights will burn late in Bethesda and Atlanta, as a group of American pioneers work to solve this problem. If they do, it will be one of the greatest things our Nation could do for the world.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *W*
FROM: EDWARD McNALLY *EMW*
SUBJECT: REMARKS: NAT'L. LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS

I. SUMMARY

Attached are draft remarks for Thursday morning's keynote address to the National Leadership Coalition on AIDS.

II. DISCUSSION

At 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, March 29, 1990, you are scheduled to arrive onstage at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Crystal City to address approximately 400 CEO's and other key executives. Approximately 40 percent of those attending represent corporations that were pioneers in responding to the AIDS crisis -- while about 60 percent come from interested corporations that are not yet participating in programs designed to cope with AIDS in the workplace.

While the tone of the address (14 minutes, TelePrompter) is very serious, sober, and straightforward, our proposed draft contains very upbeat language about America's ability to respond to this epidemic.

It is a very personal speech, aimed at sending a powerful message about compassion, discrimination, and hope.

McNally/Simon
March 27, 1990
Draft Six (B:AIDS)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990, 11:15 A.M.

Thank you, Louis Sullivan. And thanks to Larry Williford of Allstate and B.J. Stiles from the Coalition here. Dr. David Rogers and Belinda Mason, my appointees to the AIDS Commission, with whom I just met. My friend and physician, Dr. Burton Lee.

There could scarcely be a more important place for me to be than here with you -- the men and women who guide American business as it helps those people suffering with HIV and AIDS.

You make our hearts glad. And you make your country proud.

Other generations have faced life-threatening medical crises, from polio to the plague. This virus is our challenge. Not a challenge we sought. Not a challenge we chose. But today our responsibility is clear: We must meet this challenge. We must beat this virus. For whether talking about a nation or an individual, character is measured not by our tragedies -- but by our response to those tragedies. \\\

And for those who are living with HIV and AIDS, our response is clear: They deserve our compassion. They deserve our care. And they deserve more than a chance -- they deserve a cure. \\\

America will accept nothing less. We are slashing red tape. Accelerating schedules. Boosting research. And somewhere out there, there's a Nobel prize -- and the gratitude of planet Earth -- waiting for the man or woman who discovers the answer that's eluded everyone else. \\\

We pray that day will come soon. But until that day -- until this virus can be defeated by science -- there's a battle to be waged by society. \\\

Because in 1990, the most effective weapon in our arsenal against AIDS is not just medication, \\ but also education. \\\

Our goal is to turn irrational fear into rational facts.

Because this isn't just a fight against disease. It's also a fight against ignorance. A fight against discrimination. \\\

Today, HIV has joined cancer, heart disease, and accidents as one of the deadly realities of our time.

Of these, HIV is one of the most lethal, one of the most frightening. But HIV is also one of the most preventable.

Every American must learn what AIDS is -- and what AIDS is not. And they must learn now. You in this room already know what so many Americans don't. So, together, let's shoot down some myths. The HIV virus is not spread by handshakes or hugs. You can't get it from food or drink. Coughing or sneezing. Or by sharing bathrooms or towels or conversation.

The transmission of HIV is as simple as it is deadly. In most cases, it's determined not by what you are -- but by what you do -- and by what you fail to do. \\\

Let me state it clearly: People are placed at risk not by their demographics, but by their deeds. By their behavior. \\\

And so it is our duty to make certain that every American has the essential information needed to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS. Because while the ignorant may discriminate against

**AIDS -- AIDS won't discriminate among the ignorant. **

Like many of you, Barbara and I have had friends who have died of AIDS. Our love for them when they were sick and when they died was just as great and just as intense as for anyone we have lost to heart disease or cancer or accidents.

Probably everyone here has read the heartbreaking stories about AIDS babies and those infected by transfusions. When our own daughter was dying of leukemia, Barbara asked the doctor the same question every HIV family must ask -- why -- why this was happening to our beautiful little girl. And the doctor said: "You have to realize that every well person is a miracle. It takes billions of cells to make a well person. And all it takes is one cell to be bad to destroy a whole person."

We will always remember the love and compassion with which our friends and family responded. In this nation, in this decade, there is only one way to deal with an individual who is sick. With dignity. Compassion. Care. Confidentiality. And without discrimination. \\\

Once disease strikes -- we don't blame those who are suffering. We don't spurn the accident victim who didn't wear a seatbelt. We don't reject the cancer patient who didn't quit smoking. We try to love them and care for them and comfort them. We do not fire them, or evict them, or cancel their insurance.

People with AIDS are our colleagues and co-workers. Our friends. Our families. **THEY...ARE...US**.

Today I call on the House of Representatives to get on with

the job of passing a law -- as embodied in the Americans with Disabilities Act -- that prohibits discrimination against those with HIV and AIDS. We're in a fight against a disease -- not a fight against people. And we won't tolerate discrimination. \\\

The disease is attacking our most precious resource -- our people, especially our young. The statistics are numbing. You heard them this morning. But just look at the amazing quilts hanging here today. They prove that no one is a statistic. Every life has its own fabric. Its own colors. Its own purpose. Its own soul. And like the quilts, no two are alike. \\\

When Barbara and I left Washington for Christmas, our last stop was a clinic up at NIH. We were impressed by the determination of the people there -- the doctors, nurses, and health care workers -- and especially the brave people who are living with HIV. We learned a lot about caring. A lot about family. And a lot about hope. We saw the face of humanity in the face of AIDS.

Recently, we received a letter from seven patients whom we visited. They wrote: "Each of us looks for hope in very personal ways. We seek comfort and warmth from those we love. We seek new answers through participation in experimental drug studies. We seek to enjoy the simplest of pleasures in everyday life. To make peace with ourselves and with those who don't understand us. We seek a voice, a compassionate voice, that can address the concerns of hundreds of thousands of people."

Ladies and gentlemen, the voice they seek must be your voice. The voice of every American. \\\

Your employees will take their cues from you. You are in a powerful, unique position to influence the response to HIV and AIDS. When someone asks: "Who will volunteer to help care for our co-workers with AIDS?" we should be the first to say: "We will." Washing our hands of it won't help solve this problem. But rolling up our sleeves will. \\\

The roster of participants at this Conference is an honor roll. Allstate sponsored a landmark conference on HIV and work. Fortune magazine launched a survey on C.E.O.'s response to HIV. General Motors pledged to conduct an education program. Others are fighting the spread of HIV by fighting to keep schools and workplaces drug-free. This is America responding to a crisis. This is America at its best. \\\

This epidemic is having a major impact on our health care system. It is altering spending patterns by our government. In 1982, we knew little about AIDS -- and spent only \$8 million. But this year I have asked Congress for almost \$3.5 billion to battle HIV. Money for basic research. For HIV treatment and education. For protecting civil rights. \\\

America has the most sophisticated health care system in the world. But it is not without its problems. We face many challenges. Our system depends on private insurance and individual payments, as well as government programs. AIDS magnifies the challenges, including the challenge of expanding access, bringing costs under control, and overcoming obstacles to quality care. With these concerns in mind, I asked Dr. Louis

Sullivan to lead a Cabinet-level review of health care in the 1990's. And businesses like those you represent must play a major role in helping improve our Nation's health care system.

The crisis is not over. We report tens of thousands of new cases every year. And many predict we can expect to continue to do so in this decade, and even into the next century.

And yet, as Barbara so often reminds me, "where there is life there is hope." There are hopeful signs. To begin with, we can be encouraged by the news that current projections of the infection rate will not be as high as we thought just a year ago.

The use of new medicines such as A-Z-T means that more and more people with HIV will be able to live and work because these therapies offer the potential of making it a more manageable disease. Keep them in your workforce -- as I know many of you are already doing, as leaders in this effort. They can serve many, many more productive years with no threat to you, your other workers, or your companies. It will reduce costs for everyone. And it's the right thing to do. \\\

The pace of progress is promising. The HIV virus has been identified, isolated, and attacked with experimental treatments in a span of less than 10 years. The normal, centuries-long evolution of disease and treatment compressed into a decade.

And this race against time has produced an explosion in knowledge and basic understanding about the nature of disease and immunology. Like the unexpected technological boons from Apollo's race to the moon, some physicians predict the race to

cure AIDS may even lead to a cure for cancer. \\\

We're going to continue to fight like hell. But we're also going to fight for hope. America has a unique capacity for beating the odds -- and astounding the world. \\\

During my own childhood, the silent, whispered terror was a mysterious killer called polio. Like HIV, the virus ignored class distinctions and geographic boundaries. Monday would come, and kids who'd been in school on Friday were simply never seen again. Theaters were closed, summer camps, swimming pools.

As with AIDS, there was a lot of ignorance. Thousands of stray cats and dogs put to death. Kids sleeping with camphor inhalers. At least one town was fumigated with D.D.T.

There were terrifying outbreaks in the teens, in the thirties, in the fifties. A cure was so far distant the experts refused to speculate. \\\ And then, suddenly, it was over. The dreaded iron lung, unused, cluttering hospital hallways. Children again growing up in a world without fear. \\\

Many comparisons have been made to epidemics past. Cholera. Small pox. Yellow fever. None of them perfect. So let me boil down the lessons of polio to two:

There was a lot of ignorance -- let's learn from that. And in the darkest of hours -- hope came unexpectedly, powerfully and with finality. Let's work hard to see that day come to pass. \\\

Together, we will make a difference, for those with HIV and AIDS -- and for all Americans. \\\

Thank you. And may God bless the United States of America.

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McNally/Simon
March 27, 1990
Draft Five (B:AIDS)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990, 11:15 A.M.

Thank you. And I want to thank Louis Sullivan. Larry Williford of Allstate and B.J. Stiles from the Coalition here. Dr. David Rogers and Belinda Mason, my appointees to the AIDS Commission. My friend and physician, Dr. Burton Lee.

There could scarcely be ~~a more important gathering,~~ a more ✓ important place for me to be than here with you -- the men and women who guide American business as it helps those people suffering with HIV and AIDS. ~~There are many team players in this struggle. Community service organizations. Religious leaders of all persuasions. AIDS service organizations created by~~ ✓ ~~volunteers, many of them also infected with HIV. Corporations and private foundations that together have given over \$100 million to support literally thousands of AIDS projects.~~

You make our hearts glad. And you make your country proud.

Other generations have faced life-threatening medical crises, from polio to the plague. This virus is our challenge. Not a challenge we sought. Not a challenge we chose. But today our responsibility is clear: **We must meet this challenge. We must beat this virus. For whether talking about a nation or an individual, character is measured not by our tragedies -- but by ✓ how we ^{our} respond to those tragedies. \ \ **

And for those who are living with HIV and AIDS, our response is clear: They deserve our compassion. They deserve our care.

And they deserve more than a chance -- they deserve a cure. \\\

America will accept nothing less. We are slashing red tape. Accelerating schedules. Boosting research. And somewhere out there, there's a Nobel prize -- and the gratitude of planet Earth -- waiting for the man or woman who peers into a microscope and sees the answer that's eluded everyone else.

We pray that day will come soon. But until that day -- until this virus can be defeated by science -- there's a battle to be waged by society. \\\

Because in 1990, the most effective weapon in our arsenal against AIDS is not just medication, \\\ but also education. \\\

~~We must increase our efforts to educate the public about AIDS and how it is contracted.~~ Our goal is to turn irrational fear into rational facts. ✓

Because this isn't just a fight against disease. It's also a fight against ignorance. A fight against discrimination. \\\

~~Today, HIV has joined cancer, heart disease, and accidents as one of the deadly realities of our time.~~

~~Of these, HIV is one of the most lethal, one of the most frightening. But HIV is also one of the most preventable.~~

Every American must learn what AIDS is -- and what AIDS is not. **And they must learn now.** You in this room already know ⁶ what so many Americans don't. ~~So, together, let's shoot down~~

~~some myths.~~ The HIV virus is not spread by handshakes or hugs. You can't get it from food or drink. Coughing or sneezing. Or by sharing bathrooms or towels or conversation.

The transmission of AIDS is as simple as it is deadly. In most cases, it's determined not by what you are -- but by what you do -- and by what you fail to do. \\\

Let me state it clearly: People are placed at risk not by their demographics, but by their deeds. By their behavior. \\\

And so it is our duty to make certain that every American has the essential information needed to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS. Because while the ignorant may discriminate against AIDS -- AIDS won't discriminate among the ignorant. \\\

Like many of you, Barbara and I have had friends who have died of AIDS. Our love for them when they were sick and when they died was just as great and just as intense as for anyone we have lost to heart disease or cancer or accidents.

Probably everyone here has read the heartbreaking stories about AIDS babies and those infected by transfusions. When our own daughter was dying of leukemia, Barbara asked the doctor the same question every HIV family must ask -- why -- why this was happening to our beautiful little girl. And the doctor said: "You have to realize that every well person is a miracle. It takes billions of cells to make a well person. And all it takes is one cell to be bad to destroy a whole person."

We will always remember the love and compassion with which our friends and family responded. In this nation, in this decade, there is only one way to deal with an individual who is sick. With dignity. Compassion. Care. Confidentiality. And without discrimination. \\\

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People with AIDS are ~~no different than people with other~~ ~~disabling and life-threatening diseases.~~ They are our colleagues and co-workers. Our friends. Our families. **THEY...ARE...US.**

Today I call on the House of Representatives to get on with the job of passing a law -- ^{as embodied in} the Americans with Disabilities Act -- that prohibits discrimination against those with HIV and AIDS.

**We're in a fight against a disease -- not a fight against people. \\\ And we won't tolerate discrimination. **

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The disease is attacking our most precious resource -- our people, ^{especially} our young. Unlike many of the diseases that cause disability in our elderly, AIDS affects many ^{young} Americans ^{during the very} now in the prime of life. ~~The vast majority of Americans diagnosed with AIDS since 1981 have been between the ages of 20 and 59. These were the years they planned to work and create, and save for the future. Now their struggle is to survive.~~

The statistics are numbing. You heard them this morning. But just look at the amazing quilts which hang around us today. They prove that no one is a statistic. Every life has its own fabric. Its own colors. Its own purpose. Its own soul. And like the quilts, no two are alike. \\\

These quilts commemorate the dead. But the most important

part of our learning is with the living. ~~And I hope that you will go out and visit the AIDS wards. Meet with the patients and their families. See the face of humanity in the face of AIDS.~~ ✓

When Barbara and I left Washington for Christmas, our last stop was a clinic ^{up NIH} ~~at the National Institutes of Health.~~ We were impressed by the determination of the people there, ~~the~~ ✓ *step* doctors, nurses, and health care workers -- and especially the brave people who are living with HIV. **We learned a lot about caring. A lot about family. And a lot about hope.** *We saw the face of humanity in the face of AIDS.*

Recently, we received a letter from seven patients whom we visited. They wrote: "Each of us looks for hope in very personal ways. We seek comfort and warmth from those we love. We seek new answers through participation in experimental drug studies. We seek to enjoy the simplest of pleasures in everyday life. To make peace with ourselves and with those who don't understand us. We seek a voice, a compassionate voice, that can address the concerns of hundreds of thousands of people."

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~~the impact of HIV at work.~~ Fortune magazine launched a survey
~~that helped us understand the attitudes and actions of C.E.O.'s~~
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 1990, ~~that has grown to almost \$3 billion.~~

~~But this year~~
 And I have asked Congress for ~~still more money~~ almost
 \$3.5 billion ~~in the next fiscal year.~~ Money for basic research.
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The ^{Crisis} epidemic is not over. We report tens of thousands of

new cases every year. ~~And many predict we can expect to continue to do so in this decade, and even into the next century.~~

And yet, as Barbara so often reminds me, "where there is life there is hope." There are hopeful signs. To begin with, we can be encouraged by the news that current projections of the infection rate will not be as high as we thought just a year ago.

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As with AIDS, there was a lot of ignorance. Thousands of stray cats and dogs put to death. Kids sleeping with camphor inhalers. At least one town was fumigated with D.D.T.

There were terrifying outbreaks in the teens, in the thirties, in the fifties. A cure was so far distant the experts refused to speculate. ~~One doctor observed: "We have learned very little that is new about the disease, but much that is old about ourselves."~~

✓ And then, suddenly, it was over. ~~It happened so fast.~~ The dreaded iron lung, unused, cluttering hospital hallways. Children again growing up in a world without fear.

Many comparisons have been made to epidemics past. Cholera. Small pox. Yellow fever. None of them perfect. So let me boil down the lessons of polio to two:

**There was a lot of ignorance -- let's learn from that. And in the darkest of hours -- hope came unexpectedly, powerfully and with finality. Let's work hard to see that day come to pass. **

**Together, we will make a difference, for those with HIV and AIDS -- and for all Americans. **

Thank you. And may God bless the United States of America.

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McNALLY COMMENTS

McNally/Simon
March 23, 1990
Draft Three (B:AIDS)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990, 11:15 A.M.

Thank you, _____. [ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS]

There could scarcely be a more important gathering, a more important place for me to be than here with you -- the men and women who guide business and industry as they focus on the best way to help our people suffering with HIV and AIDS.

There are many team players in this struggle. Community service organizations. Religious leaders of all persuasions. AIDS service organizations created by volunteers, many of them also infected with HIV. And corporations and private foundations that together have given over \$100 million to support literally thousands of AIDS projects.

You make our hearts glad. And you make your country proud.

Other generations have faced life-threatening medical crises, from polio to the plague. This virus is our challenge. Not a challenge we sought. Not a challenge we chose. But today our choice is simple:

^{must} We will meet this challenge. ^{must} We will beat this virus. For whether talking about a nation or an individual, character is measured not by our tragedies -- but by how we respond to those tragedies. \\\

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This is Porter's idea. I like it. We pray that day will come soon. But until that day -- until this virus can be defeated ^{by science} in our hospitals -- there's a battle to be waged ^{by society} in our homes. \\\

Because in 1990, the single most effective weapon in our arsenal against AIDS is not medication, \\\ but education. \\\

We must increase our efforts to educate the public about AIDS and how it is contracted. Our goal is to turn irrational fear into rational facts.

Because this isn't just a fight against disease. It's also a fight against ignorance. A fight against discrimination. \\\

Almost three years ago, I described our struggle against the HIV virus as a battle against a "new and mysterious disease."

Today, HIV is not so new and not so mysterious. Today, HIV has joined cancer, heart disease, and accidents as one of the deadly realities of our time.

Of these, HIV is one of the most lethal, one of the most frightening. But HIV is also one of the most preventable.

Every American must learn what AIDS is -- and what AIDS is not. And they must learn now. So let's shoot down some myths. The HIV virus is not spread by handshakes or hugs. You can't get

it from food or drink. Coughing or sneezing. Or by sharing bathrooms or towels or conversation.

It's not like heart disease, where there's confusion over ever-changing bits of advice on oat bran and olive oil, exercise and eggs. The transmission of AIDS is as simple as it is deadly. **It's determined not by what you are -- but by what you do -- and by what you fail to do. **

Let me state it clearly: **People are placed at risk not by their demographics, but by their deeds. By their behavior. **

And so it is our duty to make certain that every American has the essential information needed to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS. **Because while the ignorant may discriminate against AIDS -- AIDS won't discriminate among the ignorant. **

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The disease is attacking our most precious resource -- our people, our young. Unlike many of the diseases that cause disability in our elderly, AIDS affects many Americans now in the prime of life. ~~Ninety-five percent of the 115,000~~ ^{The vast majority of} Americans with AIDS are between the ages of 20 and 59. These were the years they planned to work and create, and save for the future. Now their struggle is to survive.

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“caring” is the word POTUS used in your meeting

caring

courage?

Recently, we received a letter from seven who we visited. They wrote: "Each of us looks for hope in very personal ways. We seek comfort and warmth from those we love. We seek new answers through participation in experimental drug studies. We seek to enjoy the simplest of pleasures in everyday life. We seek to make peace with ourselves and with those who don't understand us. We seek a voice, a compassionate voice, that can address the concerns of hundreds of thousands of people."

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survey that helped us understand the attitudes and actions of C.E.O.'s in responding to HIV. ^{General Motors} ~~[An industrial giant]~~ asked an HIV expert to brief its key officers -- and pledged to conduct an education program for employees. Others are fighting the spread of HIV by fighting to keep schools and workplaces drug-free. **This is America responding to a crisis. This is America at its best.**

This epidemic is having a major impact on our health care system. It is altering spending patterns by our government. In 1982, we knew little about AIDS -- and spent only \$8 million. By 1990, that has grown to almost \$3 billion -- more, even, than the budget of the entire FBI -- and almost double what's spent for the National Cancer Institute.

And I have asked Congress for still more money -- almost \$3.5 billion in the next fiscal year. Money for basic research. For HIV treatment and education. For protecting civil rights.

~~America has the most sophisticated health care system in the world. But it's not enough. Our system depends on private insurance and individual payments, as well as government programs. AIDS magnifies the challenges, including the challenge of providing fair access to care to all Americans, ~~rich and poor.~~~~

In my State of the Union Address, I asked Dr. Louis Sullivan to lead a Cabinet-level review of health care in the 1990's.

~~We don't know yet where this review will lead us. ^{and} But we do know that businesses like those you represent will ^{play a large} be a big part of the answer to improving ^{the nation's} health care ^{system.} and increasing access.~~

This could be condensed for length, if nec.

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✓

The epidemic is not over. We report tens of thousands of new cases every year. And many predict we can expect to continue to do so in this decade, and even into the next century.

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 And yet, ~~as in every generation, no crisis is without~~

hopeful signs. To begin with, we can be encouraged by the news that current projections of the infection rate will not be as high as we thought just a year ago.

The use of new medicines such as A-Z-T means that more and more people with HIV will be able to live and work because these therapies offer the potential of making it a more manageable disease. Keep them in your workforce. They can serve many, many more productive years with no threat to you, your other workers, or your companies. It will reduce costs for everyone. **And it's the right thing to do.** \\\

The pace of progress is promising. The HIV virus has been identified, isolated, and attacked with experimental treatments in a span of less than 10 years. The normal, centuries-long evolution of disease and treatment compressed into a decade.

And this race against time has produced an explosion in knowledge and basic understanding about the nature of disease and immunology. Like the unexpected technological boons from Apollo's race to the moon, some physicians predict the race to cure AIDS may even ^{lead to} produce a cure for cancer.

We're going to continue to fight like hell. going to fight for hope. **America has a unique c** beating the odds -- and astounding the world.

*Suggested by
 Dr. Fauci, the AIDS
 expert at NIH.
 (He's addressing
 this audience
 earlier in the day)*

During my own childhood, the silent, whispered terror was a mysterious killer called polio. Like HIV, the virus ignored class distinctions and geographic boundaries. Monday would come, and kids who'd been in school on Friday were simply never seen again. Theaters were closed, summer camps, swimming pools.

As with AIDS, there was a lot of ignorance. Thousands of stray cats and dogs put to death. Kids sleeping with camphor inhalers. At least one town was fumigated with D.D.T. -- doing nothing to stop polio -- and unknowingly helping endanger the American eagle.

There were terrifying outbreaks in the teens, in the thirties, in the fifties. A cure was so far distant the experts refused to speculate. One doctor observed: "We have learned very little that is new about the disease, but much that is old about ourselves."

And then, suddenly, it was over. It happened so fast. The dreaded iron lung, unused, cluttering hospital hallways. Children again growing up in a world without fear.

Many comparisons have been made to epidemics past. Cholera. The Plague. Yellow fever. None of them perfect. So let me boil down the lessons of polio to two:

There was a lot of ignorance -- let's learn from that. And in the darkest of hours -- hope came unexpectedly, powerfully and with finality. Let's work hard to see that day come to pass. \\\

Together, we will make a difference, for those with HIV and AIDS -- and for all Americans. \\\

Thank you. And may God bless the United States of America.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/23/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 3/26/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>	LEE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 -> still need HHS

REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 PM, Monday, March 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

McNally/Simon
March 23, 1990
Draft Three (B:AIDS)

1990 MAR 23 AM 10:59

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COALITION ON AIDS
CRYSTAL GATEWAY MARRIOTT
THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1990, 11:15 A.M.

Thank you, _____. [ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS]

There could scarcely be a more important gathering, a more important place for me to be than here with you -- the men and women who guide ^{business} ~~business and industry as they focus~~ ^{it} ~~on the best~~ ^{way to help} ~~our people~~ suffering with HIV and AIDS.

There are many team players in this struggle. Community service organizations. Religious leaders of all persuasions. AIDS service organizations created by volunteers, many of them also infected with HIV. And corporations and private foundations that together have given over \$100 million to support literally thousands of AIDS projects.

You make our hearts glad. And you make your country proud.

Other generations have faced life-threatening medical crises, from polio to the plague. This virus is our challenge. Not a challenge we sought. Not a challenge we chose. But today our ^{responsibility clear} choice is simple:

We ^{must} will meet this challenge. We ^{must} will beat this virus. For whether talking about a nation or an individual, character is measured not by our tragedies -- but by how we respond to those tragedies. \\\

And for those who are living with HIV and AIDS, our response is ^{clear} simple: They deserve our compassion. They deserve our care. And they deserve more than a chance -- they deserve a cure. \\\

America will accept nothing less. We are slashing red tape. Accelerating schedules. Boosting research. And somewhere out there, there's a Nobel prize -- and the gratitude of ~~the~~ planet Earth -- waiting for the man or woman who peers into a microscope and sees the answer that's eluded everyone else.

We pray that day will come soon. But until that day -- until this virus can be defeated ^{by science} in our hospitals -- there's a battle to be waged ^{by society.} in our homes. \\\

Because in 1990, the ~~single~~ most effective weapon in our arsenal against AIDS is ^{just} not medication, \\\ but ^{also} education. \\\

We must increase our efforts to educate the public about AIDS and how it is contracted. Our goal is to turn irrational fear into rational facts.

Because this isn't just a fight against disease. It's also a fight against ignorance. A fight against discrimination. \\\

~~Almost three years ago, I described our struggle against the HIV virus as a battle against a "new and mysterious disease."~~

~~Today, HIV is not so new and not so mysterious.~~ Today, HIV has joined cancer, heart disease, and accidents as one of the deadly realities of our time.

Of these, HIV is one of the most lethal, one of the most frightening. But HIV is also one of the most preventable.

Every American must learn what AIDS is -- and what AIDS is not. And they must learn now. ^{together,} So let's shoot down some myths. The HIV virus is not spread by handshakes or hugs. You can't get

You in this room already know what so many Americans don't.

it from food or drink. Coughing or sneezing. Or by sharing bathrooms or towels or conversation.

~~It's not like heart disease, where there's confusion over ever-changing bits of advice on oat bran and olive oil, exercise and eggs.~~ The transmission of AIDS is as simple as it is deadly.

In most cases,

✓ It's determined not by what you are -- but by what you do -- and by what you fail to do. \ \ \

Let me state it clearly: People are placed at risk not by their demographics, but by their deeds. By their behavior. \ \ \

And so it is our duty to

(A)

(Note: This solves the problem identified by several people during the need to staffing the AIDS babies and other innocents. And there's both Porter and I suggest deleting several boring pp. on p. 6)

INSERT AT BOTTOM OF PAGE 3

Probably everyone here has read the heartbreaking stories about AIDS babies and those infected by transfusions. When our own daughter was dying of leukemia, Barbara asked the doctor the same question every HIV family must ask -- why -- why this was happening to our beautiful little girl. And the doctor said: "You have to realize that every well person is a miracle. It takes billions of cells to make up a well person. And all it takes is one cell to be bad to destroy a whole person."

We will always remember the love and compassion with which our friends and family responded. [In this nation, in this decade...]

... -- we don't blame those who
... We don't spurn the accident victim who didn't seatbelt. We don't reject the cancer patient who didn't quit smoking. We try to love them and care for them and comfort them. We do not fire them, or evict them, or cancel their insurance. ?

People with AIDS are no different than people with other disabling and life-threatening diseases. They are our colleagues and co-workers. Our friends. Our families. THEY...ARE...US.

And today I call on the House of Representatives to get on with the job of passing a law -- the Americans with Disabilities Act -- that prohibits discrimination against those with HIV and AIDS. ?

We're in
~~This is~~ a fight against a disease -- not a fight against people. \\\ And we won't tolerate discrimination. \\\

The disease is attacking our most precious resource -- our people, our young. Unlike many of the diseases that cause disability in our elderly, AIDS affects many Americans ~~now~~ *not diagnosed* in the prime of life. *The vast majority of* ~~Ninety-five percent of the 115,000~~ *diagnosed* Americans with AIDS *Since 1981 have been* ~~are~~ between the ages of 20 and 59. These were the years they planned to work and create, and save for the future. Now their struggle is to survive.

The statistics are numbing. You heard them this morning. But just look at the amazing quilts which hang around us today. They prove that no ~~man~~ *one* is a statistic. Every life has its own fabric. Its own colors. Its own purpose. Its own soul. And like the quilts, no two are alike. \\\

These quilts commemorate the dead. But the most important part of our learning is with the living. And I hope that you will go out and visit the AIDS wards. Meet with the patients and their families. See the face of humanity in the face of AIDS.

When Barbara and I left Washington for the Christmas holidays, our last stop was a clinic at the National Institutes of Health. We were impressed by the ~~mettle and~~ determination of the people there -- the doctors, nurses, and health care workers -- and especially the brave people who are living with HIV. We learned a lot about ^{caring} courage. A lot about family. And a lot about hope.

Recently, we received a letter from seven ^{patients} whom we visited. They wrote: "Each of us looks for hope in very personal ways. We seek comfort and warmth from those we love. We seek new answers through participation in experimental drug studies. We seek to enjoy the simplest of pleasures in everyday life. We seek to make peace with ourselves and with those who don't understand us. We seek a voice, a compassionate voice, that can address the concerns of hundreds of thousands of people."

**Ladies and gentlemen, the voice they seek must be your voice. The voice of every American. **

Your employees will take their cues from you. You are in a powerful, unique position to influence the response to HIV and AIDS. When someone asks: "Who will volunteer to help care for our co-workers with AIDS?" ^{we} ~~you~~ should be the first to say, "^{we} ~~I~~ will." ~~Washing your hands of it won't help solve this problem. But rolling up your sleeves will.~~ \\\

The roster of participants at this Conference is an honor roll. Allstate sponsored a landmark conference to help deal with the impact of HIV at work. The magazine, Fortune, launched a

survey that helped us understand the attitudes and actions of C.E.O.'s in responding to HIV. ^{General Motors} ~~[An industrial giant]~~ asked an HIV expert to brief its key officers -- and pledged to conduct an education program for employees. Others are fighting the spread of HIV by fighting to keep schools and workplaces drug-free. **This is America responding to a crisis. This is America at its best.**

This epidemic is having a major impact on our health care system. It is altering spending patterns by our government. In 1982, we knew little about AIDS -- and spent only \$8 million. By 1990, that has grown to almost \$3 billion ~~, -- more, even, than the budget of the entire FBI -- and almost double what's spent for the National Cancer Institute.~~

And I have asked Congress for still more money -- almost \$3.5 billion in the next fiscal year. Money for basic research. For HIV treatment and education. For protecting civil rights.

America has the most sophisticated health care system in the world. But it's not enough. Our system depends on private insurance and individual payments, as well as government programs. AIDS magnifies the challenges, including the challenge of providing fair access to care to all Americans, rich and poor.

In my State of the Union Address, I asked Dr. Louis Sullivan to lead a Cabinet-level review of health care in the 1990's.

We don't know yet where this review will lead us. But we do know that businesses like those you represent will be a big part of the answer to improving health care and increasing access.

The epidemic is not over. We report tens of thousands of new cases every year. And many predict we can expect to continue to do so in this decade, and even into the next century.

as Barbara so often reminds me, "where there is life there is hope." And there are some

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The use of new medicines such as A-Z-T means that more and more people with HIV will be able to live and work because these therapies offer the potential of making it a more manageable disease. *so I knew many of you are already doing as leaders in this effort* Keep them in your workforce. They can serve many, many more productive years with no threat to ~~you, your~~ *stet* other workers, or your companies. It will reduce costs for everyone. **And it's the right thing to do. **

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