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# FOIA MARKER

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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Draft Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**OA/ID Number:** 13538  
**Folder ID Number:** 13538-008

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**Folder Title:**  
Ripon Forum Written Interview 8/17/90 [OA 5376]

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 22, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:

DAVID DEMAREST *DD*  
CHRISS WINSTON *W*

FROM:

KRISTIN CLARK TAYLOR *KCT* / CHERYL KIENEL *CK*  
OFFICE OF MEDIA RELATIONS

SUBJECT:

RIPON FORUM WRITTEN INTERVIEW

I. SUMMARY

The Ripon Forum would like to publish your reflections on a number of issues.

II. DISCUSSION

The Ripon Society has submitted questions for your response to be printed in their moderate Republican journal of opinion, the Ripon Forum. The Ripon Society has been a longstanding supporter of you.

You participated in a photo op with Donald Bliss, President of the Ripon Society and William McKenzie, Editor of the Ripon Forum on August 8th. These photos, along with your written responses to their attached questions, will be published in their September edition.

The attached responses have been drafted for your approval. In order to meet their deadline, we would like to have your approval or revisions by Friday, August 24.

RIPON FORUM'S QUESTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT

WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

1. The case can be made that foreign policy decisions need no longer be cast in mere bi-polar terms. Central Europe, for instance, is now emerging as a more independent group of nations. When you leave office in 1996, what will be the primary poles of power within the world?

Suggested Response: For many years it has been clear that the world was becoming multipolar, particularly in political and economic terms. Japan and Western Europe are now major international actors, with the European Community (EC) heading toward yet another milestone of unity and consolidation by the end of 1992. The EC is also acting as a magnet to the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe.

The Soviet Union, whatever its political evolution, will remain a formidable military power. This makes it essential for the United States to remain engaged in the world, particularly in Europe, to maintain the global balance.

China will continue to be a major factor, and will resume an even more important role once it recovers the path of economic and political reform so tragically lost at Tiananmen.

Some of the newly industrialized nations in the developing world have the potential to become major players, too, because of their growing economic and technological strength, from Brazil and Argentina to India to the Republic of Korea.

## Ripon Forum

2. Now that some tensions within East-West relations have been reduced, or a few of the conflicts recast, Third World problems may assume a greater significance. You are now dealing, for instance, with the Arab nationalism of Iraq's Saddam Hussein, whose army recently invaded Kuwait. Over the last decade we have also been confronted with the more radical elements within the Islamic faith, such as the Shiite Muslims in Iran. How do we begin to reckon with such forces?

Suggested Response: Third World radicalism remains a serious problem, which may indeed demand more of our attention in a world in which East-West tensions have relaxed. Saddam Hussein represents one extreme form. The spread of ballistic-missile, chemical warfare, and nuclear capabilities heightens the danger from North Africa to Southwest Asia.

These are profound political forces that will not soon pass from the scene. The Middle East promises to be a region of turmoil in the coming decade. The United States needs to remain engaged in the search for peace. The West needs to defend its interests and values against aggression; it needs to stand by its friends in the region who are resisting such forces. The day will come when such extreme policies and philosophies are discredited by their failure to improve the well-being of the peoples subjected to them.

## Ripon Forum

3. You've encountered a great deal of political heat over your new position favoring "tax revenue increases." What do you hope to gain in return from congressional Democrats during the current budget summit?

Suggested Response: Our goal in these budget negotiations is a lasting resolution of the budget crisis, to end this deficit which has been hanging over the country for years now, and to lead America reinvigorated and competitive into the new century. At the beginning of last May, I announced that the fiscal crisis facing the country was so severe that there would be "no preconditions" -- everything was on the table. On June 26th, after a discouraging lack of progress by our Democrat counterparts, I went even farther and said that the situation was severe enough to warrant "entitlement and mandatory program reform, tax revenue increases, growth incentives, discretionary spending reductions, orderly reductions in defense expenditures, and budget process reform."

Now we are into Fall. If the Democrats don't get a move on, they will find the government programs decimated by the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings sequester: an across-the-board cut of over one hundred billion dollars in government spending. We would much prefer not to see a sequester take place.

We are still hopeful that the Congressional Democrats will cooperate. There is still time and there is certainly a good faith eagerness on our part to move forward. America's future

## Ripon Forum

3. cont.

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The causes of our budget woes did not come out of nowhere. They were created by our political representatives and they will be solved by them -- with the help of groups like the Ripon Society making their voice heard for a return to the tried and true Republican values of fiscal common sense.

4. Let's move ahead, it's the summer of 1992, and you're preparing your acceptance speech for the Republican National Convention. What points do you wish to establish at that gathering? What is the theme that will compare to your now-famous call for a "kinder, gentler" nation?

Suggested Response: For me to accept the premise of your question, even hypothetically, would be presumptuous. A President has so many opportunities to be presumptuous that it's work just making sure you avoid them! So let me simply say that I am flattered by your question and that regardless of what I am doing in 1992, I will certainly still be striving for a kinder,

## Ripon Forum

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gentler nation -- and I am sure the Ripon Society will be as well.

5. At a time when the incidence of unplanned pregnancies and abortion is high, and public differences on abortion are divisive, federal spending on contraceptive education and family planning services are lower in real terms than they were 10 years ago. Do you think the government can do more to assist pregnancy prevention? If not, why not?

Suggested Response: Certainly the government can do more to prevent unwanted pregnancy. I am very proud of the work that the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Louis Sullivan, has done in spreading the message that we can help those for whom it may seem to be too late. As for others, as Dr. Sullivan has said, we must cultivate "a culture of character" in order to instill individual responsibility. Money alone is not the answer. But strengthening the institution of the family is surely part of the answer. I would also add that where unwanted pregnancies do occur, we have encouraged adoption of the child -- turning unwanted pregnancies into wanted, cherished children, and we hope to do much more. I have proposed the "Special Needs Adoption Assistance Act of 1989" to help support and encourage adoption of children with special needs by Federal Employees. We are waiting for Congress to pass that legislation.

## Ripon Forum

6. In the late 1940s, the oil industry, Texas, and the West in general represented America's future, and for a 24 year-old Yale graduate, they presented quite a challenge. How did your move to Odessa, Texas in 1948 help shape your economic and political views?

Suggested Response: I like to think that my own move West shaped me in the way that a favorite President of mine, Theodore Roosevelt, was shaped by his own going out West -- the way it helped him develop his lifelong appreciation not just for people but for nature. Now when Barbara and I headed West it was in a red Studebaker, not a locomotive. But I've always had that same appreciation for the outdoors, and I think it partly explains my determination, like his, to do something about the environment.

I also admire the fact that Teddy Roosevelt was a reformer. He stood for high ethical standards, particularly in public service. That kind of integrity, of always being your own man, is also a hallmark of the West. Many of the reform movements in American history came out of wherever was considered the West -- Ripon, Wisconsin is an example.

Reform really means restoring things to their proper state. In that sense, both TR's conservationism and his trust busting were reforms. It may be that the West exerts a constant force on us, as it did on TR, and as I like to think it does on me: always reminding that reform is a kind of stewardship, of caring

## Ripon Forum

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and concern whether for nature, for humanity, or for the institutions of humanity.

7. You have expressed a keen interest in increasing the base of the Republican Party, in particular among black Americans. What is your vision for the GOP? Do you view it as a coalition of different voices or as an organization guided by one or two defining ideas?

Suggested Response: This is the age of empowerment, and the Republican Party is the party of empowerment. We believe in strengthening families, not multiplying bureaucracies.

Republicans think parents should decide which public school is best for their kids. That's why this administration has proposed the Educational Excellence Act of 1990 to provide incentives among other things for magnet school programs and to provide increased choice for parents in determining their children's schools. We've also unveiled a program to help poor people run or -- better yet -- own their public housing units. And we support a child care tax credit for low-income working families that will enable them to care for their kids in the manner they choose.

The message of empowerment has great appeal to all Americans, but particularly to those who have been historically disadvantaged. They're the ones who've suffered most from the


## Ripon Forum

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**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 08/15/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 p.m. Friday 08/17

SUBJECT: RIPON FORUM'S QUESTIONS WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

	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 type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</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>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:  
 Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 2:00 p.m. on Friday, 08/17, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

*cc: Holly*

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

RIPON FORUM'S QUESTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT  
WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

30 AUG 15 95:13

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### Ripon Forum

1. cont. Some of the newly industrialized nations in the developing world have the potential to become major players, too, because of their growing economic and technological strength, from Brazil and Argentina to India to the Republic of Korea.

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3. You've encountered a great deal of political heat over your new position favoring "tax revenue increases." What do you hope to gain in return from congressional Democrats during the current budget summit?

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We are still hopeful that the Congressional Democrats will cooperate. There is still time and there is certainly a good faith eagerness on our part to move forward. America's future both economically and as the leading nation of the world depends on a permanent fiscal solution. In that regard, I have advocated for some time now a cut in the capital gains tax rate and real reform in the budget process: a Balanced Budget Amendment, a Line Item Veto, and enhanced rescission power in order to hold the line on spending while being flexible enough to preserve important government programs.

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(mention administration adoption effort)

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
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SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:  
 Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 2:00 p.m. on Friday, 08/17, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

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

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 08/15/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 p.m. Friday 08/17

SUBJECT: RIPON FORUM'S QUESTIONS WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

	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 type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</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>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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RESPONSE: *See comments, p. Q.7.*


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



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

**NOTICE:**

Enclosed are comments from staff members of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Such comments do not necessarily represent the official position of the Director of OMB or of the Office of Management and Budget. If you wish to have the Director's personal comments, please let me know -- and contact me if you have any questions.

  
James C. Murr  
Associate Director for  
Legislative Reference  
and Administration

RIPON FORUM'S QUESTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT

WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

90 AUG 15 P 5: 13

1. The case can be made that foreign policy decisions need no longer be cast in mere bi-polar terms. Central Europe, for instance, is now emerging as a more independent group of nations. When you leave office in 1996, what will be the primary poles of power within the world?

Suggested Response: For many years it has been clear that the world was becoming multipolar, particularly in political and economic terms. Japan and Western Europe are now major international actors, with the European Community (EC) heading toward yet another milestone of unity and consolidation by the end of 1992. The EC is also acting as a magnet to the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe.

The Soviet Union, whatever its political evolution, will remain a formidable military power. This makes it essential for the United States to remain engaged in the world, particularly in Europe, to maintain the global balance.

China will continue to be a major factor, and will resume an even more important role once it recovers the path of economic and political reform so tragically lost at Tiananmen.

### Ripon Forum

1. cont. Some of the newly industrialized nations in the developing world have the potential to become major players, too, because of their growing economic and technological strength, from Brazil and Argentina to India to the Republic of Korea.

2. Now that some tensions within East-West relations have been reduced, or a few of the conflicts recast, Third World problems may assume a greater significance. You are now dealing, for instance, with the Arab nationalism of Iraq's Saddam Hussein, whose army recently invaded Kuwait. Over the last decade we have also been confronted with the more radical elements within the Islamic faith, such as the Shiite Muslims in Iran. How do we begin to reckon with such forces?

Suggested Response: Third World radicalism remains a serious problem, which may indeed demand more of our attention in a world in which East-West tensions have relaxed. Saddam Hussein represents one extreme form, made even more dangerous by the spread of ballistic-missile, chemical warfare, and nuclear capabilities. Islamic fundamentalism is a problem throughout the Islamic world, from North Africa to Southwest Asia.

## Ripon Forum

2. cont. These are profound political forces that will not soon pass from the scene. The Middle East promises to be a region of turmoil in the coming decade. The West needs to defend its interests and values against aggression; it needs to stand by its friends in the region who are resisting such forces. The day will come when such policies and philosophies are discredited by their failure to improve the well-being of the peoples subjected to them.

3. You've encountered a great deal of political heat over your new position favoring "tax revenue increases." What do you hope to gain in return from congressional Democrats during the current budget summit?

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### Ripon Forum

3. cont. and mandatory program reform, tax revenue increases, growth incentives, discretionary spending reductions, orderly reductions in defense expenditures, and budget process reform."

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We are still hopeful that the Congressional Democrats will cooperate. There is still time and there is certainly a good faith eagerness on our part to move forward. America's future both economically and as the leading nation of the world depends on a permanent fiscal solution. In that regard, I have advocated for some time now a cut in the capital gains tax rate and real reform in the budget process: a Balanced Budget Amendment, a Line Item Veto, and enhanced rescission power in order to hold the line on spending while being flexible enough to preserve important government programs.

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### Ripon Forum

3. cont. values of fiscal common sense.

4. Let's move ahead, it's the summer of 1992, and you're preparing your acceptance speech for the Republican National Convention. What points do you wish to establish at that gathering? What is the theme that will compare to your now-famous call for a "kinder, gentler" nation?

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5. At a time when the incidence of unplanned pregnancies and abortion is high, and public differences on abortion are divisive, federal spending on contraceptive education and family planning services are lower in real terms than they were 10 years ago. Do you think the government can do more to assist pregnancy prevention? If not, why not?

**Ripon Forum**

5 cont. Suggested Response: Certainly the government can do more to prevent unwanted pregnancy. I am very proud of the work that the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Dr. Louis Sullivan, has done in spreading the message that we can help those for whom it may seem to be too late. As for others, as Dr. Sullivan has said, we must cultivate "a culture of character" in order to instill individual responsibility. Money alone is not the answer. But strengthening the institution of the family is surely part of the answer. I would also add that where unwanted pregnancies do occur, we have been successful in encouraging adoption of the child -- turning unwanted pregnancies into wanted, cherished children, and we hope to do much more.

6. In the late 1940s, the oil industry, Texas, and the West in general represented America's future, and for a 24 year-old Yale graduate, they presented quite a challenge. How did your move to Odessa, Texas in 1948 help shape your economic and political views?

## Ripon Forum

6. cont. Suggested Response: I like to think that my own move West shaped me in the way that a favorite President of mine, Theodore Roosevelt, was shaped by his own going out West -- the way it helped him develop his lifelong appreciation not just for people but for nature. Now when Barbara and I headed West it was in a red Studebaker, not a locomotive. But I've always had that same appreciation for the outdoors, and I think it partly explains my determination, like his, to do something about the environment.

I also admire the fact that Teddy Roosevelt was a reformer. He stood for high ethical standards, particularly in public service. That kind of integrity, of always being your own man, is also a hallmark of the West. Many of the reform movements in American history came out of wherever was considered the West -- Ripon, Wisconsin is an example.

Reform really means restoring things to their proper state. In that sense, both TR's conservationism and his trust busting were reforms. It may be that the West exerts a constant force on us, as it did on TR, and as I like to think it does on me: always reminding that reform is a kind of stewardship, of caring and concern whether for nature, for humanity, or for the institutions of humanity.

Ripon Forum

7. You have expressed a keen interest in increasing the base of the Republican Party, in particular among black Americans. What is your vision for the GOP? Do you view it as a coalition of different voices or as an organization guided by one or two defining ideas?

Suggested Response: This is the age of empowerment, and the Republican Party is the party of empowerment. We believe in strengthening families, not multiplying bureaucracies. Republicans think parents should decide which public school is best for their kids. That's why this administration has proposed the Educational Excellence Act of 1990 to provide incentives for magnet school programs. We've also unveiled a program to help poor people run or -- better yet -- own their public housing units. And we support a child care tax credit for low-income working ~~parents~~ <sup>families</sup> that will enable them to care for their kids in the manner they choose.

(Scully  
x 5178)

, among other things

(Scully  
x 5178)

The message of empowerment has great appeal to all Americans, but particularly to those who have been historically disadvantaged. They're the ones who've suffered most from the bureaucratic welfare state. They want something new and something better. And that's what the Republican Party is offering.

Ripon Forum

7. cont. Republicans stand together for opportunity, empowerment, and strong families. But it's a big party: we've got a wide variety of ideas on how to bring these principles into practice. That's good. A political party is like a choir because it needs two things: a single songbook -- and lots of different voices.

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DATE: 08/15/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 p.m. Friday 08/17

SUBJECT: RIPON FORUM'S QUESTIONS WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

	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 type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 2:00 p.m. on Friday, 08/17, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

**RESPONSE:**

August 17, 1990

NSC concurs, with changes marked.

  
Brent Scowcroft

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

RIPON FORUM'S QUESTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT  
WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

30 AUG 15 13:13

1. The case can be made that foreign policy decisions need no longer be cast in mere bi-polar terms. Central Europe, for instance, is now emerging as a more independent group of nations. When you leave office in 1996, what will be the primary poles of power within the world?

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1. cont. Some of the newly industrialized nations in the developing world have the potential to become major players, too, because of their growing economic and technological strength, from Brazil and Argentina to India to the Republic of Korea.

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~~(even more dangerous by)~~ <sup>the spread of ballistic-missile,</sup>  
chemical warfare, and nuclear capabilities, ~~Islamic~~  
~~fundamentalism is a problem throughout the Islamic world,~~  
~~From North Africa to Southwest Asia.~~

The United States needs to remain engaged in the search for peace.

Ripon Forum

2. cont. These are profound political forces that will not soon pass from the scene. The Middle East promises to be a region of turmoil in the coming decade. The West needs to defend its interests and values against aggression; it needs to stand by its friends in the region who are resisting such forces. The day will come when such *extreme* policies and philosophies are discredited by their failure to improve the well-being of the peoples subjected to them.

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DATE: 08/15/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 p.m. Friday 08/17

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FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**REMARKS:**

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**RESPONSE:**

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

RIPON FORUM'S QUESTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT

WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

90 AUG 15 12 53:13

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## Ripon Forum

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6. In the late 1940s, the oil industry, Texas, and the West in general represented America's future, and for a 24 year-old Yale graduate, they presented quite a challenge. How did your move to Odessa, Texas in 1948 help shape your economic and political views?

## Ripon Forum

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Ripon Forum

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Ripon Forum

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✓ The United States needs to remain engaged in the search for peace.

#### Rinon Forum

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Hans enter a couple of sentences about innovative adoption programs.


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X2998 Brad OMB  
Cut?  
Assistance Act of 1989

~~The~~ We have  
~~President~~ proposed the "Special Adoptions" <sup>Needs</sup> ~~needs at~~  
to help support + encourage adoption  
of children with special needs. <sup>legislation</sup> ~~legislation~~  
~~The proposal would provide direct reimbursement~~  
~~to~~  
~~pending in both the house + senate~~

We're waiting for Congress to pass that legislation.

**Ripon Forum**

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RIPON FORUM'S QUESTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT  
WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

30 AUG 15 P5:13

1. The case can be made that foreign policy decisions need no longer be cast in mere bi-polar terms. Central Europe, for instance, is now emerging as a more independent group of nations. When you leave office in 1996, what will be the primary poles of power within the world?

Suggested Response: For many years it has been clear that the world was becoming multipolar, particularly in political and economic terms. Japan and Western Europe are now major international actors, with the European Community (EC) heading toward yet another milestone of unity and consolidation by the end of 1992. The EC is also acting as a magnet to the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe.

The Soviet Union, whatever its political evolution, will remain a formidable military power. This makes it essential for the United States to remain engaged in the world, particularly in Europe, to maintain the global balance.

China will continue to be a major factor, and will resume an even more important role once it recovers the path of economic and political reform so tragically lost at Tiananmen.

### Ripon Forum

3. cont. and mandatory program reform, tax revenue increases, growth incentives, discretionary spending reductions, orderly reductions in defense expenditures, and budget process reform."

Now we are into Fall. If the Democrats don't get a move on, they will find the government programs decimated by the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings sequester: an across-the-board cut of over one hundred billion dollars in government spending. We would much prefer not to see a sequester take place.

We are still hopeful that the Congressional Democrats will cooperate. There is still time and there is certainly a good faith eagerness on our part to move forward. America's future both economically and as the leading nation of the world depends on a permanent fiscal solution. In that regard, I have advocated for some time now a cut in the capital gains tax rate and real reform in the budget process: a Balanced Budget Amendment, a Line Item Veto, and enhanced rescission power in order to hold the line on spending while being flexible enough to preserve important government programs.

The causes of our budget woes did not come out of nowhere. They were created by our political representatives and they will be solved by them -- with the help of groups like the Ripon Society making their voice heard for a return to the tried and true Republican

Ripon Forum

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4. Let's move ahead, it's the summer of 1992, and you're preparing your acceptance speech for the Republican National Convention. What points do you wish to establish at that gathering? What is the theme that will compare to your now-famous call for a "kinder, gentler" nation?

Suggested Response: For me to accept the premise of your question, even hypothetically, would be presumptuous. A President has so many opportunities to be presumptuous that it's work just making sure you avoid them! So let me simply say that I am flattered by your question and that regardless of what I am doing in 1992, I will certainly still be striving for a kinder, gentler nation -- and I am sure the Ripon Society will be as well.

5. At a time when the incidence of unplanned pregnancies and abortion is high, and public differences on abortion are divisive, federal spending on contraceptive education and family planning services are lower in real terms than they were 10 years ago. Do you think the government can do more to assist pregnancy prevention? If not, why not?

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**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 08/15/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 p.m. Friday 08/1

SUBJECT: RIPON FORUM'S QUESTIONS WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

	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 type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<del>ROGERS</del>	<del><input type="checkbox"/></del>	<del><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></del>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<del>PINKERTON</del>	<del><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></del>	<del><input type="checkbox"/></del>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:  
 Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston by 2:00 p.m. on Friday, 08/17, with a copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:  
*No Comments -*  
*Thanks*

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

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WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES

30 AUG 15 5:13

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Ripon Forum

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