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Folder Title:
Drop-By for National Italian-American Foundation 10/19/90 [OA 6026]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	16	5	2

**DROP-BY FOR NAT'L ITALIAN-AMER. FOUNDATION
ROOSEVELT ROOM \ OCTOBER 19, 1990 \ 11:00 A.M.**

0 THANK YOU. WELCOME TO THE WHITE HOUSE. I'M GRATEFUL FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THE N.I.A.F., AND PLEASED TO SEE SO MANY DISTINGUISHED ITALIAN-AMERICAN LEADERS FROM AMERICA'S BUSINESS COMMUNITY. AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THE PAST.

- 2 -

0 ONE PRIORITY YOU'VE LONG SUPPORTED IS EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION. EFFORTS LIKE THE NEARLY \$1 MILLION IN N.A.I.F. SCHOLARSHIPS, WHICH, ALONG WITH YOUR INTERNSHIP AND MENTOR PROGRAMS, HAVE ALREADY MADE A DIFFERENCE FOR HUNDREDS OF YOUNG AMERICANS.

0 AND I WANT TO MENTION TWO OTHER AREAS OF INTENSE INTEREST TO ALL AMERICANS: SECURITY AT HOME, AND SECURITY ABROAD.

0 FIRST -- CRIME. 17 MONTHS AGO I STOOD BEFORE THE CAPITOL AND ANNOUNCED OUR PLAN TO "TAKE BACK THE STREETS." THAT HAS NOW PRODUCED A NEW CRIME BILL. SOME IMPROVEMENTS MUST BE WORKED OUT IN CONFERENCE. THE SENATE BILL NEEDS AMENDMENT TO STOP THE ENDLESS ABUSE OF THE APPEALS PROCESS. AND THE HOUSE BILL'S LIKELY EFFECT OF NULLIFYING ALL STATE AND FEDERAL DEATH PENALTIES IS SIMPLY UNACCEPTABLE.

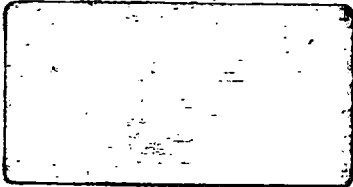
0 THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OVERWHELMINGLY SUPPORT THE DEATH PENALTY, AND ARE FED UP WITH THE USE OF TECHNICALITIES TO BLOCK IT. I WILL NOT SIGN A CRIME BILL THAT TURNS BACK THE CLOCK ON LAW ENFORCEMENT. AND IN THIS EFFORT, TOO, WE'RE CALLING FOR SUPPORT FROM YOU AND THOSE YOU REPRESENT.

0 SECONDLY, IN FACING DOWN AGGRESSION IN THE PERSIAN GULF, WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR THE PATRIOTISM, THE COURAGE AND THE SOLIDARITY OF ITALIAN-AMERICANS -- BOTH THOSE ON DUTY OVERSEAS, AND THOSE, LIKE YOU, LENDING SUPPORT HERE AT HOME.

0 FROM THE TIME IT WAS LAUNCHED IN 1974, THE NATIONAL ITALIAN-AMERICAN FOUNDATION HAS PLAYED A UNIQUE ROLE IN WORKING TO IMPROVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICANS OF ITALIAN DESCENT. THE SUCCESS OF YOUR EFFORTS IS EVIDENT IN THE MANY SUCCESS STORIES REPRESENTED THROUGHOUT THIS ROOM.

0 AND SO I'M HERE TO SALUTE YOU FOR THE IMPORTANT
WORK YOU DO. BY WORKING TODAY FOR ITALIAN-
AMERICANS -- YOU'RE BUILDING A BETTER TOMORROW FOR
ALL AMERICANS. \\\ THANK YOU. AND GOD BLESS THE
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