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Domestic Challenges Facing America 6/12/91 [OA 6034] [1]

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 6/11/91

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, TUES. 6/11/91 3:00

SUBJECT: DRAFT FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING ADDRESS

	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"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" 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 forward your comments directly to David Demarest, 2FL., WW, x7620, no later than 3:00 p.m., TODAY, TUESDAY, JUNE 11, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

See comments. Thank.

Holly Williams

6-11-91

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT D

91 JUN 11 9:57

Thank you, good evening. [CEO, Point of Light, Government Program worker, Disability activist, Governor, etc.] And to the rest of this extraordinary audience, the Cabinet, the fifty Points of Light who have joined us, the leaders of business and industry and all their associations, and all the others who make America the land of opportunity, welcome to the White House.

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. And meet them we did -- each and every one of them. From Panama, to Eastern Europe, to the Persian Gulf, our country has stood strong as a champion of freedom for all.

Need to develop more the accomplishments of the Admin. before launching into Congressional attacks

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems on the home front with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis on the battlefield. I spelled out all my domestic priorities, and then I specifically asked that they pass ~~just two~~ ^{at least two} laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday, and that tells us something profound.

Reference: his specific challenge, "it's a stupor" would bluish their objectives in 100 hours, the best Congress could pass 2 laws in 300 days!!

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why Congress can't pass a highway bill in a hundred days. Most Americans believe fear of crime and violence threatens our most basic freedoms -- denies us opportunity. They also believe we must invest in our future -- provide an infrastructure for those who come after us. So they don't understand the complication,

How about adding a call for Congress nominees -- particularly the 2 or 3 fed. nominees at a time of recession, for example.

the inaction, the bickering -- particularly when they do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods: conviction, compassion, and courage.

a little contradiction we talk about how govt is not the answer & yet say why doesn't Congress pass 2 laws calling for govt. action. Needs a better transition.

I don't say this to overstate Congressional inaction or run down government. Government is not the enemy --in many cases government is part of the solution. Yet, there are still those in Congress who think government alone is the answer. The American people know better. They know it intuitively, almost universally. When we listen, really listen, we understand very clearly what the people are trying to tell us. They are saying that solutions don't begin in Washington.

Tonight, gathered under the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans, representing thousands of others. If you will permit me, I'd like to share some of your successes with the rest of America because you bring to life the genius of the American spirit. Together we can transform America, and create communities everywhere that are whole and good. Tonight I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

Need more transition from Congress leading to "Communities"

A great nation has the courage to be honest about itself. And we are a great nation. I believe that absolutely, as do you. Still, no one can deny that we have enormous challenges. Not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many can't even imagine it.

There are impoverished Americans, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write.

There are Americans gone astray, the kids dragged down by drugs, the shattered families, the teenage mothers struggling to cope. Then there are Americans uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the [dizzying pace of change].

Over these last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of these Americans persist. That cannot continue. I believe it is time for America to re-invent itself. America must think and act anew -- to emerge strong and proud at the dawn of the next American century.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is going to small towns and big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields. Those are the places where you find out what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

What I have found is that the state of our nation is the state of our communities. As our communities flourish, our nation will flourish. So we must seek a nation of whole communities, a nation of good communities -- an America, Whole and Good.

What defines such a community? First it is a one that cares for the needs of its young people by building character -- values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there are jobs at respectable wages, and job training too. Fourth, it's a place with good health care, and a

clean environment -- where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured within its people. Finally, all of its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, these are not just dreams. Thousands of communities like this flourish in America -- communities where people like you and me have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth -- a nation that can do anything. And we can make it even better.

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success -- success shaped with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes --but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. We have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. Every American should take pride in this country's fundamental goodness. Each of us must resolve in our own hearts that for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom in our day once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. As we entered the eighties -- our economy strangling on inflation, interest rates, and unemployment -- America turned away from government.

We

This paragraph is too negative on the free market place.

~~So conventional wisdom then~~ turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of unparalleled economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. *But teenage pregnancy, crack deals and broken homes, kept too many Americans off the road to success and stuck on the boulevard of broken dreams.* ~~But the rising tide could not lift all boats. Our staggering budget deficits have mortgaged our future. Our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. We tried the marketplace, and the marketplace alone didn't solve all our problems.~~

Is the harsh lesson that there must always be those that are left behind? America must have but one answer. The answer is No. There is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly fulfilled. This is the way to build an America Whole and Good.

It requires all three forces of our national life. First, it requires the power of the free market; second, a competent compassionate government; third, the ethic of serving others -- what I call Points of Light. These three powerful forces create the conditions communities that are whole and good -- and it's time we harnessed all of them to transform America.

Power belongs where it will work for the greater good. It belongs in the hands of entrepreneurs, like _____; in the hands of [teacher of the year], in the hands of [point of light].

Let's start with the power of the free market. The entrepreneurs who are with us tonight, _____ know exactly what I'm talking about. What so much of the world can only

covet, we take for granted: food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and at our shopping centers, cutting-edge, quality products of infinite variety. Nothing can beat the free market at generating good jobs at decent wages, in healthy and safe workplaces.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources, creativity, and know-how, to America's ~~our~~ social problems. Many companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners in our Education 2000 strategy. Others are crusaders for environmental protection, while still others are innovators from health care to child care.

too negative

~~But the market can only go so far by itself.~~ To transform America ^{fully,} government needs to be dynamic as well. To be the instrument of the people -- the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- and the embodiment of their vision -- it must truly be a force for good.

I believe in this kind of government -- a government of compassion and competence. And I believe in backing up that commitment with action. Here tonight, for example, is Mrs. _____. She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program called "Head Start." We expanded Head Start by \$____. And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we succeeded. The Americans with Disabilities

the first Clean Air Act passed in a dozen (or more) years

Act has brought a new opportunities to our nation's disabled --
 some of you were right here when I signed it, Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. ^{Romona Younger at the Charles Houston Community Center} ~~in Prospect Gardens project in Missouri~~, ^{the most significant expansion of Civil Rights protection in over a quarter of a century} in Alexandria, where public housing tenants become America's newest homeowners.

Our crime bill will help make America's neighborhoods safe. ^{We have made} And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we will take a dramatic step against the blight of bigotry and discrimination. This is not big government -- this is good government. And it too leads to communities whole and good.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. That is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all -- as the verse of Randy Travis says, "a ray of hope in the darkest nights". Its light can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the combined brilliance from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization in every community can dissolve the darkness.

Whether a company holds an after-hours literacy program for its workers, a police station counsels for tough kids, or third graders phone homebound senior citizens, Points of light tell those in need that their lives matter. When Points of Light

Real progress in the war on drugs through our National Drug Control Strategy.

join with the power of government and the power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm stubborn social problems. This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every person, every business, every school board -- our associations, our clubs, our churches -- we all have the duty to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Think of the opportunity before us -- to re-invent America. Congress too must now understand the successes and failures of the past -- and help us forge the strongest future this world can imagine.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. I look out and see so much reflected in your faces -- the strength, the conviction, the commitment. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to inspire a greater good. I know, because you've brought me into your homes and your neighborhoods, your schools and your churches.

Last year I walked through reclaimed blocks in Kansas City with a group of men called Mad Dads. I learned more about how our nation fights crime in two hours than in two months of TV news.

In _____, I visited D.C. General Hospital, and held a tiny boarder baby in my arms, the child of a cocaine addict. The remarkable dedication of the women who rescued these babies was just as moving. America needs to hear that story, too.

Just a few months ago, I dropped in on a little West Virginia school in a town called Slanesville. The National Teacher of the Year teaches remedial reading there. Her name is

Rae Ellen McKee. Visiting her gave me the opportunity to say to the nation, thank God for our teachers. [I'm proud she's here tonight.]

Just yesterday I spoke before the graduating class of the James H. Groves Adult High School of Sussex County, Delaware. I went there to honor those who had the courage to go back to school and get their diploma. They honored me by saying to America, we must be a nation dedicated to lifelong learning.

These are the Americans who love this country for what it is and for what it can become. These are the Americans who make this a nation of boldness -- filled with problem solvers -- gifted with the American tradition of living up to our ideals. These are the Americans who prove that no one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

This is the genius of America -- ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things.

This is the genius we must carry forward. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you will. I know you have. Through you, your country can become an America Whole and Good. For that your country is grateful, and for that your country will endure.

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
01. Memo	Richard W. Porter to Ede Holiday, re: Wednesday Evening Domestic Policy Event. (2 pp.)	06/11/91	P-5	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File, Drafts
Subseries:
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: Domestic Challenges Facing America 6/12/91 [1]

**Open on Expiration of PRA
(Document Follows)**

By DL (NLGB) on 4/5/2005

Date Closed: 9/21/2004	OA/ID Number: 06034
FOIA/SYS Case #:	
Re-review Case #: 2004-2249-S	
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:	
MR Case #:	Appeal Case #:
MR Disposition:	Appeal Disposition:
Disposition Date:	Disposition Date:

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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- (b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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- (b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
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- (b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

June 11, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR EDE HOLIDAY

FROM:

RICHARD W. PORTER



SUBJECT:

Wednesday Evening Domestic Policy Event

This speech has been billed as a follow up on the "100 days" challenge to Congress to act on certain bills. The speech is not intended to be solely critical of Congress -- it is also meant to highlight the positive story we have about Domestic Policy. We have ideas and proposals to help Americans deal with most, if not all, of the pressing domestic problems.

Unfortunately, the speech does not accomplish this end. It does not answer the question: "What exactly does the President want Congress to do?" Instead the focus of the speech is the need to construct an America "whole and good." What does that mean? What is the government's role in this? The speech asserts that government can't do everything, but that "properly defined" (p.5) government is important. But what is the definition of a properly defined government? The speech never says -- yet that is the question everyone will be looking to the President to answer.

This problem could be easily solved by going back to a number of the domestic policy speeches the President has made in the past. Spell out our approach to education, which has a clearly defined Federal role. Reiterate our "all fronts" approach to the drug problem. Emphasize the success of our initiatives to give those on welfare more control over their lives through tenant management and ownership and school choice. Remind the audience about the investments we are asking Congress to make in disease prevention and infant health. Challenge Congress to pass a medical malpractice bill that will make it affordable for Ob/Gyns to deliver babies in the inner city again. Outline the creative approach we are taking to improving infant health through the targeted Healthy Start proposal. Don't forget our National Energy Strategy, banking plan or enterprise zones. How about term limits for Congress -- or at least limits on their burgeoning staff? How much has the staff budget grown and how much less do they have to show for it?

The point is that there are any number of specific proposals we have made that Congress has failed to act upon, not just Crime and Transportation. Why not take the approach that, gee, we only demanded two bills out of these many possibilities and they couldn't even deliver on that. Instead, the Congress plays

harmful political games with bad ideas, like quotas and pseudo-campaign finance reform. Congress is like Orwell's Animal Farm: they talk a grand game, but they are only interested in finding ways to either feather their own nest, or those of their beltway compatriots. (call the bill a civil rights bill, even though it is the opposite; call it campaign reform, even though it protects incumbents.

Further, the speech is filled with internal inconsistencies. Markets are not the only answer, but then we celebrate the market (I strongly oppose having the President criticize markets or talk about mortgaging the future due to government debt -- built up since we've controlled the White House). Education is a problem, but we are the most educated nation on earth. Government can help, but leave it to communities. It sounds like the ultimate political speech. We are both for and against everything -- and thus seem to stand for nothing.

If this is our grand domestic statement of the season, let's leave a clear message. What do we want and when do we want it? How is it different from what Congress (read Democrats) would do? Set out the positive message and contrast the Democratic approach. In my mind, this is the approach we should come back to again and again over the next two years. What better time to start than a rally on the South Lawn?

DRAFT (6/6 a.m.)
SOUTH LAWN ADDRESS

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

Ninety-eight days ago, in an address to a Joint Session of the Congress, I asked the members of that body to join me in tackling the pressing problems in our own backyard with the same energy and sense of purpose we showed in liberating Kuwait. I asked the members to pass just two bills in one hundred days, a comprehensive anti-crime bill and a transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday.

Rather than bickering with Congress tonight about legislation, I want to talk about America's future on a more profound level.

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. And we met them - each and every one of them. From the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe to the liberation of Panama and Kuwait, our country has stood as a champion of freedom.

Each challenge has revealed the promise of America. As the world watched the principles and will of America meet each challenge, our sense of patriotism has been reborn.

Tonight, the world looks more confidently to its future because of its confidence in America. And tonight America should look

confidently to its own future because of who we are.

We are a nation of thousands of healthy communities all across our country. That means millions upon millions of Americans are living the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. We should all be very proud of that. America is the most prosperous, educated, enlightened and compassionate nation on earth. We are the envy of the world and rightly so.

But a great nation has the courage to be self-critical. And we are a great nation. No one can deny that we have enormous problems. Not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many Americans can't even imagine it.

There is an impoverished America, the poor and the hopeless, the hungry and the homeless. There is the America gone astray, the kids on drugs, the broken families, the teenage mothers, those unable to read and write. Over the last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of those Americans have grown. That cannot continue. ~~We've simply got to do something about it.~~ *How do we do something about the*

AMERICA THAT IS DYSFUNCTIONAL?

We seek a nation of communities whole and good. What does this mean? First, it is a community that cares for the needs of its

I SEE 5 ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS.

2

children and where young people develop good character, values and habits for life. Second, it has excellent schools and encourages lifelong learning. Third, there are many good-paying jobs that are easy to get to and the training you need to fill them. Fourth, it is a place with good health care, a clean environment and a sense of wellbeing. Finally, people live in decent homes and safe neighborhoods. It is this nation of communities whole and good that we seek for our time ~~and all-time~~.

*FOR OUR CHILDREN'S TIME,
FOR OUR GRANDCHILDREN'S TIME. THIS IS AMERICA
REINVENTING ITSELF - AN AMERICA TRANSFORMED.*

B.I.I. How are we to achieve such a nation? We have been wrong in the past by thinking that we could get there by one road alone.

Conventional wisdom once held that solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and the brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government. Compassion was measured in dollars and cents. But our

~~problems are still with us.~~ *A PRICE TAG FOR PROGRESS. WRONG. GOVERNMENT BY ITSELF DOESN'T SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS. LOOK AT THE PAST 100 DAYS.*

~~Then another road was tried.~~ *ANOTHER CONVENTIONAL WISDOM WAS THAT* Other people thought that economic success for the many would lead to better lives for all. The 1980's was a decade of unparalleled economic growth, a decade that created twenty million new jobs. But the rising tide could not lift all boats. Twenty million new jobs later, our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. *THE MARKET PLACE BY ITSELF*

DOESN'T SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS.

~~America has to ask itself, will there always be those that are left~~

behind? America must answer unequivocally. The answer simply must ~~be no~~

I grew up blessed with a loving family, a host of friends and a lot of breaks. I grew up believing that the American Dream was literally around every corner -- it was a family, a career and a chance to make the world a better place. I believed that all you had to do to succeed was to have faith in God, treasure your family and friends, believe in yourself, work hard and treat everyone with respect. I still try to follow those principles each day. But now, having ~~lived a lot and seen a lot~~ ^{EXPERIENCED A LOT}, I think that there's a little more to the American Dream and a lot more to ~~achieving it~~ ^{TRANSFORMING}.

Let's discuss

~~THIS IS WHY I'VE INVITED YOU HERE TONIGHT. (DESCRIBE THE MAKE UP OF THE AUDIENCE.)~~

It is not as simple as I thought. But it is really not complicated either. To build communities that are whole and good all across America requires harnessing ^{TOGETHER} the major forces of national life, and there are three. First is the free market. Second is the government. And third is the ethic of community service, what I have called Points of Light.

FACTS WHOLES

~~Let's start with the free market.~~ ^{See} ~~The entrepreneurs who are with us tonight,~~ ~~_____~~, know exactly what I'm talking about.

Back Reform

What so much of the rest of the world only covets, we take for granted - abundant food on the shelves of our markets, cutting edge products of infinite variety and first-rate quality. Nothing

has proved better than the free market at generating in communities across this great land good jobs at decent wages, with workplaces that are safe and healthy.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources and know-how, its creativity and sense of purpose, to many of our social problems, to making every community whole and good. Numerous companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workforce are today's students, are competing against the education establishment by radically restructuring schools in the communities they serve. Some are even starting their own schools. The notion of choice, which consumers of most products and services here take for granted, has been introduced into the field of education. And the number of companies that are environmentally conscious, that provide health insurance and child care and housing for their workers is already great and growing every day. But the market can go only so far.

What role can government play in making communities whole and good? Government guarantees our rights and enforces our liberties. It creates incentives and serves as a safety net for those in material need.

But government that is compassionate and competent can do even more. Here today, for example, is Mrs. _____ . She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program called "Head Start". Our child care bill will help make child care

opportunities available to those the market has not yet reached. Our HOPE initiative will make tenants in dilapidated housing projects into homeowners bursting with pride and dignity. Our crime bill will help to make neighborhoods safe. Our enterprise zone proposal will stimulate the creation of jobs and the accumulation of wealth in the inner city. Our proposals to reform the welfare system will make it easier for the truly needy to obtain services, while making those who can be self-sufficient.

But for America to be a nation of communities whole and good, to the forces of the free market and the government must be added the ethic of voluntary service, what I call Points of Light.

The real reason so many communities are in trouble can be summed up in one word, "relationships". The caring and nurturing relationships that I and millions of other Americans have taken for granted all our lives simply don't exist for too many of our citizens.

I have always been able to count on a vast web of family members, friends, neighbors, teachers, coaches, ministers and colleagues when I needed encouragement or support, a role model or mentor, or simply a friend.

For the 15 year old selling crack, the role model is the neighborhood drug dealer. For the 45-year old who can't read and write, there is no teacher. For the hungry child, there is no

Less
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mother. For the homeless man or woman, there is no friend.

Points of Light calls on every American, either on your own or with those you work with, study with, worship with or spend your free time, to be of direct and consequential service to those in need, to be a role model to the teen who might otherwise become a crack dealer. Or the teacher for the 45 year old who can't read or write. The mother for the hungry child, the friend for the man or woman with no place to sleep.

No one of us can solve big problems like these by ourselves. That is why every American community, to become whole and good, needs a galaxy of light. The collective power of light in every school, every business, place of worship, club, group and organization in every community can literally overwhelm social problems, so that wherever someone in need turns there is someone willing and even eager to help.

Whether it's company's after-hours literacy program for its workers, or a law firm's mentoring program, a police station's counseling program for tough kids, third graders who telephone homebound senior citizens or concerned neighbor residents providing basketball games and other recreational activities to give youngsters something positive to do with their time, Points of Light are giving those in need a sense that someone cares, that they matter, that they belong.

What the millions of Americans who live in darkness need most is not a program, but a web of family-like relationships that impart values, habits, skills and the self-confidence that results in the conviction that one's future is not limited by present circumstances. And until we find a way to share the light in each of us with those living in darkness, our communities will not be made whole and good, and our lives will not be meaningful and fulfilled.

Thank you. God bless you and God bless the United States of America.

Then we need to tie these all together

TONIGHT I CHALLENGE YOU TO WORK WITH US TO TRANSFORM AMERICA. GOVERNMENT, PROPERLY DEMANDS, THE MARKETPLACE, PROPERLY UNDERSTOOD AND SERVICE TO OTHERS - POINTS OF LIGHT - PROPERLY ADMINISTERED. ARE AS I CAN SEE IN FRONT OF ME TONIGHT THE BEST HOPE FOR OUR FUTURE.

Full Effect

*LET US BEGIN ANEW. AS T.S. ELIOT WROTE
"WE SHALL NOT CEASE FROM EXPLORATION
AND THE END OF ALL OUR EXPLORING
WILL BE TO ARRIVE WHERE WE STARTED
AND KNOW THE PLACE FOR THE FIRST TIME."*

SOUTH LAWN ADDRESS
DRAFT F
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1991

THANK YOU, GOOD EVENING. MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, HONORED GUESTS. DR. BENJAMIN PAYTON OF TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE WHO BRINGS A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO OUR HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES, WELCOME. GOVERNOR CAMPBELL, GOVERNOR CASTLE. DREW BATAVIA, WINNER OF THE 1988 DISTINGUISHED DISABLED AMERICAN AWARD, WELCOME TO YOU, SIR. TO ROBERT EGGER, FOUNDER OF THE D.C. CENTRAL KITCHEN, AND THE SIXTY OTHER POINTS OF LIGHT WHO ARE HERE TONIGHT, YOUR WORK INSPIRES THE NATION. MAYOR HACKETT OF MEMPHIS, MAYOR MYRIC OF CHARLOTTE, COUNTY COMMISSIONER KLINGER, GOOD TO SEE YOU ALL AGAIN. I SAW PAUL O'NEILL, CHAIRMAN OF ALCOA, A DEDICATED ADVOCATE FOR A EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE. AND TO THE REST OF THIS EXTRAORDINARY GATHERING -- LEADERS OF BUSINESSES, VETERANS GROUPS, ASSOCIATIONS, VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS, EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS, AND ALL THOSE WHO MAKE AMERICA THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY, WELCOME TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

[I MIGHT ADD THAT ALSO WITH US IS ANTHONY HENDERSON, A YOUNGSTER FROM BARCROFT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA. YOU MAY RECALL THAT WHEN I VISITED HIS CLASS, ANTHONY'S THE ONE WHO ASKED ME TO PROVE I WAS THE PRESIDENT. I HAD TO SHOW HIM MY DRIVERS LICENSE AND CREDIT CARD. ANTHONY, NOW DO YOU BELIEVE ME?]

OVER THE PAST THIRTY MONTHS, THE WORLD HAS CHANGED AT A DRAMATIC PACE. AMERICA HAS BEEN CALLED UPON TO MEET ONE CHALLENGE AFTER ANOTHER. AND MEET THEM WE DID -- EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM. FROM EASTERN EUROPE, TO PANAMA, TO THE PERSIAN GULF, OUR COUNTRY STANDS STRONG AS A CHAMPION OF FREEDOM.

NINETY-EIGHT DAYS AGO, I ASKED CONGRESS TO TACKLE THE URGENT PROBLEMS ON THE HOME FRONT WITH THE SAME ENERGY WE DEDICATED TO TACKLING THE CRISIS ON THE BATTLEFRONT. I SPELLED OUT MY DOMESTIC PRIORITIES -- SETTING OUT AN AMBITIOUS AGENDA FOUNDED UPON ENHANCING ECONOMIC GROWTH, INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE, AND INCREASING OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL AMERICANS. I SENT TO THE CONGRESS LITERALLY HUNDREDS OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE CHANGE. THEN I SPECIFICALLY ASKED THAT CONGRESS PASS JUST TWO LAWS IN A HUNDRED DAYS -- A COMPREHENSIVE ANTI-CRIME BILL, AND A TRANSPORTATION BILL.

I THOUGHT A HUNDRED DAYS WAS PRETTY REASONABLE.
[I WASN'T ASKING THE CONGRESS TO DELIVER A HOT PIZZA
IN LESS THAN THIRTY MINUTES. (THAT WOULD BE TRULY
REVOLUTIONARY) I ONLY ASKED FOR TWO PIECES OF
LEGISLATION IN A HUNDRED DAYS.] IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT
NEITHER WILL BE ON MY DESK BY FRIDAY. I AM
DISAPPOINTED -- BUT FRANKLY I'M NOT SURPRISED. TONIGHT
I WOULD LIKE TO PUT THIS ALL IN SOME PERSPECTIVE. I
HAVEN'T ASKED YOU HERE TO SIT THROUGH A LITANY OF
PROGRAMS AND POLICIES. RATHER I'D LIKE TO DO SOMETHING
DIFFERENT, AND DESCRIBE TO YOU HOW I PERSONALLY SEE THE
SHARED STRENGTH AND PROMISE OF AMERICA.

IT IS HARD FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND WHY A BILL TO FIGHT CRIME CANNOT BE ENACTED IN A HUNDRED DAYS; OR WHY CONGRESS CAN'T PASS A HIGHWAY BILL IN A HUNDRED DAYS. MOST AMERICANS BELIEVE FEAR OF CRIME AND VIOLENCE THREATENS OUR MOST BASIC FREEDOMS -- DENIES US OPPORTUNITY. THEY ALSO BELIEVE WE MUST INVEST IN OUR FUTURE -- PROVIDE AN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THOSE WHO COME AFTER US. SO THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE COMPLICATIONS, THE INACTION, THE BICKERING -- PARTICULARLY WHEN SO MANY DO UNDERSTAND WHAT IT TAKES TO SOLVE PROBLEMS IN THEIR OWN NEIGHBORHOODS: COMMITMENT, COMPASSION, AND COURAGE.

I CANNOT FULLY EXPLAIN THIS INACTION TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. AS I SAID, I'M DISAPPOINTED, BUT NOT SURPRISED. BUT I CAN SAY THIS AS PARTIAL CONSOLATION: AMERICA'S PROBLEM-SOLVING DOES NOT BEGIN OR END WITH THE CONGRESS.

YES, IT WOULD HELP IF CONGRESS WOULD DO WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE ASKING OF THEM. I'LL KEEP WORKING WITH THE CONGRESS -- MY HAND REMAINS EXTENDED -- I'LL KEEP BRINGING THEM ALONG. BUT WE CANNOT LET CONGRESS DISCOURAGE OR DETER US FROM MEETING OUR RESPONSIBILITIES.

I BELIEVE THE PEOPLE GATHERED HERE TONIGHT, UNDER THE TWILIGHT SHADOW OF WASHINGTON'S MONUMENT, UNDERSTAND THIS BETTER THAN MOST. YOU ARE EXTRAORDINARY AMERICANS, REPRESENTING THOUSANDS OF OTHERS. YOU BRING TO LIFE THE GENIUS OF THE AMERICAN SPIRIT, AND IT IS THROUGH YOU AND WITH YOU THAT WE CAN SOLVE OUR MOST PRESSING PROBLEMS. TOGETHER WE CAN TRANSFORM AMERICA, AND CREATE WHOLE AND GOOD COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE. TONIGHT, I AM ASKING ALL AMERICANS TO LEAD THE WAY.

A GREAT NATION HAS THE COURAGE TO BE HONEST ABOUT ITSELF. AND WE ARE A GREAT NATION. I BELIEVE THAT ABSOLUTELY, AS DO YOU. WE ARE INDISPUTABLY THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL FORCE FOR FREEDOM AND ECONOMIC GROWTH. STILL, NO ONE CAN DENY THAT WE HAVE ENORMOUS CHALLENGES. NOT ALL AMERICANS ARE LIVING THE AMERICAN DREAM. MANY CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE IT.

THERE ARE IMPOVERISHED AMERICANS, THE POOR AND THE HOMELESS, THE HUNGRY AND THE HOPELESS, MANY UNABLE TO READ AND WRITE. THERE ARE AMERICANS GONE ASTRAY, THE KIDS DRAGGED DOWN BY DRUGS, THE SHATTERED FAMILIES, THE TEENAGE MOTHERS STRUGGLING TO COPE. THEN THERE ARE AMERICANS UNEASY, TROUBLED AND BEWILDERED BY THE DIZZYING PACE OF CHANGE.

FOR MANY YEARS I HAVE CRISSCROSSED THIS NATION. AS PRESIDENT, PART OF MY JOB -- AN EXCITING PART -- IS GOING TO SMALL TOWNS AND BIG CITIES, SCHOOLS, NEIGHBORHOODS AND FACTORIES -- THOSE ARE THE PLACES WHERE YOU DISCOVER WHAT'S GOOD AND RIGHT ABOUT OUR COUNTRY -- AND WHAT'S GOING WRONG, TOO.

THE STATE OF OUR NATION IS THE STATE OF OUR COMMUNITIES. AS OUR COMMUNITIES FLOURISH, OUR NATION WILL FLOURISH. SO WE MUST SEEK A NATION OF WHOLE COMMUNITIES, A NATION OF GOOD COMMUNITIES -- AN AMERICA, WHOLE AND GOOD.

WHAT DEFINES SUCH A COMMUNITY? FIRST, IT IS ONE THAT CARES FOR THE NEEDS OF ITS YOUNG PEOPLE BY BUILDING CHARACTER -- VALUES AND GOOD HABITS FOR LIFE. SECOND, IT'S A COMMUNITY THAT PROVIDES EXCELLENT SCHOOLS -- SCHOOLS THAT SPARK A LIFELONG INTEREST IN LEARNING. NEXT, THERE IS OPPORTUNITY AND HOPE -- ROOTED IN THE DIGNITY OF WORK, AND REWARD FOR ACHIEVEMENT. FOURTH, IT'S WHERE PEOPLE CARE ABOUT THEIR HEALTH AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT -- AND WHERE A SENSE OF WELL-BEING AND BELONGING IS NURTURED. FINALLY, ALL OF ITS NEIGHBORHOODS ARE DECENT AND SAFE.

BECAUSE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS HAVE CHOSEN TO LEAD THE WAY, THESE ARE NOT JUST DREAMS. THOUSANDS OF WHOLE AND GOOD COMMUNITIES ALREADY FLOURISH IN AMERICA -- COMMUNITIES WHERE ORDINARY PEOPLE HAVE ACHIEVED THE AMERICAN DREAM. WE SHOULD NEVER LOSE SIGHT OF THAT. AMERICA IS THE MOST PROSPEROUS AND PRODUCTIVE, EDUCATED AND ENLIGHTENED NATION ON EARTH -- A NATION THAT CAN DO ANYTHING. AND WE CAN DO EVEN BETTER.

WE SHOULD BE CONFIDENT ABOUT WHAT LIES AHEAD. AMERICA HAS A TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS -- SUCCESS SHAPED WITH OUR OWN HANDS. SOMETIMES, IN OUR IMPATIENCE, WE'VE MADE MISTAKES -- BUT WHEN WE DO, WE DUST OURSELVES OFF, AND GO AT IT AGAIN. EVERY AMERICAN SHOULD TAKE PRIDE IN THIS COUNTRY'S FUNDAMENTAL GOODNESS. EACH OF US MUST RESOLVE IN OUR OWN HEARTS THAT FOR ALL THE GOOD WE'VE DONE, IT'S TIME TO DO BETTER, MUCH, MUCH BETTER.

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM IN OUR DAY ONCE HELD THAT ALL SOLUTIONS WERE IN THE HANDS OF GOVERNMENT: CALL IN THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST AND HAND OVER THE KEYS TO THE NATIONAL TREASURY. BIGGER GOVERNMENT WAS BETTER GOVERNMENT: COMPASSION MEASURED IN DOLLARS AND CENTS; PROGRESS BY PRICE TAG. WE TRIED THAT COURSE. AS WE ENDED THE SEVENTIES -- OUR ECONOMY STRANGLING ON INFLATION, SOARING INTEREST RATES, AND UNEMPLOYMENT -- AMERICA TURNED AWAY FROM GOVERNMENT AS "THE ANSWER".

SO CONVENTIONAL WISDOM THEN TURNED TO THE GENIUS OF THE FREE MARKET. WE BEGAN A DECADE OF EXCEPTIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH -- AND CREATED TWENTY MILLION NEW JOBS. YET, MANY OF OUR STREETS ARE STILL NOT SAFE, OUR SCHOOLS HAVE LOST THEIR EDGE, AND MILLIONS STILL TRUDGE THE PATH OF POVERTY. THERE IS MORE TO BE DONE; AND THE MARKETPLACE ALONE CAN'T SOLVE ALL OUR PROBLEMS.

IS THE HARSH LESSON THAT THERE MUST ALWAYS BE THOSE WHO ARE LEFT BEHIND? AMERICA MUST HAVE BUT ONE ANSWER. THE ANSWER IS NO. THERE IS A BETTER WAY, ONE THAT COMBINES OUR EFFORTS -- THOSE OF A GOVERNMENT PROPERLY DEFINED, THE MARKETPLACE PROPERLY UNDERSTOOD, AND SERVICE TO OTHERS PROPERLY ENGAGED. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO AN AMERICA WHOLE AND GOOD.

IT REQUIRES ALL THREE FORCES OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE. FIRST, IT REQUIRES THE POWER OF THE FREE MARKET; SECOND, A COMPETENT, COMPASSIONATE GOVERNMENT; THIRD, THE ETHIC OF SERVING OTHERS -- INCLUDING WHAT I CALL POINTS OF LIGHT. THESE THREE POWERFUL FORCES CREATE THE CONDITIONS FOR COMMUNITIES TO BE WHOLE AND GOOD -- AND IT'S TIME WE HARNESSSED ALL THREE OF THEM.

IN OUR COMPLEX DEMOCRACY, POWER IS FRAGMENTED. THAT CAN BE FRUSTRATING. BUT ON BALANCE IT'S FOR THE GOOD. AND POWER TENDS TO MOVE TOWARD THOSE WHO SERVE THE GREATER GOOD: ENTREPRENEURS, LIKE JOHN BRYANT, A YOUNG SELF-STARTER WHO HAS BUILT A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR ENTERPRISE AND NOW HELPS REBUILD INNER CITY LOS ANGELES; CARING INDIVIDUALS LIKE MACK STOLARSKI, A RETIRED CARPENTER WHO NOW HELPS HIS STUDENT APPRENTICES REPAIR HOMES FOR THE POOR AND DISABLED.

AND BECAUSE OF THE POWER OF THE FREE MARKET, WHAT SO MUCH OF THE WORLD CAN ONLY IMAGINE, WE TAKE FOR GRANTED: ABUNDANT FOOD ON THE SHELVES OF OUR SUPERMARKETS, AND QUALITY PRODUCTS AT OUR SHOPPING CENTERS. NOTHING BEATS THE FREE MARKET AT GENERATING JOBS, INCOME, WEALTH, AND A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE.

THE GOOD NEWS IN COMMUNITIES IS THAT THE FREE MARKET IS NOW APPLYING ITS RESOURCES AND KNOW-HOW TO OUR SOCIAL PROBLEMS. MANY COMPANIES, RECOGNIZING THAT TOMORROW'S WORKERS ARE TODAY'S STUDENTS, ARE LEADERS OF A REVOLUTION IN AMERICAN EDUCATION -- PARTNERS IN OUR EXCITING AMERICA 2000 STRATEGY. OTHERS ARE CRUSADERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, WHILE STILL OTHERS ARE INNOVATORS FROM HEALTH CARE TO CHILD CARE.

TRANSFORMING AMERICA REQUIRES NOT ONLY THE POWER OF THE FREE MARKET, BUT ALSO A DYNAMIC GOVERNMENT. TO BE THE ENLIGHTENED INSTRUMENT OF THE PEOPLE -- THE GOVERNMENT OF JEFFERSON AND LINCOLN AND ROOSEVELT -- AND THE EMBODIMENT OF THEIR VISION -- IT MUST TRULY BE A FORCE FOR GOOD.

I BELIEVE IN THIS KIND OF GOVERNMENT -- A
GOVERNMENT OF COMPASSION AND COMPETENCE. AND I BELIEVE
IN BACKING IT UP WITH ACTION. HERE TONIGHT, FOR
EXAMPLE, IS MRS. LAUREN FLOYD, ONE OF THE FIRST HEAD
START GRADUATES. NOW, SHE TEACHES PRESCHOOLERS IN THAT
SAME MARVELOUS PROGRAM. HER SUCCESS IS WHY WE EXPANDED
HEAD START BY ALMOST THREE QUARTERS OF A BILLION
DOLLARS. AND LAST YEAR I SIGNED OUR CHILD CARE BILL TO
EXPAND PARENTS' CHOICES IN CARING FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

WE FOUGHT FOR A CLEAN AIR ACT THAT PUTS THE FREE
MARKET IN THE SERVICE OF THE ENVIRONMENT -- AND WE WON.
THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT -- THE MOST
IMPORTANT CIVIL RIGHTS BILL IN DECADES -- HAS BROUGHT
NEW DIGNITY AND OPPORTUNITY TO OUR NATION'S DISABLED
-- DISABILITY LEADERS LIKE JUSTIN DART AND EVAN KEMP
WERE RIGHT HERE WHEN I SIGNED IT. I SEE THEY ARE HERE
TONIGHT.

JACK KEMP AND I STOOD WITH RAMONA YOUNGER IN CHARLES HOUSTON COMMUNITY CENTER IN ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA -- IF THE CONGRESS ENACTS OUR H.O.P.E. INITIATIVE, THESE PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS CAN BECOME AMERICA'S NEWEST HOMEOWNERS. DEWEY STOKES HERE, PRESIDENT OF THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, WANTS TO HELP MAKE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SAFER -- THAT'S WHY HE SUPPORTS OUR CRIME BILL. AND IF WE GET A CIVIL RIGHTS BILL LIKE THE ONE I SENT TO THE CONGRESS, WE WILL TAKE AN IMPORTANT STEP AGAINST DISCRIMINATION IN THE WORKPLACE.

THIS IS NOT BIG GOVERNMENT -- THIS IS GOOD GOVERNMENT.

FINALLY, ALONG WITH THE FORCES OF THE FREE MARKET AND THE GOVERNMENT WE MUST ADD THE ETHIC OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE -- POINTS OF LIGHT. THAT IS NOT A PHRASE ABOUT CHARITY. IT IS ABOUT THE LIGHT THAT IS WITHIN US ALL. A LIGHT THAT BRIGHTENS THE LIVES OF OTHERS -- AND MAKES WHOLE THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO SHINE IT.

POINTS OF LIGHT IS A CALL TO EVERY AMERICAN TO SERVE ANOTHER IN NEED. BUT NO ONE OF US CAN SOLVE BIG PROBLEMS LIKE POVERTY OR DRUG ABUSE BY OURSELVES. ONLY THE COMBINED LIGHT FROM EVERY SCHOOL, EVERY BUSINESS, PLACE OF WORSHIP, CLUB, GROUP, AND ORGANIZATION IN EVERY COMMUNITY CAN DISSOLVE THE DARKNESS.

WHETHER A COMPANY HOLDS AN AFTER-HOURS LITERACY PROGRAM FOR ITS WORKERS, A POLICE STATION COUNSELS TOUGH KIDS, OR THIRD GRADERS PHONE LONELY HOMEBOUND SENIOR CITIZENS, POINTS OF LIGHT SHOW THOSE IN NEED THAT THEIR LIVES MATTER.

GOVERNMENT, AND THE MARKET, JOINED WITH POINTS OF LIGHT, WILL OVERWHELM OUR SOCIAL PROBLEMS. THIS IS HOW WE MUST GUARANTEE THE NEXT AMERICAN CENTURY. EVERY PERSON, EVERY BUSINESS, EVERY SCHOOL BOARD -- OUR ASSOCIATIONS, OUR CLUBS, OUR PLACES OF WORSHIP -- WE ALL HAVE THE DUTY TO LEAD.

ONLY THEN, CAN WE TRULY THINK AND ACT ANEW. NOW CONGRESS, TOO, MUST UNDERSTAND THE SUCCESSES AND FAILURES OF THE PAST -- AND HELP US FORGE A CERTAIN FUTURE FOR AMERICA.

THE PEOPLE GATHERED HERE TONIGHT REPRESENT THOSE WHO REFUSE TO REST EASY. I LOOK OUT AND SEE SO MUCH REFLECTED IN YOUR FACES -- THE STRENGTH, THE CONVICTION, THE COMMITMENT. YOU REPRESENT THOSE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WHO USE POWER TO ACHIEVE A GREATER GOOD. I KNOW, BECAUSE YOU'VE BROUGHT ME INTO YOUR HOMES AND YOUR NEIGHBORHOODS, YOUR SCHOOLS AND YOUR CHURCHES.

LAST YEAR I WALKED THROUGH A RECLAIMED CRACK HOUSE IN KANSAS CITY WITH AL BROOKS, THE LEADER OF AN ANTI-CRIME COALITION. I LEARNED MORE ABOUT HOW WE CAN FIGHT CRIME IN TWO HOURS THAN IN TWO MONTHS OF TV NEWS.

ANOTHER DAY I VISITED D.C. GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND HELD A TINY BOARDER BABY IN MY ARMS, THE CHILD OF A COCAINE ADDICT. THE REMARKABLE DEDICATION OF THE WOMEN WHO RESCUED THESE BABIES WAS JUST AS MOVING. AMERICA NEEDS TO HEAR THAT STORY, TOO.

JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO, I DROPPED IN ON A LITTLE WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL IN A TOWN CALLED SLANESVILLE. THE NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR TEACHES REMEDIAL READING THERE. HER NAME IS RAE ELLEN MCKEE AND SHE'S HERE TONIGHT. VISITING HER GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY TO THE NATION, "THANK GOD FOR OUR TEACHERS".

JUST YESTERDAY I SPOKE BEFORE THE GRADUATING CLASS OF THE JAMES H. GROVES ADULT HIGH SCHOOL IN SUSSEX COUNTY, DELAWARE. I INVITED THE CLASS TO JOIN US TONIGHT. I WENT THERE WITH GOVERNOR CASTLE TO HONOR THESE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAD THE COURAGE TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL AND GET THEIR DIPLOMAS. THEY HONORED US BY TELLING AMERICA TO BE A NATION DEDICATED TO LIFELONG LEARNING.

THESE ARE THE AMERICANS WHO LOVE THIS COUNTRY FOR WHAT IT IS AND FOR WHAT IT CAN BECOME. THESE ARE THE AMERICANS WHO MAKE THIS A NATION OF BOLDNESS -- FILLED WITH PROBLEM SOLVERS -- GIFTED WITH THE AMERICAN TRADITION OF LIVING UP TO OUR IDEALS. THESE ARE THE AMERICANS WHO PROVE THAT NO ONE IN AMERICA IS WITHOUT A GIFT TO GIVE, A SKILL TO SHARE, A HAND TO OFFER.

THIS IS THE GENIUS OF AMERICA -- ORDINARY AMERICANS DOING EXTRAORDINARY THINGS.

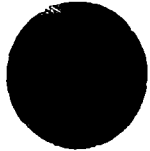
THE CONGRESS CAN REFER OUR PROPOSALS TO ITS HUNDREDS OF COMMITTEES, TIE ITSELF UP WITH DEBATE, AND PRODUCE COMPLICATED, EXPENSIVE UNWORKABLE LEGISLATION. BUT IN THE END WE MUST CARRY FORWARD THE MAGIC OF AMERICA. WE MUST CARRY FORWARD WHAT IS GOOD, AND REACH OUT AND EMBRACE WHAT IS BEST. WE MUST DO THE HARD WORK OF FREEDOM. I KNOW YOU HAVE. I KNOW YOU WILL. THROUGH YOU, OUR COUNTRY CAN BECOME AN AMERICA WHOLE AND GOOD. FOR THAT OUR COUNTRY IS GRATEFUL, AND BECAUSE OF THAT OUR COUNTRY WILL PREVAIL.

#

CLOSE HOLD

Document No. 244833SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 6/10/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/11/91 10:00 AM

SUBJECT: DRAFT FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING ADDRESS

	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"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>BOSKIN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" 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 forward any comments directly to David Demarest, 2Fl., WW, x7620, no later than 10:00 AM; Tuesday, June 11, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT B

Thank you, good evening. Rae Ellen McKee, our National
Teacher of the Year, welcome. Mrs. [Jones] Head Start graduate
and now Head Start Program Chair, welcome. [John Smith] CEO of
the ABC Corporation, welcome to you, sir. And to the rest of
this extraordinary audience -- the governors, [I see Delaware's
Mike Castle], the Cabinet, the fifty Points of Light who have
joined us, the leaders of business and industry and all their
associations, and all the others who make America the land of
opportunity, welcome to the South Lawn of the White House.

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a
dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one
challenge after another. And we met them -- each and every one
of them. From Panama, to Eastern Europe, to ^{The Persian Gulf} Kuwait, our country
has stood as a champion of freedom.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent
problems in our own backyard with the same energy we dedicated to
tackling the crisis in the Gulf. Though I spelled out all my
domestic priorities, I specifically asked that they pass just two
laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a
transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday, and
that tells us something profound.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill
to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why a
highway bill can't pass in a hundred days. They don't understand
the complication, the inaction, the bickering -- particularly

when they do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods.

I don't mention this to bash the Congress. I don't mention this to run down government. Government is not the enemy -- in many cases government is part of the solution. Yet, there are still those in Congress who think government is the only solution. The American people know better. Almost universally, intuitively, they know that solutions don't begin in Washington D.C. When we politicians listen to the people, we understand very clearly what the people are trying to tell us.

~~Tonight gathered here in the twilight shadow of~~
 INSERT I ~~extraordinary Americans. If you~~

Americans whom I have shared my Presidency. For it is through you and with you that we can begin to solve our most pressing problems.

I have shared a classroom with _____. I travelled to _____. Alone, single handed we cannot overcome our problems.

good. Tonight I am asking all Americans to ~~lead the way.~~

A great nation must have the courage to be self-critical. And we are a great nation. No one can deny that we have enormous problems. Many of our communities are in serious trouble -- not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many Americans can't even imagine it.

There is the impoverished America, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write. There is the America gone astray, ^{OUR CHILDREN ON DRUGS} ~~the kids on drugs,~~ the broken families, ^{OUR} ~~the teenage mothers.~~ ~~And then there is an~~

~~America uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.~~

Over these last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of these Americans have grown. That cannot continue. The question is, what to do about it. I believe, it is time for America to re-invent itself. Time for America to think and act anew -- and plan for the next American century.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is getting out and talking with the people. Small towns, big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields -- those are the places where you find out what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

I grew up blessed with a loving family, a host of friends, and a lot of breaks. The American Dream was a family, a career, and a chance to make the world a better place -- and I believed it was literally around every corner. All you had to do was believe in yourself, work hard, respect others, and have faith in God. Those principles are indeed enduring. But now, after a lifetime of experiences, I think there's more to the American Dream, and more to achieving it. It's not as simple as I once thought. Yet it's not that complicated either.

The state of our nation is the sum of its communities. If our communities are in trouble, our nation's in trouble. So we must seek a nation of communities that are whole and good.

P. ANEWOTE
 PAST
 EXPERIENCE

What defines whole and good? First it is a community that cares for the needs of its young people by building character, values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there are jobs at respectable wages, and job training too. Fourth, it's a place with good health care, and a clean environment -- where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured within its people. Finally, its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, there are thousands of communities just like that in America. They are communities where millions upon millions of Americans have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth. And we're going to keep it that way.

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success. We have shaped that success with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes -- but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. But we have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. Every American should think about that, just for a moment, and feel proud. But for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand

over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. When we entered the eighties -- our economy strangling on inflation, unemployment, and sky-high interest rates -- America turned away from government.

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of unparalleled economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. But the rising tide could not lift all boats. Our staggering budget deficits have mortgaged our future. And twenty million new jobs later, our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. We tried the marketplace, and the marketplace alone didn't solve all our problems.

Will there always be those that are left behind? America must answer unequivocally. The answer is No. Because there is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly fulfilled.

~~During this past year we have witnessed America at its best. The War in the Gulf was not just a military achievement. It was much, much more. It was a victory for the parents who believe in the talent of our young people; a victory for workers who believe America can produce quality like the Patriot missile; a victory for neighbors who help neighbors -- the outpouring of support for our men and women in the Gulf was magnificent. It was also our~~

~~government at its best. America's triumph was, in short, the conquest of doubt.~~

We can learn from this experience to build communities that are whole and good all across America. It requires all three forces of our national life. First, there is the magic of the free market; second, a government that acts competently and compassionately; third, the ethic of serving others -- what I call Points of Light -- is vital to America's future. ~~These three powerful forces worked in common purpose in the Gulf.~~ Right here at home, each is crucial to creating the conditions for whole and good communities -- and it's time we harnessed all of them to transform America.

Power belongs where it will work for the greater good. It belongs in the hands of people who seize opportunities. It belongs in the hands of entrepreneurs, like _____; in the hands of [teacher of the year], in the hands of [point of light].

Let's start with the power of the free market. The entrepreneurs who are with us tonight, _____ know exactly what I'm talking about. What so much of the world only covets, we take for granted: food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and at our shopping centers, cutting-edge, quality products of infinite variety. Nothing has proved better than the free market at generating good jobs at decent wages, in workplaces that are safe and healthy.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources and know-how, its creativity and sense of purpose, to

many of our social problems. Numerous companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners with us in our Education 2000 strategy. Others are leading the way in environmental protection, while still others are actively promoting innovation from health care to child care.

But the market can only go so far by itself. To transform America, government needs to be dynamic as well. Today our government guarantees our rights, and our liberties. It provides an important safety net for the needy. It creates economic incentives, settles disputes within the marketplace, and supports our national infrastructure. But to be the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- the instrument of the people -- it must truly be a force for good. **A compassionate and competent government must help transform America.**

Feb 12/26
to 3

I believe in this kind of government. Here tonight, for example is Mrs. _____. She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program this Administration expanded called "Head Start." And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we succeeded. The Americans with Disabilities Act has brought a new opportunities to our nation's disabled -- some of you were right here when I signed it. Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. ____, in Prospect Gardens project in Missouri, where public housing tenants join the ranks

of America's newest homeowners. Our crime bill will help make America's neighborhoods safe. And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we will take a dramatic step against discrimination in the workplace. This is not big government, this is good government. And it too leads to communities whole and good.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. It is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all -- the light that can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the combined attention from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization can turn the tide.

Whether it's a company's after-hours literacy program for its workers, or a law firm's mentoring class, a police station's counseling sessions for tough kids, or third graders who phone homebound senior citizens, Points of light are giving those in need a sense that someone cares, that they matter and belong.

When Points of Light join with the power of government and the awesome power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm social problems in America. This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every one of us, our businesses, our

school boards, our associations, our clubs, our churches -- **all of us have the responsibility to lead.**

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Our challenge is to re-invent America -- understand the successes and failures of the past -- and create an ambitious approach for the future.

We have always been a nation of problem solvers -- a people aware of the responsibility to live up to our ideals. No one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer. AN EXTENDED HAND,

As the world looks to us as the example of a nation whole and good, we must understand that it is the sum of our efforts that make us great. You, in your chair alone, can play your part. And yes, I too have my role. But, together we can inspire a greater good. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. For that your country is grateful, and for that your country will endure.

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II

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
6-12-91

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT D

Thank you, good evening. [CEO, Point of Light, Government Program worker, Disability activist, Governor, etc.] And to the rest of this extraordinary audience, the Cabinet, the fifty Points of Light who have joined us, the leaders of business and industry and all their associations, and all the others who make America the land of opportunity, welcome to the White House.

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. And meet them we did -- each and every one of them. From Panama, to Eastern Europe, to the Persian Gulf, our country has stood strong as a champion of freedom for all.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems on the home front with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis on the battlefield. I spelled out all my domestic priorities, and then I specifically asked that they pass just two laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday, and that tells us something profound.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why Congress can't pass a highway bill in a hundred days. Most Americans believe fear of crime and violence threatens our most basic freedoms -- denies us opportunity. They also believe we must invest in our future -- provide an infrastructure for those who come after us. So they don't understand the complication,

the inaction, the bickering -- particularly when they do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods: conviction, compassion, and courage.

I don't say this to overstate Congressional inaction or run down government. Government is not the enemy --in many cases government is part of the solution. Yet, there are still those in Congress who think government alone is the answer. The American people know better. They know it intuitively, almost universally. When we listen, really listen, we understand very clearly what the people are trying to tell us. They are saying that solutions don't begin in Washington.

Tonight, gathered under the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans, representing thousands of others. If you will permit me, I'd like to share some of your successes with the rest of America because you bring to life the genius of the American spirit. Together we can transform America, and create communities everywhere that are whole and good. Tonight I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

A great nation has the courage to be honest about itself. And we are a great nation. I believe that absolutely, as do you. Still, no one can deny that we have enormous challenges. Not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many can't even imagine it.

There are impoverished Americans, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write.

There are Americans gone astray, the kids dragged down by drugs, the shattered families, the teenage mothers struggling to cope. Then there are Americans uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

Over these last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of these Americans persist. That cannot continue. I believe it is time for America to re-invent itself. America must think and act anew -- to emerge strong and proud at the dawn of the next American century.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is going to small towns and big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields. Those are the places where you find out what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

*Have I done this
Maybe make this more general*

What I have found is that the state of our nation is the state of our communities. As our communities flourish, our nation will flourish. So we must seek a nation of whole communities, a nation of good communities -- an America, Whole and Good.

What defines such a community? First it is a one that cares for the needs of its young people by building character -- values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there are jobs at respectable wages, and job training too. Fourth, it's a place with good health care, and a

clean environment -- where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured within its people. Finally, all of its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, these are not just dreams. Thousands of communities like this flourish in America -- communities where people like you and me have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth -- a nation that can do anything. And we can make it even better.

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success -- success shaped with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes --but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. We have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. Every American should take pride in this country's fundamental goodness. Each of us must resolve in our own hearts that for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom in our day once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. As we entered the eighties -- our economy strangling on inflation, interest rates, and unemployment -- America turned away from government.

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of unparalleled economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. But the rising tide could not lift all boats. Our staggering budget deficits have mortgaged our future. Our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. We tried the marketplace, and the marketplace alone didn't solve all our problems.

Is the harsh lesson that there must always be those that are left behind? America must have but one answer. The answer is No. There is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly fulfilled. This is the way to build an America Whole and Good.

It requires all three forces of our national life. First, it requires the power of the free market; second, a competent compassionate government; third, the ethic of serving others -- what I call Points of Light. These three powerful forces create the conditions communities that are whole and good -- and it's time we harnessed all of them to transform America.

Power belongs where it will work for the greater good. It belongs in the hands of entrepreneurs, like _____; in the hands of [teacher of the year], in the hands of [point of light].

Let's start with the power of the free market. The entrepreneurs who are with us tonight, _____ know exactly what I'm talking about. What so much of the world can only

covet, we take for granted: food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and at our shopping centers, cutting-edge, quality products of infinite variety. Nothing can beat the free market at generating good jobs at decent wages, in healthy and safe workplaces.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources, creativity, and know-how, to America's our social problems. Many companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners in our Education 2000 strategy. Others are crusaders for environmental protection, while still others are innovators from health care to child care.

But the market can only go so far by itself. To transform America, government needs to be dynamic as well. To be the instrument of the people -- the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- and the embodiment of their vision -- it must truly be a force for good.

I believe in this kind of government -- a government of compassion and competence. And I believe in backing up that commitment with action. Here tonight, for example, is Mrs. _____. She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program called "Head Start." We expanded Head Start by \$____. And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we succeeded. The Americans with Disabilities

Act has brought a new opportunities to our nation's disabled -- some of you were right here when I signed it. Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. ____, in Prospect Gardens project in Missouri, where public housing tenants become America's newest homeowners. Our crime bill will help make America's neighborhoods safe. And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we will take a dramatic step against the blight of bigotry and discrimination. This is not big government -- this is good government. And it too leads to communities whole and good.

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the
fact -

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. That is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all -- as the verse of Randy Travis, ^{great new "hit"} says, "a ray of hope in the darkest nights". Its light can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the combined brilliance from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization in every community can dissolve the darkness.

Whether a company holds an after-hours literacy program for its workers, a police station counsels for tough kids, or third graders phone homebound senior citizens, Points of light tell those in need that their lives matter. When Points of Light

join with the power of government and the power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm stubborn social problems. This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every person, every business, every school board -- our associations, our clubs, our churches -- we all have the duty to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Think of the opportunity before us -- to re-invent America. Congress too must now understand the successes and failures of the past -- and help us forge the strongest future this world can imagine.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. I look out and see so much reflected in your faces -- the strength, the conviction, the commitment. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to inspire a greater good. I know, because you've brought me into your homes and your neighborhoods, your schools and your churches. ?

Last year I walked through reclaimed blocks in Kansas City with a group of men called Mad Dads. I learned more about how our nation fights crime in two hours than in two months of TV news.

In _____, I visited D.C. General Hospital, and held a tiny boarder baby in my arms, the child of a cocaine addict. The remarkable dedication of the women who rescued these babies was just as moving. America needs to hear that story, too.

Just a few months ago, I dropped in on a little West Virginia school in a town called Slanesville. The National Teacher of the Year teaches remedial reading there. Her name is

Rae Ellen McKee. Visiting her gave me the opportunity to say to the nation, thank God for our teachers. [I'm proud she's here tonight.]

Just yesterday I spoke before the graduating class of the James H. Groves Adult High School of Sussex County, Delaware. I went there to honor those who had the courage to go back to school and get their diploma. They honored me by saying to America, we must be a nation dedicated to lifelong learning.

These are the Americans who love this country for what it is and for what it can become. These are the Americans who make this a nation of boldness -- filled with problem solvers -- gifted with the American tradition of living up to our ideals. These are the Americans who prove that no one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

This is the genius of America -- ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things.

This is the genius we must carry forward. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you will. I know you have. Through you, your country can become an America Whole and Good. For that your country is grateful, and for that your country will endure.

*More important
to get the job done*

let's get the job done I thought

*let's see if we
can get it done
in another
hundred
days*

FINAL

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT E

Thank you, good evening. Members of the Cabinet, honored guests. Dr. Benjamin Payton of Tuskegee Institute who brings a lifelong commitment to our Historically Black Colleges, welcome. Governor Cambell, Governor Castle. Drew Batavia, winner of the Distinguished Disabled American Award, welcome to you, sir. To Robert Egger, founder of the D.C. Central Kitchen, to _____ and the sixty other Points of Light who are here tonight, your work inspires the nation. Mayor Hackett of Memphis, Mayor Myric of Charlotte, County Commissioner Klinger, good to see you all again. I saw Paul O'Neill, Chairman of ALCOA, and dedicated advocate for a educational excellence. And to the rest of this extraordinary gathering -- leaders of businesses, veterans groups, associations, volunteer organizations, education partnerships, and all those who make America the land of opportunity, welcome to the White House.

[I might add that also with us is Anthony Henderson, a youngster from Barcroft Elementary School in Arlington, Virginia. You may recall that when I visited his class, Anthony's the one who asked me to prove I was the President. I had to show him my drivers license and credit card. Anthony, now do you believe me?]

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. **And meet them we did -- each and every**

one of them. From Eastern Europe, to Panama, to the Persian Gulf, our country stands strong as a champion of freedom for all.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems on the home front with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis on the battlefield. I spelled out all my domestic priorities -- setting out an ambitious agenda founded upon economic growth, investing in our future, and providing opportunity to all Americans. I sent to the Congress literally thousands of recommendations for legislative change. Then I specifically asked that Congress pass just two laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. It is now clear that neither will be on my desk by Friday. ~~So tonight, I want to put in perspective this breakdown of our legislative system.~~

*Kennedy
Kennedy
this is not
new*

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why Congress can't pass a highway bill in a hundred days. Most Americans believe fear of crime and violence threatens our most basic freedoms -- denies us opportunity. They also believe we must invest in our future -- provide an infrastructure for those who come after us. So they don't understand the complication, the inaction, the bickering -- particularly when so many do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods: conviction, compassion, and courage.

I cannot fully explain this inaction to the American people. the inaction. But I can say this as partial consolation:

America's problem-solving does not begin or end with the Congress. If we waited for Congressional approval to act decisively against aggression in the Persian Gulf, we would still be waiting. We didn't wait, and now Kuwait is free.

Yes, it would help if Congress would do what we ask and need. But we cannot let its inaction discourage or deter us from meeting our responsibilities.

Tonight, gathered under the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans, representing thousands of others. You bring to life the genius of the American spirit, and it is through you and with you that we can solve our most pressing problems. Together we can transform America, and create whole and good communities everywhere. Tonight, I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

A great nation has the courage to be honest about itself. And we are a great nation. I believe that absolutely, as do you. We are indisputably the world's most powerful force for freedom and economic growth. Still, no one can deny that we have enormous challenges. Not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many can't even imagine it.

There are impoverished Americans, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write. There are Americans gone astray, the kids dragged down by drugs, the shattered families, the teenage mothers struggling to cope. Then there are Americans uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

We're working with Congress to bring them

That Congress failed to meet I continue

What is all this screaming about? Reminds me

bleating

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is going to small towns and big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields. Those are the places where you discover what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

The state of our nation is the state of our communities. As our communities flourish, our nation will flourish. So we must seek a nation of whole communities, a nation of good communities -- an America, Whole and Good.

What defines such a community? First, it is one that cares for the needs of its young people by building character -- values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there is opportunity and hope -- rooted in the dignity of work, and reward for achievement. Fourth, it's where people care about their health and their environment -- and where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured. Finally, all of its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because millions of Americans have chosen to lead the way, these are not just dreams. Thousands of whole and good communities already flourish in America -- communities where ordinary people have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth -- a nation that can do anything. And we can do even better.

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success -- success shaped with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes --but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. Every American should take pride in this country's fundamental goodness. Each of us must resolve in our own hearts that for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom in our day once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. As we ended the seventies -- our economy strangling on inflation, soaring interest rates, and unemployment -- America turned away from government as "the answer".

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of exceptional economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. Yet, our ^{money's} streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. There is more to be done; and the marketplace alone can't solve all our problems.

Is the harsh lesson that there must always be those who are left behind? America must have but one answer. The answer is No. There is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly

understood, and service to others properly engaged. This is the only way to an America Whole and Good.

It requires all three forces of our national life. First, it requires the power of the free market; second, a competent, compassionate government; third, the ethic of serving others -- including what I call Points of Light. These three powerful forces create the conditions for communities to be whole and good -- and it's time we harnessed all three of them.

In our complex democracy, power is fragmented. That can be frustrating. But on balance it's for the good. And power tends to move toward those who serve the greater good: entrepreneurs, like John Bryant, a young self-starter who has built a multi-million dollar enterprise and now helps rebuild inner city Los Angeles; caring individuals like Mack Stolarski, a retired carpenter who now helps his student apprentices repair homes for the poor and disabled.

And because of the power of the free market, what so much of the world can only imagine, we take for granted: abundant food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and quality products at our shopping centers. Nothing beats the free market at generating jobs, income, wealth, and a better quality of life.

The good news in communitieis is that the free market is now applying its resources and know-how to our social problems. Many companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners in our exciting Education 2000 strategy. Others are

crusaders for environmental protection, while still others are innovators from health care to child care.

Transforming America requires not only the power of the free market, but also a dynamic government. To be the enlightened instrument of the people -- the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- and the embodiment of their vision -- it must truly be a force for good.

I believe in this kind of government -- a government of compassion and competence. And I believe in backing it up with action. Here tonight, for example, is Mrs. Lauren Floyd, one of the first Head Start graduates. Now, she teaches preschoolers in that same marvelous program. Her success is why we expanded Head Start by three quarters of a billion dollars. And a year ago I signed our child care bill to enhance parents' choices in caring for their children. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we won. The Americans with Disabilities Act ^{the most important civil rights} has brought new dignity and opportunity to our nation's disabled -- leaders of the disability community like Justin Dart and Evan Kemp were right here when I signed it. I see they are here tonight. Jack Kemp and I stood with Miss Ramona Younger in Charles Houston Community Center in Alexandria, Virginia -- where public housing tenants are becoming America's newest homeowners. Dewey Stokes here, President of the Fraternal Order of Police, wants to help make our neighborhoods safer -- that's why he supports our crime bill. And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we

will take a dramatic step against the blight of bigotry and discrimination *in the workplace.*

This is not big government -- this is good government.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. That is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all. A light that brightens the lives of others -- and makes whole the lives of those who shine it.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like poverty or drug abuse by ourselves. Only the combined light from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization in every community can dissolve the darkness.

Whether a company holds an after-hours literacy program for its workers, a police station counsels tough kids, or third graders phone lonely homebound senior citizens, **Points of Light show those in need that their lives matter.**

Government, and the market, joined with Points of Light, will overwhelm our social problems. This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every person, every business, every school board -- our associations, our clubs, our places of worship -- we all have the duty to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Now Congress, too, must understand the successes and failures of the past -- and help us forge a certain future for America.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. I look out and see so much reflected in your faces -- the strength, the conviction, the commitment. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to achieve a greater good. I know, because you've brought me into your homes and your neighborhoods, your schools and your churches.

Last year I walked through reclaimed blocks in Kansas City with a group of men called Mad Dads. I learned more about how we can fight crime in two hours than in two months of TV news.

Another day I visited D.C. General Hospital, and held a tiny boarder baby in my arms, the child of a cocaine addict. The remarkable dedication of the women who rescued these babies was just as moving. America needs to hear that story, too.

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Just yesterday I spoke before the graduating class of the James H. Groves Adult High School in Sussex County, Delaware. I invited the class to join us tonight. I went there with Governor Castle to honor these men and women who had the courage to go back to school and get their diplomas. They honored us by telling America to be a nation dedicated to lifelong learning.

These are the Americans who love this country for what it is and for what it can become. These are the Americans who make

this a nation of boldness -- filled with problem solvers -- gifted with the American tradition of living up to our ideals. These are the Americans who prove that no one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

This is the genius of America -- ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things.

The Congress can refer our proposals to its hundreds of committees, tie itself up with debate, and produce complicated, unworkable legislation. But in the end we must carry forward the magic of America. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you have. I know you will. Through you, our country can become an America Whole and Good. For that our country is grateful, and because of that our country will endure.

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT F

1988
Thank you, good evening. Members of the Cabinet, honored guests. Dr. Benjamin Payton of Tuskegee Institute who brings a lifelong commitment to our Historically Black Colleges, welcome. Governor Cambell, Governor Castle. Drew Batavia, winner of the Distinguished Disabled American Award, welcome to you, sir. To Robert Egger, founder of the D.C. Central Kitchen, and the sixty other Points of Light who are here tonight, your work inspires the nation. Mayor Hackett of Memphis, Mayor Myric of Charlotte, County Commissioner Klinger, good to see you all again. I saw Paul O'Neill, Chairman of ALCOA, a dedicated advocate for educational excellence. And to the rest of this extraordinary gathering -- leaders of businesses, veterans groups, associations, volunteer organizations, education partnerships, and all those who make America the land of opportunity, welcome to the White House.

[I might add that also with us is Anthony Henderson, a youngster from Barcroft Elementary School in Arlington, Virginia. You may recall that when I visited his class, Anthony's the one who asked me to prove I was the President. I had to show him my drivers license and credit card. Anthony, now do you believe me?]

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one of them. From Eastern Europe, to Panama, to the Persian Gulf, our country stands strong as a champion of freedom.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems on the home front with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis on the battlefield. I spelled out my domestic priorities -- setting out an ambitious agenda founded upon enhancing economic growth, investing in our future, and increasing opportunity for all Americans. I sent to the Congress literally hundreds of recommendations for legislative change. Then I specifically asked that Congress pass just two laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. I thought a hundred days was pretty reasonable. [I wasn't asking the Congress to deliver a hot pizza in less than thirty minutes. (That would be truly revolutionary) I only asked for two pieces of legislation in a hundred days.] It is now clear that neither will be on my desk by Friday. I am disappointed ^{space} --but frankly I'm not surprised.

Tonight I would like to put this all in some perspective. I haven't asked you here to sit through a litany of programs and policies. Rather I'd like to do something different, and describe to you how I personally see the shared strength and promise of America.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why Congress can't pass a highway bill in a hundred days. Most Americans believe fear of crime and violence threatens our most

basic freedoms -- denies us opportunity. They also believe we must invest in our future -- provide an infrastructure for those who come after us. So they don't understand the complications, the inaction, the bickering -- particularly when so many do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods: commitment, compassion, and courage.

I cannot fully explain this inaction to the American people. As I said, I'm disappointed, but not surprised. But I can say this as partial consolation: America's problem-solving does not begin or end with the Congress.

Yes, it would help if Congress would do what the people are asking of them. I'll keep working with the Congress -- my hand remains extended -- I'll keep bringing them along. But we cannot let Congress discourage or deter us from meeting our responsibilities.

I believe the people gathered here tonight, under the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, understand this better than most. You are extraordinary Americans, representing thousands of others. You bring to life the genius of the American spirit, and it is through you and with you that we can solve our most pressing problems. **Together we can transform America, and create whole and good communities everywhere. Tonight, I am asking all Americans to lead the way.**

A great nation has the courage to be honest about itself. And we are a great nation. I believe that absolutely, as do you. We are indisputably the world's most powerful force for freedom

and economic growth. Still, no one can deny that we have enormous challenges. Not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many can't even imagine it.

There are impoverished Americans, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write. There are Americans gone astray, the kids dragged down by drugs, the shattered families, the teenage mothers struggling to cope. Then there are Americans uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is going to small towns and big cities, schools, neighborhoods and factories -- those are the places where you discover what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

The state of our nation is the state of our communities. As our communities flourish, our nation will flourish. So we must seek a nation of whole communities, a nation of good communities -- an America, Whole and Good.

What defines such a community? First, it is one that cares for the needs of its young people by building character -- values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there is opportunity and hope -- rooted in the dignity of work, and reward for achievement. Fourth, it's where people care about their health and their environment -- and where

a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured. Finally, all of its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because millions of Americans have chosen to lead the way, these are not just dreams. Thousands of whole and good communities already flourish in America -- communities where ordinary people have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth -- a nation that can do anything. And we can do even better.

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success -- success shaped with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes --but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. Every American should take pride in this country's fundamental goodness. Each of us must resolve in our own hearts that for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom in our day once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. As we ended the seventies -- our economy strangling on inflation, soaring interest rates, and unemployment -- America turned away from government as "the answer".

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of exceptional economic growth -- and

created twenty million new jobs. Yet, many of our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. There is more to be done; and the marketplace alone can't solve all our problems.

Is the harsh lesson that there must always be those who are left behind? America must have but one answer. The answer is No. There is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly engaged. This is the only way to an America Whole and Good.

It requires all three forces of our national life. First, it requires the power of the free market; second, a competent, compassionate government; third, the ethic of serving others -- including what I call Points of Light. These three powerful forces create the conditions for communities to be whole and good -- and it's time we harnessed all three of them.

In our complex democracy, power is fragmented. That can be frustrating. But on balance it's for the good. And power tends to move toward those who serve the greater good: entrepreneurs, like John Bryant, a young self-starter who has built a multi-million dollar enterprise and now helps rebuild inner city Los Angeles; caring individuals like Mack Stolarski, a retired carpenter who now helps his student apprentices repair homes for the poor and disabled.

And because of the power of the free market, what so much of the world can only imagine, we take for granted: abundant food

on the shelves of our supermarkets, and quality products at our shopping centers. **Nothing beats the free market at generating jobs, income, wealth, and a better quality of life.**

The good news in communities is that the free market is now applying its resources and know-how to our social problems. Many companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners in our exciting America 2000 strategy. Others are crusaders for environmental protection, while still others are innovators from health care to child care.

Transforming America requires not only the power of the free market, but also a dynamic government. To be the enlightened instrument of the people -- the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- and the embodiment of their vision -- it must truly be a force for good.

I believe in this kind of government -- a government of compassion and competence. And I believe in backing it up with action. Here tonight, for example, is Mrs. Lauren Floyd, one of the first Head Start graduates. Now, she teaches preschoolers in that same marvelous program. Her success is why we expanded Head Start by three quarters of a billion dollars. And a year ago I signed our child care bill to expand parents' choices in caring for their children. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we won. The Americans with Disabilities Act -- the most important Civil Rights Bill in decades -- has brought new dignity and opportunity

to our nation's disabled -- disability leaders like Justin Dart and Evan Kemp were right here when I signed it. I see they are here tonight. Jack Kemp and I stood with Miss Ramona Younger in Charles Houston Community Center in Alexandria, Virginia -- where public housing tenants are becoming America's newest homeowners. Dewey Stokes here, President of the Fraternal Order of Police, wants to help make our neighborhoods safer -- that's why he supports our crime bill. And if we get a civil rights bill like the one I sent to the Congress, we will take an important step against discrimination in the workplace.

This is not big government -- this is good government.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. That is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all. A light that brightens the lives of others -- and makes whole the lives of those who shine it.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like poverty or drug abuse by ourselves. Only the combined light from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization in every community can dissolve the darkness.

Whether a company holds an after-hours literacy program for its workers, a police station counsels tough kids, or third graders phone lonely homebound senior citizens, Points of Light show those in need that their lives matter.

Government, and the market, joined with Points of Light, will overwhelm our social problems. This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every person, every business, every school board -- our associations, our clubs, our places of worship -- we all have the duty to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Now Congress, too, must understand the successes and failures of the past -- and help us forge a certain future for America.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. I look out and see so much reflected in your faces -- the strength, the conviction, the commitment. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to achieve a greater good. I know, because you've brought me into your homes and your neighborhoods, your schools and your churches.

Last year I walked through reclaimed blocks in Kansas City with a group of men called Mad Dads. I learned more about how we can fight crime in two hours than in two months of TV news.

Another day I visited D.C. General Hospital, and held a tiny boarder baby in my arms, the child of a cocaine addict. The remarkable dedication of the women who rescued these babies was just as moving. America needs to hear that story, too.

Just a few months ago, I dropped in on a little West Virginia school in a town called Slanesville. The National Teacher of the Year teaches remedial reading there. Her name is Rae Ellen McKee and she's here tonight. Visiting her gave me the opportunity to say to the nation, "thank God for our teachers".

Just yesterday I spoke before the graduating class of the James H. Groves Adult High School in Sussex County, Delaware. I invited the class to join us tonight. I went there with Governor Castle to honor these men and women who had the courage to go back to school and get their diplomas. They honored us by telling America to be a nation dedicated to lifelong learning.

These are the Americans who love this country for what it is and for what it can become. These are the Americans who make this a nation of boldness -- filled with problem solvers -- gifted with the American tradition of living up to our ideals. These are the Americans who prove that no one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

This is the genius of America -- ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things.

The Congress can refer our proposals to its hundreds of committees, tie itself up with debate, and produce complicated, expensive unworkable legislation. But in the end we must carry forward the magic of America. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. We must do the hard work of freedom. I know you have. I know you will. Through you, our country can become an America Whole and Good. For that our country is grateful, and because of that our country will prevail.

This kind of challenge is not new. Presidents from Roosevelt to Ford have quite a history of encouraging the Congress to meet a deadline: In fact Lyndon Johnson in his State of the Union Address in January 1964 issued ~~this~~ challenge ^{to the}

Congress

Lyndon Johnson
Annual Message to the Congress on the State of the Union
January 8, 1964

"Let this session of Congress be known as the session which did more for civil rights than the last hundred sessions ¹ combined; as the session which enacted the most far-reaching tax ² cut of our time; as the session which declared all-out war on human poverty and unemployment in these United States; as the ³ session which finally recognized the health needs of all our ⁴ older citizens; as the session which reformed our tangled ⁵ transportation and transit policies; as the session which achieved the most effective, efficient foreign aid program ever; ⁶ and as the session which helped to build more homes, more ⁷ schools, more libraries, and more hospitals than any single ⁸ session of Congress in the history of our Republic. ⁹

All this and more can and must be done. It can be done ⁹ by this summer, and it can be done without any increase in spending."

*asked that
challenged the Congress to act on
the important domestic issues
broad domestic
all within just months*

But look if it can't be
done

CLOSE HOLD

Document No. 244833SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 6/11/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WEDNESDAY EVENING SPEECH

	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"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT E

Thank you, good evening. Members of the Cabinet, 9:10 PM 3:24
guests. Dr. Benjamin Payton of Tuskegee Institute who brings a
lifelong commitment to our Historically Black Colleges, welcome.
Governors _____, _____. Our own White House fellow
and winner of the Distinguished Disabled American Award, welcome
to you, sir. To _____ of the D.C. Central Kitchen and the over
sixty other Points of Light who are here tonight, your work
inspires the nation. And to the rest of this extraordinary
gathering -- leaders of businesses, associations, volunteer
organizations, education partnerships, and all those who make
America the land of opportunity, welcome to the White House.

[I might add that also with us is Anthony Henderson, a
youngster from Barcroft Elementary School in Arlington, Virginia.
You may recall that when I visited his class, Anthony's the one
who asked me to prove I was the President. I had to show him my
American Express Card. Anthony, now do you believe me?]

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a
dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one
challenge after another. And meet them we did -- each and every
one of them. From Eastern Europe, to Panama, to the Persian
Gulf, our country stands strong as a champion of freedom for all.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent
problems on the home front with the same energy we dedicated to
tackling the crisis on the battlefield. I spelled out all my
domestic priorities -- setting out an ambitious agenda founded
upon economic growth, investing in our future, and providing

opportunity to all Americans. I sent to the Congress literally thousands of recommendations for legislative change. Then I specifically asked that Congress pass just two laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. It is now clear that neither will be on my desk by Friday. So tonight, I want to put in perspective this breakdown of our legislative system.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why Congress can't pass a highway bill in a hundred days. Most Americans believe fear of crime and violence threatens our most basic freedoms -- denies us opportunity. They also believe we must invest in our future -- provide an infrastructure for those who come after us. So they don't understand the complication, the inaction, the bickering -- particularly when so many do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods: conviction, compassion, and courage.

I cannot fully explain to the American people the inaction. But I can say this as partial consolation: America's problem-solving does not begin or end with the Congress. If we waited for Congressional approval to act decisively against aggression in the Persian Gulf, we would still be waiting. We didn't wait, and now Kuwait is free.

Yes, it would help if Congress would do what we ask and need. But we cannot let its inaction discourage or deter us from meeting our responsibilities.

Tonight, gathered under the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans, representing thousands of others. You bring to life the genius of the American spirit, and it is through you and with you that we can solve our most pressing problems. Together we can transform America, and create communities everywhere that are whole and good. Tonight, I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

A great nation has the courage to be honest about itself. And we are a great nation. I believe that absolutely, as do you. We are indisputably the world's most powerful force for freedom and economic growth. Still, no one can deny that we have enormous challenges. Not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many can't even imagine it.

There are impoverished Americans, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write. There are Americans gone astray, the kids dragged down by drugs, the shattered families, the teenage mothers struggling to cope. Then there are Americans uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is going to small towns and big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields. Those are the places where you discover what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

The state of our nation is the state of our communities. As our communities flourish, our nation will flourish. So we must seek a nation of whole communities, a nation of good communities -- an America, Whole and Good.

What defines such a community? First, it is one that cares for the needs of its young people by building character -- values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there is opportunity and hope -- rooted in the dignity of work, and reward for achievement. Fourth, it's where people care about their health and their environment -- and where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured. Finally, all of its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, these are not just dreams. Thousands of communities like this flourish in America -- communities where ordinary people have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. **America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth -- a nation that can do anything. And we can make it even better.**

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success -- success shaped with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes --but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. We have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. **Every American should take pride in this country's fundamental goodness. Each**

of us must resolve in our own hearts that for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom in our day once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. As we entered the eighties -- our economy strangling on inflation, soaring interest rates, and unemployment -- America turned away from government as "the answer".

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of exceptional economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. Yet, our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. There is more to be done; and the marketplace alone can't solve all our problems.

Is the harsh lesson that there must always be those that are left behind? America must have but one answer. The answer is No. There is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly channeled. This is the way to an America Whole and Good.

It requires all three forces of our national life. First, it requires the power of the free market; second, a competent compassionate government; third, the ethic of serving others -- including what I call Points of Light. These three powerful

forces create the conditions for communities to be whole and good -- and it's time we harnessed all three of them.

In our complex democracy, power is fragmented. That can be frustrating. But on balance it's for the good. And power tends to move toward those who serve the greater good: entrepreneurs, like John Bryant, a young self-starter who has built a multimillion dollar enterprise and now helps rebuild inner city Los Angeles; caring individuals like Mack Stolarski, a retired carpenter who now helps his student apprentices repair homes for the poor and disabled. Mayor _____, who has kicked the drug dealers out of his town.

And because of the power of the free market, what so much of the world can only imagine, we take for granted: abundant food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and quality products at our shopping centers. Nothing beats the free market at generating good jobs, in healthy and safe workplaces.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources, creativity, and know-how, to our social problems. Many companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners in our exciting Education 2000 strategy. Others are crusaders for environmental protection, while still others are innovators from health care to child care.

Transforming America not only requires the power of the free market, government needs to be dynamic as well. To be the enlightened instrument of the people -- the government of

Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- and the embodiment of their vision -- it must truly be a force for good.

I believe in this kind of government -- a government of compassion and competence. And I believe in backing up that commitment with action. Here tonight, for example, is Mrs. Lauren Floyd, one of the first Head Start graduates. Now, she teaches preschoolers in that same marvelous program. Her success is why we expanded Head Start by three quarters of a billion dollars. And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we won. The Americans with Disabilities Act has brought new dignity and opportunity to our nation's disabled -- leaders of the disability community like Justin Dart and Evan Kemp were right here when I signed it. I see they are here tonight. Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. Ramona Younger in Charles Houston Community Center in Alexandria, Virginia -- where public housing tenants are becoming America's newest homeowners. Our crime bill will help make America's neighborhoods safe.*** And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we will take a dramatic step against the blight of bigotry and discrimination. This is not big government -- this is good government.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. That is not a phrase about charity. It is about the

light that is within us all -- as the verse of Randy Travis says, "a ray of hope in the darkest nights". Its light can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the combined brilliance from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization in every community can dissolve the darkness.

Whether a company holds an after-hours literacy program for its workers, a police station counsels tough kids, or third graders phone lonely homebound senior citizens, Points of light tell those in need that their lives matter. When Points of Light join with the power of government and the power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm stubborn social problems. This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every person, every business, every school board -- our associations, our clubs, our churches -- we all have the duty to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Think of the opportunity before us -- to re-invent America. Congress too must now understand the successes and failures of the past -- and help us forge the strongest future this world can imagine.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. I look out and see so much reflected in your faces -- the strength, the conviction, the commitment. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to inspire a greater

good. I know, because you've brought me into your homes and your neighborhoods, your schools and your churches.

Last year I walked through reclaimed blocks in Kansas City with a group of men called Mad Dads. I learned more about how we can fight crime in two hours than in two months of TV news.

Another day I visited D.C. General Hospital, and held a tiny boarder baby in my arms, the child of a cocaine addict. The remarkable dedication of the women who rescued these babies was just as moving. America needs to hear that story, too.

Just a few months ago, I dropped in on a little West Virginia school in a town called Slanesville. The National Teacher of the Year teaches remedial reading there. Her name is Rae Ellen McKee and she's here tonight. Visiting her gave me the opportunity to say to the nation, "thank God for our teachers".

Just yesterday I spoke before the graduating class of the James H. Groves Adult High School of Sussex County, Delaware. Governor Mike Castle [nice to see you Mike] and I went there to honor those who had the courage to go back to school and get their diploma. They honored us by saying to America, we must be a nation dedicated to lifelong learning.

These are the Americans who love this country for what it is and for what it can become. These are the Americans who make this a nation of boldness -- filled with problem solvers -- gifted with the American tradition of living up to our ideals. These are the Americans who prove that no one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

This is the genius of America -- ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things.

The Congress can refer our proposals to its hundreds of committees, tie itself up with debate, and produce complicated, unworkable legislation. But in the end we must carry forward the magic of America. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you have. I know you will. Through you, our country can become an America Whole and Good. For that our country is grateful, and for that our country will endure.



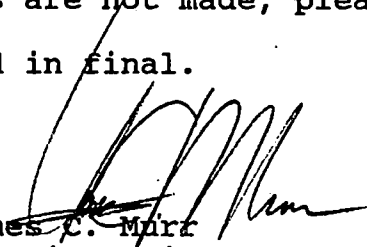
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JUN 11 1991

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.

If our proposed substantive changes are not made, please let us know before the material is prepared in final.


James C. Merritt
Associate Director for
Legislative Reference
and Administration

CLOSE HOLD

Revised

Document No. 244833SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 6/11/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, TUES. 6/11/91 3:00

SUBJECT: DRAFT FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING ADDRESS

	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"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>BOSKIN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" 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 forward your comments directly to David Demarest, 2FL., WW, x7620, no later than 3:00 p.m., TODAY, TUESDAY, JUNE 11, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

See comments

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT D

Thank you, good evening. [CEO, Point of Light, Government Program worker, Disability activist, Governor, etc.] And to the rest of this extraordinary audience, the Cabinet, the fifty Points of Light who have joined us, the leaders of business and industry and all their associations, and all the others who make America the land of opportunity, welcome to the White House.

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. And meet them we did -- each and every one of them. From Panama, to Eastern Europe, to the Persian Gulf, our country has stood strong as a champion of freedom for all.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems on the home front with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis on the battlefield. I spelled out all my domestic priorities, and then I specifically asked that they pass just two laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday, and that tells us something profound.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why Congress can't pass a highway bill in a hundred days. Most Americans believe fear of crime and violence threatens our most basic freedoms -- denies us opportunity. They also believe we must invest in our future -- provide an infrastructure for those who come after us. So they don't understand the complication,

the inaction, the bickering -- particularly when they do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods: conviction, compassion, and courage.

I don't say this to overstate Congressional inaction or run down government. Government is not the enemy --in many cases government is part of the solution. Yet, there are still those in Congress who think government **alone** is the answer. The American people know better. They know it intuitively, almost universally. When we listen, **really listen**, we understand very clearly what **the people** are trying to tell us. They are saying that **solutions don't begin in Washington.**

Tonight, gathered under the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans, representing thousands of others. If you will permit me, I'd like to share some of your successes with the rest of America because you bring to life the genius of the American spirit. **Together we can transform America, and create communities everywhere that are whole and good. Tonight I am asking all Americans to lead the way.**

A great nation has the courage to be honest about itself. And we **are** a great nation. I believe that absolutely, as do you. Still, no one can deny that we have enormous challenges. Not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many can't even imagine it. *For them, we must provide hope -* *Grady*
4/8/40

There are impoverished Americans, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write.

There are Americans gone astray, the kids dragged down by drugs, the shattered families, the teenage mothers struggling to cope. Then there are Americans uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

Over these last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of these Americans persist. **That cannot continue. I believe it is time for America to re-invent itself. America must think and act anew -- to emerge strong and proud at the dawn of the next American century.**

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is going to small towns and big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields. Those are the places where you find out what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

What I have found is that the state of our nation is the state of our communities. As our communities flourish, our nation will flourish. So we must seek a nation of whole communities, a nation of good communities -- an America, Whole and Good.

What defines such a community? First it is a one that cares for the needs of its young people by building character -- values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. ~~Next, there are jobs at respectable wages, and job training too.~~ ^{Third} Fourth, it's a place with good health care, and a

Note: clear what this means.

Scully
4/5/78

clean environment -- where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured within its people. Finally, all of its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, these are not just dreams. Thousands of communities like this flourish in America -- communities where people like you and me have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth -- a nation that can do anything. And we can make it even better.

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success -- success shaped with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes --but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. We have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. Every American should take pride in this country's fundamental goodness. Each of us must resolve in our own hearts that for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom in our day once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. As we ~~entered the eighties~~ -- our economy strangling on inflation, interest rates, and unemployment -- America turned away from government.

ended the seventies

Grady
44844

There is more to be done.

5

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of unparalleled economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. But the rising tide could not lift all boats. Our staggering budget deficits have mortgaged our future. Our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. We tried the marketplace, and the marketplace alone didn't solve all our problems.

Grady
1/8/44

Is the harsh lesson that there must always be those that are left behind? America must have but one answer. The answer is No. There is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly fulfilled. This is the way to build an America Whole and Good.

It requires all three forces of our national life. First, it requires the power of the free market; second, a competent compassionate government; third, the ethic of serving others -- what I call Points of Light. These three powerful forces create the conditions ^{needed for} communities that are whole and good -- and it's time we harnessed all of them to transform America.

Taylor
1/31/92

Power belongs where it will work for the greater good. It belongs in the hands of entrepreneurs, like _____; in the hands of [teacher of the year], in the hands of [point of light].

Let's start with the power of the free market. The entrepreneurs who are with us tonight, _____ know exactly what I'm talking about. What so much of the world can only

covet, we take for granted: food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and at our shopping centers, cutting-edge, quality products of infinite variety. Nothing can beat the free market at generating ~~good jobs at decent wages, in healthy and safe workplaces.~~ ^{income, wealth, and a better quality of life.}

Shady
X4844

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources, creativity, and know-how, to America's ~~our~~ social problems. Many companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners in our Education 2000 strategy. Others are crusaders for environmental protection, while still others are innovators from health care to child care.

Scully
X5178

But the market can only go so far by itself. To transform America, government needs to be dynamic as well. To be the instrument of the people -- the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- and the embodiment of their vision -- it must truly be a force for good.

I believe in this kind of government -- a government of compassion and competence. And I believe in backing up that commitment with action. Here tonight, for example, is Mrs.

_____. She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program called "Head Start." ^{over the past 2 years,} ~~We have~~ ^{we have} expanded Head Start by \$717 million ^{in the last two years.} ~~(a 58 percent increase)~~ And a year ago I signed our child care bill to ~~make child care~~ ^{enhance parents' choices in caring for their children.} available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we succeeded. The Americans with Disabilities

Seems to assume centered-based -- not family care. Point is wrong!

Scully
X5178

Scully
X5178

Act has brought a new opportunities to our nation's disabled -- **some of you were right here when I signed it.** Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. ___, in Prospect Gardens project in Missouri, where public housing tenants become America's newest homeowners. Our crime bill will help make America's neighborhoods safe. And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we will take a dramatic step against the blight of bigotry and discrimination. This is not big government -- **this is good government.** And it too leads to communities whole and good.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. That is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all -- as the verse of Randy Travis says, "a ray of hope in the darkest nights". Its light can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no **one** of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the **combined brilliance** from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization in every community can dissolve the darkness.

Whether a company holds an after-hours literacy program for its workers, a police station counsels [?] [for tough] kids, or third graders phone homebound senior citizens, **Points of light** tell those in need that their lives matter. When Points of Light

[Street-hardened]

or [on the dangers of drugs to]

Taylor
43192

join with the power of government and the power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm stubborn social problems.

This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every person, every business, every school board -- our associations, our clubs, our churches -- we all have the duty to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Think of the opportunity before us -- to re-invent America. Congress too must now understand the successes and failures of the past -- and help us forge the strongest future this world can imagine.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. I look out and see so much reflected in your faces -- the strength, the conviction, the commitment. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to inspire a greater good. I know, because you've brought me into your homes and your neighborhoods, your schools and your churches.

Last year I walked through reclaimed blocks in Kansas City with a group of men called Mad Dads. I learned more about how our nation fights crime in two hours than in two months of TV news.

In _____, I visited D.C. General Hospital, and held a tiny boarder baby in my arms, the child of a cocaine addict. The remarkable dedication of the women who rescued these babies was just as moving. America needs to hear that story, too.

Just a few months ago, I dropped in on a little West Virginia school in a town called Slanesville. The National Teacher of the Year teaches remedial reading there. Her name is

*safe neighborhoods
invests in America's future -
These bills will help
create the conditions in
which the American
spirit can flourish*

That's why Congress must act now to pass an education bill that allows choice to American families, a crime bill that keeps

*Brady
x4894*

Rae Ellen McKee. Visiting her gave me the opportunity to say to the nation, thank God for our teachers. [I'm proud she's here tonight.]

Just yesterday I spoke before the graduating class of the James H. Groves Adult High School of Sussex County, Delaware. I went there to honor those who had the courage to go back to school and get their diploma. They honored me by saying to America, we must be a nation dedicated to lifelong learning.

These are the Americans who love this country for what it is and for what it can become. These are the Americans who make this a nation of boldness -- filled with problem solvers -- gifted with the American tradition of living up to our ideals. These are the Americans who prove that no one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

This is the genius of America -- ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things.

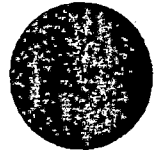
This is the genius we must carry forward. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you will. I know you have. Through you, your country can become an America Whole and Good. For that your country is grateful, and ~~for that~~ your country will endure,

because of that,
not only
it will prevail.
Grady
X 4844

CLOSE HOLD

Document No. 244833SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 6/11/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TODAY, TUES. 6/11/91 3:00

SUBJECT: DRAFT FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING ADDRESS

	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"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" 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 forward your comments directly to David Demarest, 2FL., WW, x7620, no later than 3:00 p.m., TODAY, TUESDAY, JUNE 11, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT D

Thank you, good evening. [CEO, Point of Light, Government Program worker, Disability activist, Governor, etc.] ^{57 JUN 11 9:57} And to the rest of this extraordinary audience, the Cabinet, the ~~city~~ ^{sixty} Daily Points of Light who have joined us, the leaders of business and industry and all their associations, and all the others who make America the land of opportunity, welcome to the White House.

Characterized

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. And meet them we did -- each and every one of them. From Panama to Eastern Europe, to the Persian Gulf, our country has stood strong as a champion of freedom for all.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems on the home front with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis on the battlefield. I spelled out all my domestic priorities, and then I specifically asked that they pass just two laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday, and that tells us something profound.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why Congress can't pass a ^{transportation} ~~highway~~ bill in a hundred days. Most Americans believe fear of crime and violence threatens our most basic freedoms -- denies us opportunity. They also believe we must invest in our future -- provide an infrastructure for those who come after us. So they don't understand the complication,

the inaction, the bickering -- particularly when they do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods: conviction, compassion, and courage.

I don't say this to overstate Congressional inaction or run down government. Government is not the enemy --in many cases government is part of the solution. Yet, there are still those in Congress who think government alone is the answer. The American people know better. They know it intuitively, almost universally. When we listen, really listen, we understand very clearly what the people are trying to tell us. They are saying that solutions don't begin in Washington.

Tonight, gathered under the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans, representing thousands of others. If you will permit me, I'd like to share some of your successes with the rest of America because you bring to life the genius of the American spirit. Together we can transform America, and create communities everywhere ~~that are~~ whole and good. Tonight I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

A great nation has the courage to be honest about itself. And we are a great nation. I believe that absolutely, as do you. Still, no one can deny that we have enormous challenges. Not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many can't even imagine it.

There are impoverished Americans, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write.

There are Americans gone astray, the kids dragged down by drugs, the shattered families, the teenage mothers struggling to cope. Then there are Americans uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

Over these last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of these Americans persist. That cannot continue. I believe it is time for America to re-invent itself. America must think and act anew -- to emerge strong and proud at the dawn of the next American century.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is going to small towns and big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields. Those are the places where you find out what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

What I have found is that the state of our nation is the state of our communities. As our communities flourish, our nation will flourish. So we must seek a nation of whole communities, a nation of good communities -- an America, Whole and Good.

What defines such a community? First it is a one that cares for the needs of its young people by building character -- values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there are jobs at respectable wages, and job training too. Fourth, it's a place with good health care, and a

clean environment -- where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured within its people. Finally, all of its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, these are not just dreams. Thousands of communities like this flourish in America -- communities where people like you and me have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth -- a nation that can do anything. And we can make it even better.

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success -- success shaped with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes --but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. We have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. Every American should take pride in this country's fundamental goodness. Each of us must resolve in our own hearts that for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom in our day once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. As we entered the eighties -- our economy strangling on inflation, interest rates, and unemployment -- America turned away from government.

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of unparalleled economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. But the rising tide could not lift all boats. Our staggering budget deficits have mortgaged our future. Our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. We tried the marketplace, and the marketplace alone didn't solve all our problems, *either.*

Is the harsh lesson that there must always be those ^{*who*} ~~that~~ are left behind? America must have but one answer. The answer is No. There is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly ~~understood~~ ^{*understood*}, and service to others properly ~~fulfilled~~ ^{*fulfilled*}. This is the way to build an America Whole and Good. *engaged.*

It requires all three forces of our national life. First, it requires the power of the free market; second, a competent compassionate government; third, the ethic of serving others -- what I call Points of Light. These three powerful forces create the conditions ^{*for*} communities ~~that are~~ whole and good -- and it's time we harnessed all of them to transform America.

Power belongs where it will work for the greater good. It belongs in the hands of entrepreneurs, like _____; in the hands of [teacher of the year], in the hands of [point of light].

Let's start with the power of the free market. The entrepreneurs who are with us tonight, _____ know exactly what I'm talking about. What so much of the world can only

abundant

covet, we take for granted: ^a food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and at our shopping centers, cutting-edge, quality products of infinite variety. Nothing can beat the free market at generating good jobs at decent wages, in healthy and safe workplaces.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources, creativity, and know-how, to America's our social problems. Many companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners in our ^{exciting} Education 2000 strategy. Others are crusaders for environmental protection, while still others are innovators from health care to child care.

But the market can only go so far by itself. To transform America, government needs to be dynamic as well. To be the ^{enlightener} instrument of the people -- the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- and the embodiment of their vision -- it must truly be a force for good.

I believe in this kind of government -- a government of compassion and competence. And I believe in backing up that commitment with action. Here tonight, for example, is Mrs. _____. She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program called "Head Start." We expanded Head Start by \$____. And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we succeeded. The Americans with Disabilities

Act has brought a new opportunities to our nation's disabled -- some of you were right here when I signed it. Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. ____, in Prospect Gardens project in Missouri, where public housing tenants become America's newest homeowners. Our crime bill will help make America's neighborhoods safe. And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we will take a dramatic step against the blight of bigotry and discrimination. This is not big government -- this is good government. And it too leads to communities whole and good.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. That is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all -- as the verse of Randy Travis says, "a ray of hope in the darkest nights". Its light can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. ~~But~~ ^{light} ~~no~~ one of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the combined ~~assistance~~ ^{light} from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization in every community can dissolve the darkness.

Whether a company holds an after-hours literacy program for its workers, a police station counsels for tough kids, or third graders phone ^{lonely} homebound senior citizens, Points of light tell those in need that their lives matter. When Points of Light

places of worship

8

join with the power of government and the power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm stubborn social problems. This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every person, every business, every school board -- our associations, our clubs, our ~~churches~~ -- we all have the duty to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Think of the opportunity before us -- to re-invent America. Congress too must now understand the successes and failures of the past -- and help us forge the strongest future this world can imagine.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. I look out and see so much reflected in your faces -- the strength, the conviction, the commitment. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to ^{achieve} ~~inspire~~ a greater good. I know, because you've brought me into your homes and your neighborhoods, your schools and your churches.

Last year I walked through reclaimed blocks in Kansas City with a group of men called Mad Dads. I learned more about how our nation fights crime in two hours than in two months of TV news.

In _____, I visited D.C. General Hospital, and held a tiny boarder baby in my arms, the child of a cocaine addict. The remarkable dedication of the women who rescued these babies was just as moving. America needs to hear that story, too.

Just a few months ago, I dropped in on a little West Virginia school in a town called Slanesville. The National Teacher of the Year teaches remedial reading there. Her name is

Rae Ellen McKee. Visiting her gave me the opportunity to say to the nation, thank God for our teachers. [I'm proud she's here tonight.]

Just yesterday I spoke before the graduating class of the James H. Groves Adult High School of Sussex County, Delaware. I went there to honor those who had the courage to go back to school and get their diploma. They honored me by saying to America, we must be a nation dedicated to lifelong learning.

These are the Americans who love this country for what it is and for what it can become. These are the Americans who make this a nation of boldness -- filled with problem solvers -- gifted with the American tradition of living up to our ideals. These are the Americans who prove that no one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

This is the genius of America -- ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things.

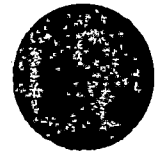
This is the genius we must carry forward. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you will. I know you have. Through you, your country can become an America Whole and Good. For that your country is grateful, and for that your country will endure.

GREBB

CLOSE HOLD

Document No. 244833SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 6/10/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/11/91 10:00 AM

SUBJECT: DRAFT FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING ADDRESS

	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"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" 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 forward any comments directly to David Demarest, 2F1., WW, x7620, no later than 10:00 AM, Tuesday, June 11, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

more than 60
Daily

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT B

31 JUN 10 PM 2:46

Thank you, good evening. Rae Ellen McKee, our National Teacher of the Year, welcome. Mrs. [Jones] Head Start graduate and now Head Start Program Chair, welcome. [John Smith] CEO of the ABC Corporation, welcome to you, sir. And to the rest of this extraordinary audience -- the governors, [I see Delaware's Mike Castle], the Cabinet, the ~~five~~ Points of Light, who have joined us, the leaders of business and industry and all their associations, and all the others who make America the land of opportunity, welcome to the South Lawn of the White House.

Chronological

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. And we met them -- each and every one of them. From Panama, to Eastern Europe, to Kuwait, our country has stood as a champion of freedom.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems in our own backyard with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis in the Gulf. Though I spelled out all my domestic priorities, I specifically asked that they pass just two laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday, and that tells us something profound.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why a ~~highway~~ bill can't pass in a hundred days. They don't understand the complication, the inaction, the bickering -- particularly

transportation

when they do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods.

I don't mention this to bash the Congress. I don't mention this to run down government. Government is not the enemy --in many cases government is part of the solution. Yet, there are still those in Congress who think government is the only solution. The American people know better. Almost universally, intuitively, they know that solutions don't begin in Washington D.C. When we politicians listen to the people, we understand very clearly what the people are trying to tell us.

Tonight, gathered here in the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans. ~~If you will permit me, I'd like to share some of your successes with the rest of America.~~ You demonstrate everyday how working together we can solve acute domestic problems. Together we can transform America, and create communities everywhere that are whole and good. Tonight I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

A great nation ~~must~~ ^{has} have the courage to be self-critical. And we are a great nation. No one can deny that we have enormous problems. Many of our communities are in serious trouble -- not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many Americans can't even imagine it.

There is the impoverished America, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write. There is the America gone astray, the kids on drugs, the broken families, the teenage mothers. And then there is an

critical

America uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

Over these last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of these Americans have grown. That cannot continue. The question is, what to do about it. I believe, it is time for America to re-invent itself. Time for America to think and act anew -- and plan for the next American century.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is getting out and talking with the people. Small towns, big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields -- those are the places where you find out what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

I grew up blessed with a loving family, a host of friends, and a lot of breaks. The American Dream was a family, a career, and a chance to make the world a better place -- and I believed it was literally around every corner. All you had to do was believe in yourself, work hard, respect others, and have faith in God. ~~These principles are ^{every day} ~~not~~ ~~changing~~.~~ But now, after a lifetime of experiences, I think there's more to the American Dream, and more to achieving it. It's not as simple as I once thought. Yet it's not that complicated either.

The state of our nation is the sum of its communities. If our communities are in trouble, our nation's in trouble. So we must seek a nation of communities that are whole and good.

I still try to follow those

4

What defines whole and good? First it is a community that cares for the needs of its young people by building character, values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there are jobs at respectable wages, and job training too. Fourth, it's a place with good health care, and a clean environment -- where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured within its people. Finally, its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, there are thousands of communities just like that in America. They are communities where millions upon millions of Americans have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth. And we're going to keep it that way.

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success. We have shaped that success with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes -- but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. But we have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. Every American should think about that, just for a moment, and feel proud. But for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand

over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. When we entered the eighties -- our economy strangling on inflation, unemployment, and sky-high interest rates -- America turned away from government.

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of unparalleled economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. But the rising tide could not lift all boats. Our staggering budget deficits have mortgaged our future. And twenty million new jobs later, our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. We tried the marketplace, and the marketplace alone didn't solve all our problems either

Will there always be those ~~that~~ are left behind? America must answer unequivocally. The answer is No. Because there is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly ~~fulfilled~~ channeled unleashed

During this past year we have witnessed America at its best. The War in the Gulf was not just a military achievement. It was much, much more. It was a victory for the parents who believe in the talent of our young people; a victory for workers who believe America can produce ^{top} quality like the Patriot missile; a victory for neighbors who help neighbors -- the outpouring of support for our men and women in the Gulf has been magnificent. It was also our products

who

still

~~Doc 1~~

all three are

government at its best. America's triumph was, in short, the conquest of doubt.

We can learn from this experience to build communities that are whole and good all across America. It requires all three forces of our national life. First, there is the magic of the free market; second, a government that acts competently and compassionately; third, the ethic of serving others -- what I call Points of Light -- ~~is~~ vital to America's future. These three powerful forces worked in common purpose in the Gulf. Right here at home, each is crucial to creating the conditions for whole and good communities -- and it's time we harnessed all of them to transform America.

and those who create them

Power belongs where it will work for the greater good. It belongs in the hands of people who seize opportunities. It belongs in the hands of entrepreneurs, like _____; in the hands of [teacher of the year], in the hands of ~~sp~~ point of light.

Let's start with the power of the free market. The entrepreneurs who are with us tonight, _____ know exactly what I'm talking about. What so much of the world only covets, we take for granted: ~~food~~ ^{abundant} food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and at our shopping centers, cutting-edge, quality products of infinite variety. Nothing has proved better than the free market at generating good jobs at decent wages, in workplaces that are safe and healthy.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources and know-how, its creativity and sense of purpose, to

Mack Stolarski or the D.C. Central Kitchen

Exciting

many of our social problems. Numerous companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners with us in our Education 2000 strategy. Others are leading the way in environmental protection, while still others are actively promoting innovation from health care to child care.

But the market can only go so far by itself. To transform America, government needs to be dynamic as well. Today our government guarantees our rights, and our liberties. It provides an important safety net for the needy. It creates economic incentives, settles disputes within the marketplace, and supports our national infrastructure. But to be the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- the ^{enlightened} instrument of the people -- it must truly be a force for good. A compassionate and competent government must help ^{to} transform America.

I believe in this kind of government. Here tonight, for example is Mrs. _____. She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program this Administration expanded called "Head Start." And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we succeeded. The Americans with Disabilities Act has brought a new opportunities to our nation's disabled -- some of you were right here when I signed it. Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. ____, in Prospect Gardens project in Missouri, where public housing tenants join the ranks

and a new sense of dignity

war

of America's newest homeowners. Our crime bill will help make America's neighborhoods safe. And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we will take a dramatic step against discrimination in the workplace. This is not big government, this is good government. And it too leads to communities whole and good.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. It is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all -- the light that can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. ~~But no~~ ^{light} one of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the combined ~~attention~~ from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization ^{in every community} can ~~turn the tide~~ dissolve the darkness.

Whether it's a company's after-hours literacy program for its workers, or a law firm's mentoring ^{projects} ~~class~~, a police station's counseling sessions for tough kids, or third graders who phone ^{lonely} homebound senior citizens, Points of light are giving those in need a sense that someone cares, that they matter and belong.

When Points of Light join with the power of government and the awesome power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm social problems in America. This is how we must guarantee the next American ~~century~~. Every one of us, our businesses, our

places of worship

school boards, our associations, our clubs, our churches -- all of us have the responsibility to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Our challenge is to re-invent America -- understand the successes and failures of the past -- and create an ~~ambitious~~ approach for the future. *that works*

We have always been a nation of problem solvers -- a people aware of the responsibility to live up to our ideals. No one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

achieve The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to ~~inspire~~ *do* a greater good. We must ~~carry forward~~ what is good, and ~~reach out and embrace~~ what is best. I know you will.

I know you have: For that your country is grateful, and ~~for that~~ your country will endure.

because of

CLOSE HOLD

Document No. 244833SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 6/10/91

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/11/91 10:00 AM

SUBJECT: DRAFT FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING ADDRESS

	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"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>BOSKIN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" 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 forward any comments directly to David Demarest, 2Fl., WW, x7620, no later than 10:00 AM, Tuesday, June 11, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

c/Free!

RESPONSE:

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT B

Thank you, good evening. Rae Ellen McKee, our ^{National} Teacher of the Year, welcome. Mrs. [Jones] Head Start graduate and now Head Start Program Chair, welcome. [John Smith] CEO of the ABC Corporation, welcome to you, sir. And to the rest of this extraordinary audience -- the governors, [I see Delaware's Mike Castle], the Cabinet, the fifty Points of Light who have joined us, the leaders of business and industry and all their associations, and all the others who make America the land of opportunity, welcome to the South Lawn of the White House.

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. And we met them -- each and every one of them. From Panama, to Eastern Europe, to Kuwait, our country has stood as a champion of freedom.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems in our own backyard with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis in the Gulf. Though I spelled out all my domestic priorities, I specifically asked that they pass just two laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday, and that tells us something profound.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why a highway bill can't pass in a hundred days. They don't understand the complication, the inaction, the bickering -- particularly

when they do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods.

I don't mention this to bash the Congress. I don't mention this to run down government. Government is not the enemy --in many cases government is part of the solution. Yet, there are still those in Congress who think government is the **only solution**. The American people know better. Almost universally, intuitively, they know that **solutions don't begin in Washington D.C.** When we politicians listen to the people, we understand very clearly what **the people** are trying to tell us.

Tonight , gathered here in the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans. If you will permit me, I'd like to share some of your successes with the rest of America. You demonstrate everyday how working together we can solve acute domestic problems. **Together we can transform America, and create communities everywhere that are whole and good.** Tonight I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

A great nation must have the courage to be self-critical. And we are a great nation. No one can deny that we have enormous problems. Many of our communities are in serious trouble -- not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many Americans can't even imagine it.

There is the impoverished America, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write. There is the America gone astray, the kids on drugs, the broken families, the teenage mothers. And then there is an

America uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

Over these last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of these Americans have grown. That cannot continue. The question is, what to do about it. I believe, it is time for America to re-invent itself. Time for America to think and act anew -- and plan for the next American century.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is getting out and talking with the people. Small towns, big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields -- those are the places where you find out what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

I grew up blessed with a loving family, a host of friends, and a lot of breaks. The American Dream was a family, a career, and a chance to make the world a better place -- and I believed it was literally around every corner. All you had to do was believe in yourself, work hard, respect others, and have faith in God. Those principles are indeed enduring. But now, after a lifetime of experiences, I think there's more to the American Dream, and more to achieving it. It's not as simple as I once thought. Yet it's not that complicated either.

The state of our nation is the sum of its communities. If our communities are in trouble, our nation's in trouble. So we must seek a nation of communities that are whole and good.

What defines whole and good? First it is a community that cares for the needs of its young people by building character, values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there are jobs at respectable wages, and ^{where needed} job training too. Fourth, it's a place with good health care, and a clean environment -- where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured within its people. Finally, its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, there are thousands of communities just like that in America. They are communities where millions upon millions of Americans have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. **America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth. And we're going to keep it that way.**

We **should** be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success. We have shaped that success with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes -- but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. But we have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. **Every American should think about that, just for a moment, and feel proud. But for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.**

Conventional wisdom once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand

over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. When we entered the eighties -- our economy strangling on inflation, unemployment, and sky-high interest rates -- America turned away from government.

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of unparalleled economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. But the rising tide could not lift all boats. Our staggering budget deficits have mortgaged our future. And twenty million new jobs later, our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. We tried the marketplace, and the marketplace alone didn't solve all our problems.

Will there always be those that are left behind? America must answer unequivocally. The answer is No. Because there is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly fulfilled.

During this past year we have witnessed America at its best. The War in the Gulf was not just a military achievement. It was much, much more. It was a victory for the parents who believe in the talent of our young people; a victory for workers who believe America can produce quality like the Patriot missile; a victory for neighbors who help neighbors -- the outpouring of support for our men and women in the Gulf was magnificent. It was also our

government at its best. America's triumph was, in short, the conquest of doubt.

We can learn from this experience to build communities that are whole and good all across America. It requires all three forces of our national life. First, there is the magic of the free market; second, a government that acts competently and compassionately; third, the ethic of serving others -- what I call Points of Light -- is vital to America's future. These three powerful forces worked in common purpose in the Gulf. Right here at home, each is crucial to creating the conditions for whole and good communities -- and it's time we harnessed all of them to transform America.

Power belongs where it will work for the greater good. It belongs in the hands of people who seize opportunities. It belongs in the hands of entrepreneurs, like _____; in the hands of [teacher of the year], in the hands of [point of light].

Let's start with the power of the free market. The entrepreneurs who are with us tonight, _____ know exactly what I'm talking about. What so much of the world only covets, we take for granted: food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and at our shopping centers, cutting-edge, quality products of infinite variety. Nothing has proved better than the free market at generating good jobs at decent wages, in workplaces that are safe and healthy.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources and know-how, its creativity and sense of purpose, to

many of our social problems. Numerous companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners with us in our Education 2000 strategy. Others are leading the way in environmental protection, while still others are actively promoting innovation from health care to child care.

But the market can only go so far by itself. To transform America, government needs to be dynamic as well. Today our government guarantees our rights, and our liberties. It provides an important safety net for the needy. It creates economic incentives, settles disputes within the marketplace, and supports our national infrastructure. But to be the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- the instrument of the people -- it must truly be a force for good. **A compassionate and competent government must help transform America.**

I believe in this kind of government. Here tonight, for example is Mrs. _____. She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program this Administration expanded called "Head Start." And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- **and we succeeded.** The Americans with Disabilities Act has brought ~~a~~ new opportunities to our nation's disabled -- some of you were right here when I signed it. Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. ____, in ^{the} Prospect Gardens project in Missouri, where public housing tenants join the ranks

Housing Community

Delete

of America's newest homeowners. Our crime bill will help make America's neighborhoods safe. And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we will take a dramatic step against discrimination in the workplace. This is not big government, this is good government. And it too leads to communities whole and good.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. It is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all -- the light that can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the combined attention from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization can turn the tide.

Whether it's a company's after-hours literacy program for its workers, or a law firm's mentoring class, a police station's counseling sessions for tough kids, or third graders who phone homebound senior citizens, Points of light are giving those in need a sense that someone cares, that they matter and belong.

When Points of Light join with the power of government and the awesome power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm social problems in America. This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every one of us, our businesses, our

school boards, our associations, our clubs, our churches -- all of us have the responsibility to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Our challenge is to re-invent America -- understand the successes and failures of the past -- and create an ambitious approach for the future.

We have always been a nation of problem solvers -- a people aware of the responsibility to live up to our ideals. No one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to inspire a greater good. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you will. I know you have. For that your country is grateful, and for that your country will endure.

- Nice Build up (to pg 5*) but Falls off afterward

- Teases a time for a new approach - to Policies that have Failed - ie Social Problems - But the Answer is Vague - No next - How About Some

Podium Powering - Its Time for a change + I will veto bills that simply perpetuate the same old tired Responses - that retard Change - We've taken Steps toward Reform - Budget Deal - We are trying to reform our money management system so that we head toward a Govt that lives within its means...

And I have bills on the bill - Not often heard of Crime, Civ. Rights, Transp^{education} that offer new ways of dealing w. long

- IF we are to lay the ground work for the future
- enable our future generations to be more prosperous
- AND NOT inherit, with the same staggering ^{intractable} problems we face today. Then we must ^{reform our methods} ~~and~~ employ

One of America's greatest assets -
our Creativity and innovative spirit.

We've tried the status quo and it isn't
working - innovation is not something
to fear but something we MUST embrace.

See p 4 President's Speech!

Carolyn's comments

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT B

Thank you, good evening. Rae Ellen McKee, our National Teacher of the Year, welcome. Mrs. [Jones] Head Start graduate and now Head Start Program Chair, welcome. [John Smith] CEO of the ABC Corporation, welcome to you, sir. And to the rest of this extraordinary audience -- the governors, [I see Delaware's Mike Castle], the Cabinet, the fifty Points of Light who have joined us, the leaders of business and industry and all their associations, and all [the ^{you?} others] who have made America the land of opportunity, welcome to the South Lawn of the White House.

To come from J.G. + ORL

~~what is this referring to? Beginning of Administration?~~
[Over the past thirty months], the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. And we met them -- each and every one of them. From Panama, to Eastern Europe, to Kuwait, our country ^{stands} [has stood] as a champion of freedom.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems in our own backyard with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis in the Gulf. I asked that they pass ^(bold it!) [just two laws in ^{one} a hundred days] -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday, and that tells us something profound. ^{OK?}

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days. They don't understand the complication, the inaction, the bickering -- particularly when they do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods.

I don't mention this to bash the Congress. I don't mention this to run down government. The government is not the enemy -- in many cases the government is ^(bold it) [part of the solution.] Yet, there are still those in Congress who think government is the **only solution**. The American people disagree. Almost universally, intuitively, they know that **solutions don't begin ⁱⁿ on Washington D.C.** If politicians would just listen to the people, they would begin to understand what America is trying to tell us.

Tonight, gathered here in the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans. If you will permit me, I'd like to share some of your successes with the rest of America. You have already demonstrated how working together we **can** solve acute domestic problems. You already grasp the need to combine our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly fulfilled. **Together we can transform America, and create communities everywhere that are whole and good.** Tonight I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

We **should** be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success. We have shaped that success with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes -- but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. But we have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. **Every American should think about that, just for a moment, and feel proud.** But for all the good we've done, it's time to do **better, and plan for the next American century.**

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is getting out and talking with [the people.] Small towns, big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields -- those are the places where you find out what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.


sounds a bit impetuous. How about "working Americans" or "Americans from all walks of life"?

I grew up blessed with a loving family, a host of friends, and a lot of breaks. I defined the American Dream as a family, a career, and a chance to make the world a better place -- and I believed it was literally around every corner. I believed that all you had to do to succeed was believe in yourself, work hard, respect others, and have faith in God. I still try to follow those principles each day. But now, after a lifetime of experiences, I think there's more to the American Dream, and more to achieving it.

It's not as simple as I once thought. Nor is it that complicated either. The state of our nation is the sum of her communities. If our communities are in trouble, our nation's in trouble. So we must seek a nation of communities that are whole and good. What defines whole and good?

First it is a community that cares for the needs of its young people by building character, values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there are jobs at respectable wages, and job training too. Fourth, it's a place with good health care, and a clean


environment -- where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured within its people. Finally, its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, there are thousands of communities just like that in America. They are communities where millions upon millions of Americans **have** achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. Across the board, **America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth.** And we  intend it keep it that way.

But a great nation must have the courage to be self-critical. And we **are** a great nation. No one can deny that we have enormous problems. Many of our communities are in serious trouble -- not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many Americans can't even imagine it.

There is the impoverished America, the poor and the hopeless, the hungry and the homeless. There are those unable to read and write. There is the America gone astray, the kids on drugs, the broken families, the teenage mothers. And then there is an America uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

Over these last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of these Americans have grown. **That cannot continue.** The question is, what to do about it. I believe, it is time for America to **[re-invent itself.]** Time for America to think and act anew -- and plan for the next American century.

 this strikes me as very abstract (the object of the sentence is intangible) ...

Conventional wisdom once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. ~~After twenty~~ ^{A decade ago.} (per Larry Lindsey) years, ~~with~~ ^{was} our economy ^{and} strangling on inflation, unemployment, and sky-high interest rates, ^{and} America turned away from government.

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of ~~unparalleled~~ ^{exceptional} economic growth ^{w/o inflation} -- ~~and~~ ^(per Lindsey) created twenty million new jobs. But the rising tide could not lift all boats. Twenty million new jobs later, our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. We tried the marketplace, and learned that alone, it didn't solve all our problems either.

Will there always be those that are left behind? **America must answer unequivocally. The answer is No.**

During this past year we have witnessed America **at its best.** The War in the Gulf was not just a military achievement. It was something much, much more. It was a victory for the parents who believe in the **talent of our young people**; a victory for workers who believe **America can produce quality like the Patriot missile**; a victory for **neighbors who help neighbors** -- the outpouring of support right here at home for our men and women in the Gulf was magnificent. It was also our government at its best. **America's triumph was, in short, the conquest of doubt.**

We can learn from this experience to see how to build communities that are whole and good all across America. It requires all three forces of national life. First, **there is the magic of the free market**; second, **a government that acts competently and compassionately**; third, **the ethic of serving others -- what I call Points of Light -- is vital to America's future**. These three powerful forces worked in common purpose in the Gulf. Right here at home, each is crucial to creating the conditions for whole and good communities -- and it's time we harnessed all of them to transform America.

Power belongs where it will work for the greater good. It belongs in the hands of people who seize opportunities. It belongs in the hands of **entrepreneurs, like _____**; in the hands of **[teacher of the year]**, in the hands of **[point of light]**. We have within our reach the power to transform America.

To come from J.G. + OPL

Let's start with the force of the free market. The **entrepreneurs who are with us tonight, _____** know exactly what I'm talking about.

What so much of the world only covets, we take for granted: food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and at our shopping centers, cutting-edge, quality products of infinite variety. Nothing has proved better than the free market at generating good jobs at decent wages, in workplaces that are safe and healthy.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources and know-how, its creativity and sense of purpose, to many of our social problems. Numerous companies, recognizing

that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education. They are partners with us in our Education 2000 strategy. Others are leading the way in environmental protection, while still others are actively promoting innovation from health care to child care.

But the market can only go so far by itself. To transform America, government needs to be dynamic as well. Today our government guarantees our rights, and our liberties. It provides an important safety net for the needy. It creates economic incentives, settles disputes within the marketplace, and supports our national infrastructure. But to be the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- the instrument of the people -- it must truly be a force for good. **A compassionate and competent government must help transform America.**

I believe in this kind of government. Here tonight, for example is Mrs. _____. She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program this Administration expanded called "Head Start." And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- **and we succeeded.** The Americans with Disabilities Act has brought a new opportunities to our nation's disabled -- some of you were right here when I signed it. Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. _____, in Prospect Gardens project in Missouri, to make America's public housing tenants America's newest homeowners. And our crime bill will help make America's

To Come
from J.G.
&
DPL

((initiatives))

Bertha Gilkey
Cochran

(St. Louis)

neighborhoods safe. This is not big government, **this is good government. And it too leads to communities whole and good.**

Finally, for America to be a nation of these communities, the forces of the free market and the government by themselves are not enough. To them must be added the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. It is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all -- the light that can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the **combined attention** from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization can turn the tide.

Whether it's a company's after-hours literacy program for its workers, or a law firm's mentoring class, a police station's counseling sessions for tough kids, or third graders who phone homebound senior citizens, **Points of light are giving those in need a sense that someone cares, that they matter and belong.**

When Points of Light join with the power of government and the awesome power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm social problems in America. This is how we must usher in the next American Century. Every one of us, our businesses, our school boards, our associations, our clubs, our churches -- **all of us have the responsibility to lead.**

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Our challenge is to re-invent America -- understand the successes and failures of the past -- and create an ambitious approach for the future.

We have always been a nation of problem solvers -- a people aware of the responsibility to live up to our ideals. No one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to inspire a greater good. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you will. I know you have. **For that your country is grateful, and for that your country will endure.**

#



CLOSE HOLD

Document No. 244833SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 6/10/91

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/11/91 10:00 AM

SUBJECT: DRAFT FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING ADDRESS

	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"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>BOSKIN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" 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 forward any comments directly to David Demarest, 2Fl., WW, x7620, no later than 10:00 AM; Tuesday, June 11, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT B

Thank you, good evening. Rae Ellen McKee, our National
Teacher of the Year, welcome. Mrs. [Jones] Head Start graduate
and now Head Start Program Chair, welcome. [John Smith] CEO of
the ABC Corporation, welcome to you, sir. And to the rest of
this extraordinary audience -- the governors, [I see Delaware's
Mike Castle], the Cabinet, the fifty Points of Light who have
joined us, the leaders of business and industry and all their
associations, and all the others who make America the land of
opportunity, welcome to the South Lawn of the White House.

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a
dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one
challenge after another. And we met them -- each and every one
of them. From Panama, to Eastern Europe, to Kuwait, our country
has stood as a champion of freedom.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent
problems in our own backyard with the same energy we dedicated to
tackling the crisis in the Gulf. Though I spelled out all my
domestic priorities, I specifically asked that they pass just two
laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a
transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday, and
that tells us something profound.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill
to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why a
highway bill can't pass in a hundred days. They don't understand
the complication, the inaction, the bickering -- particularly

51 JUN 10 PM 2:46

when they do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods.

I don't mention this to ^{CRITICIZE CONGRESSIONAL INACTION OR} bash the Congress. ~~I don't mention this~~ to run down government. Government is not the enemy -- in many cases government is part of the solution. Yet, there are still those in Congress who think government is the only solution. The American people know better. Almost universally, intuitively, they know that solutions don't begin in Washington D.C. [When we politicians listen to the people, we understand very clearly what the people are trying to tell us.]

Tonight , gathered here in the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans. If you will permit me, I'd like to share some of your successes with the rest of America. You demonstrate everyday how working together we can solve acute domestic problems. Together we can transform America, and create communities everywhere that are whole and good. Tonight I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

A great nation ^{IS A NATION WILLING TO EXAMINE ITSELF.} ~~must have the courage to be self-critical.~~ And we are a great nation. No one can deny that we have enormous ~~problems.~~ ^{CHALLENGES.} Many of our communities are in serious trouble -- not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many Americans can't even imagine it.

There is the impoverished America, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write. There is the America gone astray, the kids on drugs, the broken families, the teenage mothers. And then there is an

NOT
LEADERSHIP

America uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

REMAIN — NOT
GOTTEN WORSE.

Over these last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of these Americans have grown. That cannot continue. The question is, what to do about it. I believe, it is ~~time for America to re-invent itself.~~ Time for America to think and act anew -- and plan for the next American century.

NOT
REINVENTING
THE WHEEL.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is getting out and talking with the people. Small towns, big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields -- those are the places where you find out what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

I grew up blessed with a loving family, a host of friends, and a lot of breaks. The American Dream was a family, a career, and a chance to make the world a better place -- and I believed it was literally around every corner. All you had to do was believe in yourself, work hard, respect others, and have faith in God. Those principles are indeed enduring. But now, after a lifetime of experiences, I think there's more to the American Dream, and more to achieving it. It's not as simple as I once thought. Yet it's not that complicated either.

SOUNDS LIKE
LUCK.

WHAT?

The state of our nation is the sum of its communities. If our communities are in trouble, our nation's in trouble. So we must seek a nation of communities that are whole and good.

What defines whole and good? First it is a community that cares for the needs of its young people by building character, values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there are jobs at respectable ? wages, and job training too. Fourth, it's a place with good health care, and a clean environment -- where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured within its people. Finally, its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, there are thousands of communities just like that in America. They are communities where millions upon millions of Americans have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth. And we're going to ^{BUILD ON} ~~keep it~~ that ~~way~~ ^{FOUNDATION}

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success. We have shaped that success with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes -- but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. But we have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. Every American should think about that, just for a moment, and feel proud. But for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand

over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. When we entered the eighties -- our economy strangling on inflation, unemployment, and sky-high interest rates -- America turned away from government.

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of unparalleled economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. But the rising tide could not lift all boats. [Our staggering budget deficits have mortgaged our future.] And twenty million new jobs later, our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. We tried the marketplace, and the marketplace alone didn't solve all our problems.

^{MUST} Will there always be those that are left behind? America must answer unequivocally. The answer is No. Because there is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly fulfilled.

During this past year we have witnessed America at its best. The War in the Gulf was not just a military achievement. It was much, much more. It was a victory for the parents who believe in the talent of our young people; a victory for workers who believe America can produce quality like the Patriot missile; a victory for neighbors who help neighbors -- the outpouring of support for our men and women in the Gulf was magnificent. It was also our

BUT SPENDING
WENT UP.

?

WILL - YES

government at its best. America's triumph was, in short, the conquest of doubt.

We can learn from this experience to build communities that are whole and good all across America. It requires all three forces of our national life. First, there is the ^{POWER}magic of the free market; second, a government that acts competently and compassionately; third, the ethic of serving others -- what I call Points of Light -- is vital to America's future. These three powerful forces worked in common purpose in the Gulf. Right here at home, each is crucial to creating the conditions for whole and good communities -- and it's time we harnessed all of them to transform America.

Power belongs where it will work for the greater good. It belongs in the hands of people who seize opportunities. It belongs in the hands of entrepreneurs, like _____; in the hands of [teacher of the year], in the hands of [point of light].

Let's start with the power of the free market. The entrepreneurs who are with us tonight, _____ know exactly what I'm talking about. What so much of the world only covets, we take for granted: food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and at our shopping centers, cutting-edge, quality products of infinite variety. Nothing has proved better than the free market at generating good jobs at decent wages, in workplaces that are safe and healthy.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources and know-how, its creativity and sense of purpose, to

many of our social problems. Numerous companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners with us in our Education 2000 strategy. Others are leading the way in environmental protection, while still others are actively promoting innovation from health care to child care.

? | But the market can only go so far by itself. To transform America, government needs to be dynamic as well. Today our government guarantees our rights, and our liberties. It provides an important safety net for the needy. It creates economic incentives, settles disputes within the marketplace, and supports our national infrastructure. But to be the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- the instrument of the people -- it must truly be a force for good. A compassionate and competent government must help transform America.

I believe in this kind of government. Here tonight, for example is Mrs. _____. She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program this Administration expanded called "Head Start." And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we succeeded. The Americans with Disabilities Act has brought a new opportunities to our nation's disabled -- some of you were right here when I signed it. Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. ____, in Prospect Gardens project in Missouri, where public housing tenants join the ranks

of America's newest homeowners. Our crime bill will help make America's neighborhoods safe. And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we will take a dramatic step against discrimination in the workplace. This is not big government, this is good government. And it too leads to communities whole and good.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. It is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all -- the light that can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the combined attention from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization can turn the tide.

Whether it's a company's after-hours literacy program for its workers, or a law firm's mentoring class, a police station's counseling sessions for tough kids, or third graders who phone homebound senior citizens, Points of light are giving those in need a sense that someone cares, that they matter and belong.

When Points of Light join with the power of government and the awesome power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm social problems in America. This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every one of us, our businesses, our

school boards, our associations, our clubs, our churches -- all of us have the responsibility to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Our challenge is to re-invent America -- understand the successes and failures of the past -- and create an ambitious approach for the future.

We have always been a nation of problem solvers -- a people aware of the responsibility to live up to our ideals. No one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to inspire a greater good. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you will. I know you have. For that your country is grateful, and for that your country will endure.

DFD Master

C: 100A

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT E

Thank you, good evening. Members of the Cabinet, honored guests. Dr. Benjamin Payton of Tuskegee Institute who brings a lifelong commitment to our Historically Black Colleges, welcome. Governors _____, _____. Our own White House fellow and winner of the Distinguished Disabled American Award, welcome to you, sir. To _____ of the D.C. Central Kitchen and the over sixty other Points of Light who are here tonight, your work inspires the nation. And to the rest of this extraordinary gathering -- leaders of businesses, associations, volunteer organizations, education partnerships, and all those who make America the land of opportunity, welcome to the White House.

[I might add that also with us is Anthony Henderson, a youngster from Barcroft Elementary School in Arlington, Virginia. You may recall that when I visited his class, Anthony's the one who asked me to prove I was the President. I had to show him my *drivers license* ~~American Express Card~~ *and credit card.* Anthony, now do you believe me?]

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. And meet them we did -- each and every one of them. From Eastern Europe, to Panama, to the Persian Gulf, our country stands strong as a champion of freedom for all.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems on the home front with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis on the battlefield. I spelled out all my domestic priorities -- setting out an ambitious agenda founded upon economic growth, investing in our future, and providing

Paul O'Neill of Alcoa
Veteran
Ronald Reagan
Executive
Commissioner Smith
who has been
appointed
to go

opportunity to all Americans. I sent to the Congress literally thousands of recommendations for legislative change. Then I specifically asked that Congress pass just two laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. It is now clear that neither will be on my desk by Friday. So tonight, I want to put in perspective this breakdown of our legislative system.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days; or why Congress can't pass a highway bill in a hundred days. Most Americans believe fear of crime and violence threatens our most basic freedoms -- denies us opportunity. They also believe we must invest in our future -- provide an infrastructure for those who come after us. So they don't understand the complications of the inaction, the bickering -- particularly when so many do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods: conviction, compassion, and courage.

I cannot fully explain to the American people ^{this inaction} ~~the inaction~~. But I can say this as partial consolation: America's problem-solving does not begin or end with the Congress. If we waited for Congressional approval to act decisively against aggression in the Persian Gulf, we would still be waiting. We didn't wait, and now Kuwait is free.

Yes, it would help if Congress would do what we ask and need. But we cannot let its inaction discourage or deter us from meeting our responsibilities.

Tonight, gathered under the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans, representing thousands of others. You bring to life the genius of the American spirit, and it is through you and with you that we can solve our most pressing problems. Together we can transform America, and create communities ^{whole and good} everywhere that are whole and good. Tonight, I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

A great nation has the courage to be honest about itself. And we are a great nation. I believe that absolutely, as do you. We are indisputably the world's most powerful force for freedom and economic growth. Still, no one can deny that we have enormous challenges. Not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many can't even imagine it.

There are impoverished Americans, the poor and the homeless, the hungry and the hopeless, many unable to read and write. There are Americans gone astray, the kids dragged down by drugs, the shattered families, the teenage mothers struggling to cope. Then there are Americans uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is going to small towns and big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields. Those are the places where you discover what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

The state of our nation is the state of our communities. As our communities flourish, our nation will flourish. So we must seek a nation of whole communities, a nation of good communities -- an America, Whole and Good.

What defines such a community? First, it is one that cares for the needs of its young people by building character -- values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there is opportunity and hope -- rooted in the dignity of work, and reward for achievement. Fourth, it's where people care about their health and their environment -- and where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured. Finally, all of its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because ^{millions} ~~thousands~~ of Americans have chosen to lead the way, these are not just dreams. Thousands of communities, ^{whole and good already} ~~like this~~ flourish in America -- communities where ordinary people have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth -- a nation that can do anything. And we can ^{do} make it even better.

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success -- success shaped with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes --but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. [We have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right.] Every American should take pride in this country's fundamental goodness. Each

of us must resolve in our own hearts that for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, much, much better.

Conventional wisdom in our day once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. As we ~~ended~~ ^{ended} ~~the eighties~~ ^{Seventies} -- our economy strangling on inflation, soaring interest rates, and unemployment -- America turned away from government as "the answer".

~~So conventional wisdom then~~ ^{We} turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of exceptional economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. Yet, our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. There is more to be done; and the marketplace alone can't solve all our problems.

Is the harsh lesson that there must always be those ^{who} ~~that~~ are left behind? America must have but one answer. The answer is No. There is a better way, one that combines our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly ^{engaged} ~~channeled~~. This is the way to an America Whole and Good.

It requires all three forces of our national life. First, it requires the power of the free market; second, a competent, compassionate government; third, the ethic of serving others -- including what I call Points of Light. These three powerful

forces create the conditions for communities to be whole and good -- and it's time we harnessed all three of them.

In our complex democracy, power is fragmented. That can be frustrating. But on balance it's for the good. And power tends to move toward those who serve the greater good: entrepreneurs, like John Bryant, a young self-starter who has built a multimillion dollar enterprise and now helps rebuild inner city Los Angeles; caring individuals like Mack Stolarski, a retired carpenter who now helps his student apprentices repair homes for the poor and disabled. Mayor _____, who has kicked the drug dealers out of his town.

And because of the power of the free market, what so much of the world can only imagine, we take for granted: abundant food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and quality products at our shopping centers. Nothing beats the free market at generating good jobs, in healthy and safe workplaces.

The good news ^{in communities} is that the free market is now applying its resources, ~~creativity~~, and know-how ^{to} our social problems. Many companies, recognizing that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education -- partners in our exciting Education 2000 strategy. Others are crusaders for environmental protection, while still others are innovators from health care to child care.

Transforming America not only requires the power of the free market, ^{but also a dynamic} ~~government needs to be dynamic as well.~~ To be the enlightened instrument of the people -- the government of

Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- and the embodiment of their vision -- it must truly be a force for good.

I believe in this kind of government -- a government of compassion and competence. And I believe in backing up that commitment with action. Here tonight, for example, is Mrs. Lauren Floyd, one of the first Head Start graduates. Now, she teaches preschoolers in that same marvelous program. Her success is why we expanded Head Start by three quarters of a billion dollars. And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market ^{does not} cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- and we won. The Americans with Disabilities Act has brought new dignity and opportunity to our nation's disabled -- leaders of the disability community like Justin Dart and Evan Kemp were right here when I signed it. I see they are here tonight. Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. Ramona Younger in Charles Houston Community Center in Alexandria, Virginia -- where public housing tenants are becoming America's newest homeowners. Our crime bill will help make America's neighborhoods safe.*** And if we get the kind of civil rights bill that I sent to the Congress, we will take a dramatic step against the blight of bigotry and discrimination. This is not big government -- this is good government.

Finally, along with the forces of the free market and the government we must add the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. That is not a phrase about charity. It is about the

Dewey
Stokes
TOP

light that is within us all, ~~as the verse of Randy Travis says,~~
~~"a ray of hope in the darkest nights".~~ ^{It is light that} Its light can brighten ^{then light}
 the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine ^{it,}
 complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another
 in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like ^{poverty or} drug abuse
~~or poverty~~ by ourselves. Only the ^{light} combined brilliance from every
 school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and
 organization in every community can dissolve the darkness.

Whether a company holds an after-hours literacy program for
 its workers, a police station counsels tough kids, or third
 graders phone lonely homebound senior citizens, ^{Points of light}
^{show} ~~tell~~ those in need that their ~~lives~~ ^{lives} matter. ^{That their future is very important} ~~When~~ Points of
 Light join with the power of government and the power of the
 marketplace we ^{will} ~~can truly~~ overwhelm ~~stubborn~~ social problems.
 This is how we must guarantee the next American Century. Every
 person, every business, every school board -- our associations,
 our clubs, ^{our places of worship} ~~our churches~~ -- we all have the duty to lead.

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. ~~Think of the~~
~~opportunity before us -- to re-invent America.~~ Congress too must
 now understand the successes and failures of the past -- and help
 us forge the strongest future this world can imagine.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse
 to rest easy. I look out and see so much reflected in your faces
 -- the strength, the conviction, the commitment. You represent
 those millions of Americans who use power to ^{achieve} ~~inspire~~ a greater

good. I know, because you've brought me into your homes and your neighborhoods, your schools and your churches.

Last year I walked through reclaimed blocks in Kansas City with a group of men called Mad Dads. I learned more about how we can fight crime in two hours than in two months of TV news.

Another day I visited D.C. General Hospital, and held a tiny boarder baby in my arms, the child of a cocaine addict. The remarkable dedication of the women who rescued these babies was just as moving. America needs to hear that story, too.

Just a few months ago, I dropped in on a little West Virginia school in a town called Slanesville. The National Teacher of the Year teaches remedial reading there. Her name is Rae Ellen McKee and she's here tonight. Visiting her gave me the opportunity to say to the nation, "thank God for our teachers".

Just yesterday I spoke before the graduating class of the James H. Groves Adult High School of Sussex County, Delaware. Governor Mike Castle [nice to see you Mike] and I went there to honor those who had the courage to go back to school and get their diploma. They honored us by saying to America, we must be a nation dedicated to lifelong learning.

These are the Americans who love this country for what it is and for what it can become. These are the Americans who make this a nation of boldness -- filled with problem solvers -- gifted with the American tradition of living up to our ideals. These are the Americans who prove that no one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.


This is the genius of America -- ordinary Americans doing extraordinary things.

The Congress can refer our proposals to its hundreds of committees, tie itself up with debate, and produce complicated, *expensive*, unworkable legislation. But in the end we must carry forward the magic of America. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you have. I know you will. Through you, our country can become an America Whole and Good. For that our country is grateful, and *because of* ~~for~~ that our country will endure.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 6/10/91 - 10:30am

TO:

FROM: DAVID DEMAREST 
Assistant to the President
for Communications

H O L D C L O S E

Version 3.

Please do a quick read of the attached.

Thanks.

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, WELCOME]

DRAFT B

Thank you, good evening. Rae Ellen McKee, our National Teacher of the Year, welcome. Mrs. [Jones] Head Start graduate and now Head Start Program Chair, welcome. [John Smith] CEO of the ABC Corporation, welcome to you, sir. And to the rest of this extraordinary audience -- the governors, [I see Delaware's Mike Castle], the Cabinet, the fifty Points of Light who have joined us, the leaders of business and industry and all their associations, and all the others who have made America the land of opportunity, welcome to the South Lawn of the White House.

Over the past thirty months, the world has changed at a dramatic pace. America has been called upon to meet one challenge after another. And we met them -- each and every one of them. From Panama, to Eastern Europe, to Kuwait, our country has stood as a champion of freedom.

Ninety-eight days ago, I asked Congress to tackle the urgent problems in our own backyard with the same energy we dedicated to tackling the crisis in the Gulf. I asked that they pass just two laws in a hundred days -- a comprehensive anti-crime bill, and a transportation bill. Neither will be on my desk by Friday, and that tells us something profound.

It is hard for the American people to understand why a bill to fight crime cannot be enacted in a hundred days. They don't understand the complication, the inaction, the bickering -- particularly when they do understand what it takes to solve problems in their own neighborhoods.

I don't mention this to bash the Congress. I don't mention this to run down government. The government is not the enemy -- in many cases the government is part of the solution. Yet, there are still those in Congress who think government is the **only solution**. The American people disagree. Almost universally, intuitively, they know that **solutions don't begin on Washington D.C.** If politicians would just listen to the people, they would begin to understand what America is trying to tell us.

Tonight, gathered here in the twilight shadow of Washington's Monument, are many extraordinary Americans. If you will permit me, I'd like to share some of your successes with the rest of America. You have already demonstrated how working together we **can** solve acute domestic problems. You already grasp the need to combine our efforts -- those of a government properly defined, the marketplace properly understood, and service to others properly fulfilled. **Together we can transform America, and create communities everywhere that are whole and good.** Tonight I am asking all Americans to lead the way.

We should be confident about what lies ahead. America has a track record of success. We have shaped that success with our own hands. Sometimes, in our impatience, we've made mistakes -- but when we do, we dust ourselves off, and go at it again. But we have always acted out of a conviction to do what's right. **Every American should think about that, just for a moment, and feel proud.** But for all the good we've done, it's time to do better, and plan for the next American century.

For many years I have crisscrossed this nation. As President, part of my job -- an exciting part -- is getting out and talking with the people. Small towns, big cities, schools, neighborhoods and playgrounds, factories, farms, and fields -- those are the places where you find out what's good and right about our country -- and what's going wrong, too.

I grew up blessed with a loving family, a host of friends, and a lot of breaks. I defined the American Dream as a family, a career, and a chance to make the world a better place -- and I believed it was literally around every corner. I believed that all you had to do to succeed was believe in yourself, work hard, respect others, and have faith in God. I still try to follow those principles each day. But now, after a lifetime of experiences, I think there's more to the American Dream, and more to achieving it.

It's not as simple as I once thought. Nor is it that complicated either. The state of our nation is the sum of her communities. If our communities are in trouble, our nation's in trouble. So we must seek a nation of communities that are whole and good. What defines whole and good?

First it is a community that cares for the needs of its young people by building character, values and good habits for life. Second, it's a community that provides excellent schools -- schools that spark a lifelong interest in learning. Next, there are jobs at respectable wages, and job training too. Fourth, it's a place with good health care, and a clean

environment -- where a sense of well-being and belonging is nurtured within its people. Finally, its neighborhoods are decent and safe.

Because thousands of Americans have chosen to lead the way, there are thousands of communities just like that in America. They are communities where millions upon millions of Americans have achieved the American Dream. We should never lose sight of that. Across the board, America is the most prosperous and productive, educated and enlightened nation on earth. And we intend it keep it that way.

But a great nation must have the courage to be self-critical. And we are a great nation. No one can deny that we have enormous problems. Many of our communities are in serious trouble -- not all Americans are living the American Dream. Many Americans can't even imagine it.

There is the impoverished America, the poor and the hopeless, the hungry and the homeless. There are those unable to read and write. There is the America gone astray, the kids on drugs, the broken families, the teenage mothers. And then there is an America uneasy, troubled and bewildered by the dizzying pace of change.

Over these last twenty or thirty years, despite our best intentions, the ranks of these Americans have grown. That cannot continue. The question is, what to do about it. I believe, it is time for America to re-invent itself. Time for America to think and act anew -- and plan for the next American century.

Conventional wisdom once held that all solutions were in the hands of government: call in the best and brightest and hand over the keys to the national treasury. Bigger government was better government: compassion measured in dollars and cents; progress by price tag. We tried that course. After twenty years, with our economy strangling on inflation, unemployment, and sky-high interest rates, America turned away from government.

So conventional wisdom then turned to the genius of the free market. We began a decade of unparalleled economic growth -- and created twenty million new jobs. But the rising tide could not lift all boats. Twenty million new jobs later, our streets are still not safe, our schools have lost their edge, and millions still trudge the path of poverty. We tried the marketplace, and learned that alone, it didn't solve all our problems either.

Will there always be those that are left behind? **America must answer unequivocally. The answer is No.**

During this past year we have witnessed America at its best. The War in the Gulf was not just a military achievement. It was something much, much more. It was a victory for the parents who believe in the talent of our young people; a victory for workers who believe America can produce quality like the Patriot missile; a victory for neighbors who help neighbors -- the outpouring of support right here at home for our men and women in the Gulf was magnificent. It was also our government at its best. **America's triumph was, in short, the conquest of doubt.**

We can learn from this experience to see how to build communities that are whole and good all across America. It requires all three forces of national life. First, there is the magic of the free market; second, a government that acts competently and compassionately; third, the ethic of serving others -- what I call Points of Light -- is vital to America's future. These three powerful forces worked in common purpose in the Gulf. Right here at home, each is crucial to creating the conditions for whole and good communities -- and it's time we harnessed all of them to transform America.

Power belongs where it will work for the greater good. It belongs in the hands of people who seize opportunities. It belongs in the hands of entrepreneurs, like _____; in the hands of [teacher of the year], in the hands of [point of light]. We have within our reach the power to transform America.

Let's start with the force of the free market. The entrepreneurs who are with us tonight, _____ know exactly what I'm talking about.

What so much of the world only covets, we take for granted: food on the shelves of our supermarkets, and at our shopping centers, cutting-edge, quality products of infinite variety. Nothing has proved better than the free market at generating good jobs at decent wages, in workplaces that are safe and healthy.

The good news is that the free market is now applying its resources and know-how, its creativity and sense of purpose, to many of our social problems. Numerous companies, recognizing

that tomorrow's workers are today's students, are leaders of a revolution in American education. They are partners with us in our Education 2000 strategy. Others are leading the way in environmental protection, while still others are actively promoting innovation from health care to child care.

But the market can only go so far by itself. To transform America, government needs to be dynamic as well. Today our government guarantees our rights, and our liberties. It provides an important safety net for the needy. It creates economic incentives, settles disputes within the marketplace, and supports our national infrastructure. But to be the government of Jefferson and Lincoln and Roosevelt -- the instrument of the people -- it must truly be a force for good. **A compassionate and competent government must help transform America.**

I believe in this kind of government. Here tonight, for example is Mrs. _____. She teaches preschoolers in a marvelous government program this Administration expanded called "Head Start." And a year ago I signed our child care bill to make child care available to those that the market cannot reach. We fought for a Clean Air Act that puts the free market in the service of the environment -- **and we succeeded.** The Americans with Disabilities Act has brought a new opportunities to our nation's disabled -- some of you wer right here when I signed it. Jack Kemp and I stood with Mrs. ____, in Prospect Gardens project in Missouri, to make America's public housing tenants America's newest homeowners. And our crime bill will help make America's

neighborhoods safe. This is not big government, **this is good government.** And it too leads to **communities whole and good.**

Finally, for America to be a nation of these communities, the forces of the free market and the government by themselves are not enough. To them must be added the ethic of voluntary service -- Points of Light. It is not a phrase about charity. It is about the light that is within us all -- the light that can brighten the lives of others -- and make the lives of those who shine it, complete as well.

Points of Light is a call to every American to serve another in need. But no one of us can solve big problems like drug abuse or poverty by ourselves. Only the **combined attention** from every school, every business, place of worship, club, group, and organization can turn the tide.

Whether it's a company's after-hours literacy program for its workers, or a law firm's mentoring class, a police station's counseling sessions for tough kids, or third graders who phone homebound senior citizens, **Points of light are giving those in need a sense that someone cares, that they matter and belong.**

When Points of Light join with the power of government and the awesome power of the marketplace we can truly overwhelm social problems in America. This is how we must usher in the next American Century. Every one of us, our businesses, our school boards, our associations, our clubs, our churches -- **all of us have the responsibility to lead.**

Only then, can we truly think and act anew. Our challenge is to re-invent America -- understand the successes and failures of the past -- and create an ambitious approach for the future.

We have always been a nation of problem solvers -- a people aware of the responsibility to live up to our ideals. No one in America is without a gift to give, a skill to share, a hand to offer.

The people gathered here tonight represent those who refuse to rest easy. You represent those millions of Americans who use power to inspire a greater good. We must carry forward what is good, and reach out and embrace what is best. I know you will. I know you have. **For that your country is grateful, and for that your country will endure.**