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though I'm going to still stay very firmly on these spending caps.

Q. Mr. President, though, the day before the primary to say that you now regret having done this, isn't that a little bit late to do that, sir? And can it be seen as a little bit disingenuous?

The President. I don't know whether it's late or not, it's just the way I feel given what's going on on Capitol Hill. It's getting intense. As you know, the House passed a tax bill which I'll veto. And now, much to my consternation, you see the Senate going about the same old business. So, this just gangs up on you, plus the political flak out there.

Economic Plan

Q. With respect to your short-term growth package, many prominent economists, and including Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan, have said that given the economic realities it would be better not to tinker with the Tax Code at all, whether it's for tax incentives or for tax increases. How do you respond to that?

The President. I don't know that Greenspan was addressing himself to our growth package, but clearly a lot of economists are opposing what's happening in terms of these broad across-the-board handouts. And our incentive program, I think, would have instant stimulation on the economy. Instant. And it would restore confidence very quickly. It's getting increasingly difficult, given the votes up there, and that's one of the reasons that I'm as frustrated as I am.

Q. If I may follow up, though. I think he was speaking in broad terms about any sort of short-term fiscal stimulus, whether it's your package or a Democrat's.

The President. Well, you'll have to ask Greenspan what he's speaking about. I think short-term stimulus, such as I mentioned, would stimulate the economy and would be very good for housing. I think housing would lead this recovery much quicker. You know my view on capital gains. So, ask him about his view, and I've just given you mine.

Yes? And I've got to get going.

Reducing Federal Government

Q. You've been saying that Government has grown too big, spends too much. Have

you looked at your Agriculture Department where the numbers of employees has grown?

The President. Haven't had a chance to look at that lately, but I'll take a look at it. Is it getting—I mean, what we're doing is total Government personnel, I believe you'll see is down, a lot of that obviously coming from reductions in the Defense Department. But I haven't looked at the Ag Department.

Presidential Primaries

Q. How do you think you'll do today, sir?

Q. You say you were misled by the Democrats 2 years ago?

The President. Huh?

Q. How do you think you'll do in today's primaries?

The President. I think I'll win them. I think I'll win them.

Taxes

Q. Were you misled by the Democrats?

The President. Well, I had the distinct feeling that that one deal would be the one-time compromise. And as far as I'm concerned, it is. I'm going to veto their tax bill. So, we'll just leave it there. But I'd like to see them move forward on these incentives that we're talking about.

Q. Was it the biggest mistake, too, politically?

The President. Well, I don't know. I don't know. We'll see.

Q. Thank you.

Note: The exchange began at 9:53 a.m. prior to the President's departure for Chicago, IL.

Remarks to the National Association of Evangelicals in Chicago, Illinois

March 3, 1992

Thank you for that welcome. And to Dr. Johnson, Dr. Billy Melvin, Don Argue, Dave Rambo, Bob Dugan, my sincere thanks, not just to you all, to everyone up here, but to all of you for that very warm welcome.

And I'd like to open, if I may, on a personal note, to thank you for the help that you've given me over the years. And I'm not really referring to the fine work that your team in Washington has been doing, although they've

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een of great help to our administration, ad-
vancing the values we share. Nor am I think-
ing only of the wonderful work you do in
world relief and in helping people around
this world, which is superb work. But my
thanks are really more personal than that,
and Barbara and I particularly want to thank
you for your prayers. As I said many times
before, prayer always has been important in
our lives. And without it, I really am con-
vinced, more and more convinced, that no
man or no woman, who has the privilege of
serving in the Presidency, could carry out
their duties without prayer. I think of Lin-
coln's famous remark, "I've been driven
many times to my knees by the overwhelm-
ing conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

The intercessory prayers that so many
Americans make on behalf of the President
of the United States, in this instance, on be-
half of me, and also of my family, they inspire
us, and they give us strength. And I just want-
ed you to know that, and Barbara and I are
very, very grateful to you.

I am delighted to have this opportunity to
speak to this most prestigious meeting, to
speak with you today on the occasion of your
50th anniversary. Your theme: Forward in
faith. And that says as much about your
movement, much about what evangelicals
have brought to America over its lifetime.
Evangelicals point our country toward the fu-
ture, and with the diligence and hard work
and confidence that only a firm faith can pro-
vide. In so many crucial ways, your concerns
are the concerns of your countrymen.

We agree on the big issues that shape the
world and on the values, on the values so
close to home. I'm talking about jobs, obvi-
ously; about family; about world peace, for
ourselves and I guess even more important,
for our kids, for the generations coming
along.

And we agree that we must speak out
against racial bigotry and against anti-Semi-
tism. And as I stressed in my State of the
Union Address, it's especially critical in these
days of economic difficulty to point out that
racial bigotry and anti-Semitism simply have
no place in America.

You want, as all Americans do, safe streets
for your children. You want schools where
your children can receive the finest possible

education, to prepare them for a life of indus-
try and good citizenship and faith in God.
And I believe that means that you are enti-
tled to choose your children's schools.

You want a government that understands
the limited role that it must play in a nation
of free men and women; a government that
promotes economic growth and opportunity;
a government that spends your tax money
for the common good, and for the common
good alone.

And you want for yourselves and your
country that most precious of gifts, peace on
Earth. You understand that peace comes not
from vacillation and weakness, but from clar-
ity of purpose and from strength. The last
time a President came before you, I note that
it is almost 8 years to the day, our country
was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle,
the cold war. President Reagan spoke to you
then of what America must do to win this
hard and bitter peace. Like you, President
Reagan and I understood that the cold war
wasn't simply some mundane competition
between rival world powers. It was a struggle
for the mind of man.

On one side was a system dedicated to de-
nying the life of the spirit and celebrating
the omnipotence of the state. On the other,
was a system founded on a profound truth,
that our Creator has endowed his children
with inalienable rights that no government
can deny.

And now, 8 years later, we can say con-
fidently, Americans won the cold war. We
won it by standing for what's right. Tonight
our children and grandchildren—and I take
great joy in this—tonight our children and
our grandchildren will go to their beds
untroubled by the fears of nuclear holocaust
that haunted two generations of Americans.
In our prayers we asked for God's help. I
know our family did, and I expect all of you
did. We asked for God's help. And now in
this shining outcome, in this magnificent tri-
umph of good over evil, we should thank
God. We should give thanks.

By the way, I notice from your Washington
newsletter that recently even Time magazine
called the old Soviet Union an evil empire.
Now they tell us. [Laughter] I think you will
recall only a few years ago when—many of
you know this—about the time when Bill

Graham went to the Soviet Union. And he came back and told a lot of people, told us of the people's hunger for religion. And some did not believe him then. Nobody here doubted that. But some across our country simply could not believe that. But now, no one doubts him. I know evangelicals understood this all along.

Our victory in the cold war came from the kind of work performed by people here in this room. Many of you, many of you bravely brought Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, sharing the word of God with people who longed for it. And through your World Relief Corporation and other enterprises, you helped resettle thousands who were fleeing oppression. Many evangelicals risked their lives to bring theological training where such training was forbidden.

And now in the free countries of the former Communist bloc, your work continues to ensure that the vacuum left by communism's demise is filled by faith. You and I both know there is more to do in the cause of religious freedom, and you have my full support in that effort. Rest assured, our country, indeed the world, will be forever grateful for what you have done.

Americans are the most religious people on Earth. And we have always instinctively sensed that God's purpose was bound up with the cause of liberty. The Founders understood this. As Jefferson put it, "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?" That conviction is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence and in our Constitution. And it's no accident that in drafting our Bill of Rights, the Founders dedicated the first portion of our first amendment to religious liberty. We rightly emphasize the opening clause of that amendment, which forbids government from establishing religion. In fact, I believe the establishment clause has been a great boon to our country's religious life. One reason religion flourishes in America is that worship can never be controlled by the state.

But in recent times we have too often ignored the clause that follows, which forbids government from prohibiting the free exercise of religion. This myopia has in some

places resulted in an aggressive campaign against religious belief itself. Some people seem to believe that freedom of religion requires government to keep our lives free from religion. Well, I believe they're just plain wrong. Our government was founded on faith. Government must never promote a religion, of course, but it is duty bound to promote religious liberty. And it must never put the believer at a disadvantage because of his belief. That is the challenge that our administration has undertaken. To be succinct, it is my conviction that children have a right to voluntary prayer in the public schools.

And we must hold the line on state intervention in other areas as well. Two years ago, for example, we were in a tough fight on Capitol Hill over child care legislation. But with the invaluable help of your group and of other pro-family organizations, we kept choice of child care out of the hands of the Government bureaucrats and kept it where it belongs, in the hands of the parents. And you remember the fight, but we were determined to help families get the kind of child care they want. And that included church-based care. And that's the way the law is now, and that's the way it should be.

And we will continue to fight for the parents' right to choose their children's schools. School choice is at the heart of America 2000, our strategy to literally revolutionize American education. All parents, rich or poor, must have the right to choose the kind of education their children will receive. And as I've said many times, that must include religious-based schools.

For many years Americans saw another disturbing trend. Judges, legislating from the bench, steadily expanded the power of government over the lives of ordinary Americans. Today, I am happy to report to you that that trend is over. Over the past 3 years I have appointed more than 160 judges who understand the limits of government and the rights of parents; judges who punish criminals, not honest cops out trying to do their jobs. And I am very proud of the two fine men who have taken their place on the Supreme Court since I've been President, Justice David Souter and Justice Clarence Thomas.

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We must do everything in our power to preserve the institution that nurtures faith, the family. And I am firmly convinced that our greatest problems today, from drugs and welfare dependency to crime and moral breakdown, spring from the deterioration of the American family. And too often overweening government has aided the tragedy.

Recently I announced a new commission to isolate the causes of the family's decline. And I did that after meeting with Democratic mayors and Republican mayors from the National League of Cities, some from big cities, some from small, all saying what I've just said. The fundamental problem is the decline of the family when you look at these urban problems. I think you'll agree that I found the right man to lead the commission, your layman of the year, last year, Governor John Ashcroft of the State of Missouri. John knows the importance that we place on strengthening the families. Families must come first in America.

We must always guard against laws that weaken the family, weaken traditional values. And at the same time, we can take positive steps to strengthen them. Here's an example that will begin to address the real costs of childrearing. I have asked Congress to increase the child tax exemption by \$500 per child, and I want the Congress to do it now.

We're also waging war against the forces that would tear the family apart. In 1990 alone, our agents from the FBI and Customs and Postal Inspection Service won 245 convictions against the smut merchants who deal in child pornography. These creatures have been put on notice. There is no place in America for this horrifying exploitation of children.

Faith, family: these are the values that sustain the greatest Nation on Earth. And to these values we must add the infinitely precious value of life itself. Let me be clear: I support the right to life. Six times the Congress has sent me legislation permitting Federal funding of abortion, and six times I've told them no and vetoed these bills.

Now we've got another fight. The Democratic Congress has opened up yet another front in this battle. Tomorrow they will begin hearings on new legislation, and they call it the freedom of choice act. And it would impose on all 50 States an unprecedented regime of abortion on demand going well beyond even *Roe versus Wade*. It would block many State laws requiring that parents be told about abortions being performed on their young daughters, even though the Supreme Court has upheld such laws five times. It would override State laws restricting sex-selection abortions. And it would severely limit the State's ability to impose meaningful restrictions on abortions performed in the 8th or even the 9th month of pregnancy. This is not right. And it will not become law as long as I am President of the United States of America.

Lincoln once said, "My concern is not whether God is on our side, but whether we are on God's side. As President I have often spoken of service, not simply public service, but personal service, one human being coming to the aid of another. And I'm always reminded of a phrase from the Book of Common Prayer: "Oh, God . . . whose service is freedom." We must be sustained by the confidence that in serving others, in promoting the values of faith and family and life, we serve Him as well. It is this confidence that will enable us to move our country forward in faith, and—remember one Nation under God.

Thank you, and may God bless you and your wonderful work. And thank you for having me with you.

Note: The President spoke at 11:57 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to B. Edgar Johnson, president, Billy Melvin, executive director, Don Argue, first vice president, and David Rambo, second director of the National Association of Evangelicals. The President also referred to Robert Dugan, director of the association's office of public affairs in Washington, DC.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

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THANK YOU, DR. [EDGAR] JOHNSON. GREETINGS TO DR.
BILLY MELVIN, DON ARGUE, DAVID RAMBO, AND BOB DUGAN.

I'D LIKE TO OPEN, IF I MAY, ON A PERSONAL NOTE, TO
THANK YOU FOR THE HELP YOU HAVE GIVEN ME OVER THE
YEARS. AND I'M NOT REALLY REFERRING TO THE FINE WORK
YOUR TEAM IN WASHINGTON HAS BEEN DOING -- ALTHOUGH THEY
HAVE BEEN OF GREAT HELP TO OUR ADMINISTRATION IN
ADVANCING THE VALUES WE SHARE.

MY THANKS ARE MORE PERSONAL THAN THAT. BARBARA
AND I PARTICULARLY WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS.
As I've said many times before
PRAYER HAS ALWAYS BEEN IMPORTANT IN OUR LIVES, AND
WITHOUT ^{It} ~~ITS AID~~, I'M CONVINCED, NO MAN WHO HAS THE
PRIVILEGE OF SERVING IN THE PRESIDENCY COULD CARRY OUT
HIS DUTIES. I THINK OF LINCOLN'S FAMOUS REMARK: "I'VE
BEEN DRIVEN MANY TIMES TO MY KNEES BY THE OVERWHELMING
CONVICTION THAT I HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO GO."

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THE INTERCESSIONARY PRAYERS SO MANY AMERICANS MAKE ON OUR BEHALF INSPIRE US AND GIVE US STRENGTH, AND I THANK YOU FOR THAT.

I AM DELIGHTED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH YOU TODAY, ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY. YOUR THEME -- "FORWARD IN FAITH" -- SAYS MUCH ABOUT YOUR MOVEMENT, MUCH ABOUT WHAT EVANGELICALS HAVE BROUGHT TO AMERICA OVER ITS LIFETIME. EVANGELICALS POINT OUR COUNTRY TOWARD THE FUTURE, WITH THE DILIGENCE AND HARD WORK AND CONFIDENCE ONLY A FIRM FAITH CAN PROVIDE.

~~IN ONE SENSE, OF COURSE, EVANGELICALS STAND APART,~~
~~AS THEY MUST, BEARING WITNESS TO A TRANSCENDENT TRUTH.~~
~~AND BELIEVE ME, OUR CULTURE DESPERATELY NEEDS TO HEAR~~
IT.

~~BUT AT THE SAME TIME,~~ IN SO MANY CRUCIAL WAYS,
YOUR CONCERNS ARE THE CONCERNS OF YOUR COUNTRYMEN.

We agree that we must
speak out against ³ racial bigotry
and ~~against~~ anti-sentiment. In these days
of economic stress it is especially important to point
out that racial bigotry has no place in America

WE AGREE ON THE BIG ISSUES THAT SHAPE THE WORLD

-- AND ON THE VALUES CLOSE TO HOME: I'M TALKING ABOUT
JOBS, ABOUT FAMILY, ABOUT PEACE, FOR OURSELVES -- FOR
OUR KIDS.

YOU WANT, AS ALL AMERICANS DO, SAFE STREETS FOR
YOUR CHILDREN. YOU WANT SCHOOLS WHERE YOUR CHILDREN
CAN RECEIVE THE FINEST POSSIBLE EDUCATION, TO PREPARE
THEM FOR A LIFE OF INDUSTRY AND GOOD CITIZENSHIP AND
FAITH IN GOD. AND I BELIEVE THAT MEANS YOU'RE ENTITLED
TO CHOOSE YOUR CHILDREN'S SCHOOLS.

YOU WANT A GOVERNMENT THAT UNDERSTANDS THE LIMITED
ROLE IT MUST PLAY IN A NATION OF FREE MEN AND WOMEN; A
GOVERNMENT THAT PROMOTES ECONOMIC GROWTH AND
OPPORTUNITY; A GOVERNMENT THAT SPENDS YOUR TAX MONEY
FOR THE COMMON GOOD, AND FOR THE COMMON GOOD ALONE.

AND YOU WANT FOR YOURSELVES AND YOUR COUNTRY THAT MOST PRECIOUS OF GIFTS -- PEACE ON EARTH. YOU UNDERSTAND THAT PEACE COMES NOT FROM VACILLATION AND WEAKNESS BUT FROM CLARITY OF PURPOSE AND FROM STRENGTH. THE LAST TIME A PRESIDENT CAME BEFORE YOU -- I NOTE THAT IT IS ALMOST EIGHT YEARS TO THE DAY -- OUR COUNTRY WAS NEARING THE CLIMAX OF A TITANIC STRUGGLE, THE COLD WAR.

PRESIDENT REAGAN SPOKE TO YOU THEN OF WHAT AMERICA MUST DO TO WIN THIS HARD AND BITTER PEACE. LIKE YOU, PRESIDENT REAGAN AND I UNDERSTOOD THAT THE COLD WAR WASN'T SOME MUNDANE COMPETITION BETWEEN RIVAL WORLD POWERS. IT WAS A STRUGGLE FOR THE MIND OF MAN.

ON ONE SIDE WAS A SYSTEM DEDICATED TO DENYING THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT AND CELEBRATING THE OMNIPOTENCE OF THE STATE. ON THE OTHER WAS A SYSTEM FOUNDED ON A PROFOUND TRUTH -- THAT OUR CREATOR HAS ENDOWED HIS CHILDREN WITH INALIENABLE RIGHTS THAT NO GOVERNMENT CAN DENY.

AND NOW, EIGHT YEARS LATER, WE CAN SAY
CONFIDENTLY: AMERICANS WON THE COLD WAR. WE WON IT BY
STANDING FOR WHAT'S RIGHT.

TONIGHT OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN WILL GO TO
THEIR BEDS UNTRoubLED BY THE FEARS OF NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST
THAT HAUNTED TWO GENERATIONS OF AMERICANS. IN OUR
PRAYERS WE ASKED FOR GOD'S HELP. NOW, IN THIS SHINING
OUTCOME, IN THIS GREAT TRIUMPH OF GOOD OVER EVIL, WE
SHOULD THANK GOD.

((BY THE WAY, I NOTICE FROM YOUR WASHINGTON
NEWSLETTER THAT RECENTLY EVEN TIME MAGAZINE CALLED THE
OLD SOVIET UNION AN "EVIL EMPIRE." NOW THEY TELL US!))

insert from 6

New sentence

OUR VICTORY CAME FROM THE KIND OF WORK PERFORMED
 BY PEOPLE HERE IN THIS ROOM. MANY OF YOU BRAVELY
 BROUGHT BIBLES BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN, SHARING THE
 WORD OF GOD WITH PEOPLE WHO ^{Longed} THIRSTED FOR IT. THROUGH
 YOUR WORLD RELIEF CORPORATION AND OTHER ENTERPRISES,
 YOU HELPED RESETTLE THOUSANDS WHO FLED OPPRESSION.
 MANY EVANGELICALS RISKED THEIR LIVES TO BRING
 THEOLOGICAL TRAINING WHERE SUCH TRAINING WAS FORBIDDEN.

Do you remember only a few years ago when Billy Graham went to Sov. Union. He came back and told of the people's hunger for religion. Some did not believe him, but now none doubts him

AND NOW IN THE FREE COUNTRIES OF THE FORMER
 COMMUNIST BLOC YOUR WORK CONTINUES, TO ENSURE THAT THE
 VACUUM LEFT BY COMMUNISM'S DEMISE IS FILLED BY FAITH.
 YOU AND I BOTH KNOW THERE IS MORE TO DO IN THE CAUSE OF
 RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND YOU HAVE MY FULL SUPPORT IN THAT
 EFFORT.

REST ASSURED: OUR COUNTRY -- INDEED, THE WORLD
 -- WILL BE FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE.

AMERICANS ARE THE MOST RELIGIOUS PEOPLE ON EARTH. AND WE HAVE ALWAYS INSTINCTIVELY SENSED THAT GOD'S PURPOSE WAS BOUND UP WITH THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY. THE FOUNDERS UNDERSTOOD THIS. AS JEFFERSON PUT IT: "CAN THE LIBERTIES OF A NATION BE THOUGHT SECURE WHEN WE HAVE REMOVED THEIR ONLY FIRM BASIS, A CONVICTION IN THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE THAT THESE LIBERTIES ARE THE GIFT OF GOD?"

THAT CONVICTION IS ENSHRINED IN OUR DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, AND IN OUR CONSTITUTION. IT IS NO ACCIDENT THAT IN DRAFTING OUR BILL OF RIGHTS, THE FOUNDERS DEDICATED THE FIRST PORTION OF OUR FIRST AMENDMENT TO RELIGIOUS LIBERTY. WE RIGHTLY EMPHASIZE THE OPENING CLAUSE OF THAT AMENDMENT, WHICH FORBIDS GOVERNMENT FROM ESTABLISHING RELIGION. IN FACT, I BELIEVE THE ESTABLISHMENT CLAUSE HAS BEEN A GREAT BOON TO OUR COUNTRY'S RELIGIOUS LIFE. ONE REASON RELIGION FLOURISHES IN AMERICA IS THAT WORSHIP CAN NEVER BE CONTROLLED BY THE STATE.

BUT IN RECENT TIMES WE HAVE TOO OFTEN IGNORED THE CLAUSE THAT FOLLOWS, WHICH FORBIDS GOVERNMENT FROM PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE OF RELIGION. THIS MYOPIA HAS IN SOME PLACES RESULTED IN AN AGGRESSIVE CAMPAIGN AGAINST ~~(JUDEO-CHRISTIAN)~~ RELIGIOUS BELIEF ITSELF. SOME PEOPLE SEEM TO BELIEVE THAT FREEDOM OF RELIGION REQUIRES GOVERNMENT TO KEEP OUR LIVES FREE FROM RELIGION. WELL, I BELIEVE THEY'RE JUST PLAIN WRONG.

OUR NATION WAS FOUNDED ON FAITH. GOVERNMENT MUST NEVER PROMOTE A RELIGION; BUT IT IS DUTY-BOUND TO PROMOTE RELIGIOUS LIBERTY. IT MUST NEVER PUT THE BELIEVER AT A DISADVANTAGE BECAUSE OF HIS BELIEF.

THAT IS THE CHALLENGE MY ADMINISTRATION HAS UNDERTAKEN. TO BE SUCCINCT -- IT IS MY CONVICTION THAT CHILDREN HAVE A RIGHT TO VOLUNTARY PRAYER IN SCHOOLS.

WE MUST HOLD THE LINE ON STATE INTERVENTION IN OTHER AREAS AS WELL. TWO YEARS AGO, FOR EXAMPLE, WE WERE IN A TOUGH FIGHT ON CAPITOL HILL OVER CHILD CARE LEGISLATION. BUT WITH THE INVALUABLE HELP OF YOUR GROUP AND OTHER PRO-FAMILY ORGANIZATIONS, WE KEPT CHOICE OF CHILD CARE OUT OF THE HANDS OF GOVERNMENT BUREAUCRATS, AND KEPT IT WHERE IT BELONGS -- IN THE HANDS OF PARENTS.

WE WERE DETERMINED TO HELP FAMILIES GET THE KIND OF CHILD CARE THEY WANT, AND THAT INCLUDED CHURCH-BASED CARE.

AND WE CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR THE PARENTS' RIGHT TO CHOOSE THEIR CHILDREN'S SCHOOLS. SCHOOL CHOICE IS AT THE HEART OF AMERICA 2000, OUR STRATEGY TO REVOLUTIONIZE AMERICAN EDUCATION. ALL PARENTS -- RICH OR POOR -- MUST HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE KIND OF EDUCATION THEIR CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE -- AND AS I'VE SAID MANY TIMES, THAT MUST INCLUDE RELIGIOUS-BASED SCHOOLS.

FOR MANY YEARS AMERICANS SAW ANOTHER DISTURBING TREND. JUDGES, LEGISLATING FROM THE BENCH, STEADILY EXPANDED THE POWER OF GOVERNMENT OVER THE LIVES OF ORDINARY AMERICANS. TODAY, I AM HAPPY TO REPORT TO YOU: THAT TREND IS OVER.

OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS I HAVE APPOINTED MORE THAN 160 JUDGES WHO UNDERSTAND THE LIMITS OF GOVERNMENT AND THE RIGHTS OF PARENTS -- JUDGES WHO PUNISH CRIMINALS, NOT HONEST COPS TRYING TO DO THEIR JOBS. AND I AM VERY PROUD OF THE TWO FINE MEN WHO HAVE TAKEN THEIR PLACE ON THE SUPREME COURT -- JUSTICE DAVID SOUTER AND JUSTICE CLARENCE THOMAS.

WE MUST DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO PRESERVE THE INSTITUTION THAT NURTURES FAITH, THE FAMILY. I AM FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT OUR GREATEST PROBLEMS TODAY -- FROM DRUGS AND WELFARE DEPENDENCY TO CRIME AND MORAL BREAKDOWN -- SPRING FROM THE DETERIORATION OF FAMILIES.

AND TOO OFTEN OVERWEENING GOVERNMENT HAS AIDED THE TRAGEDY. RECENTLY I ANNOUNCED A NEW COMMISSION TO ISOLATE THE CAUSES OF THE FAMILY'S DECLINE -- AND I THINK YOU'LL AGREE I FOUND THE RIGHT MAN TO LEAD THE COMMISSION: YOUR LAYMAN OF THE YEAR LAST YEAR, GOVERNOR JOHN ASHCROFT.

GOVERNOR ASHCROFT KNOWS THE IMPORTANCE MY ADMINISTRATION PLACES ON STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY. FAMILIES MUST COME FIRST IN AMERICA.

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THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS YOU.

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*Greetings - tomorrow or today
about an exception*

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

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II.

~~BUT AT THE SAME TIME, IN SO MANY CRUCIAL WAYS,~~
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bigotry + ~~anti~~-seniorism

As I indicated
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- 3 -

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Billie Graham

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WE MUST ALWAYS GUARD AGAINST LAWS THAT WEAKEN THE FAMILY AND TRADITIONAL VALUES. AT THE SAME TIME, WE CAN TAKE POSITIVE STEPS TO STRENGTHEN THEM. HERE'S AN EXAMPLE THAT WILL BEGIN TO ADDRESS THE REAL COSTS OF CHILD-REARING: I HAVE ASKED CONGRESS TO INCREASE THE CHILD TAX EXEMPTION BY \$500 PER CHILD -- AND I WANT THE CONGRESS TO DO IT NOW.

WE'RE ALSO WAGING WAR AGAINST THE FORCES THAT WOULD TEAR THE FAMILY APART. IN 1990 ALONE, OUR AGENTS FROM THE FBI, CUSTOMS AND POSTAL INSPECTION SERVICE WON 245 CONVICTIONS AGAINST THE SMUT-MERCHANTS WHO DEAL IN CHILD PORNOGRAPHY. THESE CREATURES HAVE BEEN PUT ON NOTICE: THERE IS NO PLACE IN AMERICA FOR THIS HORRIFYING EXPLOITATION OF OUR CHILDREN.

FAITH AND FAMILY -- THESE ARE THE VALUES THAT SUSTAIN THE GREATEST NATION ON EARTH. AND TO THESE VALUES WE MUST ADD: THE INFINITELY PRECIOUS VALUE OF LIFE ITSELF. I SUPPORT THE RIGHT TO LIFE.

LAST FALL WE WON A SIGNIFICANT VICTORY IN THIS BATTLE. I MADE IT CLEAR TO CONGRESS THAT WHILE I AM PRESIDENT, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL NOT FUND ABORTIONS -- OR ABORTION COUNSELING.

A MAJORITY IN CONGRESS VOTED AGAINST US; BUT I HAD TO DO WHAT WAS RIGHT. I VETOED THEIR LEGISLATION. IF THEY SEND IT BACK, I WILL VETO IT AGAIN.

BUT THAT'S NOT ALL. THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS HAS OPENED UP YET ANOTHER FRONT. TOMORROW, THEY WILL BEGIN HEARINGS ON NEW LEGISLATION. THEY ARE CALLING IT THE "FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT." IT WOULD IMPOSE ON ALL 50 STATES AN UNPRECEDENTED REGIME OF ABORTION ON DEMAND GOING WELL BEYOND EVEN ROE VS. WADE. IT WOULD BLOCK MANY STATE LAWS REQUIRING THAT PARENTS BE TOLD ABOUT ABORTIONS BEING PERFORMED ON THEIR YOUNG DAUGHTERS -- EVEN THOUGH THE SUPREME COURT HAS UPHELD SUCH LAWS FIVE TIMES. IT WOULD OVERRIDE STATE LAWS RESTRICTING SEX-SELECTION ABORTIONS. AND IT WOULD SEVERELY LIMIT THE STATE'S ABILITY TO IMPOSE MEANINGFUL RESTRICTIONS ON ABORTIONS PERFORMED IN THE EIGHTH OR EVEN THE NINTH MONTH OF PREGNANCY.

THIS IS NOT RIGHT. IT WILL NOT BECOME LAW AS LONG AS I AM PRESIDENT.

LINCOLN ONCE SAID, "MY CONCERN IS NOT WHETHER GOD IS ON OUR SIDE, BUT WHETHER WE ARE ON GOD'S SIDE." AS PRESIDENT I HAVE OFTEN SPOKEN OF SERVICE -- NOT SIMPLY PUBLIC SERVICE, BUT PERSONAL SERVICE, ONE HUMAN BEING COMING TO THE AID OF ANOTHER. AND I AM ALWAYS REMINDED OF A PHRASE FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER: "OH, GOD ... WHOSE SERVICE IS FREEDOM." WE MUST BE SUSTAINED BY THE CONFIDENCE THAT IN SERVING OTHERS -- IN PROMOTING THE VALUES OF FAITH AND FAMILY AND LIFE -- WE SERVE HIM AS WELL. IT IS THIS CONFIDENCE THAT WILL ENABLE US TO MOVE OUR COUNTRY FORWARD IN FAITH, ONE NATION UNDER GOD.

THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS YOU.

#

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
3/2/92

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

02 MAR 2 09:31

March 1, 1992

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST

FROM: ANDY FERGUSON *af*

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS EVENT

I. SUMMARY

On Tuesday, March 3, at 12:15 p.m, you will deliver remarks to an audience of approximately 1,000 people gathered at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel for the NAE's 50th Annual Convention.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (15 minutes, on prompter) touch on your administration's efforts in promoting traditional family values and religious liberty.

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
March 2, 1992
Draft Four
NAE2

92 MAR 2 P6:05

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

Thank you, Dr. [Edgar] Johnson. Greetings to Dr. Billy Melvin, Don Argue, David Rambo, and Bob Dugan.

I'd like to open, if I may, on a personal note, to thank you for the help you have given me over the years. And I'm not really referring to the fine work your team in Washington has been doing -- although they have been of great help to our administration in advancing the values we share.

My thanks are more personal than that. Barbara and I particularly want to thank you for your prayers. Prayer has always been important in our lives, and without its aid, I'm convinced, no man who has the privilege of serving in the presidency could carry out his duties. I think of Lincoln's famous remark: "I've been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

~~and I are sustained not by our own prayers but~~
by the intercessionary prayers so many Americans make on our behalf. ~~inspire~~ ^{strength} and give us ~~courage~~, and I thank you for that.

~~((And if I may, I'll make a request. Please -- keep the~~
commitment.))

I am delighted to have the opportunity to speak with you today, on the occasion of your 50th anniversary. Your theme --

"Forward in Faith" -- says much about your movement, much about what evangelicals have brought to America over its lifetime. Evangelicals point our country toward the future, with the diligence and hard work and confidence only a firm faith can provide.

In one sense, of course, evangelicals stand apart, as they must, bearing witness to a transcendent truth. And believe me, our culture desperately needs to hear it.

But at the same time, in so many crucial ways, your concerns are the concerns of your countrymen.

We agree on the big issues that shape the world -- and on the values close to home: I'm talking about jobs, about family, about peace, for ourselves -- for our kids.

You want, as all Americans do, safe streets for your children. You want schools where your children can receive the finest possible education, to prepare them for a life of industry and good citizenship and faith in God. And I believe that means you're entitled to choose your children's schools.

You want a government that understands the limited role it must play in a nation of free men and women; a government that promotes economic growth and opportunity; a government that spends your tax money for the common good, and for the common good alone.

And you want for yourselves and your country that most precious of gifts -- peace on earth. You understand that peace comes not from vacillation and weakness but from clarity of

purpose and from strength. The last time a president came before you -- I note that it is almost eight years to the day -- our country was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle, the Cold War.

President Reagan spoke to you then of what America must do to win this hard and bitter peace. Like you, President Reagan and I understood that the Cold War wasn't some mundane competition between rival world powers. It was a struggle for the mind of man.

On one side was a system ~~dedicated to denying the life of the spirit and celebrating the omnipotence of the state.~~ -- dedicated to denying the life of the spirit and celebrating the omnipotence of the state. On the other was a system founded on a profound truth -- that our Creator has endowed his children with inalienable rights that no government can deny.

And now, eight years later, we can say confidently: Americans won the Cold War. We won it by standing for what's right. ~~And we won it by the Grace of~~

Tonight our children and grandchildren will go to their beds untroubled by the fears of nuclear holocaust that haunted two generations of Americans. In this shining outcome, in this great triumph of good over evil, ~~we should be so blind to~~

~~see the providential hand~~ *we should thank God*
By the way,
(I notice from your Washington newsletter that recently even Time magazine called the old Soviet Union an "evil empire." Now they tell us!))



prayer
So we asked for God's help. Now
we should thank God

It was ~~not our military strength alone that won the Cold War.~~ It was our steadfast faith -- in ourselves, in our country, and above all, in God.

Our victory came from the kind of work performed by people here in this room. Many of you bravely brought Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, sharing the Word of God with people who thirsted for it. Through your World Relief Corporation and other enterprises, you helped resettle thousands who fled oppression. Many evangelicals risked their lives to bring theological training where such training was forbidden.

And now in the free countries of the former Communist bloc your work continues, to ensure that the vacuum left by Communism's demise is filled by faith. [You and I both know there is more to do in the cause of religious ~~pluralism and tolerance~~ ^{freedom} and ~~tolerance~~. You have my full support in that effort.] Rest assured: Our country -- indeed, the world -- will be forever grateful for what you have done.

Americans are the most religious people on earth. And we have always instinctively sensed that God's purpose was bound up with the cause of liberty. The Founders understood this. As Jefferson put it: "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

That conviction is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence, and in our Constitution. It is no accident that in

drafting our Bill of Rights, the Founders dedicated the first portion of our First Amendment to religious liberty. We rightly emphasize the opening clause of that Amendment, which forbids government from establishing religion. In fact, I believe the establishment clause has been a great boon to our country's religious life. One reason religion flourishes in America is that worship can never be controlled by the state.

But in recent times we have too often ignored the clause that follows, which forbids government from prohibiting the free exercise of religion. This myopia has in some places resulted in an aggressive campaign against Judeo-Christian religious belief itself. Some people seem to believe that freedom of religion requires government to keep our lives free from religion. Well, I believe they're just plain wrong.

Our nation was founded on faith. Government must never promote a religion; but it is duty-bound to promote religious liberty. It must never put the believer at a disadvantage because of his belief.

That is the challenge my administration has undertaken.

~~When a child can obtain a condom at school but is forbidden to~~

~~lead his classmates in voluntary prayer -- something I would~~

~~no business denying our children their right to~~

~~pray in schools.~~

We must hold the line on state intervention in other areas as well. Two years ago, for example, we were in a tough fight on Capitol Hill over child care legislation. But with the

to be succinct it is my conviction that
what's *have*

invaluable help of your group and other pro-family organizations, we kept choice of child care out of the hands of government bureaucrats, and kept it where it belongs -- in the hands of parents.

We were determined to help families get the kind of child care they want, and that included church-based care.

And we continue to fight for the parents' right to choose their children's schools. School choice is at the heart of America 2000, our strategy to revolutionize American education.

All parents -- rich or poor -- must have the right to choose the kind of education their children will receive -- and yes, that must include religious-based schools, too.

and as I've said many times

~~The fight for school choice is not over. But let me assure you. It won't end until we win it.~~

For many years Americans saw another disturbing trend. Judges, legislating from the bench, steadily expanded the power of government over the lives of ordinary Americans. Today, I am happy to report to you: that trend is over.

Over the past three years I have appointed more than 160 judges who understand the limits of government and the rights of parents --judges who punish criminals, not honest cops trying to do their jobs. And I am very proud of the two fine men who have taken their place on the Supreme Court -- Justice David Souter and Justice Clarence Thomas.

We must do everything in our power to preserve the institution that nurtures faith, the family. I am firmly

convinced that our greatest problems today -- from drugs and welfare dependency to crime and moral breakdown -- spring from the deterioration of ~~of family~~ ~~of this most fundamental, God-given institution.~~

And too often overweening government has aided the tragedy. Recently I announced a new commission to isolate the causes of the family's decline -- and I think you'll agree I found the right man to lead the commission: your Layman of the Year last year, Governor John Ashcroft.

Governor Ashcroft knows the importance my administration places on strengthening the family. ~~and you are~~ ~~my~~ ~~president~~ Families will come first in America.

We must always guard against laws that weaken the family and traditional values. At the same time, we can take positive steps to strengthen them. Here's an example: For a start I have asked Congress to increase the child tax exemption by \$500 per child - - and I want the Congress to do it this year. (This will begin to address the real costs of child-rearing.)

We're also waging war against the forces that would tear the family apart. In 1990 alone, our agents from the FBI, Customs and Postal Inspection Service won 245 convictions against the smut-merchants who deal in child pornography. These creatures have been put on notice: There is no place in America for this horrifying exploitation of our children.

~~And may I add pornography is pornography -- blasphemy is blasphemy -- and government has no business funding it -- even if~~

the Supreme Court has upheld such laws five times. It would override state laws restricting sex-selection abortions. And it would severely limit the state's ability to impose meaningful restrictions on abortions performed in the eighth or even the ninth month of pregnancy.

This is not right. It will not!
as I see it

~~I know it is hard to believe that even the Democratic Congress would promote a law as callous and extreme as this one. But they are already serious about the same issues and with your faith, we will stop them.~~

Lincoln once said, "My concern is not whether God is on our side, but whether we are on God's side." As president I have often spoken of service -- not simply public service, but personal service, one human being coming to the aid of another. And I am always reminded of a phrase from the Book of Common Prayer: "Oh, God ... whose service is freedom." We must be sustained by the confidence that in serving others -- in promoting the values of faith and family and life -- we serve Him as well. It is this confidence that will enable us to move our country forward in faith, one nation under God.

Thank you, and God bless you.

#

David D
7620

It was not our military strength alone that won the Cold War. It was our steadfast faith -- in ourselves, in our country, and above all, in God.

Our victory came from the kind of work performed by people here in this room. Many of you bravely brought Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, sharing the Word of God with people who thirsted for it. Through your World Relief Corporation and other enterprises, you helped resettle thousands who fled oppression. Many evangelicals risked their lives to bring theological training where such training was forbidden.

And now in the free countries of the former Communist bloc your work continues, to ensure that the vacuum left by Communism's demise is filled by faith. Rest assured: Our country -- indeed, the world -- will be forever grateful for what you have done.

Americans are the most religious people on earth. And we have always instinctively sensed that God's purpose was bound up with the cause of liberty. The Founders understood this. As Jefferson put it: "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

That conviction is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence, and in our Constitution. It is no accident that in drafting our Bill of Rights, the Founders dedicated the first portion of our First Amendment to religious liberty. We rightly

freedom
I You and I both know there is more to do in the religious and educational arena.
You have my full support in that effort.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 2, 1992

MEMORANDUM TO WRITERS/RESEARCHERS

FROM: DAN MC GROARTY *dmh*
SUBJECT: SHORT NOTES ON TRIP SPEECHES

A few short notes on the trip speeches, written well after the fact:

S.F. Fundraiser -- 12 applause lines. POTUS came, he ate, he spoke: all momentum was gone with the second course. The same speech, delivered that evening at the L.A. event, pulled a 24 on the applause-O-meter.

A.G.C. -- Good solid speech with plenty to say to the A.G.C. crowd. Best crowd reaction: term limits, veto threat -- lawyers section throughout. This group actually applauded a fact: the number of lawsuits filed annually. //

Spurs event -- An 11-card speech for a 6 card event. A hot gym, filled with kids who'd just stopped playing basketball and couldn't take their eyes off David Robinson. All the points of light stuff was lost on them. We could have scored better by scripting a POTUS-to-kids anti-drug challenge or pledge, generated a little interaction with the kids, etc.

Georgia G.O.P. -- A good, active crowd. Elapsed time from motorcade to podium: about 5 minutes. 26 applause lines -- many borrowed from the S.Carolina Southern Republican speech. They worked just as well in Georgia!

Savannah Riverfront -- we reworked this one to fit the rally format, with the President's instructions to pattern it after the Georgia G.O.P. Once again -- a pattern forming? -- the elapsed time from motorcade to podium was probably less than 10 minutes.

*Next-day speeches kept me from the Drug Summit Toast, the L.A. fundraiser and Houston Livestock Show event.

General notes:

1) The President, Mrs. Bush and senior staff continue to measure the success of a speech by the number of applause lines. The President interprets long stretches of silence as a failure on his part to connect. From the podium, nodding heads may be nodding off. Let's face it, applause lines are a kind of currency. In the California speeches, the defense-technology sections were essentially narrative. In spite of the fact these

sections conveyed the most specific California-targeted message, the President thought they "dragged."

2) POTUS' performs better when the next speech picks up the best lines from the last speech. If we keep feeding him New! Improved! language -- we only out-smart ourselves. When he knows his way around a speech, he begins to vary the rhythm, work the good lines -- all the things we want to see him do. Remember: the wheel's still round after all these years.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 3, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID DEMAREST
SPEECHWRITERS
RESEARCHERS

FROM: ANDY FERGUSON

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

The President still seems to be in campaign mode after last week's marathon. The problem was that this wasn't written as a campaign speech, and he seemed to have trouble readjusting. The low key opening -- thanking the evangelicals for their prayers -- was probably too low key, or didn't resonate, or something, since it elicited no applause whatsoever. (Maybe they haven't been praying for him.)

So it was a full three minutes before any applause, which you can safely assume were the longest three minutes of this speechwriter's life. (Some hoped-for applause lines had been cut.) The first proof that this was an audience not an oil painting (as Henny Youngman used to say) came in a graf the President himself inserted Tuesday morning -- a condemnation of racial bigotry and anti-Semitism. The applause was strong, and of course the press thought: "Pat Buchanan!"

The audience liked lines that showed them the President had been fighting for their causes -- for example, school choice and choice in child care. But they liked best those lines that showed that he thinks the way they do -- for example, that he knows God played a role in the end of the Cold War (FYI: He was on our side). This was a singular audience, true, but I think the point holds for all audiences: they want to know that the President's "world-view" coincides with theirs. Then everything else, like fighting for the right issues, falls into place.

All told, there were 21 applause lines -- some extremely weak, and even forced. The weak applause followed lines that may have seemed like pandering -- explicit references to religious-based child care, for example. The applausometer really started thumping and steaming when the President mentioned "Life," as in "Right to ..." Natch. The Evangelicals rose as one.

There was also an unexpected applause line at the close, when the President quoted Lincoln: "My concern is not whether God is on our side, but whether we are on God's side." Great line, as the evangelicals agreed. Who writes Lincoln's stuff, anyway?



ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE

Kris Nancy

*Each of these
should now
go into the
speech's
master file*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: 3/5/92

TO: *Nancy*

FROM: KRIS M. DEE
Special Assistant to the
Assistant to the President
for Communications
West Wing, x7620

*would you put
these in the approp-
iate speech file.*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 3, 1992

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SPEECHWRITERS
RESEARCHERS

FROM: ANDY FERGUSON

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

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Nancy
Old Master
but was never
used as a
master. For
the file.

SBS

92 FEB 28 12:23

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/28/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: COB TODAY 2/28

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

SUBJECT: TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT <i>BOOTLEG N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>X</i> MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>X</i> DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

McGroarty

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm 122, Ext. 2930, NO LATER THAN COB TODAY 2/28/92, with a copy to this office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
February 27, 1992
Draft One
NAE

92 FEB 28 All : 22

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

[Acknowledgments]

I'd like to open, if I may, on a personal note, to thank you for the help you have given me over the years. And I'm not really referring to the fine work your team in Washington has been doing -- although they have been of great help to our administration in advancing the values we share.

My thanks are more personal than that. Barbara and I particularly want to thank you for your prayers. Prayer has always been important in our lives, and without its aid, I'm convinced, no man who has the privilege of serving in the presidency could carry out his duties. I've often quoted Lincoln's famous remark: "I have been driven many times to my knees by the conviction that I have nowhere else to go." And I would add that we are sustained not only by our own prayers but by the intercessionary prayers so many Americans make on our behalf. Your prayers inspire us and give us courage, and I thank you for that. ((And if I may, I'll add one more thing: Please - - Keep 'em comin'.))

I am delighted to have the opportunity to speak with you today, on the occasion of your 50th anniversary. Your theme -- "Forward in Faith" -- says much about your movement, much about

what evangelicals have brought to America over its lifetime. Evangelicals point their country toward the future, with the diligence and hard work and confidence only a firm faith can provide.

In one sense, of course, evangelicals stand apart, as they must, bearing witness to a transcendent truth, in a culture that desperately needs to hear it. But at the same time, in so many crucial ways, your concerns are the concerns of your countrymen. You want, as all Americans do, safe streets for your children. You want schools -- schools of your choosing -- where your children can receive the finest possible education to prepare them for a life of industry and good citizenship and faith in God.

You want a government that understands the limited role it must play in a nation of free men and women; a government that spends your tax money for the common good, and for the common good alone; a government that promotes economic growth and opportunity.

And you want for yourselves and your country that most precious of gifts -- peace on earth. And you understand that peace comes not from vacillation and weakness but from strength and clarity of purpose. The last time a president came before you -- I note that it is almost eight years to the day -- our country was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle, the Cold War.

President Reagan spoke to you then of what America must do to win this hard and bitter peace. Like you, President Reagan and I understood that the Cold War wasn't some mundane competition between rival world powers. It was a struggle for the mind of man. On one side was an system -- yes, an evil system -- dedicated to denying the life of the spirit and celebrating the omnipotence of the state. On the other was a system founded on a profound truth -- that our Creator has endowed his children with inalienable rights that no state can deny.

And by the grace of God, we won the Cold War. Tonight our children and grandchildren will go to their beds untroubled by the fears of nuclear holocaust that haunted two generations of Americans. In this shining outcome, in this great triumph of good over evil, is there anyone among us so blind as not to see the providential hand of God? ((I notice from the NAE newsletter than recently even Time magazine called the old Soviet Union an "evil empire." Now they tell us.))

It was not our military strength alone that won the Cold War. It was our steadfast faith -- in ourselves, in our country, and above all, in God. Our victory came from the kind of work performed by people here in this room. Many of you bravely smuggled Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, bringing the Word of God to people who thirsted for it. Through the NAE's World Relief Corporation and other enterprises, you have helped resettle many thousands who fled oppression. Many of risked your lives to

*much still
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the world.*

bring theological training where such training was forbidden. And now in the free countries of the former Communist bloc your work continues, to ensure that the vacuum left by Communism's demise is filled by faith. Our country -- indeed, the world -- will be forever grateful for your work.

Every survey on the subject shows that Americans are the most religious people on earth, and they have always instinctively sensed that God's purpose was bound up with the cause of liberty. The Founders understood this, and spoke of it in definitive terms. What Jefferson wrote in those early days is true today: "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

That conviction is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence, and in our Constitution. It is no accident that in drafting our Bill of Rights, the Founders dedicated the first portion of our First Amendment to religious liberty. We rightly emphasize the first clause of that Amendment, which forbids government from establishing religion. In fact, I believe the establishment clause has been a great boon to our country's spirituality. One reason religion flourishes in America is that worship can never be subsumed by the state.

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The Founders would have thought this idea absurd. And it is. Government must never promote a religion; but it is duty-bound to promote religious liberty. It must never put the believer at a disadvantage because of his belief.

That is the challenge my administration has undertaken. Something's wrong in this country when a child can obtain a condom at school but is forbidden to lead his classmates in voluntary prayer. I have long believed -- and continue to believe -- that government has no business denying our children their right to pray in schools.

We must hold the line on state intervention in other areas as well. Two years ago -- with the invaluable help of the NAE and other pro-family organizations -- we were able to enact child-care legislation that kept choice of child care out of the hands of government bureaucrats and placed it where it belongs, in the hands of parents. We wanted to help families get the kind of child care they want, whether at home or at church or synagogue. It was a tough fight, but we won it.

And we continue to fight for the parents' right to choose their children's schools. School choice is at the heart of America 2000, our strategy to revolutionize American education. All parents -- rich or poor -- must have the right to choose the kind of education their children will receive -- and yes, that

includes religious-based schools, too. This fight is not over. And let me assure you: It won't be over until we win it.

For many years the power of government was steadily expanded by judges legislating from the bench. I am happy to report those days are coming to a close. Over the past three years I have appointed judges who understand the limits of government and the rights of parents -- who punish criminals, not cops trying to do their jobs. And in particular I am very proud that over the past three years two fine men have taken their place on the Supreme Court -- Justice David Souter and Justice Clarence Thomas.

We must do everything in our power to preserve the institution that nurtures faith, the family. I am firmly convinced that our greatest problems today -- from drugs and welfare dependency to crime and violence -- spring from the deterioration of this most fundamental, God-given institution.

And too often overweening government has aided in this tragedy. Recently I've asked Governor John Ashcroft, who was NAE Layman of the Year last year, to head a Commission on America's Urban Families, to isolate the causes of the alarming decline. I make to you this pledge: As long as I am your president, families will come first in America.

Every law that is passed must guard against the weakening of the family. At the same time, there are positive steps we can take to strengthen it. As part of my economic growth package, I have asked Congress to ^{start by} increase the child tax exemption by \$500 - and I want them to do it this year.

We know that more needs to be done.

Most recently, some in Congress wanted to deprive low-income families of the so-called "Wee Tots" exemption, which increases the take-home pay of families just getting by. The exemption promotes self-reliance and hard work; it helps keep families in tact. Fortunately, we were able to halt Congress's effort to eliminate this lifeline. Sooner or later they will understand: I will not allow legislation that works against the family.

... We can also wage war against the forces that would tear the family apart. The Justice Department's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section has been vigorously prosecuting the smut-merchants who deal in child pornography. Since 1987 we have obtained 85 convictions involving more than \$20 million in fines and seized assets. There is no place in America for this horrifying exploitation of human beings.

And may I add: pornography is pornography -- blasphemy is blasphemy -- and government has no business funding it -- even if some misguided people want to call it art.

Faith and family -- these are the values that sustain the greatest nation on earth. And to these values let us add: the infinitely precious value of life itself. Our Declaration doesn't tell us that all men are "born" equal. It says "created," a word that echoes the mystery of faith, affirming the right to liberty, the right to pursue happiness -- and yes, the right to life.

Last summer we won a significant victory in this battle. I made it clear to Congress that while I am president, the federal government would not fund abortions -- or abortion counseling, even when it's disguised as "family planning." A majority disagreed with us; but I had to do what was right. I vetoed their legislation. And let them understand: If they send me anything similar again, I will veto it again.

In a moment of great trial for our country, Lincoln said, "My concern is not whether God is on our side, but whether we are on God's side." As president I have often spoken of service -- not simply public service, but personal service, one human being to another. And I am always reminded of a phrase from my Book of Common Prayer: "Oh, God ... whose service is perfect freedom." We must be sustained by the confidence that in serving others -- in promoting unashamedly the values of faith and family and life -- we serve Him as well. It is this confidence that will enable us to move our country, one nation under God, forward in faith.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 3/2/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS TUESDAY, MARCH 3

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>YEUTTER</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>FINDLAY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>KAUFMAN</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

02 MAR 2 09:31

March 1, 1992

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST

FROM: ANDY FERGUSON *af*

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS EVENT

I. SUMMARY

On Tuesday, March 3, at 12:15 p.m, you will deliver remarks to an audience of approximately 1,000 people gathered at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel for the NAE's 50th Annual Convention.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (15 minutes, on prompter) touch on your administration's efforts in promoting traditional family values and religious liberty.

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
March 2, 1992
Draft Three
NAE2

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

[Acknowledgments]

I'd like to open, if I may, on a personal note, to thank you for the help you have given me over the years. And I'm not really referring to the fine work your team in Washington has been doing -- although they have been of great help to our administration in advancing the values we share.

My thanks are more personal than that. Barbara and I particularly want to thank you for your prayers. Prayer has always been important in our lives, and without its aid, I'm convinced, no man who has the privilege of serving in the presidency could carry out his duties. I think of Lincoln's famous remark: "I've been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

Barbara and I are sustained not only by our own prayers but by the intercessionary prayers so many Americans make on our behalf. Your prayers inspire us and give us courage, and I thank you for that.

((And if I may, I'll make a request: Please -- Keep 'em comin'.))

I am delighted to have the opportunity to speak with you today, on the occasion of your 50th anniversary. Your theme -- "Forward in Faith" -- says much about your movement, much about

what evangelicals have brought to America over its lifetime. Evangelicals point our country toward the future, with the diligence and hard work and confidence only a firm faith can provide.

In one sense, of course, evangelicals stand apart, as they must, bearing witness to a transcendent truth. And believe me, our culture desperately needs to hear it.

But at the same time, in so many crucial ways, your concerns are the concerns of your countrymen.

We agree on the big issues that shape the world -- and on the values close to home: I'm talking about jobs, about family, about peace, for ourselves -- for our kids.

You want, as all Americans do, safe streets for your children. You want schools where your children can receive the finest possible education, to prepare them for a life of industry and good citizenship and faith in God. And I believe that means you're entitled to choose your children's schools.

You want a government that understands the limited role it must play in a nation of free men and women; a government that promotes economic growth and opportunity; a government that spends your tax money for the common good, and for the common good alone.

And you want for yourselves and your country that most precious of gifts -- peace on earth. You understand that peace comes not from vacillation and weakness but from ^{clarity of purpose and from} strength and ~~clarity of purpose.~~ The last time a president came before you -

- I note that it is almost eight years to the day -- our country was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle, the Cold War.

President Reagan spoke to you then of what America must do to win this hard and bitter peace. Like you, President Reagan and I understood that the Cold War wasn't some mundane competition between rival world powers. It was a struggle for the mind of man.

On one side was a system -- yes, an evil system -- dedicated to denying the life of the spirit and celebrating the omnipotence of the state. On the other was a system founded on a profound truth -- that our Creator has endowed his children with inalienable rights that no government can deny.

And now, eight years later, we can say confidently: Americans won the Cold War. We won it by standing for what's right. And let there be no mistake -- we won it by the Grace of God.

Tonight our children and grandchildren will go to their beds untroubled by the fears of nuclear holocaust that haunted two generations of Americans. In this shining outcome, in this great triumph of good over evil, no one should be so blind as not to see the providential hand of God.

((I notice from your Washington newsletter that recently even Time magazine called the old Soviet Union an "evil empire." Now they tell us!))

emphasize the opening clause of that Amendment, which forbids government from establishing religion. In fact, I believe the establishment clause has been a great boon to our country's religious life. One reason religion flourishes in America is that worship can never be controlled by the state.

But in recent times we have too often ignored the clause that follows, which forbids government from prohibiting the free exercise of religion. This myopia has in some places resulted in an aggressive campaign against Judeo-Christian religious belief itself. Some people seem to believe that freedom of religion requires government to keep our lives free from religion.

Well, I believe they're just plain wrong.

Our nation was founded on faith. Government must never promote a religion; but it is duty-bound to promote religious liberty. It must never put the believer at a disadvantage because of his belief. ~~[Additional religious liberty language if necessary.]~~

That is the challenge my administration has undertaken. When a child can obtain a condom at school but is forbidden to lead his classmates in voluntary prayer -- something's wrong. Government has no business denying our children their right to pray in schools.

We must hold the line on state intervention in other areas as well. Two years ago, for example, we were in a tough fight on Capitol Hill over child care legislation. But with the invaluable help of your group and other pro-family organizations,

we kept choice of child care out of the hands of government bureaucrats, and kept it where it belongs -- in the hands of parents.

We were determined to help families get the kind of child care they want, and that included church-based care.

And we continue to fight for the parents' right to choose their children's schools. School choice is at the heart of America 2000, our strategy to revolutionize American education. All parents -- rich or poor -- must have the right to choose the kind of education their children will receive -- and yes, that must include religious-based schools, too.

The fight for school choice is not over. But let me assure you: It won't end until we win it.

For many years Americans saw another disturbing trend. Judges, legislating from the bench, steadily expanded the power of government over the lives of ordinary Americans. Today, I am happy to report to you: that trend is over.

Over the past three years I have appointed (XX) judges who understand the limits of government and the rights of parents -- judges who punish criminals, not honest cops trying to do their jobs. And I am very proud of the two fine men who have taken their place on the Supreme Court -- Justice David Souter and Justice Clarence Thomas.

We must do everything in our power to preserve the institution that nurtures faith, the family. I am firmly convinced that our greatest problems today -- from drugs and

welfare dependency to crime and moral breakdown -- spring from the deterioration of this most fundamental, God-given institution.

And too often overweening government has aided the tragedy. Recently I announced a new commission to isolate the causes of the family's decline -- and I think you'll agree I found the right man to lead the commission: your Layman of the Year last year, Governor John Ashcroft.

Governor Ashcroft knows the importance my administration places on strengthening the family. As long as I am your president, families will come first in America.

We must always guard against laws that weaken the family and traditional values. At the same time, we can take positive steps to strengthen them. Here's an example: ^{for a start,} I have asked Congress ^{to begin by} to ^{Stet} increase ^{to begin to} the child tax exemption by \$500 per child -- and I want ^{the Congress} them to do it this year. ~~[Additional \$500 exemption language if necessary.]~~

We're also waging war against the forces that would tear the family apart. In 1990 alone, our agents from the FBI, Customs and Postal Inspection Service won 245 convictions against the smut-merchants who deal in child pornography. These creatures have been put on notice: There is no place in America for this horrifying exploitation of our children.

And may I add: pornography is pornography -- blasphemy is blasphemy -- and government has no business funding it -- even if somebody calls it art. [[And believe me, the person I select to

(this will begin to address the real costs of child-rearing)

head the National Endowment for the Arts will be able to tell the difference between art and trash.]]

Faith and family -- these are the values that sustain the greatest nation on earth. And to these values we must add: the infinitely precious value of life itself. Our Declaration doesn't tell us that all men are "born" equal. It says "created," a word that echoes the mystery of faith, affirming the right to liberty, the right to pursue happiness -- and yes, the right to life.

Last fall we won a significant victory in this battle. I made it clear to Congress that while I am president, the federal government will not fund abortions -- or abortion counseling, even when it's disguised as "family planning."

A majority in Congress voted against us; but I had to do what was right. I vetoed their legislation. And let them understand: Principle must stand above politics. If they send me anything similar again, I will veto it again.

[Possible insert on vetoing Freedom of Choice Act.]

Lincoln once said, "My concern is not whether God is on our side, but whether we are on God's side." As president I have often spoken of service -- not simply public service, but personal service, one human being coming to the aid of another. And I am always reminded of a phrase from the Book of Common Prayer: "Oh, God ... whose service is freedom." We must be sustained by the confidence that in serving others -- in promoting the values of faith and family and life -- we serve Him

as well. It is this confidence that will enable us to move our country forward in faith, one nation under God.

Thank you, and God bless you.

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CLOSE HOLD

MASTER

Document No. 311548ss-add on

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

3/2/92

DATE: _____ ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP!!!

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INSERT FOR

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please provide comments on the attached directly to David Demarest, 2ndFl, WW, x7620, with a copy to this office ASAP.

CLOSE HOLD

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

PROPOSED INSERT FOR EVANGELICAL SPEECH

But that's not all. The Democratic Congress has opened up yet another front. Tomorrow, they will begin hearings on new legislation. They are calling it the "Freedom of Choice Act". But it should really be called the "Abortion on Demand Act", because it would impose on all 50 states an unprecedented regime of abortion on demand going well beyond even Roe v. Wade. It would block ~~any~~ State law requiring that parents be told about abortions being performed on their young daughters--even though the Supreme Court has upheld such laws five times. It would ^{override} ~~stop~~ the States ~~from~~ restricting sex-selection abortions. And it would severely limit the States' ability to impose meaningful restrictions on abortions performed in the eighth or even ninth month of pregnancy.

I know it's hard to believe that even the Democratic Congress would promote a law as callous and extreme as this one. But they are deadly serious about it. With your help, and with your faith, we will stop them.

many laws

PROPOSED INSERT FOR EVANGELICAL SPEECH

But that's not all. The Democratic Congress has opened up yet another front. Tomorrow, they will begin hearings on new legislation. They are calling it the "Freedom of Choice Act". But it should really be called the "Abortion on Demand Act", because it would impose on all 50 states an unprecedented regime of abortion on demand going well beyond even Roe v. Wade. It would block any State law requiring that parents be told about abortions being performed on their young daughters--even though the Supreme Court has upheld such laws five times. It would stop the States from restricting sex-selection abortions. And it would severely limit the States' ability to impose meaningful restrictions on abortions performed in the eighth or even ninth month of pregnancy.

I know it's hard to believe that even the Democratic Congress would promote a law as callous and extreme as this one. But they are deadly serious about it. With your help, and with your faith, we will stop them.

CLOSE HOLD

311548ss-add on
Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

3/2/92

DATE: _____ ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP!!!

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INSERT FOR

SUBJECT: _____ NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
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SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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REMARKS: Please provide comments on the attached directly to David Demarest, 2ndFl, WW, x7620, with a copy to this office ASAP.

CLOSE HOLD

Thank you.

RESPONSE: _____

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

PROPOSED INSERT FOR EVANGELICAL SPEECH

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I know it's hard to believe that even the Democratic Congress would promote a law as callous and extreme as this one. But they are deadly serious about it. With your help, and with your faith, we will stop them.

→ many laws

→ It would override State laws restricting sex selection abortions.

Lee Lieberman

(taken over the phone)

SB

CLOSE HOLD

Document No. 311548ss-add on

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

3/2/92

DATE: _____ ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP!!!

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INSERT FOR

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please provide comments on the attached directly to David Demarest, 2ndFl, WW, x7620, with a copy to this office ASAP.

CLOSE HOLD

Thank you.

RESPONSE: No Comment

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

PROPOSED INSERT FOR EVANGELICAL SPEECH

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I know it's hard to believe that even the Democratic Congress would promote a law as callous and extreme as this one. But they are deadly serious about it. With your help, and with your faith, we will stop them.

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Document No. 311548ss-add on

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

3/2/92

DATE: _____ ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP!!!

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INSERT FOR

SUBJECT: _____ NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please provide comments on the attached directly to David Demarest, 2ndFl, WW, x7620, with a copy to this office ASAP.

CLOSE HOLD

Thank you.

RESPONSE: _____

See Comments

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

PROPOSED INSERT FOR EVANGELICAL SPEECH

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I know it's hard to believe that even the Democratic Congress would promote a law as callous and extreme as this one. But they are deadly serious about it. With your help, and with your ~~faith,~~
we will stop them.

SUPPORT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 29, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN MCGROARTY

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: National Association of Evangelicals

We have reviewed the attached presidential remarks and have noted a few minor suggested changes on the draft.

If you have any questions or we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/28/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: COB TODAY 2/28

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

SUBJECT: TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm 122, Ext. 2930, NO LATER THAN COB TODAY 2/28/92, with a copy to this office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
February 27, 1992
Draft One
NAE

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PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

[Acknowledgments]

I'd like to open, if I may, on a personal note, to thank you for the help you have given me over the years. And I'm not really referring to the fine work your team in Washington has been doing -- although they have been of great help to our administration in advancing the values we share.

~~My thanks are more personal than that.~~ Barbara and I particularly want to thank you for your prayers. Prayer has always been important in our lives, and without its aid, I'm convinced, no man who has the privilege of serving in the presidency could carry out his duties. I've often quoted Lincoln's famous remark: "I have been driven many times to my knees by the conviction that I have nowhere else to go." And I would add that we are sustained not only by our own prayers but by the intercessionary prayers so many Americans make on our behalf. Your prayers inspire us and give us courage, and I thank you for that. ((And if I may, I'll add one more thing: Please - - Keep 'em comin'.))

I am delighted to have the opportunity to speak with you today, on the occasion of your 50th anniversary. Your theme -- "Forward in Faith" -- says much about your movement, much about

what evangelicals have brought to America over its lifetime. Evangelicals point their country toward the future, with the diligence and hard work and confidence only a firm faith can provide.

In one sense, of course, evangelicals stand apart, as they must, bearing witness to a transcendent truth, in a culture that desperately needs to hear it. But at the same time, in so many crucial ways, your concerns are the concerns of your countrymen. You want, as all Americans do, safe streets for your children. You want schools -- schools of your choosing -- where your children can receive the finest possible education to prepare them for a life of industry and good citizenship and faith in God.

You want a government that understands the limited role it must play in a nation of free men and women; a government that spends your tax money for the common good, and for the common good alone; a government that promotes economic growth and opportunity.

And you want for yourselves and your country that most precious of gifts -- peace on earth. And you understand that peace comes not from vacillation and weakness but from strength and clarity of purpose. The last time a president came before you -- I note that it is almost eight years to the day -- our country was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle, the Cold War.

President Reagan spoke to you then of what America must do to win this hard and bitter peace. Like you, President Reagan and I understood that the Cold War wasn't some mundane competition between rival world powers. It was a struggle for the mind of man. On one side was an system -- ^gyes, an evil system -- dedicated to denying the life of the spirit and celebrating the omnipotence of the state. On the other was a system founded on a profound truth -- that our Creator has endowed his children with inalienable rights that no state can deny.

And by the grace of God, we won the Cold War. Tonight our children and grandchildren will go to their beds untroubled by the fears of nuclear holocaust that haunted two generations of Americans. In this shining outcome, in this great triumph of good over evil, is there anyone among us so blind as not to see the providential hand of God? ((I notice from the NAE newsletter than recently even Time magazine called the old Soviet Union an "evil empire." Now they tell us.))

It was not our military strength alone that won the Cold War. It was our steadfast faith -- in ourselves, in our country, and above all, in God. Our victory came from the kind of work performed by people here in this room. Many of you bravely smuggled Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, bringing the Word of God to people who thirsted for it. Through the NAE's World Relief Corporation and other enterprises, you have helped resettle many thousands who fled oppression. Many of risked your lives to

bring theological training where such training was forbidden. And now in the free countries of the former Communist bloc your work continues, to ensure that the vacuum left by Communism's demise is filled by faith. Our country -- indeed, the world -- will be forever grateful for your work.

Every survey on the subject shows that Americans are the most religious people on earth, and they have always instinctively sensed that God's purpose was bound up with the cause of liberty. The Founders understood this, and spoke of it in definitive terms. What Jefferson wrote in those early days is true today: "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

That conviction is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence, and in our Constitution. It is no accident that in drafting our Bill of Rights, the Founders dedicated the first portion of our First Amendment to religious liberty. We rightly emphasize the first clause of that Amendment, which forbids government from establishing religion. In fact, I believe the establishment clause has been a great boon to our country's spirituality. One reason religion flourishes in America is that worship can never be subsumed by the state.

But in recent times we have too often ignored the clause that follows, which forbids government from prohibiting the free exercise of religion. This myopia has in some places resulted in an aggressive campaign against Judeo-Christian religious belief

itself -- as if the freedom of religion required government to keep our lives free from religion.

The Founders would have thought this idea absurd. And it is. Government must never promote a religion; but it is duty-bound to promote religious liberty. It must never put the believer at a disadvantage because of his belief.

That is the challenge my administration has undertaken. Something's wrong in this country when a child can obtain a condom at school but is forbidden to lead his classmates in voluntary prayer. I have long believed -- and continue to believe -- that government has no business denying our children their right to pray in schools.

We must hold the line on state intervention in other areas as well. Two years ago -- with the invaluable help of the NAE and other pro-family organizations -- we were able to enact child-care legislation that kept choice of child care out of the hands of government bureaucrats and placed it where it belongs, in the hands of parents. We wanted to help families get the kind of child care they want, whether at home or at church or synagogue. It was a tough fight, but we won it.

And we continue to fight for the parents' right to choose their children's schools. School choice is at the heart of America 2000, our strategy to revolutionize American education. All parents -- rich or poor -- must have the right to choose the kind of education their children will receive -- and yes, that

includes religious-based schools, too. This fight is not over. And let me assure you: It won't be over until we win it.

For many years the power of government was steadily expanded by judges legislating from the bench. I am happy to report those days are coming to a close. Over the past three years I have appointed judges who understand the limits of government and the rights of parents -- who punish criminals, not cops trying to do their jobs. And in particular I am very proud that over the past three years two fine men have taken their place on the Supreme Court -- Justice David Souter and Justice Clarence Thomas.

We must do everything in our power to preserve the institution that nurtures faith, the family. I am firmly convinced that our greatest problems today -- from drugs and welfare dependency to crime and violence -- spring from the deterioration of this most fundamental, God-given institution.

And too often overweening government has aided in this tragedy. Recently I've asked Governor John Ashcroft, who was NAE Layman of the Year last year, to head a Commission on America's Urban Families, to isolate the causes of the alarming decline. I make to you this pledge: As long as I am your president, families will come first in America.

Every law that is passed must guard against the weakening of the family. At the same time, there are positive steps we can take to strengthen it. As part of my economic growth package, I have asked Congress to increase the child tax exemption by \$500 - - and I want them to do it this year.

Most recently, some in Congress wanted to deprive low-income families of the so-called "Wee Tots" exemption, which increases the take-home pay of families just getting by. The exemption promotes self-reliance and hard work; it helps keep families in tact. Fortunately, we were able to halt Congress's effort to eliminate this lifeline. Sooner or later they will understand: I will not allow legislation that works against the family.

We can also wage war against the forces that would tear the family apart. The Justice Department's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section has been vigorously prosecuting the smut-merchants who deal in child pornography. Since 1987 we have obtained 85 convictions involving more than \$20 million in fines and seized assets. There is no place in America for this horrifying exploitation of human beings.

And may I add: pornography is pornography -- blasphemy is blasphemy -- and government has no business funding it -- even if some misguided people want to call it art.

Faith and family -- these are the values that sustain the greatest nation on earth. And to these values let us add: the infinitely precious value of life itself. Our Declaration doesn't tell us that all men are "born" equal. It says "created," a word that echoes the mystery of faith, affirming the right to liberty, the right to pursue happiness -- and yes, the right to life.

Last summer we won a significant victory in this battle. I made it clear to Congress that while I am president, the federal government would not fund abortions -- or abortion counseling, even when it's disguised as "family planning." A majority disagreed with us; but I had to do what was right. I vetoed their legislation. And let them understand: If they send me anything similar again, I will veto it again.

In a moment of great trial for our country, Lincoln said, "My concern is not whether God is on our side, but whether we are on God's side." As president I have often spoken of service -- not simply public service, but personal service, one human being to another. And I am always reminded of a phrase from my Book of Common Prayer: "Oh, God ... whose service is perfect freedom." We must be sustained by the confidence that in serving others -- in promoting unashamedly the values of faith and family and life -- we serve Him as well. It is this confidence that will enable us to move our country, one nation under God, forward in faith.

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