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FOIA Number:

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FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.

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

OA/ID Number: 13618
Folder ID Number: 13618-003

Folder Title:
Florida International University 4/27/92 [OA 6101]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	18	1	5

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/24/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT
MIAMI, FLORIDA

SUBJECT: APRIL 27, 1992
2:00 P.M.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KUAFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BOSKIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached remarks have been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

02 APR 24 09:29

April 24, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID F. DEMAREST *DD*

FROM: DAN MC GROARTY *DWG*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REMARKS FOR FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

I. SUMMARY

On Monday, April 27 at 2:00 p.m. you will deliver remarks to the graduating class of Florida International University and an audience of 8,500 in the Grand Ballroom of the Miami Convention Center.

FIU's graduating class totals 2,200, nearly half of whom are Cuban Americans. Most FIU students are South Floridians, with an average age of 25. One of every two 4-year college degree holders in South Florida are graduates of FIU.

II. DISCUSSION

Your commencement address (approximately 15 minutes / teleprompter) focuses on the new world facing today's graduates - the new economic realities as well as the great gains for freedom around the world. It also addresses the current dissatisfaction with government as an argument for our own reform agenda.

McGroarty/Bunton
April 24, 1992
8:00 A.M.
[FIU]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
MIAMI, FLORIDA
APRIL 27, 1992
2:00 P.M.

[Introductory acknowledgements, including Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, FIU alumnus.] I know today's commencement is one of the hottest tickets in town. President Maidique told me about one graduate, Yanira Bermudez, who needed a dozen tickets for family members who came all the way from Canada. [[You can imagine how pleased I am to receive this honorary degree. I knew I'd be guaranteed a seat. //]]

I'm honored to be part of this great occasion. Today's ceremony marks more than a graduation. This commencement is a coming of age: 20 years ago, Miami didn't have a public university. Today, Florida International is not simply a fixture in the intellectual and economic life of this thriving city -- it is one of the 50 largest universities in the United States.

[[I can tell you this: They won't be asking F.I.-who? anymore.]]

You've come a long way from the early days 20 years ago -- holding class in the rusty hangars out at old Tamiami airport. The progress you've made stands as testimony to the power of your dream -- and your determination to make it real.

Let me speak for a moment about the secret of your success. Florida International has blazed its own path. Many of your

students are a little older, a little more experienced. You're a little more likely to combine work and study -- family life with college life. Because of that, you're a little less likely to treat your university years as an ivory tower exercise -- and more an extension of the every-day world around you.

All of those factors keep this university close to the community it serves -- and all of those factors make FIU a force in shaping South Florida's fortunes in the new century ahead.

Even now, each day brings new changes: new nations, new realities -- new hopes and new horizons. It's not so much technology and science that we marvel at -- but the startling pace of political change.

The democratic renaissance in **Central and Eastern Europe** -- the blossoming of democracy here in our own hemisphere -- the end of the Cold War and collapse of imperial communism -- all would be unimaginable in a world where America turned inward, away from the challenges of a new world. //

The changes in the world beyond our shores have real impact right here at home. In the new world you'll call your own -- your children won't wake to the nuclear nightmare that played in the corners of your mind.

But change brings new challenges: We've put an end to a long era of military confrontation -- and entered a new age of economic competition. Yes, dictators have given way to democracy -- and yet dangers remain. //

Here in Miami, I know the great gains for democracy we've seen in the world have a bittersweet edge. Each triumph for freedom -- each victory for the people from Moscow to Managua -- calls attention to the one island where communism continues to hold sway.

I cannot imagine the anguish so many of you or your family members must have felt at the cruel choice between the land of your birth and the love of freedom. I share the dreams you have of a democratic Cuba. //

That day will come. The fact that dictators cling to power is a fact that will soon become a footnote. We are witnessing the collapse of the communist idea -- the demise of the crippling concept of the all-powerful State.

There are many reasons for this collapse. But in the end, one fact alone explains what we see today: Its advocates saw the triumph of communism written in the laws of history. They failed to see the love of freedom written in the human heart.

I know there's a Spanish saying about the Castro regime that is true in any language: "En los noventas, se revienta." "In the 90s, it will fall." // Freedom will come to Cuba.

But the change we see doesn't stop at America's doorstep. Here at home, we've got to ask: How can we open the doors of opportunity to every American?

Our challenge -- our new American destiny -- is to give the American Dream room to grow.

To make that destiny our own, we must advance American ideals -- help communism's old, captive nations take their place among the world's democracies.

We must advance America's economic interests -- meet the competitive challenge of a new world economy.

Here in Miami, we see this new American economic reality in microcosm. This city is the hub, the economic gateway to the Americas. 45 percent -- nearly half of all U.S. trade with Latin America -- passes through the Miami area. That translates into 35,000 jobs in the Miami area alone tied to trade. / Here's what that means for the graduates here today: Your standard of living -- your opportunities -- your future are certain to be influenced by the world beyond our shores.

I know there are some who see a different future. People who want to sound the retreat -- run from the new realities, seek refuge in a dream world of economic isolationism.

Those voices have nothing to say to this Nation. There is no turning back -- no hiding from the new reality. We have no choice but to compete. The new reality of our new world economy is simply this: to succeed economically at home, we've got to lead economically abroad. //

Finally, if we want to make a new American destiny our own, we've got to bridge the gap between the American people and the government that's meant to serve them.

I know there's a discontent -- a deepening cynicism about the way things work, or fail to work, in Washington. A doubt about one person's ability to change, really change the system. Government has grown more distant -- and the bureaucracy? It just keeps growing. Too often, the government we get is not effective, it is not efficient -- it's not even compassionate.

It's not that people are apathetic -- it's that people are angry with government. Many of you recycle empty cans and plastic bottles -- because when it comes to the environment, you believe one individual's actions can make a difference. But when it comes to self-government, cynicism kicks in: too many people have come to doubt the power of a single vote.

This didn't just happen overnight. It's the legacy of a theory of government grown too used to promising what government will do for people. This theory fails to see that people don't want government to make their decisions for them -- they want government that gives them the freedom to choose.

They want a government that spends within its means -- the way families do. They want welfare programs that provide opportunity -- not the dead-end street of dependency. They want to be free to choose the school that's best for their children - - public, private, or religious. //

That message is getting through. Because in spite of the cynicism, we see positive signs -- a new ethic of responsibility alive in America. The days of the "no fault" lifestyle are

coming to an end. We see it all around us: individuals taking responsibility. Individuals taking action.

In their private lives, people know: actions have consequences. What they want from government are policies and programs that hold people responsible for their actions -- and that government is responsible to the people.

If you think about it, that's nothing more than a working definition of democracy. //

We've got to bring the ethic of responsibility back into government. When we do, we'll see the sense of public trust return to politics. We'll see a government that reflects the real values of this great nation: proud, confident, caring and strong.

That's my mission as President. It's our challenge as a nation. The way we do it is through reform.

I've already mentioned one of the areas where we need urgent action -- expanding trade, to open new markets the world over to American goods. Beyond trade, there are four other key issues that together form the core of my reform agenda:

We've got to fight for legal reform -- to end the explosion of litigation that strains our patience and saps our economy. We've got to reform this country's health care system -- open up access to all Americans, control the run-away cost of health care, without sacrificing choice and quality. We've sparked a revolution in American education -- community by community, to help our children get the world-class education our new world

demands. And finally, we've got to push forward on government reform -- because only if we reverse a generation of creeping bureaucracy, only if we restore limits to government, can we restore public trust.

Each reform is essential. And each reform will succeed -- so long as we draw on the strengths that got each of you here today. As a society, as a nation, we stand to gain from your skills and training. Your insight and your energy. But the most precious resource of all is this: your optimism.

And there is still plenty of optimism in the American character. Let me take someone many of you will know -- a senior named Sylvia Daniels. She took her first class at FIU 15 years ago -- and she graduates today at the age of 77.

I've saved the best for last: this summer, Sylvia starts graduate classes -- in Cambridge, England.

[[Sylvia, if you're looking for a new challenge to take on until school starts, there's always the National Windsurfing Championship....]]

We see the power of optimism in Jose Marrero -- who today becomes the first in his family to graduate from college -- and he's done it at the age of 19. //

We see it in Jorge Castro: Born here in Miami but raised in Mexico. Jorge has worked 60 hour weeks as a bank teller to put himself through school -- made the Dean's List, and still found time to volunteer at a local school. His next stop: Harvard University, for a master's degree in education.

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In the next century -- as in this one -- America will be the
strongest, the bravest, the freest nation on the face of the
Earth. //

As President, I've made it my mission to preserve and
advance three legacies close to all our hearts: a world at
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To make this destiny our own, we've got to be part of a
larger movement. As parents, as citizens, as members of the
communities we call home -- we must rekindle a revolution -- a
revolution to bring change to the country that's changed the
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Thank you once again for this warm welcome -- and for
inviting me to share this special day with you, your families and
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT

TO

MIAMI, FLORIDA

APRIL 27, 1992

EVENT: Address Florida International University
Commencement

DATE: Monday, April 27, 1992

TIME: 2:10 pm - 3:10 pm

PLACE: Hall D, Miami Beach Convention Center

ATTENDEES: 8,700

PRESS: Open

SCENARIO: THE PRESIDENT arrives Holding Room and holds briefly. (NOTE: THE PRESIDENT is robed at this time.) THE PRESIDENT departs Holding Room and proceeds to Convention Center Off-Stage Announcement Area. THE PRESIDENT arrives Convention Center Off-Stage Announcement Area and holds briefly. (NOTE: Remaining Dais Guests are on Stage at this time.) THE PRESIDENT is announced onto Dais to Honors by the Florida International University Symphonic Wind Ensemble, proceeds to Seat, and remains Standing (Enter Stage Right). The National Anthem is played, followed by the singing of the Florida International University Alma Mater by Ms. Elsie D. Augenblick, Soloist. Sister Trinita Flood, Academic Dean, Saint John Vianney Seminary, delivers the Invocation. (NOTE: Following the Invocation, Dais Guests are seated.) Mr. James A. Mau, Provost, Florida International University, convenes the Commencement ceremony. Dr. Modesto A. "Mitch" Maidique, President, Florida International University, delivers welcoming remarks. Following Dr. Maidique's remarks, three Distinguished Service awards and two Teacher of the Year awards are presented. Following the presentation of the Distinguished Service awards, Honorary Degrees are conferred upon Ms. Celia Cruz, Cuban Salsa singer/musician; and Mr. Abraham Foxman, National Director, Anti-

DRAFT 3

TAB C

MIAMI, FLORIDA

Miami Beach Convention Center

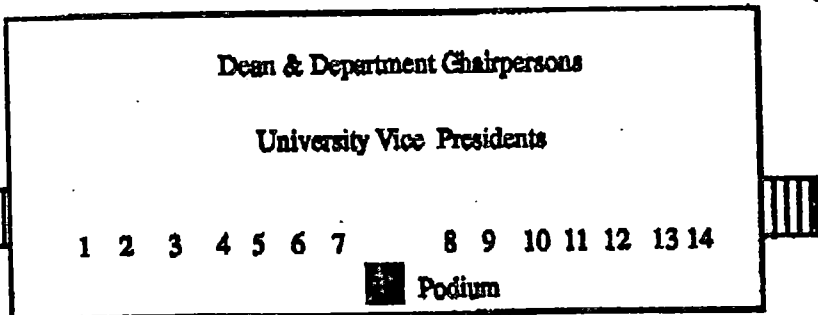
Florida International University Commencement

Dais Diagram

Monday, April 27, 1992

*Un decided to let
E will let them work*

*1 Cong. Larry Smith - Yes
1 Cong. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen - Yes
2 U.S. Senators for FL said NO
Mark / Graham
8 State Legislators
? Gov. Office
1 Mayor*



*1st Sr. Roberts CASES
3 Rep. Rodolfo Ruy Garcia
3 Rep. Miguel D. Grandy
Sen. Susan Euber
Sen. Bruce Hoffman
Sen. Daryl L. Jones
Sen. Gwen Margolis
Rep. Laurence Phinney
Rep. Darryll Reeves
Rep. Louis E. Rojas
Rep. Ron Saunders
Rep. Ron Silver
Rep. JAVIER SOUTO
Rep. CARLOS L. VALDES*

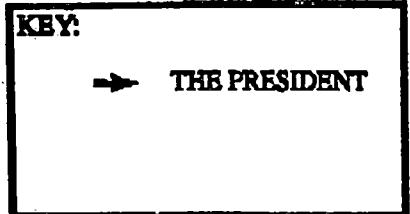
1. Mr. Ralph Lewis - President, FIU Faculty Senate
2. Mr. Sherwood Weiser - Distinguished Service Award Recipient
3. Mr. Abraham Foxman - National Director, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, Honorary Degree Recipient ✓
4. Ma. Celia Cruz - Honorary Degree Recipient ✓
5. Mr. Alec Courtelis - President, Courtelis Company and Regent - ✓
6. THE PRESIDENT
7. Dr. Modesto "Mitch" Maidique - President, Florida International University ✓
8. Mrs. Perla Hartman - Member, Board of Regents
9. Mr. Alvah H. Chapman, Jr. - Chairman, Board of Trustees, FIU Foundation ✓
10. Dr. Charles Reed - Chancellor, State University System of Florida
11. Mr. James Mau - FIU Provost
12. Mr. Mark Rosenberg - Director, Latin American & Caribbean Center (LACC), Distinguished Service Award Recipient
13. Mr. Robert Bell - President and CEO, Sun Pharmaceuticals Limited, Distinguished Service Award Recipient
14. Sister Trinita Flood - Academic Dean, Saint John Vianney Seminary, Presenter of Invocation

*By NAME:
Pres. Maidique
Hon. → Foxman
Hon. → Cruz
Chapman (Chmn)
Courtelis - Regent
(Hoods President)*

R

R

*Trustees
3 Regents
Faculty Senate*



McGroarty/Bunton
April 24, 1992
8:00 A.M.
[FIU]

**W/ACKS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
MIAMI, FLORIDA
APRIL 27, 1992
2:00 P.M.

Thank you, Dr. Maidique, for those kind words. I'm pleased to be here with so many distinguished members of the Miami community -- Chairman Alvah Chapman and the members of the Board of Trustees. / ^{Regan} Alec Courtelis. / Ileana Ros-Lehtinen -- Congresswoman -- but more important today: FIU alumnus. [[To keep the focus for a moment on FIU alumni, I told Ileana the real reason I'm here today: Andy Garcia made me an offer I couldn't refuse.]]

My fellow honorees -- Abe Foxman and Celia Cruz. / Members of the FIU faculty / students / families -- and of course the Class of 1992: thank you all for this warm welcome.

I know today's commencement is one of the hottest tickets in town. President Maidique told me about one graduate, Yanira Bermudez, who needed a dozen tickets for family members who came all the way from Canada. [[You can imagine how pleased I am to receive this honorary degree. I knew I'd be guaranteed a seat. //]]

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 4/23/92 4:00pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY MIAMI, FL - 4/27/92 - 2:00 p.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input 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"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>
BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, APRIL 23, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

TO: DAN MCGROARTY

April 24, 1992

The NSC staff has no objection to the proposed presidential remarks. However, please note the comment on page 5.

Brent Scowcroft
Brent Scowcroft

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

cc: Phillip D. Brady

McGroarty/Bunton
April 22, 1992
5:00 P.M.
[FIU]

32 APR 22 P5:20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
MIAMI, FLORIDA
APRIL 27, 1992
2:00 P.M.

[Introductory acknowledgements, including Congresswoman

unpresidential ↑
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, FIU alumnus.] I know today's commencement is one of the hottest tickets in town. President Maidique told me about one graduate, Yanira Bermudez, who needed a dozen tickets for family members who came all the way from Canada. [[You can imagine how pleased I am to receive this honorary degree. I knew I'd be guaranteed a seat. //]]

I'm honored to be part of this great occasion. Today's ceremony marks more than a graduation. This commencement is a coming of age: 20 years ago, Miami didn't have a public university. Today, Florida International is not simply a fixture in the intellectual and economic life of this thriving city -- it is one of the 50 largest universities in the United States.

[[I can tell you this: They won't be asking F.I.-who? anymore.]]

You've come a long way from the early days 20 years ago -- holding class in the rusty hangars out at old Tamiami airport. The progress you've made stands as testimony to the power of your dream -- and your determination to make it real.

Let me speak for a moment about the secret of your success. Florida International has blazed its own path. Many of your

students are a little older, a little more experienced. You're a little more likely to combine work and study -- family life with college life. Because of that, you're a little less likely to treat your university years as an ivory tower exercise -- and more an extension of the every-day world around you.

All of those factors keep this university close to the community it serves -- and all of those factors make FIU a force in shaping South Florida's fortunes in the new century ahead.

Even now, each day brings new changes: new nations, new realities -- new hopes and new horizons. [[Back in my day, opportunity knocked. Now -- your pager beeps.]] But it's not so much technology and science that we marvel at -- but the startling pace of political change.

The democratic renaissance in Central and Eastern Europe -- the blossoming of democracy here in our own hemisphere -- the end of the Cold War and collapse of imperial communism -- all would be unimaginable in a world where America turned inward, away from the challenges of a new world. //

The changes in the world beyond our shores have real impact right here at home. In the new world you'll call your own -- your children won't waken to the nuclear nightmare that played in the corners of your mind.

But change brings new challenges: We've put an end to a long era of military confrontation -- and entered a new age of economic competition. Yes, dictators have given way to democracy -- and yet dangers remain. //

Here in Miami, I know the great gains for democracy we've seen in the world have a bittersweet edge. Each triumph for freedom -- each victory for the people from Moscow to Managua -- calls attention to the one island where communism continues to hold sway.

I cannot imagine the anguish so many of you or your family members must have felt at the cruel choice between the land of your birth and the love of freedom. I share the dreams you have of a democratic Cuba. //

That day will come. The fact that dictators cling to power is a fact that will soon become a footnote. We are witnessing the collapse of the communist idea -- the demise of the crippling concept of the all-powerful State.

There are many reasons for this collapse. But in the end, one fact alone explains what we see today: Its advocates saw the triumph of communism written in the laws of history. They failed to see the love of freedom written in the human heart.

I know there's a Spanish saying about the Castro regime that is true in any language: "En las noventas, se revienta." "In the 90s, it will fall." // Freedom will come to Cuba.

But the change we see doesn't stop at America's doorstep. Here at home, we've got to ask: How can we open the doors of opportunity to every American?

Our challenge -- our new American destiny -- is to give the American Dream room to grow.

To make that destiny our own, we must advance American ideals -- help communism's old, captive nations take their place among the world's democracies.

We must advance America's economic interests -- meet the competitive challenge of a new world economy.

Here in Miami, we see this new American economic reality in microcosm. This city is the hub, the economic gateway to the Americas. 45 percent -- nearly half of all U.S. trade with Latin America -- passes through the Miami area. That translates into 35,000 jobs in the Miami area alone tied to trade. / Here's what that means for the graduates here today: Your standard of living -- your opportunities -- your future are certain to be influenced by the world beyond our shores.

I know there are some who see a different future. People who want to sound the retreat -- run from the new realities, seek refuge in a dream world of economic isolationism.

Those voices have nothing to say to this Nation. There is no turning back -- no hiding from the new reality. We have no choice but to compete. The new reality of our new world economy is simply this: to succeed economically at home, we've got to lead economically abroad. //

Finally, if we want to make a new American destiny our own, we've got to bridge the gap between the American people and the government that's meant to serve them.

I know there's a discontent -- a deepening cynicism about the way things work, or fail to work, in Washington. A doubt about one person's ability to change, really change the system.

But the story doesn't end here. Because in spite of the cynicism, we see positive signs -- a new ethic of responsibility alive in America. We see it all around us: individuals taking responsibility, individuals taking action.

People have had it with the "no-fault" lifestyle. In their private lives, they know: actions have consequences. What they want is a government whose policies and programs recognize that people are responsible for their actions -- and that government is responsible to the people.

If you think about it, that's nothing more than a working definition of democracy.

Many of you recycle empty cans and plastic bottles -- because when it comes to the environment, you believe one individual's actions can make a difference. But when it comes to self-government, you're not so certain: you've come to doubt that one vote counts.

That's wrong. And that's going to change. // We've got to bring the ethic of responsibility back into government. When we do, we'll see the sense of public trust return to politics. We'll see a public life that reflects the real values of this great nation: proud, confident, caring and strong.

That's my mission as President. It's our challenge as a nation. The way we do it is through reform.

Let me focus for a moment on some of the issues at the top of my reform agenda. We've got to fight for legal reform -- to end the explosion of litigation that strains our patience and saps our economy. We've got to reform this country's health care system -- open up access to all Americans, control the run-away cost of health care, without sacrificing choice and quality. We've got to spark a revolution in American education -- community by community, to help our children get the world-class education our new world demands. And finally, we've got to push forward on government reform -- because only if we reverse a generation of creeping bureaucracy, only if we restore limits to government, can we restore public trust.

Each reform is essential. And each reform will succeed -- so long as we draw on the strengths that got each of you here today. As a society, as a nation, we stand to gain from your skills and training. Your insight and your energy. But the most precious resource of all is this: your optimism.

And there is still plenty of optimism in the American character. Let me take someone many of you will know -- a senior named Sylvia Daniels. She took her first class at FIU 15 years ago -- and she graduates today at the age of 77. {Add: Her plans for the future...}

We see it in Jose Marrero -- Miami born, lived in Colombia: Today Jose becomes the first in his family to graduate from college -- and he's done it at the age of 19. //

We see it in Jorge Castro: Born here in Miami but raised in Mexico. Jorge has worked 60 hour weeks as a bank teller to put himself through school -- made the Dean's List, and still found time to volunteer at a local school. His next stop: Harvard University, for a master's degree in education.

So when I hear that in America, you can't get ahead, I say: tell it to Jorge Castro.

When I hear that in America, our kids are in crisis, I say: tell it to Jose Marrero.

When I hear that in America, our best days are behind us, I say: Tell it to Sylvia Daniels.

Here's what I know: America's best days always lie ahead. In the next century -- as in this one -- America will be the strongest, the bravest, the freest nation on the face of the Earth. //

As President, I've made it my mission to preserve and advance three legacies close to all our hearts: a world at peace. An economy with good jobs -- real opportunity for all Americans. A nation of strong families -- sturdy values of character and culture. //

To make this destiny our own, we've got to be part of a larger movement. As parents, as citizens, as members of the communities we call home -- we must rekindle a revolution -- a revolution to bring change to the country that's changed the world. //

Thank you once again for this warm welcome -- and for inviting me to share this special day with you, your families and friends. May God bless the United States of America -- and the Class of 1992.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 4/23/92 4:00pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
MIAMI, FL - 4/27/92 - 2:00 p.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	✓ MCBRIDE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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 <i>out of town</i>	<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"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH <i>n/c</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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✓ HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BOSKIN <i>n/c</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, APRIL 23, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

MASTER

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

McGroarty/Bunton
April 22, 1992
5:00 P.M.
[FIU]

82 APR 22 P5:20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
MIAMI, FLORIDA
APRIL 27, 1992
2:00 P.M.

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[[I can tell you this: They won't be asking F.I.-who? anymore.]]

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Let me speak for a moment about the secret of your success. Florida International has blazed its own path. Many of your

students are a little older, a little more experienced. You're a little more likely to combine work and study -- family life with college life. Because of that, you're a little less likely to treat your university years as an ivory tower exercise -- and more an extension of the every-day world around you.

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Even now, each day brings new changes: new nations, new realities -- new hopes and new horizons. ~~[[Back in my day, opportunity knocked. Now -- your pager beeps.]]~~ But ^{it} it's not so much technology and science that we marvel at -- but the startling pace of political change.

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Here in Miami, I know the great gains for democracy we've seen in the world have a bittersweet edge. Each triumph for freedom -- each victory for the people from Moscow to Managua -- calls attention to the one island where communism continues to hold sway.

I cannot imagine the anguish so many of you or your family members must have felt at the cruel choice between the land of your birth and the love of freedom. I share the dreams you have of a democratic Cuba. //

That day will come. The fact that dictators cling to power is a fact that will soon become a footnote. We are witnessing the collapse of the communist idea -- the demise of the crippling concept of the **all-powerful State**.

There are many reasons for this collapse. But in the end, one fact alone explains what we see today: **Its advocates saw the triumph of communism written in the laws of history. They failed to see the love of freedom written in the human heart.**

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I know there are some who see a different future. People who want to sound the retreat -- run from the new realities, seek refuge in a dream world of economic isolationism.

Those voices have nothing to say to this Nation. There is no turning back -- no hiding from the new reality. We have no choice but to compete. The new reality of our new world economy is simply this: to succeed economically at home, we've got to lead economically abroad. //

Finally, if we want to make a new American destiny our own, we've got to bridge the gap between the American people and the government that's meant to serve them.

Pink:
Sch. choice - Feb.

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Pink:
slam bureaucracy.

People have had it with the "no-fault" lifestyle. In their private lives, they know: actions have consequences. (What they want is a government whose policies and programs recognize that people are responsible for their actions -- and that government is responsible to the people.)

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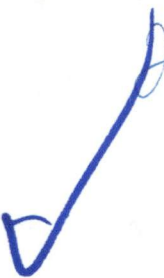
Many of you recycle empty cans and plastic bottles -- because when it comes to the environment, you believe one individual's actions can make a difference. But when it comes to self-government, you're not so certain: you've come to doubt that one vote counts.

That's wrong. And that's going to change. // We've got to bring the ethic of responsibility back into government. When we do, we'll see the sense of public trust return to politics. We'll see a ^(government?) ~~(public life)~~ that reflects the real values of this great nation: proud, confident, caring and strong.

That's my mission as President. It's our challenge as a nation. The way we do it is through reform.

H. MOORE:

continue to fight push for
FREE + FAIR trade:--
drive down open m
trade barriers, open
markets to American
goods the
world
over.



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The core of my reform agenda:

Let me focus for a moment on ~~some of the~~ issues at the top of my reform agenda. We've got to fight for legal reform -- to end the explosion of litigation that strains our patience and saps our economy. We've got to reform this country's health care system -- open up access to all Americans, control the run-away cost of health care, without sacrificing choice and quality. We've got to spark a revolution in American education -- community by community, to help our children get the world-class education our new world demands. And finally, we've got to push forward on government reform -- because only if we reverse a generation of creeping bureaucracy, only if we restore limits to government, can we restore public trust.

we need to use
the
power
of
the
market

Each reform is essential. And each reform will succeed -- so long as we draw on the strengths that got each of you here today. As a society, as a nation, we stand to gain from your skills and training. Your insight and your energy. But the most precious resource of all is this: your optimism.

And there is still plenty of optimism in the American character. Let me take someone many of you will know -- a senior named Sylvia Daniels. She took her first class at FIU 15 years ago -- and she graduates today at the age of 77. {Add: Her plans for the future...}

We see it in Jose Marrero -- Miami born, lived in Colombia: Today Jose becomes the first in his family to graduate from college -- and he's done it at the age of 19. //

We see it in Jorge Castro: Born here in Miami but raised in Mexico. Jorge has worked 60 hour weeks as a bank teller to put himself through school -- made the Dean's List, and still found time to volunteer at a local school. His next stop: Harvard University, for a master's degree in education.

He's hard
⊕
doing
what?

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As President, I've made it my mission to preserve and advance three legacies close to all our hearts: a world at peace. An economy with good jobs -- real opportunity for all Americans. A nation of strong families -- sturdy values of character and culture. //

To make this destiny our own, we've got to be part of a larger movement. As parents, as citizens, as members of the communities we call home -- we must rekindle a revolution -- a revolution to bring change to the country that's changed the world. //

Thank you once again for this warm welcome -- and for inviting me to share this special day with you, your families and friends. May God bless the United States of America -- and the Class of 1992.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 23, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN MCGROARTY

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Florida International
University

We have reviewed the attached presidential remarks and have noted one suggested change on page two.

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

cc: Phillip D. Brady

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

RAE

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 4/23/92 4:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SUBJECT: MIAMI, FL - 4/27/92 - 2:00 p.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input 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"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>	<u>FINDLAY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>KAUFMAN</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>MCGROARTY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

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

McGroarty/Bunton
April 22, 1992
5:00 P.M.
[FIU]

02 APR 22 P5:20

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MIAMI, FLORIDA
APRIL 27, 1992
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Those voices have nothing to say to this Nation. There is no turning back -- no hiding from the new reality. We have no choice but to compete. The new reality of our new world economy is simply this: to succeed economically at home, we've got to lead economically abroad. //

Finally, if we want to make a new American destiny our own, we've got to bridge the gap between the American people and the government that's meant to serve them.

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If you think about it, that's nothing more than a working definition of democracy.

Many of you recycle empty cans and plastic bottles -- because when it comes to the environment, you believe one individual's actions can make a difference. But when it comes to self-government, you're not so certain: you've come to doubt that one vote counts.

That's wrong. And that's going to change. // We've got to bring the ethic of responsibility back into government. When we do, we'll see the sense of public trust return to politics. We'll see a public life that reflects the real values of this great nation: proud, confident, caring and strong.

That's my mission as President. It's our challenge as a nation. The way we do it is through reform.

Let me focus for a moment on some of the issues at the top of my reform agenda. We've got to fight for legal reform -- to end the explosion of litigation that strains our patience and saps our economy. We've got to reform this country's health care system -- open up access to all Americans, control the run-away cost of health care, without sacrificing choice and quality. We've got to spark a revolution in American education -- community by community, to help our children get the world-class education our new world demands. And finally, we've got to push forward on government reform -- because only if we reverse a generation of creeping bureaucracy, only if we restore limits to government, can we restore public trust.

Each reform is essential. And each reform will succeed -- so long as we draw on the strengths that got each of you here today. As a society, as a nation, we stand to gain from your skills and training. Your insight and your energy. But the most precious resource of all is this: your optimism.

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To make this destiny our own, we've got to be part of a larger movement. As parents, as citizens, as members of the communities we call home -- we must rekindle a revolution -- a revolution to bring change to the country that's changed the world. //

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 4/23/92 4:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
 SUBJECT: MIAMI, FL - 4/27/92 - 2:00 p.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input 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"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>	<u>FINDLAY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>KAUFMAN</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>MCGROARTY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, APRIL 23, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Shin -
to McGroarty

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

McGroarty/Bunton
April 22, 1992
5:00 P.M.
[FIU]

92 APR 22 P5:20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
MIAMI, FLORIDA
APRIL 27, 1992
2:00 P.M.

[Introductory acknowledgements, including Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, FIU alumnus.] I know today's commencement is one of the hottest tickets in town. President Maidique told me about one graduate, Yanira Bermudez, who needed a dozen tickets for family members who came all the way from Canada. [[You can imagine how pleased I am to receive this honorary degree. I knew I'd be guaranteed a seat. //]]

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[[I can tell you this: They won't be asking F.I.-who? anymore.]]

You've come a long way from the early days 20 years ago -- holding class in the rusty hangars out at old Tamiami airport. The progress you've made stands as testimony to the power of your dream -- and your determination to make it real.

Let me speak for a moment about the secret of your success. Florida International has blazed its own path. Many of your

students are a little older, a little more experienced. You're a little more likely to combine work and study -- family life with college life. Because of that, you're a little less likely to treat your university years as an ivory tower exercise -- and more an extension of the every-day world around you.

All of those factors keep this university close to the community it serves -- and all of those factors make FIU a force in shaping South Florida's fortunes in the new century ahead.

Even now, each day brings new changes: new nations, new realities -- new hopes and new horizons. [[Back in my day, opportunity knocked. Now -- your pager beeps.]] But it's not so much technology and science that we marvel at -- but the startling pace of political change.

The democratic renaissance in Central and Eastern Europe -- the blossoming of democracy here in our own hemisphere -- the end of the Cold War and collapse of imperial communism -- all would be unimaginable in a world where America turned inward, away from the challenges of a new world. //

The changes in the world beyond our shores have real impact right here at home. In the new world you'll call your own -- your children won't waken to the nuclear nightmare that played in the corners of your mind.

But change brings new challenges: We've put an end to a long era of military confrontation -- and entered a new age of economic competition. Yes, dictators have given way to democracy -- and yet dangers remain. //

Here in Miami, I know the great gains for democracy we've seen in the world have a bittersweet edge. Each triumph for freedom -- each victory for the people from Moscow to Managua -- calls attention to the one island where communism continues to hold sway.

I cannot imagine the anguish so many of you or your family members must have felt at the cruel choice between the land of your birth and the love of freedom. I share the dreams you have of a democratic Cuba. //

That day will come. The fact that dictators cling to power is a fact that will soon become a footnote. We are witnessing the collapse of the communist idea -- the demise of the crippling concept of the all-powerful State.

There are many reasons for this collapse. But in the end, one fact alone explains what we see today: Its advocates saw the triumph of communism written in the laws of history. They failed to see the love of freedom written in the human heart.

I know there's a Spanish saying about the Castro regime that is true in any language: "En las noventas, se revienta." "In the 90s, it will fall." // Freedom will come to Cuba.

But the change we see doesn't stop at America's doorstep. Here at home, we've got to ask: How can we open the doors of opportunity to every American?

Our challenge -- our new American destiny -- is to give the American Dream room to grow.

To make that destiny our own, we must advance American ideals -- help communism's old, captive nations take their place among the world's democracies.

We must advance America's economic interests -- meet the competitive challenge of a new world economy.

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School choice
Jobs

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Slam
bureaucracy.

But the story doesn't end here. Because in spite of the cynicism, we see positive signs -- a new ethic of responsibility alive in America. We see it all around us: individuals taking responsibility, individuals taking action.

What are we really trying to say here - Can we be more explicit

People have had it with the "no-fault" lifestyle. In their private lives, they know: actions have consequences. What they want is a government whose policies and programs recognize that people are responsible for their actions -- and that government is responsible to the people.

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That's wrong. And that's going to change. // We've got to again make the government responsible to the people bring the ethic of responsibility back into government. When we do, we'll see the sense of public trust return to politics. We'll see a public life that reflects the real values of this great nation: proud, confident, caring and strong.

We must once

That's my mission as President. It's our challenge as a nation. The way we do it is through reform.

whose public life ... do you mean "society"

(finish-second; a paragraph; a breath)

Let me focus for a ~~moment~~ on some of the issues at the top of my reform agenda. We've got to fight for legal reform -- to end the explosion of litigation that strains our patience and saps our economy. We've got to reform this country's health care system -- open up access to all Americans, control the run-away cost of health care, without sacrificing choice and quality. We've got to spark a revolution in American education -- community by community, to help our children get the world-class education our new world demands. And finally, we've got to push forward on government reform -- because only if we reverse a generation of creeping bureaucracy, only if we restore limits to government, can we restore public trust.

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→ doing what -
might be interesting
to know

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

92 APR 23 11:49

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 4/23/92 4:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
 SUBJECT: MIAMI, FL - 4/27/92 - 2:00 p.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input 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"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>
BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, APRIL 23, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*Please see Comment
P. 2.
Thank you.*

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

McGroarty/Bunton
April 22, 1992
5:00 P.M.
[FIU]

92 APR 22 P5:20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
MIAMI, FLORIDA
APRIL 27, 1992
2:00 P.M.

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*and enable it
to foster
lifelong learning
in Miami*

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#

See
page

3

SPENCER 2

Document No. 323620ss

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 4/23/92 4:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SUBJECT: MIAMI, FL - 4/27/92 - 2:00 p.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input 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"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>	FINLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, APRIL 23, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

cc Shiver

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary

McGroarty/Bunton
April 22, 1992
5:00 P.M.
[FIU]

02 APR 22 P5:20

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
MIAMI, FLORIDA
APRIL 27, 1992
2:00 P.M.

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Let me speak for a moment about the secret of your success. Florida International has blazed its own path. Many of your

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All of those factors keep this university close to the community it serves -- and all of those factors make FIU a force in shaping South Florida's fortunes in the new century ahead.

Even now, each day brings new changes: new nations, new realities -- new hopes and new horizons. [[Back in my day, opportunity knocked. Now -- your pager beeps.]] But it's not so much technology and science that we marvel at -- but the startling pace of political change.

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The changes in the world beyond our shores have real impact right here at home. In the new world you'll call your own -- your children won't waken to the nuclear nightmare that played in the corners of your mind.

But change brings new challenges: We've put an end to a long era of military confrontation -- and entered a new age of economic competition. Yes, dictators have given way to democracy -- and yet dangers remain. //

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Here in Miami, I know the great gains for democracy we've seen in the world have a bittersweet edge. Each triumph for freedom -- each victory for the people from Moscow to Managua -- calls attention to the one island where communism continues to hold sway.

I cannot imagine the anguish so many of you or your family members must have felt at the cruel choice between the land of your birth and the love of freedom. I share the dreams you have of a democratic Cuba. //

That day will come. The fact that dictators cling to power is a fact that will soon become a footnote. We are witnessing the collapse of the communist idea -- the demise of the crippling concept of the all-powerful State.

There are many reasons for this collapse. But in the end, one fact alone explains what we see today: Its advocates saw the triumph of communism written in the laws of history. They failed to see the love of freedom written in the human heart.

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Pronounce
The President
won't be able to ~~do~~ this
without sounding goofy

2

4

To make that destiny our own, we must advance American ideals -- help communism's old, captive nations take their place among the world's democracies.

We must advance America's economic interests -- meet the competitive challenge of a new world economy.

Here in Miami, we see this new American economic reality in microcosm. This city is the hub, the economic gateway to the Americas. 45 percent -- nearly half of all U.S. trade with Latin America -- passes through the Miami area. That translates into 35,000 jobs in the Miami area alone tied to trade. / Here's what that means for the graduates here today: Your standard of living -- your opportunities -- your future are certain to be influenced by the world beyond our shores.

I know there are some who see a different future. People who want to sound the retreat -- run from the new realities, seek refuge in a dream world of economic isolationism.

Those voices have nothing to say to this Nation. There is no turning back -- no hiding from the new reality. We have no choice but to compete. The new reality of our new world economy is simply this: to succeed economically at home, we've got to lead economically abroad. //

Finally, if we want to make a new American destiny our own, we've got to bridge the gap between the American people and the government that's meant to serve them.

5

I know there's a discontent -- a deepening cynicism about the way things work, or fail to work, in Washington. A doubt about one person's ability to change, really change the system.

But the story doesn't end here. Because in spite of the cynicism, we see positive signs -- a new ethic of responsibility alive in America. We see it all around us: individuals taking responsibility, individuals taking action.

People have had it with the "no-fault" lifestyle. In their private lives, they know: actions have consequences. What they want is a government whose policies and programs recognize that people are responsible for their actions -- and that government is responsible to the people.

If you think about it, that's nothing more than a working definition of democracy.

Many of you recycle empty cans and plastic bottles -- because when it comes to the environment, you believe one individual's actions can make a difference. But when it comes to self-government, you're not so certain: you've come to doubt that one vote counts.

That's wrong. And that's going to change. // We've got to bring the ethic of responsibility back into government. When we do, we'll see the sense of public trust return to politics. We'll see a public life that reflects the real values of this great nation: proud, confident, caring and strong.

That's my mission as President. It's our challenge as a nation. The way we do it is through reform.

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Let me focus for a moment on some of the issues at the top of my reform agenda. We've got to fight for legal reform -- to end the explosion of litigation that strains our patience and saps our economy. We've got to reform this country's health care system -- open up access to all Americans, control the run-away cost of health care, without sacrificing choice and quality. We've got to spark a revolution in American education -- community by community, to help our children get the world-class education our new world demands. And finally, we've got to push forward on government reform -- because only if we reverse a generation of creeping bureaucracy, only if we restore limits to government, can we restore public trust.

Each reform is essential. And each reform will succeed -- so long as we draw on the strengths that got each of you here today. As a society, as a nation, we stand to gain from your skills and training. Your insight and your energy. But the most precious resource of all is this: your optimism.

And there is still plenty of optimism in the American character. Let me take someone many of you will know -- a senior named Sylvia Daniels. She took her first class at FIU 15 years ago -- and she graduates today at the age of 77. (Add: Her plans for the future...)

We see it in Jose Marrero -- Miami born, lived in Colombia: Today Jose becomes the first in his family to graduate from college -- and he's done it at the age of 19. //

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We see it in Jorge Castro: Born here in Miami but raised in Mexico. Jorge has worked 60 hour weeks as a bank teller to put himself through school -- made the Dean's List, and still found time to volunteer at a local school. His next step: Harvard University, for a master's degree in education.

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To make this destiny our own, we've got to be part of a larger movement. As parents, as citizens, as members of the communities we call home -- we must rekindle a revolution -- a revolution to bring change to the country that's changed the world. //

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#

Document No. 323620ss

92 APR 23

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 4/23/92 4:00pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SUBJECT: MIAMI, FL - 4/27/92 - 2:00 p.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input 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"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>
BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, APRIL 23, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

See comments on p. 2, 3, 4.

Thanks.

PK
Paul Fortonda
04/23

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

McGroarty/Bunton
April 22, 1992
5:00 P.M.
[FIU]

92 APR 22 P5:20

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Delete.
Drug people
use pagers
& lot in
immunity

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(Education)

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(Commerce)
X

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#

Thank you once again for this warm welcome -- and for
the special day which you have provided for us
and the United States of America -- and the
people of the United States.

- 1) Transpo. Fact Sheet
- 2) Ag. ... Wetlands Reserve Manual
- 3) Fact Sheet → Madigan



WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

92 APR 23 P2:59

DATE: 4/22/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURS. 4/23/92 4:00pm

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY MIAMI, FL - 4/27/92 - 2:00 p.m.

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
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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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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"/>
BOSKIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 4:00 p.m., THURSDAY, APRIL 23, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

No comment Maria Sheel for DS

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

McGroarty/Bunton
April 22, 1992
5:00 P.M.
[FIU]

92 APR 22 P5:20

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To make this destiny our own, we've got to be part of a larger movement. As parents, as citizens, as members of the communities we call home -- we must rekindle a revolution -- a revolution to bring change to the country that's changed the world. //

Thank you once again for this warm welcome -- and for inviting me to share this special day with you, your families and friends. May God bless the United States of America -- and the Class of 1992.

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Simon
Memorandum for Speechwriting Staff

From: Dan McGroarty

Regarding: *FIU*

Please return your comments to
Room 122 by:

3pm

Today's Date: APR 23 1992

McGroarty/Bunton
April 22, 1992
5:00 P.M.
[FIU]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
MIAMI, FLORIDA
APRIL 27, 1992
2:00 P.M.

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students are a little older, a little more experienced. You're a little more likely to combine work and study -- family life with college life. Because of that, you're a little less likely to treat your university years as an ivory tower exercise -- and more an extension of the every-day world around you.

All of those factors keep this university close to the community it serves -- and all of those factors make FIU a force in shaping South Florida's fortunes in the new century ahead.

Even now, each day brings new changes: new nations, new realities -- new hopes and new horizons. [[Back in my day, opportunity knocked. Now -- your pager beeps.]] But it's not so much technology and science that we marvel at -- but the startling pace of political change.

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To make that destiny our own, we must advance American ideals -- help communism's old, captive nations take their place among the world's democracies.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Miami, Florida)

For Immediate Release

April 27, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS TO FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Miami Beach Convention Center

Miami Beach, Florida

2:50 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. Thank you, Dr. Maidique, for that wonderful citation, those very kind words. May I salute Elsie Augenblick for the Alma Mater, Sister Flood for that very moving invocation, Provost Mau for opening the ceremony and presiding over this madhouse. (Applause.) I'm pleased to be here -- (applause) -- with so many members of the state, state legislators, members of the Florida legislature -- so many distinguished leaders in the Miami community. I want to salute Chairman Alvah Chapman who does so much for this community, and the other members of the Board of Trustees, Regent Alec Courtelis, your own Congresswoman, or one of the Congresswomen from this area, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, who came down with us. (Applause.) Today she's not known as a Congresswoman, she's known as a graduate of FIU. And we're very proud of that. (Applause.)

I told Ileana coming down on the plane that the real reason that I'm here today -- Andy Garcia made me an offer I couldn't refuse. (Laughter.)

May I also salute my fellow honorees: Celia Cruz -- "Queen of the Latin American Music" -- (applause) -- Doctor of Salsa. (Laughter.) She's captured the soul of a culture in her music. She asked me where Barbara was. I said Barbara is up there trying to get an agent for our rich dog. But I know that if she were here -- she's a great Celia admirer -- she would give her a grande abraso like the rest of us do. Celia, congratulations. (Applause.)

And to our other honoree, a longtime friend, respected friend, Abe Foxman. You heard it in the citation, but he is a lifelong fighter for fair play and equity. His voice is strong against racism and against anti-Semitism. And all of us in public life can take an example from the man you honor here today. He's a great fighter for human rights and dignity. Abe, congratulations. (Applause.)

And may I salute honorees Bell and Weiser and Rosenberg, and your teachers Smith and Jones. Very good going for both of them. They disappeared over here somewhere. (Applause.) But I loved those citations because it says so much about the commitment of our teachers to helping kids all across this country. (Applause.)

And may I, too, salute the FIU faculty, the students, the families -- thank you, Panthers, all for this wonderful welcome to this coliseum. (Applause.)

I know today's commencement is one of the hottest tickets in town. President Maidique told me about one graduate, Yanira Bermudez, who needed a dozen tickets for family members who came all the way from Canada. You can't imagine how pleased I am to receive this honorary degree, knowing, therefore, that I'd be

MORE

guaranteed a seat at this tremendous turnout. (Laughter.) It is spectacular.

And I really am -- I mean this -- I'm very honored to be a part of this special occasion. Today's ceremony marks more than a graduation. This commencement is a coming of age: 20 years ago, Miami didn't have a public university. Today, under the leadership of President Maidique, Florida International is not simply a fixture in the intellectual and economic life of this thriving city -- it is one of the 50 largest universities in the United States of America. And a quality one at that. (Applause.) I can tell you this: They won't be asking F.I.-who? anymore. Never again. (Applause.)

You've come a long way from those early days, 20 years ago, holding class in the air traffic control tower out at Tamiami Airport. And the progress that you've made stands as testimony to the power of a dream -- and also of your determination to make that dream real.

Let me speak for a moment about the secret of your success. Florida International has blazed its own path. Many of your students are a little older, a little more experienced. You're a little more likely to combine work and study, family life with college life. And because of that, you're a little less likely to treat your university years as some ivory tower exercise, and more an extension of the everyday world around you.

All of those factors keep this university close to the community it serves. And all of those factors make FIU a force in shaping South Florida's fortunes in the new century ahead.

Even now, each day brings new changes, new nations, new realities, new hopes, new horizons. And it's not so much technology and science that we marvel at, but the startling pace of political change. The democratic renaissance in Central and Eastern Europe, the blossoming of democracy here in our precious hemisphere, the end of the Cold War and the collapse of imperial communism all would be unimaginable in a world where America turned inward away from the challenges of a new world.

The changes in the world beyond our shores have real impact right here at home. In the new world you'll call your own, your children won't wake to the nuclear nightmare that played in the corners of your mind. We have made real, dramatic progress toward eliminating the threat of nuclear weapons and in turning our old adversary in the Soviet Union into new partners of peace. (Applause.) And I take great pride that U.S. leadership helped make that dramatic change possible.

But change brings new challenges. We've put an end to a long era of military confrontation and entered a new age of economic competition. And, yes, dictators have given way to democracy; and yet, clearly, dangers still remain.

Here in Miami, I know the great gains for democracy we've seen in the world have a bittersweet edge. Each triumph for freedom, each victory for the people from Moscow to Managua, calls attention to the one island where communism continues to hold sway. And I cannot pretend to imagine the anguish that so many of you or your parents or your other family members must have felt at a cruel choice -- the cruel choice between the land of your birth and the love of freedom. I share the dreams that you have for a democratic Cuba. (Applause.)

I have thought a great deal about this and anguished about it. And I am absolutely convinced that that day will come. And with the collapse of Soviet communism, Cuba now stands isolated and alone, and we continue to keep the pressure on to tighten the trade embargo, to champion the cause of human rights. The fact that

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dictators cling to power is a fact that will soon become a footnote. We are witnessing the collapse of the communist idea, the demise of the crippling concept of the all-powerful state.

There are many reasons for this collapse. But in the end, one fact alone explains what we see today. Its advocates saw the triumph of communism written in the laws of history, and they failed to see the love of freedom written in the human heart.

I know there's a Spanish saying about the Castro regime that is true -- in any language: "In las noventas, se revienta." (Applause.) I guarantee you -- freedom will come to Cuba. Make no mistake about it. (Applause.) And none of you professors give me a grade on my accent, either.

But the change we see doesn't stop at America's doorstep. Here at home we've got to ask: How can we open the doors of opportunity for every American? Our challenge, our new American destiny is to give the American Dream room to grow. And to make that destiny our own, we must advance American ideals, help communism's old captive nations take their place among the world's democracies. We must advance America's economic interests, meet the competitive challenge of a new world economy.

Here in Miami, we see this new American economy in microcosm. This city is the hub, the economic gateway to the Americas. Here's the figure: Forty-five percent, nearly half of all U.S. trade with Latin America passes through the Miami area. And that translates into 35,000 jobs in the Miami area alone tied to trade. And here's what that means for the graduates that are here today. Your standard of living, your opportunities, your future are certain to be influenced by the world beyond our shores. Now, I know that there are some who see a different future. People who want a sound retreat; run from the new realities; seek refuge in a dream world of economic isolationism, or protectionism.

Those voices have nothing to say to this nation. There is no turning back. There is no hiding from the new reality. We have no choice but to compete. The new reality of our new world economy is simply this: To succeed economically at home, we must lead economically abroad. (Applause.) And finally, if we want to make a new American destiny our own, we've got to bridge the gap between the American people and the government that's meant to serve it.

I know there's a discontent. Travel around the country; you can't help but feel it -- a deepening cynicism about the way things work or fail to work in Washington. A doubt about one person's ability to change, really change the system. To them, government has grown more distant. Too often, the government we get is not accountable, it is not effective, it is not efficient; and, regrettably, it's not compassionate.

It's not that people are apathetic. It's that people are angry with government. Many of you recycle empty cans and plastic bottles because, when it comes to the environment, you believe that one individual's actions can make a difference. But when it comes to self-government, cynicism kicks in, and too many people have come to doubt the power of a single vote.

This didn't happen just overnight. It's the legacy of a theory of government grown too used to promising what government will do for the people. And this theory fails to see that people don't want government to make their decisions for them -- they want government that gives them the freedom to choose.

And they want a government that spends within its means in the way families do. And they want welfare programs that provide opportunity -- not the dead-end street of dependency. And they want

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to be free to choose the school that is best for their children -- public, private, or religious.

And that message is getting through. Because in spite of the cynicism, we see positive signs -- a new ethic of responsibility alive in America. The days of the "no fault" lifestyle are coming to an end. We see it all around us: individuals taking responsibility. Individuals taking action.

In their private lives, people know: actions have consequences. And what they want from government are policies and programs that hold people responsible for their actions -- and that government is responsible to the people. And if you think about it, that's nothing more than a working definition of the word democracy.

We've got to bring the ethic of responsibility back into government. And when we do, we'll see the sense of public trust return to politics. And we'll see a government that reflects the real values of this great nation: proud, confident, caring and strong. And that's my mission as president. It's our challenge as a nation. And the way we do it is through reform.

I've already mentioned one of the areas where we need urgent action -- expanding trade, to open new markets the world over to American goods. Beyond trade, there are four other key issues that together form the core of our reform agenda: We've got to fight for legal reform -- to end the explosion of litigation that strains our patience and saps our economy. (Applause.)

America would be better off if we spent less time suing each other and more time helping one another. (Applause.) And we've got to reform this country's health care system -- open up access -- access to all Americans -- (applause) -- and control the run-away cost without sacrificing the quality education that separates us from every other country in the world: choice and quality.

We've sparked a revolution in American education -- community by community, to help our children get the world-class education that our new world demands. And I know the need for education dollars is great, and that's why at the federal level, we've increased our education budget by 41 percent since I took office. (Applause.) And I saw those stickers out there, and believe me, I came prepared with those statistics: forty-one percent increase.

And finally, we've got to push forward on government reform -- because only if we reverse a generation of creeping bureaucracy, only if we restore limits to government, can we restore public trust.

Each reform is essential. And I've called on Congress to take action in each of these areas -- legislation on Capitol Hill right now and most of it. Each reform will succeed so long as we draw on the strengths that got each of you here in this room today. As a society, as a nation, we stand to gain from your skills and your training, your insight and your energy. But the most precious resource of all is this: it's that sense of optimism -- your optimism. And there is still plenty of optimism in the American character. Let me take someone many of you will know -- a senior named Sylvia Daniels. She took her first class at FIU 15 years ago, and she graduates today at the age of 77. (Applause.)

And I've saved the best for last: This summer, Sylvia, they tell me, starts graduate classes in Cambridge, England. Good luck. (Applause.) And, Sylvia, if you're looking for a new challenge to take on until school starts, there's always the National Windsurfing Championship. Good luck. (Laughter.)

We see the power of optimism in Jose Marrero -- who today becomes the first in his family to graduate from college -- and he's done it at the age of 19. (Applause.) And we see it in Michael

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Yelovich. Ten years ago, at the age of 15, Michael was paralyzed -- the result of an accidental shooting. And Michael's mother wrote me at the White House about that difficult time -- when, in her words -- her words: "Life to Michael and the rest of our family seemed unbearable." Michael's battled back against the odds and the obstacles to get here today. And his mother wrote that "When he graduates, the whole world should know." And it seems to her now that "the whole world does know." And what a great story that is. (Applause.)

And so when I hear that in America, you can't get ahead, I say: tell that one to Michael Yelovich. Try that one on. And when I hear that in America, our kids are in crisis, I say: Tell that to Jose Marrero. And when I hear that in America, our best days are behind us, I say: Tell that to Sylvia Daniels.

Here's what I know: America's best days always lie ahead. In the next century -- as in this one -- America will be the strongest, the bravest, the freest nation on the face of the Earth. (Applause.)

As President, I have made it my mission to preserve and advance three legacies close to all our hearts: A world at peace. An economy with good jobs -- real opportunity for all Americans. A nation of strong families -- sturdy values of character and culture.

To make this destiny our own, we've got to be part of a larger movement. As parents, as citizens, as members of the communities we call home -- we must rekindle a revolution to bring change to the country that, indeed, has changed the world.

Thank you, once again, for this warm welcome and this high honor and for inviting me to share this special day with you and your families. (Applause.) And may God bless the United States of America. Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END

3:10 P.M. EDT