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# FOIA MARKER

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

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**OA/ID Number:** 13630  
**Folder ID Number:** 13630-006

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**Folder Title:**  
Meeting with Race Car Drivers in Daytona 7/4/92 [OA 5810]

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Week Ending Friday, July 10, 1992

**Remarks to the Pepsi 400 Drivers and Owners in Daytona Beach, Florida**

July 4, 1992

Thank you all very much. Thank you guys for the welcome, appreciate it. Thank you very, very much. First off, let me just pay my respects to the France family. Bill's late dad was a friend, and we mourn his passing, a great guy, great for racing, a great American, the values always intact. So I wanted to mention that at the beginning of these very brief remarks.

I salute the spirit of NASCAR, the spirit of racing. If there's ever a group of people that stood for what we call family values, American traditional values, it's this crowd I'm talking to right now. When I think of the Fourth of July, I count my blessings for our freedom. I know we've got some big problems in this country, but there's an awful lot right about the United States of America, too. And this spirit that you feel just the minute you get here expresses a lot about that.

So I really wanted to pop in here, just wish you well, tell you I'm glad to be back. This is my third visit to a race in Daytona. Having been the grand marshal of the Daytona 500, why, I expect it's only downhill. But here I am as President of the United States; maybe that will help a little bit.

But keep up the great work for American sports, American values. We're very, very proud of you. And as for Richard Petty Day or Richard Petty, number 43—they're saluting him all the way around the track here—I'm proud to be at his side on this very special day, too.

Thank you all, and best of luck to all of you.

*Note: The President spoke at 9:52 a.m. in Garage 42C at Daytona International Speed-*

*way. In his remarks, he referred to William C. France, president of the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR); the late William H.G. France, founder of NASCAR; and all-time champion driver Richard Petty, who was participating in his final race at Daytona International Speedway.*

**Remarks at the Richard Petty Tribute in Daytona Beach**

July 4, 1992

Thank you all very much. I can think of no better place to wish our Nation happy Independence Day, happy Fourth of July, than standing right here with this patriotic, wonderful turnout of people, all-American crowd. Thank you very much.

This is the day when we celebrate our independence and count our blessings. The way I see it, yes, there are problems, but we are still the freest, fairest, and the greatest country on the face of the Earth.

I just met with the NASCAR drivers, a real thrill for a sports fan. They epitomize the best: the best in sportsmanship, the best in family, the best in patriotic values. So today, on the Fourth of July, this President comes not only to greet the American people and the fans here, but this President comes to greet a king, Richard Petty, one of the great Americans. Richard, I'm proud to be at your side.

*Note: The President spoke at 10:55 a.m. at Daytona International Speedway.*

**DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY \ DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA  
SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1992 \ 11:00 A.M.**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: CONGRESSMAN CRAIG JAMES**

**\* I WANT TO WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY. IT'S A DAY TO CHERISH OUR FREEDOM -- TO REMEMBER WE WOULDN'T ENJOY THIS GREAT LIFE HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR PEOPLE WHO RISKED EVERYTHING TWO CENTURIES AGO. THE FIRST AMERICAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS CAME FROM FARMS AND TOWNS UP AND DOWN THIS ATLANTIC COAST. AND THEIR SPIRIT IS STILL ALIVE ALL OVER OUR COUNTRY TODAY.**

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**- 2 -**

**\* I'VE JUST MET WITH THE NASCAR DRIVERS -- THERE ISN'T A FINER GROUP OF COMPETITORS ANYWHERE. THEY HAVE A SPIRIT OF FAMILY -- FAMILIES LIKE THE PETTYS AND THE ALLISONS HANDING DOWN RACING SKILLS FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION.**

\* OF COURSE, I'M CARRYING ON A TRADITION HERE AS WELL. I ENJOYED BEING HERE AT THE DAYTONA 500 IN 1983. AND ON THE FOURTH OF JULY, 1984, WHEN RICHARD PETTY WON HIS 200TH WINSTON CUP RACE, HE WAS CONGRATULATED IN VICTORY LANE BY PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN. RICHARD, BEFORE YOUR FINAL DAYTONA RACE TODAY, I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE EXAMPLE YOU PROVIDE KIDS ALL OVER AMERICA. THE FOURTH OF JULY IS THE DAY AMERICA ENDED POLITICAL MONARCHY -- BUT STOCK CAR FANS WILL ALWAYS CALL RICHARD PETTY "THE KING."

\* AFTER THE RACE, I'M GOING UP TO A LITTLE TOWN CALLED FAITH, IN THE NORTH CAROLINA PIEDMONT. THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE LIKELY TO SEE "RICHARD PETTY FOR PRESIDENT" BUMPER STICKERS -- WHETHER OR NOT IT'S AN ELECTION YEAR. WELL, RICHARD, I'VE SEEN YOUR AUTOBIOGRAPHY, WHERE YOU SAID "PEOPLE ARE TIRED OF ALL THE POLITICIANS BEING LAWYERS" -- AND YOU SAID YOU DON'T RULE OUT RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT. LET ME SAY TWO THINGS ABOUT THAT: FIRST, I'M NOT A LAWYER. \\ AND RICHARD, I HOPE YOU'LL WAIT TILL 1996.\\

\* **PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS HELP TEACH AMERICANS ABOUT DRIVING SAFETY. AND THANKS TO EFFORTS SUCH AS YOURS, WE'VE REACHED THE LOWEST RATE OF AUTO DEATHS IN OUR HISTORY. SIXTY PERCENT OF AMERICANS NOW ARE USING THEIR SEAT BELTS -- AND I WANT EACH OF YOU TO HELP US REACH MY GOAL OF 70 PERCENT BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.**

\* **BEFORE I FINISH, I WANT TO TELL EACH ONE OF THE DRIVERS AND CREW MEMBERS AND FANS HOW PROUD I AM OF WHAT YOU DID FOR OUR TROOPS LAST YEAR. WHEN THE RACING SEASON STARTED, YOU HAD YOUR CARS PAINTED WITH THE COLORS AND EMBLEMS OF EACH BRANCH OF OUR ARMED SERVICES. AND THE DRIVERS STOOD TOGETHER AT THE START-FINISH LINE, LEADING IN SINGING OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM. SATELLITE TV BROUGHT THAT TRIBUTE INSTANTLY TO THOUSANDS OF OUR KIDS IN THE GULF.**

**WE HEARD A LOT OF WORDS OF APPRECIATION FOR THAT SHOW OF SUPPORT -- BOTH HERE AT HOME AND FROM OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE WAR. SO AGAIN, THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY, MAY GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU -- AND LET ME THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR MAKING THIS THE FREEST, BRAVEST, STRONGEST NATION ON EARTH.**

**# # #**

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

92 JUL 2 09:45

July 2, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN MCGROARTY  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
FOR COMMUNICATION

FROM:

*RTS for*

ROBERT T. SWANSON  
ASSISTANT COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Presidential Talking Points: Meeting with  
Racecar Drivers and Pepsi 400 Daytona  
International Speedway

At your request, Counsel's office has reviewed the above-  
reference matter. See comments noted on the attached.

Attachment

cc: Phillip D. Brady

*- MASTER -*

2 JUL 1 P3:13

(Duggan/Walters)  
July 1, 1992  
Draft Two  
NASCAR

TALKING POINTS: MEETING WITH RACECAR DRIVERS  
DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY  
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA  
SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1992  
10:45 A.M.

\* It's great to be with you -- to see so many familiar faces. Your friendship and support over the years mean a lot to me. You NASCAR drivers are heroes to your fans not only because of your exploits on the track, but also because you're authentic symbols of American hard work, energy and enterprise. I especially admire your many efforts off the track in charity and civic leadership.

\* After the race, I'm flying up to North Carolina for the Fourth of July celebration in a little town called Faith, near Kannapolis. But I don't need to give you a geography lesson: It seems that half the people in this room come from High Point or Level Cross or Kannapolis or Charlotte or some other place in the Carolina Piedmont.

\* Since this is Richard Petty's last race at Daytona, I want to pay him a special tribute. He's a great sportsman, but more than that -- he's a real gentleman. It's phenomenal what he's done for this sport.

\* Good luck to all of you, and God bless you.

# # #

(Duggan/Walters)  
July 1, 1992  
Draft Three  
Daytona

TALKING POINTS: PEPSI 400  
DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY  
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA  
SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1992  
11:00 A.M.

\* I want to wish everyone a happy Independence Day. It's a day to cherish our freedom -- to remember we wouldn't enjoy this great life had it not been for people who risked everything two centuries ago. The <sup>Minutemen</sup> first American freedom fighters came from farms and towns up and down this Atlantic coast. And their spirit is still alive all over our country today.

→ \* I've just met with the NASCAR drivers -- there isn't a finer group of competitors anywhere. They have a spirit of family -- families like the Pettys and the Allison's handing down racing skills from generation to generation.

\* Of course, I'm carrying on a tradition here as well. I enjoyed being here at the Daytona 500 in 1983. And on the Fourth of July, 1984, when Richard Petty won his 200th Winston Cup race, he was congratulated in Victory Lane by President Ronald Reagan.

\* Richard [Petty], before your final Daytona race today, I just want to thank you for the example you provide kids all over America. The Fourth of July is the day America ended political monarchy -- but stock car fans will always call Richard Petty "The King."

\* Professional drivers help teach Americans about driving safety. And thanks to efforts such as yours, we've reached the lowest rate of auto deaths in our history. Sixty percent of

Americans now are using their seat belts -- and I want each of you to help us reach my goal of 70 percent by the end of this year.

\* Before I finish, I want to tell each one of the drivers and crew members and fans how proud I am of what you did for our troops last year. When the racing season started, you had your cars painted with the colors and emblems of each branch of our Armed Services. And the drivers stood together at the start-finish line, leading in singing our national anthem. Satellite TV brought that tribute instantly to thousands of our kids in the Gulf. We heard a lot of words of appreciation for that show of support -- both here at home and from our men and women in the war. So again, this Independence Day, may God bless all of you -- and let me thank each and every one of you for making this the freest, bravest, strongest nation on earth.

\* And now for the moment you've been waiting for:  
Gentlemen, start your engines!

# # #

CALIO'S OFFICE  
COMMENTS

12:30P

Congressman Craig James  
needs to be in the  
market.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 7/1/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON THURS., 7/2

PRESIDENTIAL TALKING POINTS: MEETING WITH RACECAR DRIVERS AND PEPSI 400  
 SUBJECT: DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA 7/4/92

	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 type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
+ DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY <i>N/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm 122, Ext. 2930 NO LATER THAN NOON THURSDAY, JULY 4, with a copy to this office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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

2 JUL 1 P3:13

(Duggan/Walters)  
July 1, 1992  
Draft Two  
NASCAR

TALKING POINTS: MEETING WITH RACECAR DRIVERS  
DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY  
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SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1992  
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\* Good luck to all of you, and God bless you.

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(Duggan/Walters)  
July 1, 1992  
Draft Three  
Daytona

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\* And now for the moment you've been waiting for:  
Gentlemen, start your engines!

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 2, 1992 92 JUL 2 P12: 49

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN MC GROARTY

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Talking Points: Meeting with Racecar Drivers  
and Pepsi 400

We have reviewed the attached talking points and have no suggested comments from a policy standpoint. We approve of them in their present form.

cc: Phil Brady

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 7/1/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: NOON THURS., 7/2

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL TALKING POINTS: MEETING WITH RACECAR DRIVERS AND PEPSI 400

DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY  
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA 7/4/92

	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 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"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCGROARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Draft Two  
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July 1, 1992  
Draft Three  
Daytona

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Americans now are using their seat belts -- and I want each of you to help us reach my goal of 70 percent by the end of this year.

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\*        I want to wish everyone a happy Independence Day. It's a day to cherish our freedom -- to remember we wouldn't enjoy this great life had it not been for people who risked everything two centuries ago. The first American freedom fighters came from farms and towns up and down this Atlantic coast. And their spirit is still alive all over our country today.

\*        I've just met with the NASCAR drivers -- there isn't a finer group of competitors anywhere. They have a spirit of family -- families like the Pettys and the Allison's handing down racing skills from generation to generation.

\*        Of course, I'm carrying on a tradition here as well. I enjoyed being here at the Daytona 500 in 1983. And on the Fourth of July, 1984, when Richard Petty won his 200th Winston Cup race, he was congratulated in Victory Lane by President Ronald Reagan.

\*        Richard [Petty], before your final Daytona race today, I just want to thank you for the example you provide kids all over America. The Fourth of July is the day America ended political monarchy -- but stock car fans will always call Richard Petty "The King."

\*        Professional drivers help teach Americans about driving safety. And thanks to efforts such as yours, we've reached the lowest rate of auto deaths in our history. Sixty percent of

Americans now are using their seat belts -- and I want each of you to help us reach my goal of 70 percent by the end of this year.

\* Before I finish, I want to tell each one of the drivers and crew members and fans how proud I am of what you did for our troops last year. When the racing season started, you had your cars painted with the colors and emblems of each branch of our Armed Services. And the drivers stood together at the start-finish line, leading in singing our national anthem. Satellite TV brought that tribute instantly to thousands of our kids in the Gulf. We heard a lot of words of appreciation for that show of support -- both here at home and from our men and women in the war. So again, this Independence Day, may God bless all of you -- and let me thank each and every one of you for making this the freest, bravest, strongest nation on earth.

\* And now for the moment you've been waiting for:  
Gentlemen, start your engines!

# # #

(Duggan/Walters)  
July 1, 1992  
Draft Two  
NASCAR

TALKING POINTS: MEETING WITH RACECAR DRIVERS  
DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY  
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA  
SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1992  
10:45 A.M.

\* It's great to be with you -- to see so many familiar faces. Your friendship and support over the years mean a lot to me. You NASCAR drivers are heroes to your fans not only because of your exploits on the track, but also because you're authentic symbols of American hard work, energy and enterprise. I especially admire your many efforts off the track in charity and civic leadership.

\* After the race, I'm flying up to North Carolina for the Fourth of July celebration in a little town called Faith, near Kannapolis. But I don't need to give you a geography lesson: It seems that half the people in this room come from High Point or Level Cross or Kannapolis or Charlotte or some other place in the Carolina Piedmont.

\* Since this is Richard Petty's last race at Daytona, I want to pay him a special tribute. He's a great sportsman, but more than that -- he's a real gentleman. It's phenomenal what he's done for this sport.

\* Good luck to all of you, and God bless you.

# # #

(Duggan/Walters)  
July 1, 1992  
Draft Three  
Daytona

TALKING POINTS: PEPSI 400  
DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY  
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA  
SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1992  
11:00 A.M.

\* I want to wish everyone a happy Independence Day. It's a day to cherish our freedom -- to remember we wouldn't enjoy this great life had it not been for people who risked everything two centuries ago. The first American freedom fighters came from farms and towns up and down this Atlantic coast. And their spirit is still alive all over our country today.

\* I've just met with the NASCAR drivers -- there isn't a finer group of competitors anywhere. They have a spirit of family -- families like the Pettys and the Allison's handing down racing skills from generation to generation.

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