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SUGGESTED REMARKS
FOR THE PRESIDENT
UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND
MARCH 9, 1989

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Congressman Hawkins, Mr. Rawl, Mr. Simon, ladies and gentlemen, my fellow citizens.

Thank you for that introduction, and for the honor of this evening. You know, Paul Simon once wrote a song titled, simply, "Old Friends." Well, tonight, flanked by friends and, in a real sense, family, I am grateful for your company.

Our paths first crossed many years ago, when I was an organizer for the United Negro College Fund during my student days at Yale. It was there that I first saw the Fund invest in higher education, and in America. Then, as now, it insisted that excellence become a way of life, and higher learning a [bequest.]

Together, we've come a long way in nearly half-a-century. ?

legacy?

I've seen you help society's disadvantaged cast off indigence and despair. Through such friends as Bill Trent and Frederick D. Patterson--and, yes, how we miss him--you have endorsed opportunity, democracy, and the dignity of work. But most of all, you have shown how conscience and education can fulfill the promise of America: To right wrong, love justice, and demand equality for all.

That great humanitarian and former Governor of New York, Al Smith, often said: "Let's look at the record." Well, your record makes for pleasant reading, indeed.

inspiring?

Historically black colleges comprise only three per cent of America's colleges. Yet, they enroll an amazing 20 per cent of all blacks attending colleges and universities. All told, more than 45,000 students receive your aid, directly or indirectly. And, today, their colleges award degrees to half of all black business executives, 75 per cent of the black military officers, 80 per cent of black judges, and 85 per cent of black physicians.

For that, I congratulate you--and, yet, I challenge you, too.

Black and white, together--we want an America of affirmative action, and affirmative lives. But America will not be a good country for any of us to live in until it is a good country for all of us to live in. Yes, let us reach beyond government, as you have, to shape our Nation's future. But let us not ignore government--for it can nurture the justice which makes progress possible.

a phrase very loaded, as I imagine you meant...

Most Americans, I'm convinced, believe that government can be an instrument of healing. They believe that, at times, government must step in where others fear to tread. And they believe that, together--government, private enterprise, and voluntary organizations--we can hang up the flag of economic prosperity, and hang intolerance out to dry.

My friends, I share those beliefs: As President, I will act on their behalf.

For America, it seems to me, means pride--individually and racially:

I am proud, for instance, that on January 20, 1989, for the first time in 200 years, blacks held four of the top five positions on the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee. America means hope: the hope that tomorrow will be brighter than today. It means opportunity for those who need jobs and who dream of owning homes. And it means, in the words of Dr. King, that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Think of America as a congregation. Now, think of its members as kindness, courage, enterprise, and above all, serving others. What agenda can best inspire them, and secure the promise of America? You know the answer, for I've pledged to be the Education President. And I'll let you in on a secret: I mean exactly what I say.

Education knows no barriers, accepts no limits. It can help the most vulnerable among us, and help people help themselves. Education is a ladder; it embodies self-respect, not dependency. Education can give minorities a greater voice--and make sure that voice is heard.

Since 1944, when the late Dr. Patterson founded the UNCF, your voice has resounded from colleges like Tuskegee, Morehouse, Spellman, and Fisk. And its lyrics have ennobled such Americans as Leontyne Price, Andrew Young, Frank Yerby, and Azie Taylor Morton.

Well, I'm pleased to tell you: Under our Administration, that voice will ring yet louder.

As you know, in September 1981, President Reagan signed Executive Order 12320, committing the Federal government to increase its support of historically black colleges and universities.

Our end was to identify, and eliminate, unfair barriers to your participation in Federally-sponsored programs. Our means was to involve the private sector, and to motivate the 27 Federal agencies which provide nearly all the Federal funding. We sought to link specific black colleges and universities with local businesses and corporations. And we demanded that these agencies share our commitment to black education as a whole.

Did it work? Did it ever.

In Fiscal Year 1982, your schools received \$545 million in Federal assistance; last year, that sum totaled \$684 million. Scientific research leaped by 38 per cent, and by FY '87 research and development comprised nearly half of all funding. Our White House Science and Technology Committee fostered science, mathematics, and engineering programs and curricula. And our larger HBCU work attacked the Four Horsemen of the American Night--illiteracy and inequality, poverty and fear.

Great beginnings, yes. Now, let us build upon them. We have done much. But there remains ~~f~~will always be ~~g~~so much more left to do.

Accordingly, seven weeks ago, I met with Presidents of HBCUs to explore where we are going, and how. We discussed faculty development and merit scholarships, community college grants and institutional planning. In each case, we asked how the Federal government could support public/private partnerships, task forces, conferences, technical assistance, and the use of Federal research and development funds.

I like this...

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From our meeting, and others like it, came policies which I disclosed, last month, before a joint session of Congress. In that budget speech, I affirmed that the pursuit of excellence is central to America. And I said that if excellence [creeds] achievement, then excellence must be rewarded--in grade school, in high school, and at our colleges and universities.

I urged Congress, for instance, to create a \$500-million program to reward America's "merit schools"--the schools which improve the most--and found special Presidential awards for the best teachers in every State.

P.X. 2,
Our budget proposed expanded use of magnet schools--giving parents and students the freedom of choice--and a new program to encourage "alternative certification"--allowing talented Americans from every field to teach in our classrooms.

Through a new program of National Science Scholars, I sought to give America's youth a special incentive to excel in science and mathematics. And after listening to your Presidents, I proposed \$60 million over four years in endowment matching grants for HBCU's. We have put our money on the table. Now, I challenge the private sector: The time has come for yours.

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All this, I asked ___ days ago. My friends, it's time we went still further.

Tonight, I am announcing steps which will help do, nationally, what you have done, historically: Enrich higher learning, so that higher learning can enrich our lives.

Yet, it's not enough. It never is. For as Americans, we are never satisfied: We know that dreams attained give rise to dreams unrealized. Perhaps the former Dean of Howard University, John Mercer Langston, put it best. in his book, The Future of the Colored American. He wrote, simply: "Want makes us all work."

Accordingly, we must work, on two related fronts, to make America a better place to work, live, invest, and build.

The first is drug abuse: America's Twentieth-Century slavery. It chains limit our horizons as a people; they imperil all we can become. To achieve a drug-free America, we must mobilize our resources--fiscal, moral, economic--and wage unconditional war. And we must halt those who produce, buy, and traffick drugs: Not merely to clean up their act, but to protect those already clean.

the spelling is archaic but interesting

Last month, I asked Congress for an increase of \$1 billion in budget outlays to escalate our war. Some money will be used to expand treatment to the poor, and to young mothers. Some will help inner-city schools where the emergency is greatest. And much will be used to protect our borders. To crush drug criminals, we will support- unequivocally--our drug enforcement officials. And to spread the word, and thus stop demand, we will need more money to educate our children, from kindergarten to college, about the appalling cost of drugs.

My friends, I ask for your support, and to work with business, churches, families, schools. For drug abuse is the polar opposite of the United Negro College Fund: It mars self-reliance and self-discipline, and can destroy the will to live.

Earlier, I mentioned the promise of America: hope, pride, opportunity, justice. A drug-free America fulfills that promise. So, too, do Enterprise Zones.

Enterprise Zones are [a pioneering initiative] to establish a number of Federally designated zones--or areas--in highly distressed communities. By providing relief from taxation and regulation, they foster a climate whereby new businesses are created, or existing businesses expanded. These businesses can then create new jobs, especially for disadvantaged workers.

Already, States have developed Enterprise Zone programs. Let us put them to work on the Federal level. They will work because incentives flourish. They will work to benefit local residents, low-income earners, or both. They will show how the public and private sectors can join hands for the good of America.

This year, we will ask Congress for legislation to create these Zones. And we will assist these other things, as well:

As part of our new child-care initiative, targeted at low-income families, we have asked for \$250 million more for the Head Start Program. This Federal program works; it must, and will, serve increasing numbers of children.

Through the YES Program--or Youth Entering Service, which I proposed last fall, we will help teenage Americans to give of, not merely to, themselves. Already, many of your colleges have community service programs; together, our efforts can exceed the sum of their parts.

We will enforce the Federal Fair Housing Act in deed, not simply principle. [As long as a single American is discriminated against in housing, education, or employment, that is one American too many.]

Finally, four days ago, the Office of Minority Business Enterprise, renamed the Minority Business Development Agency, marked its 20th birthday. We will spur its involvement in the free enterprise system. And we'll assist other programs which spur housing, training, investment, and jobs. The Jobs Training Partnership Act, for instance. The Minority Youth Training Initiative. The SBA.

~~No, our programs aren't the total answer. But they're [sincere] and they're [genuine].~~ They embody the promise of America, and can help make its promises, reality. *[with everyone's involvement]*

The promise of America says that by increasing equal opportunity, we can enhance greater opportunity. It says that our destiny is not divisible, and that we are children of the same humane and loving God.

The promise of America demands that we aid our localities and help our neighbors. It rests less on promises and politicians than on the primacy of the heart.

✓ The promise of America knows neither race, creed, sex, or color. It is collective and individual, and as boundless as our history. The promise of America says that government is but a custodian of America's future--but that you--the people--you are her trustees.

→ My friends,

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays once observed, "It must be borne in mind that the tragedy of life does not lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach." My friends, our goal is a fairer, more just, more ennobling life--to create, in Franklin Roosevelt's words, "a country in which no one is left out."

To bring in, to include, and to open the door of opportunity--this is the true promise of America. Let us achieve it, together: As Americans, and as friends.:

Thank you for inviting me, and for your many kindnesses. God bless you all, and God bless the United States of America.

~~My friends, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays observed, "It must be borne in mind that the tragedy of life does not lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach."~~

(Smith)
March 3, 1989
1:00 pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: United Negro College Fund
New York, NY
Thursday, March 9, 1989

Congressman Hawkins, Mr. Rawl, Mr. Simon, ladies and gentlemen, my fellow citizens.

Thank you for that introduction, and for the warmth of your reception. Paul Simon once wrote a song titled, simply, "Old Friends." Tonight, flanked by old friends and, in a real sense, family, I am grateful for your company.

Our paths first crossed many years ago, when I was an organizer for the United Negro College Fund during my student days at Yale. It was there that I first saw the Fund invest in higher education, and in America. Then, as now, it insisted that excellence become a way of life, and higher learning a bequest.

As an undergraduate, I came to grasp what Churchill meant when he said, "Personally, I am always ready to learn, though I do not always enjoy being taught." Well, for nearly half-a-century, this Fund has taught, so that America could learn, the gentler impulses of mankind.

You have helped society's disadvantaged cast off despair and poverty. And through such friends as Bill Trent and Frederick D. Patterson -- and, yes, how we miss him -- you have endorsed liberty, opportunity, and the dignity of work.

But most of all, you have shown how conscience and education can fulfill the promise of America: to right wrong, love freedom, and demand equality for all.

For that, I congratulate you -- and yet, I challenge you, too.

Black and white, together -- we want an America of affirmative action, and affirmative lives. But America will not be a good place for any of us to live in until it is a good place for all of us to live in. Yes, let us reach beyond government, as you have, to shape our Nation's character. But let us not ignore government -- for it can nurture the decency which makes human progress possible.

Most Americans, I'm convinced, believe that government can be an instrument of healing. And they believe that, at times, government must step in where others fear to tread.

My friends, I share those beliefs: As President, I will act on their behalf.

For America, it seems to me, means pride -- individually and racially. And opportunity for those who need jobs and who dream of owning homes. America means, in the words of Dr. King, that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." And hope: the hope that tomorrow will be brighter than today.

Think of America as a congregation. Now, think of its members as kindness, courage, service, enterprise. What agenda can best inspire them, and secure the promise of America? You know the answer, for I've pledged to be the Education President. And I'll let you in on a secret: I mean exactly what I say.

Education knows no barriers, accepts no limits. Education is a ladder; it embodies self-respect, not dependency. Education can give minorities a greater voice -- and make sure that voice is heard.

Since 1944, when Dr. Patterson founded the UNCF, your voice has resounded from colleges like Tuskegee, Morehouse, Spellman, and Fisk. And its lyrics have ennobled such Americans as Leontyne Price, Andrew Young, Frank Yerby, and Azie Taylor Morton.

Well, I'm pleased to tell you: Under our Administration, your voice will ring yet louder.

As you know, in September 1981, President Reagan signed Executive Order 12320, committing the Federal government to increase its support of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Our goal was to identify, and eliminate, unfair barriers to your participation in Federally-sponsored programs. Our means was to involve the private sector, and to motivate the 27 Federal agencies which provide nearly all the Federal funding.

Did it work? Did it ever.

In Fiscal Year 1982, HBCUs received \$545 million in Federal assistance; last year, that sum totaled \$684 million. Scientific research leaped by 38 per cent, and by FY '87 research and development comprised nearly half of all funding. Our White House Science and Technology Committee fostered science, mathematics, and engineering programs and curricula. And our larger HBCU work attacked the Four Horsemen of the American Night -- illiteracy and inequality, indigence and fear.

Great beginnings, yes. Now, let us build upon them. We have done much. But there remains -- will always be -- so much more left to do.

That is why, six weeks ago, I met with 26 Presidents of HBCUs to probe where we are going, and how. We discussed faculty development and merit scholarships, community college grants and institutional planning. In each case, we explored Federal government support of public/private partnerships, task forces, conferences, technical assistance, and the use of Federal research and development funds.

From that meeting, and others like it, came steps which I am proud to announce tonight, and which will help do, nationally, what you have done, historically: Enrich education, so that education can enrich our lives.

I refer to a new Executive Order which I will sign next week, replacing Executive Order 12320, and which will be effective immediately.

Specifically:

- o This Order will create a President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities to reside within the Department of Education.

Our board will be composed of representatives of HBCUs, other institutions of higher learning, of business, finance, private foundations, and of secondary education. It will review the annual report of Federal aid to HBCUs. And it will increase technical assistance and business and foundation support.

o Secondly, more than ever, this Executive Order will link HBCUs to the private sector. How? Through your presence on the Board of Advisors. And through placing HBCUs on the agenda of the newly created Office of National Service, which will lead my Administration's community and national-service programs.

We should work together; under this Executive Order, we will. For example, after listening to your Presidents, I proposed that Congress fund \$60 million over four years in endowment matching grants for HBCUs. We have put our money on the table. Now, I challenge the private sector: The time has come for yours. Our Executive Order will facilitate this approach, and spur non-Federal involvement in technical assistance and funding.

o This Executive Order will also bring more of your students into Federal internship programs. Our effort will be headed by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management. And I've asked that Office to also approach Congress about increasing its number of HBCU interns. With both the executive branch and the Congress joining hands to increase opportunity, minority students can up the flag of racial equality--and, yes, hang bigotry and intolerance out to dry.

o Fourthly, our Board of Advisors will find ways to support the long-term faculty endowment plans of each HBCU. For the pursuit of excellence--student, faculty, and administrative--is central to America.

My friends, if excellence breeds achievement, that excellence should be rewarded--in grade school, in high school, and at our colleges and universities.

Accordingly, I want Congress to create a \$500-million program to reward America's "merit schools"--the schools which improve the most. I want it to found special Presidential awards for the best teachers in every State. And I want the expanded use of magnet schools -- giving parents and students the freedom of choice.

Moreover, I propose a new program to encourage "alternative certification" -- allowing talented Americans from every field to teach in America's classrooms. Consider that today, in many areas, a John Updike, an Alex Haley, couldn't qualify to teach high-school creative writing. When rules are so inflexible that creativity, talent, and imagination aren't welcome in our schools, it's time to change the rules.

And through a new program of National Science Scholars, I seek to give America's youth a special incentive to excel in science and mathematics. The National Science Foundation predicts a shortage of 400,000 scientists by the year 2000. Through excellence in education, we must, and will, reverse that trend.

And, yet, it's not enough. It never is. As Americans, we are never satisfied. We know that when a dream comes true, it gives rise to even bigger and better dreams. Perhaps the former Dean of Howard University, John Mercer Langston, put it best. He wrote, simply, "Want makes us all work."

Let us work, then, to make America a better place to live, dream, invest, and build. And let us begin by ending drug abuse.

My friends, drug abuse is America's Twentieth-Century version of human slavery. It chains the spirit, and imperils the

ability to learn. To combat drugs, we must mobilize our resources -- fiscal, moral, economic -- and wage unconditional war. And we must fight on every front: education, treatment, interdiction, enforcement.

Last month, I asked Congress for an increase of \$1 billion in budget outlays to escalate our war. This is a war we must and will win. The future of our nation and the lives of our children depend on it.

Earlier, I mentioned the promise of America: hope, pride, opportunity, justice. A drug-free America fulfills that promise. So, too, do Enterprise Zones.

Enterprise Zones are a pioneering initiative to establish a number of Federally-designated zones -- or areas -- in highly distressed communities. By providing tax breaks and relief from regulation, they foster a climate where new businesses can be created, and existing businesses expanded. These businesses create new jobs, especially for disadvantaged workers.

Already, 31 States have developed Enterprise Zone programs. It's time we put them to work at the Federal level. Local communities will benefit. But, more importantly, those who need a helping hand--the unemployed, the dispossessed--will gain new hope and opportunity: Not across town, but in their own back yards.

Enterprise Zones can serve the most vulnerable among us. And we will assist these other things, as well:

As part of our new child-care initiative, targeted at low-income families, we have asked for \$250 million more for

Project Head Start. This Federal program must, and will, serve increasing numbers of four-year-olds.

For parents with children under four, we've proposed a new tax credit to make child care more affordable. And we want to make the existing child care credits refundable to families who don't pay taxes. Our proposal puts money in the hands of low-income parents, limits Federal intervention, and increases options -- a church can help; or grandparents; or professional nursery. In short, we say: Let the parents decide.

To us, child care means options. Well, so does the privilege -- the inalienable right -- of every American to live where he chooses, when he chooses, for as long as he chooses, and can afford to do so. It's as simple as it sounds -- a simple matter of what's right, and what's wrong. Under this Administration, you have my pledge: We will enforce the letter and the spirit of the Federal Fair Housing Act.

Finally, four days ago, the Office of Minority Business Enterprise, renamed the Minority Business Development Agency, marked its 20th birthday. We will expand its involvement in the free enterprise system. And we'll promote other programs which spur housing, investment, jobs, and training. The Jobs Training Partnership Act, for instance. The Minority Youth Training Initiative. The SBA.

Yes, hope, pride, opportunity, justice. I thought of those qualities when I received a letter, recently, from a mother in New Orleans. She is 48 years old, and widowed. She has four sons,

and her family is in debt. But they are proud and unafraid, because education is their ally.

Consider. The mother is pursuing a Masters Degree in Social Work; last year, her eldest son graduated from the University of Chicago. And the three other kids are college students -- including, she wrote, "the baby of the family: a 6-foot-6, 240-pound freshman at Grambling State University."

"I implore you," the mother asked, "to think about ... people such as myself and my sons." And then she added: "P.S. We're black but optimistic that we can be a part of the American Dream."

My friends, I want an America where this dedicated mother does not have to choose between "black" and "optimistic." The words are not mutually exclusive -- not a contradiction in terms. And I want our policies to serve and encourage this family, and millions like it everywhere. Because they reflect the promise of America...and we must help make it a reality.

The promise of America says that by assuring opportunity, we can enhance greater opportunity. It says that our destiny is not divisible, and that we are children of the same humane and loving God.

The promise of America demands that we aid our communities and assist our neighbors. It rests less on promises and politicians than on the primacy of the heart.

The promise of America knows neither race, creed, sex, or color. It is collective and individual, and as boundless as our history. The promise of America says that government is but a

custodian of America's future -- but that you -- the people -- you are her architects.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays once observed, "It must be borne in mind that the tragedy of life does not lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach."

My fellow citizens, to open wide the door of opportunity and equality to all Americans -- this is our goal, and the true promise of America. Let us achieve it, together, as Americans and as friends.

Thank you for inviting me, God bless you all, and God bless the United States of America.

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(Smith)
March 3, 1989
1:00 pm

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As an undergraduate, I came to grasp what Churchill meant when he said, "Personally, I am always ready to learn, though I do not always enjoy being taught." Well, for nearly half-a-century, this Fund has taught, so that America could learn, the gentler impulses of mankind.

You have helped society's disadvantaged cast off despair and poverty. And through such friends as Bill Trent and Frederick D. Patterson--and, yes, how we miss him--you have endorsed liberty, opportunity, and the dignity of work.

But most of all, you have shown how conscience and education can fulfill the promise of America: to right wrong, love freedom, and demand equality for all.

For that, I congratulate you--and yet, I challenge you, too. Black and white, together--we ^{know this} want an America of affirmative ^{use without a word} action, and affirmative lives. But America will not be a good place for any of us to live in until it is a good place for all of us to live in. Yes, let us reach beyond government, as you have, to shape our Nation's character. But let us not ignore government--for it can nurture the decency which makes human progress possible.

Most Americans, I'm convinced, believe that government can be an instrument of healing. And they believe ^{there are} that, at times, ^{then} government must step in where others fear to tread.

My friends, I share those beliefs: ^{as} ^{And} As President, I will act on ^{them} their behalf.

For America, it seems to me, means pride--individually and racially. ^{It means} And opportunity for those who need jobs and who dream of owning homes. (America means, in the words of Dr. King, that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.") ^{it means} And ~~hope~~ the hope that tomorrow will be brighter than today.

Think of America as a congregation. Now, think of its members as kindness, courage, service, enterprise. What agenda ^{can} can best inspire them, and secure the promise of America? You know the answer, for I've pledged to be the Education President. And I'll let you in on a secret: I mean exactly what I say.

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From that meeting, and others like it, came ^{a number of} ~~steps which I am proud to announce tonight, and~~ which will help do, nationally, what you have done, historically: Enrich education, so that education can enrich our lives.

I refer to Executive Order XXXX, which replaces Executive Order 12320, and which is effective immediately.

Specifically:

o This Order creates a President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities to reside within the Department of Education.

Our board will be composed of representatives of HBCUs, other institutions of higher learning, of business, finance, private foundations, and of secondary education. It will increase technical assistance and private-sector support, and review the annual report of Federal aid to HBCUs.

o Secondly, more than ever, this Executive Order bonds HBCUs to local businesses and corporations. And it links your

schools with the newly created Office of National Service, which will lead my Administration's community and national-service programs.

also
 (2) ~~Two examples:~~ Many HBCUs have community service programs; and last fall I proposed a national YES Program--or Youth Entering Service. We should work together; under Executive Order ~~XXXX~~, we can. A After listening to your Presidents, I proposed that Congress fund \$60 million over four years in endowment matching grants for HBCUs. We have put our money on the table. Now, I challenge the private sector: The time has come for yours. Executive Order XXXX will facilitate this approach, and spur non-Federal involvement in technical assistance and funding.

o Executive Order XXXX will also bring more of your students into Federal internship programs. Our effort will be headed by the Director of the Office of Personnel and Management. And he will approach Congress about increasing its number of HBCU interns: After all, equality should pervade both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue.

o Fourthly, our Board of Advisors will find ways to support the long-term faculty endowment plans of each HBCU. For the pursuit of excellence -- student, administrative, faculty -- is central to America. And if excellence breeds achievement, then excellence should be rewarded -- in grade school, in high school, and at our colleges and universities.

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improve the most -- and found special Presidential awards for the best teachers in every State.

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Accordingly, let us work to make America a better place to live, dream, invest, and build. And let us begin with drugs.

My friends, drug abuse is America's Twentieth-Century slavery. It chains the human spirit, and imperils the ability to learn. To combat drugs, we must mobilize our resources--fiscal, moral, economic--and wage unconditional war. And we must fight on every front: education, treatment, interdiction, enforcement.

Last month, I asked Congress for an increase of \$1 billion in budget outlays to escalate our war. *This is a war we must and will win. The future of our nation and the lives of our children depend on it.* ~~For drug abuse is the polar opposite of the United Negro College Fund: It mars self-reliance, assaults self-discipline, and can destroy the will~~

~~to live.~~ Earlier, I mentioned the promise of America: hope, pride, opportunity, justice. A drug-^{free} cleansed America fulfills that promise. So, too, do Enterprise Zones.

Enterprise Zones are a pioneering initiative to establish a number of Federally-designated zones -- or areas -- in highly distressed communities. By providing ^{a tax break and} relief from ^{from} taxation and regulation, they foster a climate whereby ~~new~~ ^{can be} businesses are created, ^{and} ~~or~~ existing businesses expanded. These businesses ~~can~~ then create new jobs, especially for disadvantaged workers.

Already, 31 States have developed Enterprise Zone programs. ^{It's time we} ~~Let us~~ put them to work ^{at} on the Federal level. ^{and we will ask the Congress} They will work because incentives flourish. ^{local communities will benefit.} They will work to benefit local residents, low-income earners, or both. ^{But most importantly, through this innovative concept, the unemployed, who ask for a chance will have new hope and new opportunity}

~~This year, we will ask Congress for legislation to create~~ ^(even) these zones. And we will assist these other things, as well:

As part of our new child-care initiative, targeted at low-income families, we have asked for \$250 million more for Project Head Start. This Federal program must, and will, serve increasing numbers of four-year-olds.

For parents with children under four, we've proposed a new tax credit to make child care more affordable. And we want to make the existing ^{child care} credit ^{refundable} refundable to families who don't pay taxes. ^{Our proposal puts money in the hands of low-income parents, ^{limits} avoids Federal ^{intervention} bullying, and increases options -- a church can help; or grandparents; or ^{professional} nursery.}

In child care, we say: Let the parents decide. ~~Well, America President long ago decided:~~ We will enforce the letter ^{and} ^{the} spirit

③ Under this Administration, you have my personal promise that

Not across town, out-of-town
but in their own backyard.

② It's as simple as it sounds... a simple matter of knowing what's right and what's wrong.

① When it comes to housing in this country

of the Federal Fair Housing Act. Every American should live where he chooses, when he chooses, for as long as he chooses, and can afford to do so.

Finally, four days ago, the Office Of Minority Business Enterprise, renamed the Minority Business Development Agency, marked its 20th birthday. We will expand its involvement in the free enterprise system. And we'll promote other programs which spur housing, investment, jobs, and training. The Jobs Training Partnership Act, for instance. The Minority Youth Training Initiative. The SBA.

Yes, hope, pride, opportunity, justice I thought of those qualities when I received a letter, recently, from a mother in New Orleans. She is 48 years old, and widowed. She has four sons, and her family is in debt. But they ^{are} proud and unafraid, ^{because} for education is their ally.

Consider. The mother is pursuing a Masters Degree in Social Work; last year, her eldest son graduated from the University of Chicago. And the three other kids are college students -- including, she wrote, "the baby of the family: a 6-foot-6, 240-pound freshman at Grambling State University."

"I implore you," the mother asked, "to think about ... people such as myself and my sons." And then she added: "P.S. We're black but optimistic that we can be a part of the American Dream."

My friends, I want an America where families can be black "and" optimistic -- not "but." And I want our policies to serve and encourage

this devoted mother whose life is an inspiration

check out

does not have to caveat her hope and optimism

and encourage

Because
 this family, and millions like it everywhere. For they reflect
 the promise of America. ^{help make it a} ~~And we must make its promises~~ reality.

The promise of America says that by ^{assuring} increasing equality
~~opportunity~~, we can enhance greater opportunity. It says that our
 destiny is not divisible, and that we are children of the same
 humane and loving God.

The promise of America demands that we aid our localities ^{communities}
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The promise of America knows neither race, creed, sex, or
 color. It is collective and individual, and as boundless as our
 history. The promise of America says that government is but a
 custodian of America's future -- but that you -- the people --
 you are her trustees.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays once observed, "It must be borne in
 mind that the tragedy of life does not lie in not reaching your
 goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach."

My fellow citizens, ^{wide} ~~to bring in, to include, and to open~~ the
^(and equality to all Americans) door of opportunity -- this is our goal, and the true promise of
 America. Let us achieve it, together ~~As~~ Americans, and as
 friends.

Thank you for inviting me, ~~and for your many kindnesses~~. God
 bless you all, and God bless the United States of America.

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(Smith)
March 3, 1989
1:00 pm

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: United Negro College Fund
New York, NY
Thursday, March 9, 1989

Congressman Hawkins, Mr. Rawl, Mr. Simon, ladies and gentlemen, my fellow citizens.

Thank you for that introduction, and for the warmth of your reception. Paul Simon once wrote a song titled, simply, "Old Friends." Tonight, flanked by old friends and, in a real sense, family, I am grateful for your company.

Our paths first crossed many years ago, when I was an organizer for the United Negro College Fund during my student days at Yale. It was there that I first saw the Fund invest in higher education, and in America. Then, as now, it insisted that excellence become a way of life, and higher learning a bequest.

As an undergraduate, I came to grasp what Churchill meant when he said, "Personally, I am always ready to learn, though I do not always enjoy being taught." Well, for nearly half-a-century, this Fund has taught, so that America could learn, the gentler impulses of mankind.

You have helped society's disadvantaged cast off despair and poverty. And through such friends as Bill Trent and Frederick D. Patterson--and, yes, how we miss him--you have endorsed liberty, opportunity, and the dignity of work.

But most of all, you have shown how conscience and education can fulfill the promise of America: to right wrong, love freedom, and demand equality for all.

For that, I congratulate you--and yet, I challenge you, too.

Black and white, together--we want an America of affirmative action, and affirmative lives. But America will not be a good place for any of us to live in until it is a good place for all of us to live in. Yes, let us reach beyond government, as you have, to shape our Nation's character. But let us not ignore government--for it can nurture the decency which makes human progress possible.

Most Americans, I'm convinced, believe that government can be an instrument of healing. And they believe that, at times, government must step in where others fear to tread.

My friends, I share those beliefs: As President, I will act on their behalf.

For America, it seems to me, means pride--individually and racially. And opportunity for those who need jobs and who dream of owning homes. America means, in the words of Dr. King, that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." And hope: the hope that tomorrow will be brighter than today.

Think of America as a congregation. Now, think of its members as kindness, courage, service, enterprise. What agenda can best inspire them, and secure the promise of America? You know the answer, for I've pledged to be the Education President. And I'll let you in on a secret: I mean exactly what I say.

Education knows no barriers, accepts no limits. Education is a ladder; it embodies self-respect, not dependency. Education can give minorities a greater voice--and make sure that voice is heard.

Since 1944, when Dr. Patterson founded the UNCF, your voice has resounded from colleges like Tuskegee, Morehouse, Spellman, and Fisk. And its lyrics have ennobled such Americans as Leontyne Price, Andrew Young, Frank Yerby, and Azie Taylor Morton.

Well, I'm pleased to tell you: Under our Administration, your voice will ring yet louder.

As you know, in September 1981, President Reagan signed Executive Order 12320, committing the Federal government to increase its support of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Our goal was to identify, and eliminate, unfair barriers to your participation in Federally-sponsored programs. Our means was to involve the private sector, and to motivate the 27 Federal agencies which provide nearly all the Federal funding.

Did it work? Did it ever.

In Fiscal Year 1982, your schools received \$545 million in Federal assistance; last year, that sum totaled \$684 million. Scientific research leaped by 38 per cent, and by FY '87 research and development comprised nearly half of all funding. Our White House Science and Technology Committee fostered science, mathematics, and engineering programs and curricula. And our larger HBCU work attacked the Four Horsemen of the American Night--illiteracy and inequality, indigence and fear.

Great beginnings, yes. Now, let us build upon them. We have done much. But there remains--will always be--so much more left to do.

That is why, seven weeks ago, I met with 14 Presidents of HBCUs to probe where we are going, and how. We discussed faculty development and merit scholarships, community college grants and institutional planning. In each case, we explored Federal government support of public/private partnerships, task forces, conferences, technical assistance, and the use of Federal research and development funds.

From that meeting, and others like it, came steps which I am proud to announce tonight, and which will help do, nationally, what you have done, historically: Enrich education, so that education can enrich our lives.

I refer to Executive Order XXXX, which replaces Executive Order 12320, and which is effective immediately.

Specifically:

o This Order creates a President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities to reside within the Department of Education.

Our board will be composed of representatives of HBCUs, other institutions of higher learning, of business, finance, private foundations, and of secondary education. It will increase technical assistance and private-sector support, and review the annual report of Federal aid to HBCUs.

o Secondly, more than ever, this Executive Order ~~bonds~~ HBCUs to ~~local businesses and corporations~~. And it links your

How?

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schools with the newly created Office of National Service, which will lead my Administration's community and national-service programs.

We shall not make; we can. We shall not make; we can. We shall not make; we can.

Two examples: Many HBCUs have community service programs; and last fall I proposed a national YES Program--or Youth Entering Service. We should work together; under Executive Order XXXX, we can. ~~And~~ after listening to your Presidents, I proposed that Congress fund \$60 million over four years in endowment matching grants for HBCUs. We have put our money on the table. Now, I challenge the private sector: The time has come for yours. Executive Order XXXX will facilitate this approach, and spur non-Federal involvement in technical assistance and funding.

how?

This
o Executive Order ~~XXXX~~ will also bring more of your students into Federal internship programs. Our effort will be headed by the Director of the Office of Personnel and Management, *Dir. Dorman*. *I've asked Dir. to also* And ~~he will~~ approach Congress about increasing its number of HBCU interns. *With both the Executive branch and the Congress* ~~After all, equality should pervade both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue.~~ *to increase opportunity, minority students*

joining

o Fourthly, our Board of Advisors will find ways to support the long-term faculty endowment plans of each HBCU. For the pursuit of excellence -- student, administrative, *and* faculty -- is central to America. *My kids,* And if excellence breeds achievement, ~~then~~ *then* excellence should be rewarded -- in grade school, in high school, and at our colleges and universities.

I want Congress, for instance, to create a \$500-million program to reward America's "merit schools" -- the schools which

I want it
second point

Today, in money areas couldn't qualify to teach high school master's university over
you can be your quality - with Ph.D. - in education -

improve the most -- and found special Presidential awards for the best teachers in every State. ^{And I}

I propose the expanded use of magnet schools -- giving parents and students the freedom of choice -- and a new program to encourage "alternative certification" -- allowing talented Americans from every field to teach in America's classrooms.

And through a new program of National Science Scholars, I seek to give America's youth a special incentive to excel in science and mathematics. The National Science Foundation predicts a shortage of 400,000 students by the year 2000. Through excellence in education, we must, and will, reverse that trend.

What kind?

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couldn't qualify to teach high school master's university over
when a new comes thru, it
even bigger & better

And, yet, it's not enough. It never is. As Americans, we are never satisfied. We know that dreams attained give rise to dreams unrealized. Perhaps the former Dean of Howard University, John Mercer Langston, put it best. He wrote, simply, "Want makes us all work."

Accordingly, let us work to make America a better place to live, dream, invest, and build. And let us begin with drugs ^{by ending} abuse.

My friends, drug abuse is America's Twentieth-Century ^{curse} of slavery. It chains the human spirit, and imperils the ability to learn. To combat drugs, we must mobilize our resources--fiscal, moral, economic--and wage unconditional war. And we must fight on every front: education, treatment, interdiction, enforcement.

Last month, I asked Congress for an increase of \$1 billion in budget outlays to escalate our war. For drug abuse is the polar opposite of the United Negro College Fund. It mars self-reliance, assaults self-discipline, and can destroy the will

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Thank you for inviting me, and for your many kindnesses. God bless you all, and God bless the United States of America.

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