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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Smith, Curt, Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1992

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**OA/ID Number:** 13889  
**Folder ID Number:** 13889-028

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**Folder Title:**  
Martinez Rally, St. Petersburg, Florida, 10/10/90

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(Smith/Garmey  
October 3, 1990  
2 P.M.  
MARTINEZ

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: MARTINEZ RALLY  
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1990

Governor Martinez. His campaign chairman, whom I know rather well -- my son, Jeb. Thank you for those words. And for the chance to return to America's vacation paradise -- a state that next month will become a Republican paradise. I'll never forget how kind you were to me in 1988. It's great to be back in the Sunshine State. //

I also want to say what a privilege it is to be here on behalf of ~~the Governor of the State of Florida~~ <sup>Yuletta</sup>. His first term has been magnificent. On November 6, we're going to ensure a second term that's even better. My friend, Bob Martinez. //

((You know, as Bob tells it, this visit arose from a phone call. Jeb told him, "We've got a surprise for St. Petersburg which will really excite people." // Bob replied, "You mean St. Pete's finally getting a big-league baseball franchise?")) // <sup>is finally coming to</sup>

For the record, I'm not taking sides. I know Tampa wants an expansion team. So do Miami and Orlando. They're all in the expansion running -- and they're running to win. Well, so is the man I'm here to support. A Governor who's making Florida proud -- and helping Florida make America proud. Bob Martinez is that man. //

All of you know Bob's story. The grandson of Spanish immigrants -- the son of a waiter -- Bob worked his way through school. Became a ~~school~~ <sup>a</sup> teacher -- then <sup>a</sup> businessman -- then

Mayor of Tampa. The Florida Times-Union calls him "head and shoulders above the field." Ronald Reagan calls him "the embodiment of the American Dream." For my part, I plan to continue calling him Governor. //

Let me explain why I support Bob Martinez. First, he is a man of ingenuity. ((Who else but Bob would buy a little possum at Wassau's annual Possum Festival -- then name it his campaign mascot? Bob knows the difference between possums and liberal Democrats. Possums only pretend to be asleep.)) //

The Bob Martinez I know also has conviction. He's not a follower who gets lost in the current. He's a profile in character who alters the tide. // ~~Florida's a State of pioneers~~ -- and a pioneer now leads them. We need a leader with Bob's <sup>Courage</sup> guts in Tallahassee in the 1990's. //

Mostly, I support Bob because he understands Florida's good, ~~quiet~~, decent people -- people who <sup>know how to</sup> work hard, help their neighbors, and share a love of country and God. // Like them, he believes in traditional values. He also keeps things in perspective. // ((It's like Bob tells me: "It's fine that you're here. But if you really want to wow the crowd, bring Barbara." // Best wishes, too, from the most charismatic figure in our family -- that noted author, Millie. // Can you believe it? Her book is No. 1 on The New York Times best-sellers list.))

You can see why this is the third trip I've made to Florida for Bob. ((We've spent more time on the road together than Hope and Crosby.)) I'm back again because people always

respect Bob -- even when they disagree with him. Name an issue:  
The record's clear. Bob Martinez is "taking a strong stand for a  
better tomorrow." //

Look, first, ~~at reapportionment.~~ Let's face it: Florida  
needs the reapportionment map drawn by liberals like Miami need<sup>6</sup>  
its football playbook re-written by Notre Dame. We need  
officials like Bob Martinez who will keep the rulebook fair. //

Next, look at two ~~other~~ issues: The environment, and crime  
and drugs. Here, too, Bob is building a better tomorrow. //

Every time I fish along the flats off Islamaorda, I'm reminded  
how special Florida is. // ((I've fished off Islamaorda more  
times than I've met Soviet President Gorbachev. // Bob, too,  
likes fishing. He kids me that the fish I catch usually aren't  
<sup>bigger</sup> longer than his, but my stories about them are.)) //

We want to protect our natural resources. So Governor  
Martinez created the East Everglades Land Acquisition Task Force.  
And because Florida set aside part of this land, I was able to  
sign a bill increasing the size of Everglades National Park by  
more than 100,000 acres. ((I hear the alligators are so pleased,  
they're wearing polo shirts with a picture of Bob Martinez on  
their chests.)) // (What's more, Floridians <sup>can I'm</sup> ~~should be~~ <sup>that</sup> pleased, Bob  
supports our Administration's effort to rewrite the Clean Air  
Act. For 14 months, Congress has refused to act. Here's a  
solution: On November 6, elect Bob Martinez -- who will help  
convince Congress to pass a Clean Air Act I can sign. //

*community*

We come now to an issue where "tough stands" are a national necessity: crime and drugs. // Bob knows that drugs <sup>threaten</sup> menace every American. So he set a precedent by appointing a State drug czar. / He also believes that it's time cop-killers get what they deserve. So he has stiffened the Florida criminal code / added prison space to enforce it / and backs our Administration's *Violent* Control Act to enact a workable death penalty -- a real penalty -  
*Crime* - for those who kill Federal law enforcement officers. Here, too, Congress has delayed -- this time for 16 months. Join with me in sending them a message to take the shackles off the policemen, the courts, and the law. ~~How? Let's re-elect Bob Martinez.~~

((You know, Bob is like I am. One way is our love of golf. The good news is that Florida has the most golf courses in America. // The bad news is that the way my game's been going, if I teed off I wouldn't know which of the 1,017 courses I'd actually be playing until I saw where my first shot landed. //

*B* → ((Here's another similarity: We both move at a rapid pace. There's a new TV show this year called "The Flash" -- about a guy who races around at the speed of sound. At first, I thought it was about Bob Martinez. // In one month, he took his <sup>message</sup> ~~tough stands~~ to all 67 of Florida's counties. You get to know a State that way -- understand its priorities. Get to learn what the voters want -- policies which help people up, and keep bureaucracies down.)

Last week, we saw these policies in action. I refer to the tough stand Congress and I took to reduce the Federal budget by \$500 billion -- half-a-trillion dollars -- over the next five

years. // No, our budget plan isn't perfect -- but ~~let's not~~ <sup>We must let</sup> the perfect be the enemy of the good. The fact is: Our plan is balanced -- ~~it is progressive~~ -- it is tough -- it is fair. Special interests may decry it -- but the Nation needs it. //

Consider: Each year the equivalent of the population of a new city -- even larger than Bob's Tampa -- moves to Florida. Our budget agreement contains growth-oriented tax incentives to help them find work. Also, unlike in the past, our plan enacts real spending cuts -- cuts with teeth -- to bring the deficit down. By enforcing these cuts in law -- and by not raising income taxes <sup>rates</sup> -- we will create the jobs that ~~nurtures~~ <sup>bring</sup> the letters "GOP": Growth, opportunity, and prosperity. // ~~the kind of~~ <sup>ring to it</sup>

Here's what our budget plan doesn't do: It doesn't affect military or Federal retirement. It doesn't mess with Social Security. (~~I noticed there's a historical museum nearby. That's where the idea to touch Social Security is kept~~). // Here's what our plan will do: It creates the largest entitlement savings ever. It is the largest deficit package ever. It will <sup>help</sup> lower interest rates and cut inflation. One more thing. It ensures <sup>needed support</sup> ~~crucial supplemental funds~~ for Operation Desert Shield. <sup>and that's crucial,</sup>

All of us know that we must defend civilized values around the world. So in the Persian Gulf, we have -- and will -- take a strong stand against aggression. // We can't say how long, <sup>it will take to</sup> our <sup>work</sup> objectives ~~will require~~. We don't know what sacrifice will be demanded. This, we do know: America will remain in the Persian Gulf for as long as it takes to complete our mission. // We

will keep up the pressure -- and we will keep the faith. Faith with our friends, allies, the U.N., and the American people. Faith, finally, with the finest soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines any Nation could ever have. //

((Here are some examples -- all sons and daughters of Florida -- now on active duty in the Middle East. // Daniel Rich is an Air Force technical sergeant from Daytona Beach. Today, he's standing shoulder to shoulder with colleagues like Army lieutenant colonel Robert Tippets of Tallahassee, or the Marines' first lieutenant Helen Pratt of Satellite Beach. Then, there's Brenda Spriggs -- she wrote me from Ft. Lauderdale to say how proud she is of her son, \_\_, currently serving in Saudi Arabia. Mrs. Springs, I share your pride -- and to you I pledge: America will never -- ever -- let our servicemen and ~~women~~ down.)) //

Heroes like \_\_ Spriggs reflect the true essence of our mission. They show that America would not be the land of the free if it were not also the home of the brave. //

Bob Martinez knows that, too -- knows that while our forces are defending us abroad, we must defend them here at home. // So on November 6, let's take a strong stand for what America is, and embodies to the world. // Let's get out the vote. Let's win the State Senate and House of Representatives. And let's roll up our sleeves and re-elect this magnificent Governor. //

Thank you for this occasion. God bless the United States. And let's keep Bob Martinez the great Governor of the great State of Florida.