

FOIA MARKER

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1/26/96 Nat'l Assoc. Homebuilders (Video)

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 01/25/96 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9:00AM 1/26

SUBJECT: VIDEO TAPING SCRIPT: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOMEBUILDERS

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McCURRY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PANETTA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McGINTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McLARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NASH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ICKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	QUINN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LIEBERMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RASCO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RIVLIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SOSNIK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STEPHANOPOULOS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CURRY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STIGLITZ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EMANUEL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STRETT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GIBBONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TYSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRIFFIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WALLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HALE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WILLIAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HERMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EDMONDS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HIGGINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TOIV	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
KLAIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HAAS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LAKE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPERLING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LINDSEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Terry Edmonds by 9:00 A.M. on Friday, 01/26. Thanks

RESPONSE:

VIDEO REMARKS BY PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOME BUILDERS'
52ND ANNUAL CONVENTION AND 1996 BUILDERS' SHOW
JANUARY 26, 1996

96 JAN 25 P9:35

It is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to Houston and the 1996 "Builders' Show." This is the world's largest annual convention and exposition for the housing industry.

Let me first offer my congratulations to NAHB's outgoing President, Jim Irvine of Portland, Oregon. And I join all of you in welcoming your new president, Randy Smith.

As you know better than anyone, owning a home is central to the American dream. For a young couple, a home is a place to build a family, an oasis of stability, a place they can call their own. For half a century, our nation has gone out of its way to try to extend to every American the opportunity to own a home. This commitment has helped make homebuilding a critical part of the foundation of the American economy.

Housing represents roughly 5 percent of our overall Gross Domestic Product. And as we all know, as housing goes, so goes the rest of the economy. 4.1 million new housing units have been built during the past three years -- a twenty percent increase over the three years before I took office. Home ownership is at a 15-year high.

The state of housing is strong. And, as I said on Tuesday, the state of our union is strong, and growing stronger. We have the lowest combined rate of unemployment and inflation in 27 years. In the last three years, we have created over 7.8 million new American jobs -- 700,000 of those jobs were in construction.

Mortgage rates are down to about 7 percent. In fact, since I took office, rates have been at their lowest sustained levels since the 1960s. And employment in the construction sector is up sharply. It's increased by 17 percent since January 1993.

It's clear that low interest rates are critical to the continued growth of your industry. In 1993, when my administration passed an economic plan that cut the deficit nearly in half. We all know that is one big reason why the rates dropped so low.

Maintaining the stability of interest rates and growth within the housing sector are two of the leading reasons that I'm committed to working with the Congress to fashion a seven-year balanced budget -- and cleanly raise the national debt limit.

Your industry and the American homeowner simply can't afford the kind of economic disruption that will occur if we don't come

to agreement and preserve our fiscal integrity.

You should also know that my Administration, under the leadership of HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros, remains committed to removing barriers to affordable housing production. You may recall that I asked the Secretary to prepare a bold National Homeownership Strategy in November of 1994. This is not another big government program. It is a partnership with you and others to cut costs and increase access to capital for homebuyers. And it is working. Since Secretary Cisneros unveiled the plan last May, home ownership rates have already increased by eight-tenths of a percent [.8%]. We are well on our way to meeting the goal of a 67.5 percent level by the year 2000.

You should also know that my Administration continues to strongly support the Federal Housing Administration, which for 60 years has been a pioneer in making mortgages available to those families locked out of the conventional market.

We live in an Age of Possibility. In order to seize this moment, we are going to have to work together -- in our families, our communities, our churches and synagogues, and in our workplaces -- to make the most of our own lives and our own communities.

That's why in the State of the Union I challenged all Americans to help strengthen our families, improve education, create safer streets, and a smaller, more efficient government. Together we can meet any challenge.

In closing, let me thank all of you, not only for building great homes, but also for all you do to build strong families and communities. Have a great convention, and best wishes for a happy and prosperous 1996.

Thank you and God bless you all.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF SPEECHWRITING

PHONE: (202) 456-2777
FAX: (202) 456-5709

TO: Bruce Katz, Chief of Staff

FROM: Terry Edmonds

RECEIVER FAX: 708 2476

RECEIVER PHONE: _____

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOME BUILDERS'
52ND ANNUAL CONVENTION AND 1996 BUILDERS' SHOW
JANUARY 26, 1996**

It is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to Houston and the 1996 "Builders' Show." This is the world's largest annual convention and exposition for the housing industry.

Let me first offer my congratulations to NAHB's outgoing President, Jim Irvine of Portland, Oregon. And I join all of you in welcoming your new President, Randy Smith.

I know I don't have to tell you how tremendously important the housing sector is to our national economy. Housing represents roughly 5 percent of our overall Gross Domestic Product. And as we all know, as housing goes, so goes the rest of the economy. 4.1 million new housing units have been built during the past three years -- a twenty percent increase over the previous three years before I took office.

The state of housing is strong. And, as I said in my annual address to the Congress on January the 23rd, the state of our union is strong, and growing stronger. We have the lowest combined rate of unemployment and inflation in 27 years. In the last three years, we have created over 7.8 million new American jobs, including over a million in basic industries like construction and automobiles.

Your industry is a big part of that resurgence. Mortgage rates are down to about 7 percent. In fact, since I took office, rates have been at their lowest sustained levels since the 1960s. And employment in the construction sector is up sharply. It's increased by 17 percent since January 1993 -- and from that time forward through December of 1995 -- the unemployment rate in construction has come down from 14.7 to 11.4 percent.

But on a more personal level, your industry provides shelter to millions of Americans and gives them a piece of the American Dream -- a roof over their heads, a place to raise their families, and a larger sense of neighborhood and community.

That's why you should know that maintaining the stability of interest rates and growth within the housing sector are two of the leading reasons that I'm committed to working with the Congress to fashion a seven-year balanced budget -- and cleanly raise the national debt limit.

Your industry and the American homeowner simply can't afford the kind of economic disruption that will occur if we don't come to agreement and preserve our fiscal integrity.

You should also know that my Administration, under the leadership of Henry Cisneros, remains committed to removing barriers to affordable housing production. You may recall that I asked the Secretary to prepare a bold National Homeownership Strategy in November of 1994. He unveiled that plan last May -- with a goal to raise the nation's homeownership rate from 64.2 percent in the first quarter of 1995 to a 67.5 percent level by the year 2000. I'm proud to tell you that by the third quarter of 1995, that rate was already up to 65 percent.

4.1 million new housing units have been built during the past three years -- a twenty percent increase over the previous three years.

In order to sustain and build on this progress, all of us are going to have to work together -- in our families, our communities, our churches and synagogues, and in our workplaces -- to make the most of our own lives and our own communities.

That's why in the State of the Union I challenged all Americans to help strengthen our families, improve education, create safer streets, and a smaller, more efficient government. Together we can meet any challenge.

In closing, let me thank all of you, not only for building great homes, but also for all you do to build strong families and communities. Have a great convention, and best wishes for a happy and prosperous 1996.

Thank you and God bless you all.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF SPEECHWRITING

PHONE: (202) 456-2777

FAX: (202) 456-5709

TO: Bill Samuels

FROM: Terry Edmonds

RECEIVER FAX: 219 7971

RECEIVER PHONE: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 3

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TONIGHT.

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*FACE
OF HOPE*

Office: (517) 799-4341
FAX: (517) 799-4437



DENNIS FITING
President — UAW-GM
Amalgamated — Local 455

GM POWERTRAIN
S.M.I.
SAGINAW
MALLEABLE IRON



110 Florence St.
Saginaw, MI 48602

**REMARKS BY PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
UNITED AUTO WORKERS CONVENTION
ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA VIA SATELLITE
JUNE 12, 1995**

I want to thank you, Owen for that fine introduction. And I want to congratulate you and all the other officers who are retiring. I also want to say a hello to Dennis Fitting, President of Local 455 out of Saginaw. Dennis was with me last Friday at the White House for a reunion of a group of exceptional citizens whom I met along the campaign trail in 1992. We call this group "The Faces of Hope." I want to thank Dennis for coming and for his commitment to America.

You all know better than anybody that Owen Bieber has dedicated his life to improving the lives of working families. He took over the UAW 12 years ago, during one of the toughest periods in your history.

Owen has never wavered, even in the face of administrations in Washington that were less than friendly. He has stood strong, not only for UAW workers and their families, but for the kind of broad social progress that has been the hallmark of the UAW since its beginnings in the 1930s. Whether it was the fight for civil rights, or the fight to end Apartheid in South Africa, or your solidarity with American farm workers, the UAW has always been there. Owen Bieber has carried on the legacy of Walter Ruether. And he has set the stage for even greater strength in the 21st century. We all owe him our deepest gratitude and best wishes.

Now, I know that you haven't elected your new officers yet, but I wanted to say that I'd feel a whole lot better if my campaign could go into 1996 with poll numbers looking like Steve Yokich's do right now.

One of the most memorable moments of my 1992 campaign was the opportunity to walk the picket line with Owen and the striking workers of Caterpillar in Peoria. Looking into the tired but determined faces of the men and women on that picket line, I realized how much was at stake. I ran for President because I believed we could do more to help those workers and millions of Americans who had seen their stake in the American Dream uprooted during the eighties.

Like too many Americans, those employees were working harder for the same or lower wages than they earned fifteen years ago. They were losing many of the benefits their parents had struggled to win. And they were being abandoned by Washington. Their struggle showed me better than any report or poll ever could that the fight to save the American Dream and our families must begin with the fight to save American workers. The struggle at Caterpillar is still not over. But my administration continues

to walk the line with you.

I came to Washington to work with you and all Americans to shrink the underclass and grow the middle class. To rebuild the sense of hope and community that have made this country strong. The key to doing all that lies in reducing the deficit, increasing investment in education and training, promoting real welfare reform, and expanding trade -- things that will help people make the most of their own lives.

And so, my Administration has developed an economic strategy that focuses on creating jobs and raising incomes, and a social strategy that rewards work, family, responsible parenting, and good citizenship. And it is working.

In the past two-and-a-half years, we have added nearly 7 million new jobs -- almost all of them in the private sector. And we're cutting the deficit by \$1 trillion over seven years. In fact, we are reducing it for three years in a row for the first time since Harry Truman was President.

This has allowed us to reward working families. We've given a tax cut to 15 million working Americans through an expansion of the EITC. And we've helped hard working parents be good parents and good workers at the same time through our passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Now, let me say, as I've said many times before, I certainly want to balance the budget. But we can't do it by giving a huge, untargeted tax cut to the well-off paid for by cuts in Medicare. And we can't do it by walking away from our investment in education and training.

We all know that the countries that do the best job of educating all their people will be winners in the new global economy. No one understands this more than you. You have led the way for decades with your apprenticeship and training programs. That's why I have made lifelong learning central to my efforts to revitalize the American middle class. And that's why I am fighting to preserve our investments in our direct student loan initiative, our innovative School-to-Work apprenticeship effort, and our successful national service initiative, AmeriCorps. We can't afford not to support something as important to our future as education and training for all our people.

Let me take a moment to talk about one other aspect of our strategy that is crucial to our future. As we enter the 21st century, trade is becoming more and more important to the long-term health of our economy. America is only four percent of the world's population. Our success in the future rests heavily on selling American goods and services to the remaining 96 percent of the world. When we open new markets, we find new consumers for

American products. When we sell more American products, we create more jobs. Every \$1 Billion in new exports creates 17,000 new American jobs.

That's why I've done my level-best as President to open markets around the world. That's why Congress has helped me. Because it means so much to our economy and, yes, to our way of life. The fight for open trade is not a partisan issue. Democrats and Republicans worked together to put in place more than 80 trade agreements in just over two years. I know you haven't always agreed with us, but I believe we did the right thing. The agreements we've reached are not just pieces of paper -- they are meaningful, concrete pacts that create growth and jobs.

Open trade is expanding around the world. Everywhere, that is, but Japan. Of all the industrialized countries, Japan imports less manufactured goods for their size than any other -- by a long shot. At times, some people said it was our fault. Our deficit was too high. They said our products were not competitive. So, we cut the deficit. All of you worked to make sure that our products could compete and win.

And we have made progress with Japan over the last two and a half years. We've concluded 14 results-oriented agreements. Now they're eating American rice in Tokyo. Japanese consumers are buying everything from our apples to our telecommunications equipment.

But in many areas, Japan's markets remain stubbornly closed. There's no question this is about artificial trade barriers -- not the quality of American products. By some estimates, if Japan had open markets, the increase in U.S. exports would create hundreds of thousands of American jobs.

Japan's trade barriers are most unfair when it comes to cars and car parts. In the last 25 years, we shipped 400,000 cars to Japan. They shipped forty million cars to us -- a 100:1 ratio.

In 1973, the Big Three had less than one percent of Japan's auto market. Every President since then has tried to fix this problem and open the Japanese market to American cars. And you know what kind of market share the Big 3 has today? A whopping 1.5 percent.

You know how bad this problem is. Our auto industry accounts for about five percent of the GDP. It employs 2.5 million Americans. When the auto industry does well, so do a lot of other people: People who make the iron, steel, aluminum, rubber, glass, and semi-conductors that the auto industry needs.

American auto parts are so good that we have an auto parts trade surplus of \$5.1 billion around the world -- because demanding companies like BMW and Mercedes use them all the time. But with

Japan, we have a \$12.8 Billion trade deficit.

This is a simple question of fairness. The American auto market is open to Japanese products. The Japanese auto market is closed to American products. We have tried other means long enough. Now we must act decisively to level the playing field and protect American jobs.

I ordered the U.S. Trade Representative to impose 100 percent tariffs on 13 Japanese-made luxury cars by June 28 unless Japan agrees to open its markets to cars and car parts before then. Now the ball is in their court. I hope Japan is ready to reach a serious agreement, but make no mistake: If we have not resolved this by June 28, these sanctions will go into effect. And I'm gratified that there's such overwhelming bipartisan support for this policy in Congress. It's time for the Japanese to play by the same rules the rest of us play by.

If working Americans see us continue to put up with unfair deals, they'll lose faith in open trade, and we can't afford that. And we have made too much progress opening markets to risk letting this problem with Japan spin out of control.

We must not hesitate to fight for our rights. Japan is a valued friend and partner. We cooperate on a host of other issues. Our trade relationship must also be a two-way street. And that's what I'm working to do.

Just as we must be good partners with the other nations of the world, we want all of you to be our partners in strengthening the economy. And I believe that good, strong unions and good-faith collective bargaining are essential to helping us meet the challenges of the future.

That's why one of the first things I did upon taking office was to rescind anti-union executive orders of the previous 12 years. And three months ago, I signed an Executive Order that states loud and clear: **"We will not allow companies that do business with the government to permanently replace workers."** The right to strike is a fundamental American right. And anyone who tries to deny that right can expect a fight from this Administration.

We will also fight any attempts by companies to dominate labor unions. I will veto any effort to weaken section 8(a)(2) of the National Labor Relations Act.

And I am drawing a line to preserve your hard-earned wage protections. The Davis-Bacon and Service Contract Acts are foundations for decent living standards. Some want to take that away. We will be at your side to protect the standard of living you have fought so long and hard to maintain. I will veto any effort to repeal those laws.

We believe, as you do, that collective bargaining is not a privilege. It's a right! Our appointments to the NLRB -- Bill Gould, Peggy Browning and General Counsel, Fred Feinstein -- are committed to preserving that right.

So, together, we are fighting hard to help you hold on to what you've struggled to win over six decades. But, after standing in your way for 12 years, there are those in Congress who now want you to believe they are on your side. It kind of reminds me of the words to a country and western song, "How can anything that sounds so good, make me feel so bad?" They say they care about the health and safety of working Americans, and they try to gut health and safety standards. They claim they're for work over welfare, but they have crafted a bill that's weak on work, tough on kids, and that the Congressional Budget Office says is unworkable. They say that work should pay, and then refuse to make the minimum wage a living wage.

You all understand how important the minimum wage has been to making sure people have a decent standard of living in this country. Let me tell you something I saw recently that brings home the need for an increase in the minimum wage. I was watching a news special the other night. They went down south to a town that had a lot of minimum wage workers. And they talked to a remarkable woman in a local plant who worked at a minimum wage. They said to this woman: "You know, your employer says if we raise the minimum wage that they'll either have to lay people off or put more money into machinery and reduce their employment long-term. What do you say to that?" I could not have written a better script. This woman just threw her shoulders back and looked into the eyes of the television reporter and said: "Honey, I'll take my chances." That woman deserves our support. And the truth is, we've looked at the data, and a raise in the minimum wage will not cost jobs. So, let's get on with the business of giving everybody a fair shot at the middle class.

In closing, let me say our work is about a partnership with you to get us ready to compete and win in the 21st century. The future of this nation depends on workers like you. You and your families are the heart and soul of America. Let's work together to preserve what we have won. Let's continue the fight for jobs, for justice, for the American Dream.

Thank you and God bless you all.