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Disability Rights

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1

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10

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3

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Disability
Rights 62



President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities

I believe these
events indicate
progress for
disability rights.
Congratulations!
Justin

Washington FAX

An update of activities, programs and projects of the President's Committee

August 1993

Special ADA Anniversary Issue

Vol. 1, No. 9

by
Justin Dart

HISTORIC FACE-TO-FACE DIALOGUES WITH PRESIDENT AND ATTORNEY GENERAL, LANDMARK PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS, NEW YORK MARCH, MAJOR MEDIA FOCUS, VICTORY FOR AIRLINE ACCESS HIGHLIGHT NATIONWIDE ADA BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Colleagues, ADA had a great third birthday party. President Clinton and Attorney General Reno came through for justice. Many major media entities came through for justice. Most importantly, thousands of you came through for justice. People with disabilities still face a long, perilous march to the promised land of full equality and full empowerment. But the last few days have demonstrated once again the potential of united advocacy and people first democracy. My mind and spirit are lifted from the cloudy probable to the shining possible.

I could not begin to list all of your magnificent ADA birthday events; this is a summary of happenings in which I was privileged to participate -- or of which I have personal knowledge.

JULY 23, PRESIDENT CLINTON ISSUES A SPECIAL HAPPY BIRTHDAY ADA MESSAGE TO THE NATION: "Our country doesn't have a single person to waste, and we must invest in each person's enormous potential by fully implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act. . . . My Administration is committed to shifting disability policy away from exclusion, towards inclusion; away from dependence, towards independence; away from paternalism and towards empowerment."

JULY 26, THE PRESIDENT ADDRESSES A CHICAGO CONFERENCE ON THE WORKPLACE OF THE FUTURE: "There is one group of American workers I really want to acknowledge today. This is the third anniversary of one of our most important civil rights laws, the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more than 40 million people, the law is clearing the barriers to full participation in American life. . . ." Marca Bristo, National Council on Disability Chairperson-Designate, was chosen to be one of 12 Americans serving with the President on the gathering's showcase panel.

JULY 26, THE PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES A LANDMARK APPOINTMENT: BOB