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Remarks at the Congressional Black Caucus Special Legislative Summit

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 19, 1995

**REMARKS AT THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS
SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT**

DATE: May 20, 1995
LOCATION: Washington Hilton Hotel
Jefferson Room
TIME: 6:45 pm
FROM: Alexis Herman
Ben Johnson

I. Purpose

To reach out to and energize key African American elected officials as we move towards 1996.

II. Background

The Congressional Black Caucus is conducting its first Special legislative Summit this weekend. The Summit is being Co-Convened by several organizations of elected officials, including the National Association of Black County Officials, the National Black Caucus of Local elected Officials, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators and the Forum of Black Public Administrators.

The Summit is being held to provide a forum for African American elected officials to discuss the legislative agenda of the 104th Congress. The specific objective is to develop an action plan aimed at protecting the political and economic interest of African Americans. Several workshops will be available to participants, including welfare reform, coalition building, health, affirmative action, redistricting, the Clinton budget and the CBC alternative budget. Guest speakers include Andy Young, Marian Wright Edelman, Attorney Thomas Todd (former Chair of Operation Push), Jesse Jackson, Joe Lowery, Dorothy Height and several members of the CBC and the other sponsoring organizations. See attached schedule.

The audience will be made up of mostly state, county, and local elected officials. This will likely be the first time many of them will have been in this kind of a setting with you. According to Congressman Payne and Congressman Rangel, these elected officials need to be energized so that work can begin on the 1996 campaign. This audience is interested in hearing about affirmative action, jobs creation, education and combating drugs. This is an opportunity to establish and re-establish a working

relationship with members of these organizations at the state and local levels.

You should pay special tribute to Lois Deberry (Speaker Pro-Tem, Tennessee) when you acknowledge the work that many in the audience are doing on behalf of Dr. Henry Foster. She was in the confirmation fight from the very beginning and was very instrumental in mobilizing support for the nomination throughout the country. Because of her efforts, black state legislators were one of the first groups to endorse Dr. Foster.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Representative Donald Payne (D-NJ), Chair CBC

Representative Cardiss Collins (D-IL), Chair, CBC Foundation

Representative Charles Rangel (D-NY), Issues Chair, CBC

Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA)

Lois Deberry, (Speaker Pro-Tem, TN), Chair of the National Caucus of Black State Legislators.

Shep Wilbun, President-Elect, National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials.

Webster Guillory, President, Association of Black County Officials

475 State, County and local elected officials

IV. PRESS PLAN

Closed Press

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- o When you arrive at the Hilton you will be greeted by Representatives:

Cardiss Collins (D-IL)

Donald Payne (D-NJ)

Charles Rangel (D-NY)

Maxine Waters (D-CA)

- o You will be announce by WHCA along with the four greeters.
- o Cardiss Collins will make brief remarks and introduce you.
- o You make remarks.
- o You work a ropeline and depart.

VI. REMARKS

To be provided by speechwriting