



Tomasz P. Malinowski
05/10/99 12:14:07 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Joshua S. Gottheimer/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Re: commencement memo 

Back to you, with a few small edits.

A Strong America in a New World

No nation in history has had the opportunity and responsibility to shape a world that is more peaceful, more secure, and more free. The new century demands new partnerships for peace and security.

The world we want to leave our children and grandchildren requires us to make the right choices, and some of them will be difficult. Everything from the strength of our economy to the safety of our cities, to the health of our people, depends on events not only within our borders, but half a world away. We must work with the world community -- to defeat the dangers we face together and to build this hopeful moment together, into a generation of peace, prosperity, and freedom.

Today in Kosovo, the United States is working together with our NATO allies to reverse ethnic cleansing, restore hope to a people who have been brutalized for no reason except their ethnicity and faith, and preserve peace and stability in Europe. Our objectives in Kosovo are clear: 1) the withdrawal of Serbian military, paramilitary and police forces from Kosovo; 2) the unconditional return of all refugees to Kosovo and unimpeded access for humanitarian aid; 3) and the deployment of an international security force, with NATO at its core, to ensue a peaceful, democratic Kosovo in which all people live with security and self government.

SCHEDULING PROPOSAL

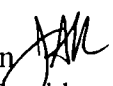
May 5, 1999

____ACCEPT

____REGRET

____PENDING

TO: Stephanie Streett
Assistant to the President
Director of Presidential Scheduling

FROM: John A. Koskinen  Mickey Ibarra 
Assistant to the President
Chair, President's Council on Y2K Conversion Director, Intergovernmental Affairs

REQUEST: Record a brief video greeting for broadcast at local town hall meetings about the Year 2000 (Y2K) computer problem.

PURPOSE: To support the "Y2K Community Conversations" initiative, through which the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion and its industry partners will be encouraging local business and government leaders to share information on the status of their Y2K efforts with customers and constituents in their communities.

BACKGROUND: Polling data indicate that Americans are increasingly confident that national infrastructures and processes will be ready for the Y2K date change, but they have little information about the readiness of local service providers and are unsure about what they should be doing to prepare themselves for disruptions the computer problem may cause.

The Y2K Community Conversations initiative will address public concerns about local Y2K readiness by encouraging local leaders to convene community meetings where representatives of organizations that provide critical services (e.g., local governments, banks, power and telephone companies, water authorities) will discuss the status of their Y2K efforts and what the community can expect on January 1, 2000. The President's Year 2000 Council is working with local leaders to organize hundreds of meetings throughout the country during the summer and is enlisting major national industry groups represented on the Council's Senior Advisors Group to support the effort.

The meetings will serve as forums to provide answers to important questions about local Y2K efforts. Combined with the data on national Y2K readiness the Council is providing, this information will help to instill a sense of confidence in the American public that government and industry are doing their part to ensure a smooth transition to the Year 2000 and that overreaction is not necessary.

A brief Presidential video greeting will reinforce the fact that a strong dialogue between local leaders and their customers and constituents about Y2K efforts is important to the Nation's readiness for the date change.

PREVIOUS

PARTICIPATION: The President delivered a major address about the Year 2000 problem in July 1998. In October 1998, he signed the "Year 2000 Information and Readiness Disclosure Act," to promote information sharing on solutions to the problem. In December 1998, he participated in an event where he announced that the Social Security system is Year 2000 compliant. In this year's State of the Union address, he urged government and business leaders to take action on the problem.

DATE AND TIME: May video session (currently scheduled for May 13th)

BRIEFING TIME: None

DURATION: 5 minutes

LOCATION: OEOP Video Studio

PARTICIPANTS: The President

OUTLINE OF
EVENTS: The President tapes video.

REMARKS
REQUIRED: President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion
(Draft remarks attached)

MEDIA
COVERAGE: None

FIRST LADY'S
ATTENDANCE: Unnecessary

VICE PRESIDENT'S
ATTENDANCE: Unnecessary

RECOMMENDED BY: John Koskinen

CONTACT: John Koskinen, 6-7088

ORIGIN OF
THE PROPOSAL:

John Koskinen

SECOND LADY'S
ATTENDANCE:

Unnecessary

SOURCE OF
PAYMENT:

President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion

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John Koskinen

SECOND LADY'S
ATTENDANCE:

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SOURCE OF
PAYMENT:

President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion

DRAFT
VIDEO SCRIPT
Y2K Community Conversations

Welcome to this important meeting about how your community is working to address the Year 2000 computer problem.

The Y2K problem is a serious challenge for the United States and all countries around the world that have come to depend upon information technology. Computers play a key role in many important activities, from processing benefits like Social Security to electric power generation and distribution. Governments and businesses must ensure that all computers are able to recognize the Year 2000 and can make a smooth transition to the new millennium.

Nationally, we've been working hard to see to it that major systems will be ready for the date change. Over 90 percent of the Federal Government's most important systems are ready for the Year 2000, and work on the remaining critical systems will be complete well before January 1. Our Council on Year 2000 Conversion has also been working closely with key industries as they work to prepare their systems. We're encouraged by the progress being made and are confident that national infrastructures in areas such as power, telecommunications, and banking will be ready for the date change.

But we are all in this together. That's why it is so good to see government and business leaders in our counties, cities, and towns focused on this problem and engaged in a cooperative dialogue to ensure that important local services of governments, banks, telephone and power companies don't miss a beat on January 1, 2000. Community conversations like the one you are having today are an important part of those efforts.

The hard work of preparing computers for the Year 2000 is being done nationally and in communities across the country. If we continue to work together, we can ensure that the Y2K problem is the last headache of the 20th century and not the first crisis of the 21st. Thanks for watching.

Draft 5/12/99 10:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR
"Y2K COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS"
May 13, 1999**

I am pleased to join you today as you discuss the steps your community ^{is} taking to ~~is~~ ^{are} address the Year 2000 computer problem.

The Y2K difficulty is a graphic example of how deeply imbedded computers are in our daily lives. It is not a challenge susceptible to a single government program or an easy fix -- it is as complicated as the billions of microchips that run everything from farm equipment to VCRs.

The Y2K problem requires us all to work together -- every government agency, corporation, university, and hospital.

At the national level, we've been working tirelessly to ensure that major systems are ready for the date change. Over 90 percent of the federal government's most important systems are ready for the year 2000 -- and work on the remaining critical systems will be completed well before January 1.

And our Council on the Year 2000 Conversion is also working closely with key industries to prepare their systems for the next century. I am encouraged by the progress being made, and confident that our national infrastructures will be ready for the date change.

But our greatest challenge with the Y2K problem lies at the local level, where there is still a disconnect between small businesses and government, and the local communities they serve. That is why my administration launched a national campaign for year 2000 solutions last July. To promote partnerships between industry groups and government agencies -- encouraging them to share ideas each other, and with their customers and constituents. These Y2K Community Conversations help all of us, step by step, to move toward creative, concrete solutions.

As this town hall meeting demonstrates, we must all be in this effort together. That's why it's good to see local government and business leaders focused on this problem, working to make sure we don't miss a beat on January 1. If we continue to work in partnership, we can ensure that the Y2K problem is the last headache of the 20th century -- not the first crisis of the 21st.

Thank you again for attending today's meeting -- and for all of your hard work.

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Final 5/12/99 4pm
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The Y2K problem reminds us how deeply embedded computers are in our daily lives. It is not a challenge susceptible to a single government program or an easy fix -- it is as complicated as the billions of microchips that run everything from farm equipment to VCRs.

Just as computers connect us all, so does the Y2K challenge -- demanding that every government agency, corporation, university, and hospital work together to seek solutions.

At the national level, we've been working tirelessly to ensure that critical systems are ready for the date change. Over 90 percent of the federal government's most important systems are ready for the year 2000 -- and work on the rest will be completed well before January 1. Our Council on the Year 2000 Conversion is also working closely with key industries as they prepare their systems for the next century.

Still, to meet the challenges of Y2K at the local level, there must be cooperation and communication among small businesses, government, and the local communities they serve. That is why my administration launched a "National Campaign for Year 2000 Solutions" last July -- encouraging industry and government to share ideas. As part of that campaign, these Y2K Community Conversations help us all to move, step by step, toward creative, concrete solutions.

This town hall meeting demonstrates that we can -- as we must -- continue to work together -- promoting partnerships so that the Y2K problem is the last headache of the 20th Century, not the first crisis of the 21st.

Thank you again for attending today's meeting -- and for all of your hard work.

Draft 5/12/99 11:30am
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Just as computers connect us all, so does the Y2K challenge -- demanding that every government agency, corporation, university, and hospital work together to seek solutions.

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DRAFT
VIDEO SCRIPT
K Community Conversations

for
482-4636

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But we are all in this together. That's why it is so good to see government and business leaders in our counties, cities, and towns focused on this problem and engaged in a cooperative dialogue to ensure that important local voices of governments, banks, telephone and power companies don't miss a beat on January 1, 2000. Community conversations like the one you are having today are an important part of those efforts.

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The Y2K problem ^{poses} ~~is~~ a serious challenge ^{to nations and others} ~~for our country~~ and for nations around the world that depend on information technology. ~~From processing benefits like Social Security to distributing electric power,~~ ^{central} computers play a ^{key} ~~key~~ role in the daily lives of ^{us all, about} ~~so many people~~. That is why we ^{are taking} ~~must take~~ steps to guarantee that all computers make a smooth transition to the new millennium. ^{further}

At the national level, we've been working tirelessly to ^{ensure} ~~see~~ that major systems ^{are} ~~will be~~ ready for the date change. Over 90 percent of the federal government's most important systems are ready for the year 2000 -- and work on the remaining critical systems will be completed well before January 1.

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*Info In just a few ~~or two~~ decades
or a few*

*! cars
are y
wheeled
vehicles
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by a fuel
known
as
"gasoline"*