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Folder Title: 03/18/1982 (Case File: 069108) (2)

Box: 15

B

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1982

EVENT: Annual Washington Policy Conference of the National Association of Manufacturers
DRESS: Men's Business Suit
WEATHER: Partly Cloudy; Chance of Rain; Low 50's

12:20 p.m. Depart White House en route Sheraton. Drive Time: 10 mins. In Limo: J. Baker, E. Dole

12:30 p.m. Arrive Sheraton. Proceed to holding room.

Met inside holding room by:

Alexander B. Trowbridge, President, NAM
Forrest Rettgers, Exec. VP, NAM

12:35 p.m. Depart holding room en route Grand Ballroom off-stage announcement area.

Announcement

Proceed to dais and take seat.

(Refer to Tab A.)

Introduction by Luke Williams, Chairman of the Board and CEO, American Sign and Indicator Corp.

12:40 p.m. Remarks. - Full Press Coverage

1:00 p.m. Conclude remarks. Proceed to holding room.

1:03 p.m. Depart holding room en route motorcade for boarding.

1:05 p.m. Depart Sheraton. Drive Time: Same In Limo: Same

1:15 p.m. Arrive White House.

DAIS GUESTS

AUDIENCE

Dr. Louis Fernandez
Vice Chairman
Monsanto Company

James B. Henderson
President
Shell Chemical Company

James H. Binns
Chairman of the Board
Armstrong World Industries, Inc.

Elizabeth Dole
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House

Alexander B. Trowbridge
President
National Association of Manufacturers

THE PRESIDENT

* * * PODIUM

Luke G. Williams
Chairman of the Board and CEO
American Sign and Indicator Corp.

James A. Baker III
Assistant to the President
and Chief of Staff
The White House

Bernard J. O'Keefe
Chairman and CEO
EG&G, Inc.

Honorable Jack E. Kemp
United States House of Representatives

Stanley C. Pace
President and Chief Operating Officer
TRW Inc.

C. William Verity, Jr.
Chairman of the Board
Armco, Inc.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT

FOR

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1982

EVENT: ANNUAL WASHINGTON POLICY CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS

THE PRESIDENT'S PARTICIPATION

Remarks

WEATHER

Partly Cloudy

Chance of Rain

Low 50's

DRESS

Men's Business Suit

ADVANCE

Morris, Dan	STAFF
Bakaly, Charles	PRESS
[redacted]	
Skinner, Gladys	WHCA

CONTACT

Presidential Advance Office: 202/456-7565

3/17/82 5:00 p.m.

12:20 p.m. THE PRESIDENT departs The White House en route Sheraton Washington Hotel.

Drive Time: 10 mins

MOTORCADE ASSIGNMENTS

Lead	
Spare	D. Fischer
Limo	THE PRESIDENT J. Baker E. Dole
Follow-up	
Control	M. Deaver Mil. Aide Dr. Ruge
Staff I	E. Hickey M. Weinberg Ofcl. Photog.
Staff II	K. Duberstein Medic
Press Van I	
Press Van II	
WHCA	
Tail	

12:30 p.m. THE PRESIDENT arrives Sheraton Washington Hotel and proceeds to holding room.

See Tab A for arrival diagram.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE (outside only)

Met inside holding room by:

Alexander B. Trowbridge, President, National Association of Manufacturers
Forrest Rettgers, Executive Vice-President, National Association of Manufacturers

12:35 p.m. THE PRESIDENT departs holding room en route Grand Ballroom off-stage announcement area.

See Tab B for Ballroom diagram.

Announcement (off-stage)

THE PRESIDENT proceeds to dais and takes seat.

See Tab C for dais diagram.

12:39 p.m. Mr. Luke Williams, Chairman of the Board and CEO, American Sign and Indicator Corp. introduces The President.

12:40 p.m. THE PRESIDENT makes remarks.

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

1:00 p.m. THE PRESIDENT concludes remarks and proceeds to holding room.

NOTE: THE PRESIDENT holds in order for the press to move to motorcade.

1:03 p.m. THE PRESIDENT departs holding room en route motorcade for boarding.

1:05 p.m. THE PRESIDENT departs Sheraton Washington Hotel en route The White House.

Drive Time: 10 mins.

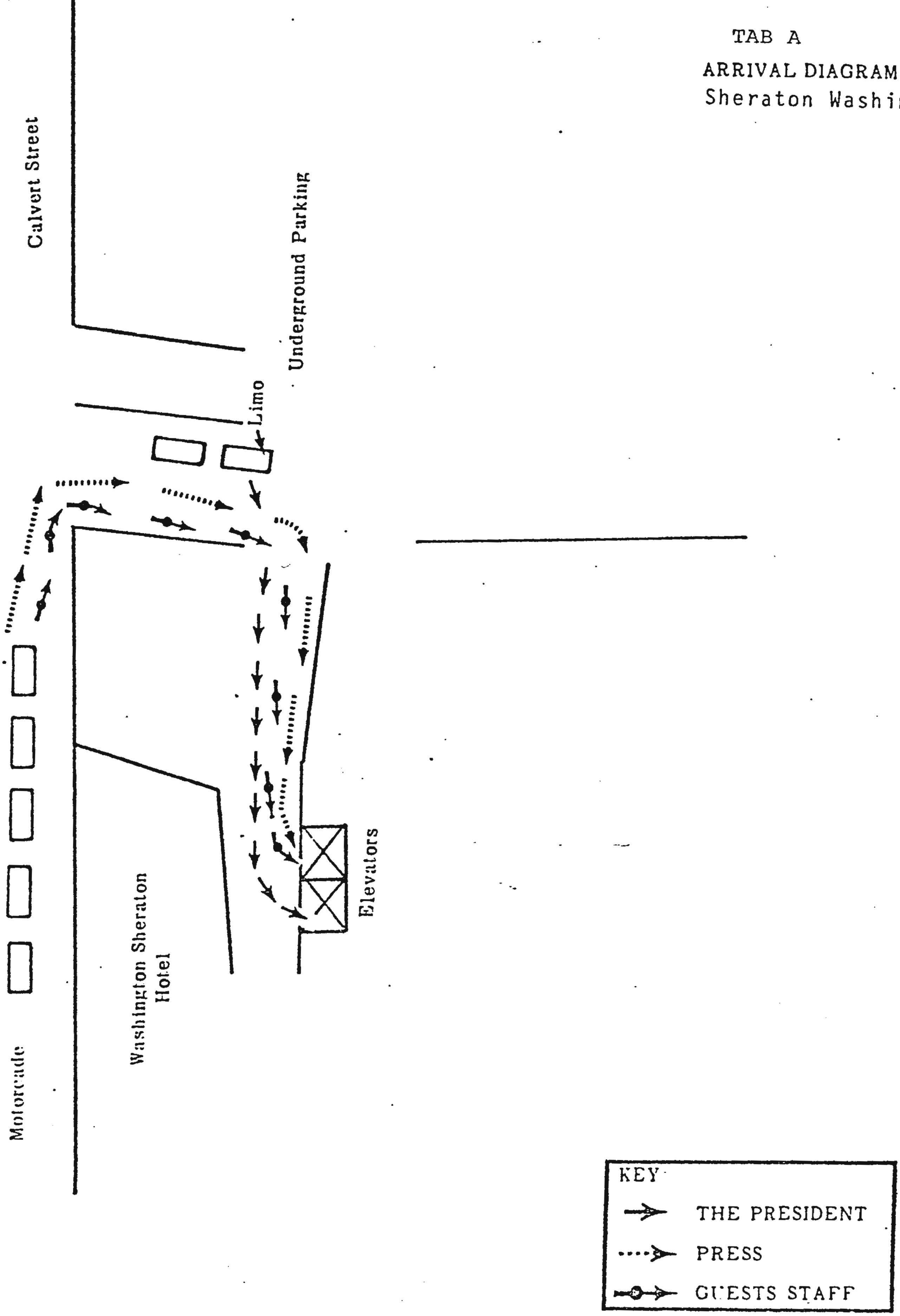
MOTORCADE ASSIGNMENTS
Same as on arrival.

1:15 p.m. THE PRESIDENT arrives The White House.

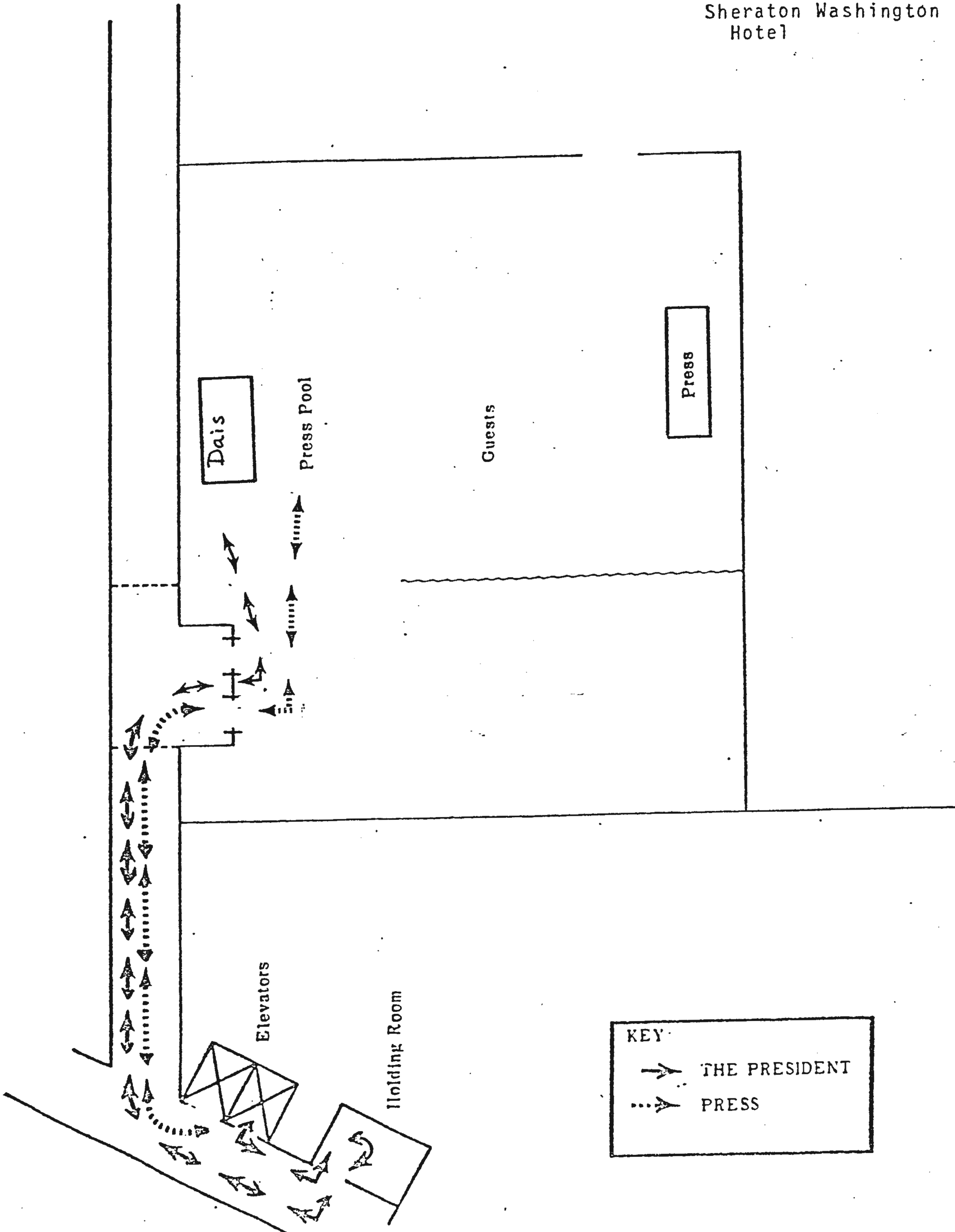
TAB A

ARRIVAL DIAGRAM

Sheraton Washington Hotel



Grand Ballroom
Sheraton Washington
Hotel



TAB C

DAIS GUESTS

A U D I E N C E

Dr. Louis Fernandez
Vice Chairman
Monsanto Company

James B. Henderson
President
Shell Chemical Company

James H. Binns
Chairman of the Board
Armstrong World Industries, Inc.

Elizabeth Dole
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House

Alexander B. Trowbridge
President
National Association of Manufacturers

THE PRESIDENT

* * * PODIUM

Luke G. Williams
Chairman of the Board and CEO
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United States House of Representatives

Stanley C. Pace
President and Chief Operating Officer
TRW Inc.

C. William Verity, Jr.
Chairman of the Board
Armco, Inc.

C

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 17, 1982

DROP-BY AT BRIEFING FOR BLACK PUBLISHERS

DATE:	Thursday, March 18, 1982
LOCATION:	Room 450, OEOB
TIME:	3:30 p.m. (20 minutes)
FROM:	Karna Small

I. PURPOSE:

To greet and make a few remarks to some 50 members of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (who are all leaders of the black media). The black community in particular has many questions about the goals of the Administration; this briefing provides a forum to emphasize what we are doing to improve the economy, create jobs etc.

II. BACKGROUND:

This group is in town for their winter meeting and asked for a White House briefing. They have not been to the White House during this Administration. During this briefing, they will hear from and ask questions of a number of Administration officials (including David Gergen, Steve Rhodes, Murray Weidenbaum, Brad Reynolds and Bill Brock - tentative).

III. PARTICIPANTS:

The President
Karna Small
Brad Reynolds (Dept. of Justice)
Steve Rhodes, plus other selected staff
50 black publishers (Tab A)

IV. PRESS PLAN:

No outside press
WH Photographer

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

The President will enter the holding room at 3:30 - he will then enter Room 450, make his remarks at the podium and offer to take a few questions, then leave.

VI. REMARKS:

Submitted separately by speechwriters (Tab B)

ATTENDEES

Christopher H. Bennett
Philadelphia Spirit

Paul Bennett
Philadelphia Spirit

Ruth Bennett
Philadelphia Spirit

Robert W. Bogle
Philadelphia Tribune

Mildred B. Brown
Omaha Star

Oswald Brown
Washington Informer

Arthur M. Carter
Washington Afro American

Charles W. Cherry
Daytona Times

Constance E. Clark
Contrast Publications

Fred Clark
Philadelphia City

Anthony P. Davis
Great Circle News

Steve G. Davis
National Newspaper Publishers Association

Henry B. Dejoie
Louisiana Weekly

Waverly Easley
Philadelphia Tribune

William Ellis
Akron Reporter

Caroline Fortier
Chicago Observer

William Garth
Citizen Newspapers

Carole Geary
Milwaukee Courier

Carole Gerdes
Columbus Times

Carlton B. Goodlett
San Francisco Sun Reporter

William R. Hales
Hartford Inquirer

Alfred W. Hamilton
Contrast Publications

Levi Henry
Westside Gazette

Jerrel W. Jones
Milwaukee Courier

Willie H. King
Orlando Times

William H. Lee
Sacramento Observer

Anne Lennon
Philadelphia Spirit

James W. Macon
Florida Sun

Ophelia DeVore Mitchell
Columbus Times

Alfred L. Morris
Chicago Defender

Walli Akbar Muhammad
World News Examiner

John H. Murphy III
Afro-American Newspapers

Majorie B. Parham
Cincinnati Herald

John L. Procope
Amsterdam News

Catherine E. Pugh
Afro-American News/World Report

Redfern II
Black News

Garth C. Reeves
Miami Times

Calvin Rolark
Washington Informer

Denise Rolark
Washington Informer

William L. Rowe
West Chester County Press

Annie Lee Lowe Russell
Albany Times

John H. Sengstacke
Chicago Defender

Osman Ibn Sharrieff
Tri-City Journal

John B. Smith
Atlanta Inquirer

Kenneth T. Stanley
Louisville Defender

James H. Warren
Washington Observer

James H. Warren III
Philadelphia New Observer

Jane E. Woods
St. Louis Sentinel

Michael Holt
Milwaukee Journal

(Parvin/AB)
March 17, 1982
3:00 p.m.

REMARKS: MEETING WITH BLACK EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS
MARCH 18, 1982

Thank you and welcome. And let me say congratulations for inducting the late W. O. Walker into the Publishers Hall of Fame. He was a courageous pioneer in the field of publishing -- he was also a friend of mine -- and he certainly deserves the honor you're bestowing. I understand you are getting briefed today by other Administration spokesmen. I hope, being newspapermen, you get some news out of it. You know I always remember the way another friend of mine used to explain what news was. He defined news as anything that made a woman say, "Well, for heaven's sake." To be honest, I think instead I'd prefer you left today saying, "Now, he's got a point there."

But, in any case, I'd like to say a few words about our economic program which I know is of great concern to your readers, and then open up for questions. As I told the people of Alabama the other day, the painful recession we're currently feeling is the result of a long period of Government mismanagement.

In the last 20 years, the Federal budget increased five-fold. But that didn't help the working poor and the pensioners flattened by double-digit inflation. It didn't help the small businessmen hit by the highest interest rates in a hundred years. And it certainly didn't help the average worker when taxes doubled between 1976 and 1981.

This recession has been building for some time. I will not accept the notion that our program which is just beginning, and which, in fact, began after the recession was already underway, is somehow responsible for that very recession.

In regard to unemployment, as you know, we're in a very hurtful situation, which I'll get to in a minute, but we have made progress in certain other areas. Inflation has fallen to about 4½ percent for the last 3 months. Savings are up and the main incentives are just coming along. The prime rate, while much too high, is still 5 points lower than when we took office.

But it is the unemployment rate that causes me the most personal heartache, because I know what it does to individuals and families. Let me tell you my thinking here. In addition to unemployment improving from normal recovery, we have certain incentives in place. The 25-percent reduction in personal tax rates could easily be called a small business tax cut -- at least 85 percent of all U.S. firms pay their taxes by personal rates, not corporate ones. And it is small business people who are our biggest employers and our biggest source of new jobs.

Telling people without work to wait is very difficult, of course. There is a lot of talk about compassion nowadays, and I believe most of us do have real compassion for those who cannot help themselves. And we must protect them. But, again, as I said to the people of Alabama, how about compassion for those Americans who sit around the table at night, trying to figure out how to pay their own bills, keep their kids in school and keep up with higher inflation and higher taxes year after year?

I realize that our solution is not easy or painless. And some unfortunately are experiencing more pain than others. But it is an honest solution, not a quick fix. And I believe it's the only way we'll produce a lasting recovery that will benefit all Americans.

Let me say a word about our federalism proposal. The underlying purpose of our plan is to wrest control of government from the hands of special interests and return it to the American people. I know that many of you are concerned about great strides you have made in this country since the early days of the civil rights movement. I know you are concerned that the States will not be as responsive to your concerns as the Federal Government has been in the past. You should know that I intend to protect the civil rights of every American in this country. And you should also know that this Administration is not trying to turn back the hands of time. We understand that the "good ole days," as some say, were not the "good ole days" for all Americans.

The Federal Government has a definite role to play in the lives of local citizens. It is the Federal Government's undeniable responsibility to protect the rights of all Americans, and, as I have said many times, at the point of bayonet if necessary. Federalism will bolster an individual's rights and access to government, not reduce them.

So thank you for coming, and now let's have some questions.

D

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 17, 1982

MEETING WITH SENATOR HOWARD BAKER AND SENATOR JAMES A. MCCLURE

DATE: MARCH 18, 1982
LOCATION: OVAL OFFICE
TIME: 4:30 P.M. (15 minutes)

FROM: Kenneth M. Duberstein Ken D.

I. PURPOSE

To allow the Senators to discuss their concerns regarding your decision to veto or sign the Standby Petroleum Allocation Act (S. 1503).

II. BACKGROUND

The Congress has completed action on S. 1503. The bill passed the Senate on October 29, 1981 on a vote of 85-7. The Conference report was adopted in the Senate 86-7 on March 2, 1982. The Administration has consistently opposed the legislation and the Senate was told that both Secretary Edwards and the senior staff would recommend a veto.

Senator McClure has requested an opportunity to discuss reasons why you should not veto the bill. For several years he has been a strong advocate of the view that government needed to be prepared to intervene in the energy marketplace to assure certain consuming sectors (including energy and agriculture) that adequate supplies would be available in the event of a severe energy supply interruption. This bill is the embodiment of that belief and you should know that he feels very strongly about it.

He will argue that this is an improvement on the previous allocation law in that there is total Presidential discretion as to when the authority should be used. That is true, but he avoids mentioning the problems created in preparing the regulation prior to triggering use of the authority. Our prime motivation is to signal to the energy community that they should prepare themselves for a shortage, and not sit back and rely on the government.

He will emphasize it improves on prior law because the authority is only temporary and expires in 1984. But once in place political forces will require its extension just as they produced the standby regulation in the first place.

He will argue that the extension of the antitrust immunity for oil companies participating in a worldwide International Energy Agency (IEA) emergency oil sharing agreement is critical for stable world oil markets in an emergency. He is right, but you have asked for such an extension in free-standing legislation and there is no reason why it needs to be tied to this standby control legislation. The Administration has sent such legislation to the Hill already.

He will argue that federal preemption of separately mandated state emergency allocation or price control programs is essential to preserve order in the petroleum marketplace. He is right, at least in part, but such authority need not be accompanied by the other detrimental features of the legislation.

Finally, he will argue that he is backed by a large group of powerful special interests that support the bill. Once again he is right. But those same groups would do much better for their membership if they encouraged them to prepare for any emergency themselves, rather than leave it to the government to fix a problem if and when it occurs.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The President
The Vice President
Secretary James Edwards
Director OMB David Stockman
Senator Howard Baker
Senator James A. McClure

Staff

Edwin Meese
Kenneth Duberstein

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House Photographer only

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Senators Baker and McClure and Secretary Edwards will arrive thru the Northwest Gate into the West Lobby and be escorted into the Oval Office.

Attachment: Talking Points

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH
SENATOR HOWARD BAKER AND SENATOR JAMES MCCLURE

-- Tell the Senator that you have been told how hard he has worked on this bill and how sincerely he feels about this issue.

-- Tell him that experience in 1973 - 1974 and again in 1979 - 1980 with allocation and price controls was unsatisfactory to nearly everybody and the burden of proof should now rest with those who say that the Federal government will do a better job of distributing supplies in the marketplace.

-- Tell him that the Administration has consistently testified in opposition to the bill. We have made every effort to keep you aware of that position at all times. Because of your respect for the Senator and the important role of the Senate to this Administration, you particularly wanted to discuss this matter with him personally, prior to making your final decision.

-- Ask him to go through the reasons why he thinks you should sign and not veto the bill.

E

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 17, 1982

MEETING WITH CONGRESSMEN JIM BROYHILL (R-NC), CLARENCE "BUD" BROWN (R-OH), AND TOM CORCORAN (R-IL)

DATE: Thursday, March 18, 1982
LOCATION: The Oval Office
TIME: 4:45 P.M. (15 minutes)

FROM: Kenneth M. Duberstein Ken D.

I. PURPOSE

To allow the House Members to discuss with you their reasons for urging that you veto S. 1503--the Standby Petroleum Allocation Act of 1982, which has passed the Senate and House. S.1503 must be acted upon by midnight Saturday, March 20, 1982.

II. BACKGROUND

The Administration has consistently opposed enactment of any oil price and allocation program that would replace the Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act of 1973, which expired September 30, 1981.

The House Energy and Commerce Committee's Fossil and Synthetic Fuels Subcommittee began work on such legislation early in the 97th Congress. The primary sponsor of the House bill (H.R.4700) was Phil Sharp (D-IN), chairman of the subcommittee. The Administration maintained a "no bill" position throughout each phase of House (and Senate) consideration of the legislation. We did so based upon conclusions that:

- Your general energy policies have resulted in an improved domestic energy environment that did not exist in the 70's.
- Sufficient authority exists to enable the Administration to deal with emergency situations.
- A "clean" bill, one that would provide for simple, but explicit, allocation and price authority in one statute, could never be adopted in the face of special interest concerns and lobbying.

Congressman Broyhill (ranking on full committee), Brown (subcommittee ranking) and Corcoran (committee member who managed the bill on the floor) also believe that enactment of such legislation would cause a regulatory entity that the Administration is endeavoring to get rid of, to be rebuilt.

136 Members voted against H.R.4700, 144 voted against the conference report (S.1503). Messrs. Broyhill, Brown, and Corcoran feel that they did their best to advance the Administration's position and persistently refused to negotiate any compromise with proponents of such legislation. They believe that there are enough votes to sustain a veto and will recommend that you veto S.1503.

146 votes are required to sustain the veto if all 435 Members were present and voting. A veto is sustained by 1/3 + 1 votes of those Members present.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The President
The Vice President
Secretary James Edwards
David Stockman
Edwin Meese III
Congressman Jim Broyhill
Congressman Clarence "Bud" Brown
Congressman Tom Corcoran
Kenneth M. Duberstein

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House photographer only.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The Members will be brought into the Oval Office, the President will open with a few remarks and then ask for the Members to present their views.

Attachment: Talking Points

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH CONGRESSMEN JIM BROYHILL (R-NC), CLARENCE "BUD" BROWN (R-OH), AND TOM CORCORAN (R-IL)

-- As you know, I just met with Jim McClure and Howard Baker to receive their views on what to do with S.1503 and am glad now to discuss the matter with those of you who share my deep concern over the potential impact of this measure.

-- I appreciate your efforts all along to resist this legislation that we all agree is inconsistent with our general policies toward energy and counterproductive to carrying them through.

-- I'm sure you are aware of the heightened interest in the fate of this legislation--on both sides of the issue.

-- A veto will be our first key vote this year and so is particularly important in relation to those issues that follow in the not too distant future--debt limit and the budget.

-- Ask the Members if they wish to comment on the substance of the bill.

-- Will the House sustain a veto? If so, at what expense (if any) down the road?

-- I need your assurance that the House will sustain a veto.

F

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS
Reception for Republican Congressional
Leadership Council
March 18, 1982

FROM: Muffie Brandon Muffie Brandon

4:50 p.m.	Buses begin to arrive the SouthEast Gate and guests enter the Diplomatic Reception Room. They are led up to the State Floor by Social Aides via the Grand Staircase. There will be an open bar and hors d'oeuvres in the State Dining Room and the East Room.
5:20 p.m.	Social Aides should see that all guests enter the East Room; a cordon should be made for the PRESIDENT AND MRS. REAGAN to walk through when they arrive.
5:30 p.m.	THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. REAGAN arrive the State Floor via the elevator and are announced into the East Room. They proceed to the platform and THE PRESIDENT makes brief remarks. Following the remarks, the PRESIDENT AND MRS. REAGAN mix and mingle with the guests briefly, then exit the East Room to return to the Residence.
6:00 p.m.	All guests depart the Diplomatic Reception Room.

(Elliott/AB)
March 17, 1982
4:20 p.m.

RECEPTION: REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
MARCH 18, 1982

Thank you very much Guy, and Rich, too. Well, it's wonderful, finally, to welcome all of you here. I'm sorry to have kept you waiting so long. One thing I was always taught is never be late for a meeting -- especially when it's a meeting with your creditors.

But now we're together, and as that saying goes, if you're willing, we'd sure like to renew the contract for one more year. The contributions you are making, both financial and for the principles that unite us, have been key to the resurgence of our party. And believe me, the support our Administration has received from Rich De Vos, Guy Vander Jagt and the rest of our great team in the Congress has made all the difference.

Now many political experts point to history and say there is no way we can do well in the November elections. Well, with all due respect, I suggest they are forgetting something: We did not get this far by trying to repeat history; we got here by our determination to make history.

Great results have never been achieved without great effort. The challenge we accepted in 1981 was to turn around the legacy of years of Government blundering. How have we done? Well, if you listen to some of those people from the last Administration then you'll believe we haven't succeeded.

And you know, they do have a point. We haven't succeeded yet in eliminating the inflation problem they left us. In 4 years they more than doubled the inflation rate from 4.8 to 12.4 percent. It took us 12 months to cut it back to 8.9 percent -- give us another 12 months and we'll do better.

And we haven't ended the interest rate problem they left us. If you'll remember, interest rates soared from 6 3/4 percent in 1977 to a high of 21½ percent in 1980 -- the highest in more than a century. We got those rates back to around 16 percent -- and in the months ahead with cooperation from the Congress on spending, we're going to bring them down more.

And no, we haven't undone all the damage their tax increases did to the earnings and savings of our people. During those 4 years, we had the worst plunge in the savings rate since 1950. Our tax cut is just beginning, more incentives are coming, but already savings are up, which means more investment capital for jobs and growth.

This recession is a terrible tragedy for the unemployed; but it was not caused by a recovery program which only began <u>after</u> the recession was already underway. It was caused by their runaway spending, taxes and money growth, which pushed inflation and interest rates to record levels. Recovery will come when those inflation, interest and tax rates drop, and this is not only what our program is designed to do, this is what our program has <u>begun</u> to do.

So have we repaired in one year all their damage of the last four? No way. Have we made a solid beginning? Yes we have. And are we on the right track? You bet we are.

Last year's drop in inflation means that an American family of four earning the median income of about $24,000 had $754 more in purchasing power than if inflation had not come down.

You know I had the pleasure of appearing before a Senate comittee once while I was still Governor of California. And I was challenged because there was a Republican President in the White House who'd been there for several months. Why hadn't we corrected everything that had gone wrong before someone asked. The only way I could think to answer was to tell him about a ranch that Nancy and I had acquired. It had a barn with eight stalls where they had kept cattle, and we wanted to keep horses. So I was in there day after day with a pitch fork and shovel, lowering the level of those stalls, which had accumulated over the years. And I told the Senator who had asked that question that you did not undo in weeks or months what it had taken years to accumulate -- and it's no different for the mess we're trying to clean up today.

Nearly two decades ago, President John F. Kennedy said: "The most urgent task facing our Nation at home today is to end the tragic waste of unemployment and unused resources . . . it has become increasingly clear . . . that the largest single barrier to full employment of our manpower and resources, and to a higher rate of economic growth is the unrealistically heavy drag of Federal income taxes on private purchasing power, initiative and incentive. . ."

". . . Reducing taxes," he said, "is the best way open to us to increase revenues." Like today, many insisted that argument was wrong -- that reducing tax rates would increase the deficit. History proves Kennedy was right and that the only sound economic policy for America is an expression of faith in her people.

It is sad that many Democrats turned their backs on this common-sense policy of JFK's which succeeded so brilliantly. I hope we'll never make that same mistake. We must save, we must invest and we must grow. And we'll do that if we trust the people and stand by our economic program that was tailor-made to help them.

You know, one other issue that is a media favorite is the fairness of our program. Well, I welcome a fairness debate. It's time we challenged the great myth that all compassion begins and ends at Washington's Wailing Wall for Big Government.

Yes, we must always provide essential services for needy Americans who cannot help themselves. But what about all the forgotten Americans who struggle to get ahead, only to be hit with higher taxes and inflation year after year -- don't they deserve a little compassion too?

We have an honest definition of fairness: fairness is going to the mat for a 25-percent tax-rate reduction, indexing of tax rates, and strong new incentives for retirement savings -- the best darn program for working and middle-income Americans since John Kennedy's tax cut nearly 20 years ago. Fairness is saying you don't raise taxes on American workers who took cuts in their paychecks to keep their jobs. Fairness is insisting that when business gets its tax cut, you don't turn around and take the people's tax cut away.

Let the other side talk about trickle-down economics. We know what that really means. Trickle-down economics is when Main Street America sends a flood of tax dollars to Washington, then has to cross its fingers and hope a little rebate might trickle back in an election year. From now on, more of what the people earn stays with them. We're going to start creating wealth in America again. So yes, we'll be more than glad to talk about fairness this year.

We have one other message for the people. We're not willing to entrust America's security to a bargain-basement military. It wasn't long ago that we had fighter planes and helicopters that couldn't fly for lack of spare parts, navy ships that couldn't leave port, and a rapid deployment force that was neither rapid, nor deployable, nor much of a force. For the sake of our children and their children, I have considered it my duty as President, and all of our duties as citizens, to make sure America is strong enough to remain free and at peace -- and I make no apologies for what we are doing to restore our security.

Let's keep our eye on the ball. We're trying to do for the American people what they've wanted and needed for a long time, and they'll support us if we hang tough. We've come this far together. Let's not stop now.

Thank you and God bless you.