THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE
Friday - February 23, 1979

# 7:00 HAIRCUT - The Residence.

7:30 Breakfast with Vice President Walter F. Mondale, (90 min.)
Secretary Harold Brown, Deputy Secretary Warren
M. Christopher, Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, and
Mr. Hamilton Jordan - The Cabinet Room.

9:00 Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski - The Oval Office.

9:30 Mr. Frank Moore - The Oval Office.

10:30 Mr. Jody Powell - The Oval Office.

11:50 White House Luncheon for Honorees of the National
Caucus on the Black Aged (National Black History
Month) - The State Floor.

1:30 Meeting with Representatives of Solar Groups. (Mr. Stuart Eizenstat) - The Cabinet Room. (15 min.)

2:15 Meeting with Secretary Joseph Califano. (Mr. Stuart Eizenstat) - The Oval Office. (30 min.)

3:15 Drop-By Baryshnikov Rehearsal Taping. The East Room. (15 min.)
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: EDWARD SANDERS

SUBJECT: Holocaust Commission

As you know, the first meeting of the Holocaust Commission was held on February 15. It was an all-day meeting and was most positive and affirmative. I have heard from several of the participants who were highly enthusiastic.

I was in attendance for practically the entire session, and can personally testify to the moving nature of the proceedings particularly the comments by the survivors. There were numerous expressions of appreciation to you for the creation of the Commission, and the historic importance of your recognition of the need to memorialize the Holocaust.

I might also add, as a personal note, that I was deeply moved by your meeting with Elie Wiesel. I felt the truly great ethical and moral significance of the moment.

I thought that you might be interested in Elie Wiesel's opening and closing remarks and I am attaching a copy of them to this memo.

ES:ss

Attachment
PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE HOLOCAUST

February 15, 1979

Opening and Closing Remarks

by

Elie Wiesel
Chairman
We have gathered here in this hall echoing with history—the Declaration of Independence has been hanging on these walls for hundreds of years—to try and find the proper ways of remembering now, and tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow, until the end of time, what it meant to live and to die in an era of darkness, in solitude and total anguish.

It is with a deep sense of duty, privilege, and humility that I accepted to serve as Chairman of this uniquely distinguished group of civic, religious, and political leaders.

Some of you I know are worthier than I, and most of you are surely more experienced in this kind of endeavor. With your help and cooperation, I hope we shall fulfill our task.

The problems facing us may seem insurmountable. We are supposed to remember and move others to remember. But how does one remember individually and collectively an event that was intended to erase memory?

By its scope and incommensurable magnitude, its sheer weight of numbers, by its mystery and silence, the Holocaust defies anything the human being can conceive of or aspire to.

All the documents, all the testimony, all the eye-witness accounts, all the history books notwithstanding, we know that we have not yet begun to tell the tale.
How does one reconcile—this is another question that we shall have to face—how does one reconcile the purely Jewish aspects of the tragedy with its inevitable universal connotations?

True, all Jews are victims; but not all victims were Jewish. How are they to be remembered? Specifically? Collectively? Individually? Personally? Through monuments? Education? Special liturgy? Ceremonies of remembrance?

We lack a reference point. We don't know what to do because of the uniqueness of the event. We cannot even go back into history and learn that this is what people used to do to commemorate such events, because there was no such event.

Also, whatever our purposes will be—and I hope they will be lofty and daring—we must remember at least this: that we must think boldly. Let the scope and magnitude of our endeavor not frighten us.

Whatever we do, let it strike the imagination of people everywhere, of all faiths, of all creeds, of all nationalities, of all nations, and perhaps of all centuries.

Let people know that our generation—probably the last that still has something to remember—does indeed remember. For whatever happened yesterday is already history, but is it history alone?

The men and women whose memory we try to evoke, their shadow is weighing upon the present. And this opens again for our consideration another question:
Can we hear of the desperate and despairing boat people and not recall in our minds the homeless, wandering refugees of the Holocaust era? Or can we remember about the statute-of-limitations debate in Germany and not see it in its timeless context of crimes and horrors never to be forgotten, never to be equalled?

We around this table represent a noble quest for memory and justice. We are all committed to truth. And though we come from different horizons, we shall respect one another's beliefs.

The Holocaust was possible because the enemy—the enemy of the Jewish people and of mankind, and it is always the same enemy—succeeded in dividing, in separating, in splitting the human society: nation against nation; Christian against Jew; young against old.

Well, we must not submit to such temptation now. We around this table must see to it that the memory of the Holocaust draws us all closer together.

Therefore, the survivors in our midst will have to bear with us if, due to the technicality of some of our proceedings, some of us will seem—I insist, "seem"—insensitive to their memories.

And the nonsurvivors in our midst will have to bear with us if at times, due to the personal interpretation some words have to us, we may seem too sensitive.

We are all entering this project together with a sense of history. This moment is solemn because it is linked to history, and because it tries to turn history into a moral endeavor.
Forgive me for introducing into this session a note of melancholy. While we are grateful to President Carter and his advisors for being so deeply concerned with the Holocaust now, I cannot but wonder what would have happened had the President of the United States then, and his advisors then, demonstrated the same concern.

If a Presidential Commission had been appointed in 1942 or 1943 to prevent the Holocaust, how many victims—Jews and non-Jews—would have been saved?

Well, they were forgotten while they were alive. They are dead now. Let us at least remember them and include their memory in our own.

We have gathered here because we remember, and we hope to move others to remember as well.

So, we have this unique occasion, and this unique group of people—scholars and statesmen, Rabbis and Priests, social activists and writers, Jews and Christians, believers and secularists. We are here not to indulge in politics, nor to dwell in other people's pain; we are here to maintain alive the memory of that pain which transcended the accepted categories of nationalities, religious and ethnic groups.

Not to do so, my friends, would deprive us of the right to preach sermons and teach classes and represent people in Congress, to write novels and create books of all types.

In other words, not to do so would deprive us of the right to speak on behalf of universal conscience, for conscience cannot but be universal.
For some of us, this moment is both solemn and shatteringl
paignant. As we were being sworn-in in the White House, the
survivors in our midst—you have seen them—had tears, both visible
and invisible, in their eyes.

There was something—something in the atmosphere. We have
been entrusted with an awesome legacy, and we are being judged by
invisible friends, brothers, teachers, parents, and they are all
dead. And they all had but one wish: to be remembered.

As we begin our proceedings, we hear the Kaddish of a community
somewhere in the Ukraine, a community that did not live long enough
to complete the prayer.

We hear the whispers of thousands and thousands of human beings,
walking in nocturnal processions toward flames, wondering whether
the Messiah had come, a strange Messiah, the anti-Messiah.

We hear the battle orders of ghetto fighters. We hear the mute
laments of abandoned children. We hear "Bergen-Belsen." We hear
"Treblinka." And we hear "Chelmno." And we are seized by
"Maidanek."

We shiver because of Auschwitz, and we burn because of
Auschwitz. Unless we hear all these sounds and voices, my friends,
we must not speak.

Unless we remember in good faith and in sincerity in the very
depths of our being, we must not speak.
But speak we must.

For our generation is a privileged one. Children condemned never to grow old. Old men doomed never to die. A solitude engulfing entire people. A guilt tormenting all humanity. A despair that found a face but not a name. A memory cursed, yet refusing to pass on its curse and hate. An attempt to understand, perhaps even to forgive—that is our generation.

And therefore, my friends on the Commission and on the Board of Advisors, I hope it is with this sense of purpose and in this framework of flames that are still burning in our memories that our proceedings will begin.
The real discussion today, the substantive discussion, centered around the question: was the Holocaust a universal event, or solely a Jewish, and therefore unique, one? My answer: it was both. Because it was Jewish, it was universal. Its universality lies in its Jewishness, its uniqueness.

If we remember the uniqueness of every victim—the Jew because he/she was Jewish, the Christian because of his or her human compassion, or the political prisoner because he/she resisted Hitler—it is because there is something unique about all of them. The moment we give up our uniqueness, we yield the uniqueness of all the others. We don't do them any favor.

On the contrary. It is because we stress the uniqueness of the events that they stress their universality. After all, only the tale of what has been done to our people—and beyond it, to other peoples—can save all peoples.

If we are to remember the Holocaust, it is not only because of the dead; it's too late for them; nor only because of the survivors; it may be late for them. Our remembering is an act of generosity on our part; a generosity extended toward all the others. Our remembering aims at saving as many men and women as possible from apathy to evil, if not from evil itself. We wish to transform as many human beings
as possible. We hope to share with anyone willing to listen our awareness and conviction that when war unleashes its evil against one people, all are engulfed in the fire.

So thank you for your patience. Thank you for your wisdom, for your passion, and for your compassion. As a parting gift, allow me to share with you a poem by an old Israeli poet, Shin Shalom.

You know how deeply involved, how totally involved, I am—I think most of us are—with Israel. Thus it is only fitting to conclude with words coming from Israel.

The poem is about seven Hasidim caught in a whirlwind.

Threatened by the killers, they took a vow that whoever survived the tempest, whoever survived the murder, must go, go across oceans and mountains from the continent of desolation to the land of hope in Israel, and there he shall reach the house of the great Master, who with his disciples perpetuates the immortal doctrine of Jewish tradition of truth.

And when the last and only survivor will at last find himself or herself in the presence of the Master, he must gather all his strength, remember all the tales of all the pains, of all the woes, and shout, "Oy!"

One was saved. And he came to the Rebbe; it was Shabbat. He lifted his arms. He summoned his strength. He summoned his memories. And he opened his mouth, and he wanted to shout, "Oy!" But he remained soundless.

Well, I don't know what we have done today, but one thing I think we did achieve today—we all shouted, "Oy!"
February 23, 1979

MR. PRESIDENT:

SENATOR BYRD CALLED LAST NIGHT AFTER YOU HAD GONE TO BED.

HE WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO YOU BEFORE 9:30 THIS MORNING.

PHIL
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
2/23/79

Ev --

This memo was returned from the President about a week ago. However, CL and Stu's office have been clearing it since. Now it is ready to go out. I have sent copies to the Attorney General, Sec. Schlesinger, Sec. Andrus and Adm. Costle.


Patti
MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: FRANK MOORE
SUBJECT: Davis Power Plant

At your request, I had the attached memorandum prepared relating to yesterday's meeting on the Davis Power Plant. David Rubenstein has reviewed and approved the memorandum, and has obtained approval from Army and Justice.

If you sign the memorandum, we will also have copies delivered today to Senator Byrd, Senator Randolph and Congressman Staggers. I will ask Jack to inform Governor Rockefeller.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

SUBJECT: Alternatives to Davis Power Plant Project

As we discussed in a meeting on February 13, 1979, with Senators Byrd and Randolph and Congressman Staggers, I would like you to convene and direct the activities of a task force, comprising representatives from the Corps of Engineers, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency. I hope that it will be possible for the group to assess the need for an alternative to the Davis Power Plant project which would meet the needs for energy production, environmental protection, and economic development in West Virginia.

This interagency task force should involve the State of West Virginia, as appropriate, in its activities. The way in which you proceed with this effort should not jeopardize the Federal government's position in pending litigation. The Justice Department should, therefore, be consulted fully as your work progresses.

I would like you to report back to me on the progress of this task force.

Through this memorandum, I am also asking the concerned agency heads to lend their personal support to this interagency activity.

cc: Attorney General
    Secretary of Energy
    Secretary of Interior
    Administrator of EPA
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 22, 1979

LUNCHEON HONORING ELDERLY BLACKS

Friday, February 23, 1979
11:50 a.m.
Blue Room/State Dining

From: Louis Martin
Nelson Cruikshank

I. PURPOSE

In cooperation with the National Caucus on the Black Aged (Aaron Henry, Chairman), this affair is to honor seventeen elderly Blacks who have made significant contributions to the U.S. in art, education, medicine, business, politics, religion, etc.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS PLAN

A. Background: As part of its celebration of Black History month (February), you and Mrs. Carter are hosting a luncheon, organized by the National Caucus on the Black Aged (NCBA), to honor prominent elderly Blacks from various walks of life. Guests include heads of Black and elderly organizations.

B. Participants: Please see TAB A.

C. Press Plan: Press photo opportunity. Meeting to be announced.

III. TALKING POINTS

1. You are the cornerstone of our society. It is our privilege to have you as guests in the White House. By accepting the living legacy awards, you accept our thanks for your inspiration and outstanding contributions to American society.

2. Black Americans have made significant contributions and have achieved in all fields of endeavor in the American society. Yet, many live and die as unsung heroes. Yes, all too often we wait until our heroes have become a part of history before we honor them. We are about to correct this now.

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3. The National Caucus on the Black Aged, in sponsoring this living legacy awards program, is recognizing the talents, the achievements and the contributions of the Nation's Black elders.

4. This program is, in a real sense, a celebration of the lives of dedication and service of these recipients. These Black American leaders have become legends in their own time and are continuing to write the history of their own achievements while developing legacies for generations yet unborn.

5. These honored recipients are living testament to the strength and determination of the human spirit, for you have prevail over the most difficult obstacles imaginable to arrive at this point in your lives.

6. Also, you have proven that in a life of service, there is no such thing as retirement. Nor is age a factor when the ability is there and there are contributions to be made.

7. This is a singular occasion. I believe it is the first time that any President has recognized, in this historic house, the distinguished contributions of the Nation's older Black citizens. Thanks to you and your dedication, this country is far richer in the arts, the sciences, literature, labor, social services, education, business, sports and government.

8. It is appropriate that, during this Afro-American History Month, we highlight and recognize the achievements of these distinguished older Black Americans, who are continuing to leave their imprint in the civic and social fabric of this Nation.

9. We honor you for persevering, for achieving and for achieving with dignity. And, we especially take note that your accomplishments will serve as a model for generations of young Americans. We look forward to your continued contributions and success. You are a most valuable resource.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 22, 1979

TO: THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. CARTER
FROM: GRETCI\EN POSTON
SUBJECT: LUNCHEON FOR BLACK AGED - FEBRUARY 23

11:45 a.m. Award recipients to Blue Room
11:45 a.m. Guests arrive through Southwest Gate and
are escorted to seats in State Dining Room
11:50 a.m. PRESIDENT and MRS. CARTER arrive Blue Room
to greet recipients
PHOTO OPPORTUNITY
11:55 a.m. Recipients to State Dining Room to be seated
12:00 noon PRESIDENT and MRS. CARTER enter State Dining
Room and are escorted to seats
INVOCATION - Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr.
Lunch is served
12:20 p.m. PRESIDENT and MRS. CARTER circulate among tables
12:35 p.m. Press enters State Dining Room
12:40 p.m. Dr. Aaron Henry, Chairman, National Caucus on
Black Aged speaks on the history of the Black Aged
12:45 p.m. PRESIDENT acknowledges the Recipients. Each
Recipient stands as name is mentioned by President
Recipients are seated.
PRESIDENT REMARKS
1:00 p.m. PRESIDENT and MRS. CARTER depart State Dining Room
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 22, 1979

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PRESIDENT REMARKS
1:00 p.m. PRESIDENT and MRS. CARTER depart State Dining Room

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HONOREES

Ms. Margaret Walker Alexander  (Literature)*


Ms. Septima Poinsetta Clark  (Human Services)

Prominent educator, M.A. from Hampton Institute; taught in Charleston, S. C. schools; active in civil rights which resulted in losing her job and retirement pay. Active in Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Age: 81.

Dr. W. Montague Cobb  (Science and Health)

A medical doctor, medical educator, editor, Professor of Anatomy at Howard University Medical School. Native of Washington, D. C. Age: 75.

Reverend Dr. Gloster Current  (Continued Service in Retirement)


Mr. Malvin R. Goode  (Communications)

Prominent ABC news broadcaster, UN correspondent for ABC. Native of Virginia. Age: 71.

*(Note: Margaret Alexander has taken ill and will not be able to attend the meeting. Henry Aaron will be coordinator and first introduced.)
HONOREES - CONTINUED

The Honorable Augustus Hawkins (Politics)


The Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr. (Religion)

Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church (Atlanta, Georgia). Father of the late Martin Luther King, Jr. Founding member, Atlanta NAACP. Native of Georgia. Age: 80.

Ms. Dorothy Maynor (Performing Arts)

Concert singer from Norfolk, Virginia. Discovered by Serge Koussevitsky in 1939, sang in concerts for 25 years all over the world. On retirement, founded Harlem School of Arts to aid youngsters. Age: 69.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays (Education)

President emeritus of Morehouse College. Past President, United Negro College Fund. Native of South Carolina. Age: 84.

Mr. Jesse Owens (Sports)

HONOREES - CONTINUED

Mrs. Rosa Parks (Hobart C. Jackson Social Action Award)


Mr. A. Philip Randolph (Labor)

Organized Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in 1925. Vice President of AFL-CIO. Organized first march on Washington for civil rights (1941). Native of Florida. Age: 90. (Represented by BAYARD RUSTIN.)

Mr. Asa T. Spaulding (Business)


Dr. Robert C. Weaver (Government)

Economist, educator, public administrator. Former Secretary of HUD. Professor of Urban Affairs, Hunter College. Native of Washington, D. C. Age: 72.

Dr. Charles H. Wesley (Social Sciences)

Retired President, Central State University, Wilberforce, Ohio. Pastor, Presiding Elder, A.M.E. Church. Author of books on Black history. Native of Louisville, Kentucky. Age: 82.
HONOREES - CONTINUED

Mr. Roy Wilkins (Civil Rights)

Long-time Executive Director, NAACP. Prominent in civil rights activities. Native of St. Louis. Age: 78.

Mr. James Van DerZee (Fine Arts)

Zbig Brzezinski

The attached was returned in the President's outbox today and is forwarded to you for appropriate handling.

Rick Hutcheson

cc: Hamilton Jordan
    Tim Kraft
    Bob Linder
February 20, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH: HAMILTON JORDAN
FROM: DAVID AARON
SUBJECT: Ambassador Young's Attendance at Australian-American Week

The State Department has recommended that Andrew Young be designated as this year's special representative to the Australian-American Week and that the trip be designated a Presidential mission. I agree with both of these. If you don't have any objection, I will arrange to have an announcement along the lines of the one attached at Tab A made simultaneously in Canberra and Washington.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you designate Andrew Young as special representative to Australian-American Week.

Approve / Disapprove

That Young's trip be designated a Presidential mission.

Approve / Disapprove

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Draft White House Announcement

President Carter has named Ambassador Andrew Young to be his Special Representative at the Australian-American Week celebrations in Australia in early May. Ambassador Young was invited to be the guest of honor at these annual celebrations by the Australian-American Association. While there Ambassador Young will consult with the Government of Australia on international issues of importance to Australia and the United States. Ambassador Young will be accompanied by Mrs. Young. During his trip he will visit Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Lyle E. Gramley

Subject: Consumer Prices in January

Tomorrow (Friday, February 23) at 2:30 p. m., the Bureau of Labor Statistics will release the consumer price figures for January. The index for all items rose 0.9 percent, compared with 0.6 percent in December. This is clearly not good news, but the rise was less than we and others had feared.

Food prices were mainly responsible for the acceleration of the index between December and January; overall, food prices went up 1.4 percent. Meats and fruits and vegetables were the bad actors -- meats, poultry and fish rose 2.3 percent; fruits and vegetables increased 3.4 percent. Energy prices were also up sharply, by 1.4 percent, led by a 2.0 percent rise in gasoline prices. Medical care costs rose 1.1 percent.

Increases in consumer prices of commodities in January were somewhat smaller than their counterparts in the producers price index for January. Consumer food prices at wholesale rose 1.8 percent, compared with the 1.4 percent rise at retail. For consumer commodities other than food, the January rise was 1.2 percent at wholesale and .9 percent in the CPI. It appears, therefore, that past wholesale price increases have yet passed through fully to the consumer.
NAT CAUCUS ON BLACK AGED

Privilege - inspiration -
Unsung heroes - late recognition
Correct this mistake
Write history, legends in own time
Strength human spirit
Always challenge to excel
Extraordinary obstacles

First occasion like this in U.S.
You honor us - our nation
Living legacy
Model to others

Chairman Aaron Henry
Ms. Margaret Walker Alexander -- Literature
Prominent poet and novelist, born in Birmingham, Alabama.
Poetry includes "Prophets for a New Day", "October Journey".
Novels include "Jubilee" (Age -- 64) (is ill and will not attend; Hank Aaron will be introduced)

Ms. Septima Poinsetta Clark -- Human Services
Prominent educator, M.A. from Hampton Institute; taught in Charleston, S.C. schools;...active in civil rights which resulted in losing her job and retirement pay. Active in Southern Christian Leadership Conference. (Age: 81)

(over)
Dr. W. Montague Cobb -- Science and Health
A medical doctor, medical educator, editor, Professor of Anatomy at Howard University Medical School. Native of Washington, D.C. (Age -- 75)

Reverend Dr. Gloster Current -- Continued Service in Retirement
Bishop, New York Conference of United Methodist Church. Active in N.A.A.C.P. Native of Indianapolis. (Age 66)

(NEW CARD)

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Mr. Malvin R. Goode -- Communications

Prominent ABC news broadcaster, U.N. correspondent for ABC.
Native of Virginia  (Age 71)

The Honorable Augustus Hawkins -- Politics

Democratic Congressman from Los Angeles. Active in California politics until elected to Congress in 1962. Native of Louisiana. (Age 72)

(over)

Philip Randolph -- Labor Union

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THE REVEREND MARTIN LUTHER KING, SR. -- RELIGION

Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia.
Father of the late Martin Luther King, Jr. Founding member,
Atlanta N.A.A.C.P. Native of Georgia (Age 80)

Ms. Dorothy Maynor -- Performing Arts

Concert singer from Norfolk, Virginia. Discovered by Serge
Koussevitsky in 1939, sang in concerts for 25 years all over the world. On retirement, founded Harlem School of Arts to aid youngsters. (Age 69)
Dr. Benjamin E. Mays -- Education
President emeritus of Morehouse College. Past President, United Negro College Fund. Native of South Carolina. (Age 84)

Mr. Jesse Owens -- Sports
Former Olympic and collegiate track star. First athlete to win four gold medals in one Olympiad (Berlin, 1936). Native of Alabama. (Age 65)

(Over) Electrostatic Copy Made for Preservation Purposes
MRS. ROSA PARKS -- HOBART C. JACKSON SOCIAL ACTION AWARD

SPARKED MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA BUS BOYCOTT IN 1955. FORMERLY STATE SECRETARY, ALABAMA N.A.A.C.P. NATIVE OF ALABAMA. (AGE 66)

MR. A. PHILIP RANDOLPH -- LABOR

ORGANIZED BROTHERHOOD OF SLEEPING CAR PORTERS IN 1925. VICE PRESIDENT OF A.F.L.-C.I.O. ORGANIZED FIRST MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR CIVIL RIGHTS (1941). NATIVE OF FLORIDA. (AGE 90) (REPRESENTED BY BAYARD RUSTIN)

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(NEW CARD)
Mr. Asa T. Spaulding -- Business

President, North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. Servwd on Board of Trustees of Howard University. Native of North Carolina. (Age 75)

Dr. Robert C. Weaver -- Government

Economist, educator, public administrator. Former Secretary of HUD. Professor of Urban Affairs, Hunter College. Native of Washington, D.C. Age 72)

(over)
Dr. Charles H. Wesley -- Social Sciences

Retired President, Central State University, Wilberforce, Ohio. Pastor, Presiding Elder, A.M.E. Church. Author of books on Black History. Native of Louisville, Kentucky. (Age 82)

Mr. Roy Wilkins -- Civil Rights

Long-time Executive Director, N.A.A.C.P. Prominent in civil rights activities. Native of St. Louis. (Age 78)
Mr. James Van DerZee -- Fine Arts

Dean Emeritus of Black Photographers in America. Recorder on film of Afro-American life in Harlem. Received American Society of Magazine Photographers Award for "Harlem on My Mind" exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1969. Native of Massachusetts. (Age 93)

#   #   #

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 23, 1979

MEETING WITH SOLAR ADVOCATES AND SOLAR ENERGY INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 23, 1979
1:30 p.m. (15 minutes)
The Cabinet Room

From: Stu Eizenstat

I. PURPOSE

To discuss various proposals for accelerating the use of solar energy technologies prior to forwarding an Administration solar message to Congress.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background: A substantial and active outside coalition, known as the Solar Lobby, has formed to advocate increased use of various solar and renewable energy technologies. The Solar Lobby organized Sun Day last May 3. Industries with active solar programs have joined together in a Solar Energy Industry trade association (SEIA). Representatives of these two groups will attend the meeting. While the interests and recommendations of these groups differ on specifics, both advocate substantially increased Federal government activity in the solar area. (Solar is generally defined to include direct sunlight for heating, cooling, and electricity production (photovoltaics), wind, biomass, low-head hydropower, and use of ocean thermal gradients.)

The Solar Lobby recently issued its "Blueprint" for 25% solar energy use by 2000.

Major Federal programs recommended are:

- Solar Bank for subsidized loans to solar manufacturers and users
• expanded tax credits for industry, home builders, and owners and lessors of solar systems

• mandatory use of solar in Federal buildings, Federal Power Marketing Agencies, and use of biomass fuels (e.g., gasahol) in Federal vehicles

• $30 billion for Federal solar R&D over the next ten years

• creation of White House-level Solar Policy Council to monitor and coordinate the Federal program

SEIA recommends a somewhat more limited program, but advocates increased budget emphasis on commercialization. They urge Federal funding of a major advertising campaign to promote use of solar.

In your May 3 Sun Day speech in Colorado you announced creation of a Solar Domestic Policy Review, chaired by DOE and covering numerous Federal agencies. Originally scheduled for completion in September, the Response Memorandum was forwarded to us for review late last year.

The major issues raised by the DPR which will require your decision are:

• the desirability of setting a quantitative national goal for solar use

• the level of future Federal expenditures to commit for solar acceleration (NOTE: the FY 1980 budget did use DPR results and has substantially increased over FY 1979. We view the FY 1980 budget as essentially fixed and not subject to change as a result of your decisions)

• which specific program initiatives (such as a solar bank and additional tax credits) to propose
III.

1. I appreciate your interest in working with the Administration to develop, for the first time, a nationwide program to accelerate the use and availability of solar and renewable energy resources. The overall energy problem is a serious challenge to our nation, and I want to make sure that solar is a significant contributor to its resolution.

2. As I said on Sun Day, I recognize the benefits which these technologies hold for us in creating jobs here at home, protecting environmental quality, increasing our national security, and helping to abate the inflationary effects of rising prices for non-renewable fuels.

3. Under my Administration we are taking solid steps to permit solar to meet our energy needs. My FY 1980 budget, calling for $845 million in Federal spending governmentwide represents a 17% increase over 1979 -- and a dramatic increase over the levels in effect when I took office. We have sharply increased our R&D efforts in this area, while at the same time providing for a strong commercialization program.
4. I am personally interested and committed in seeing us, as a government, do the maximum possible within our means to chart the best course towards increasing reliance on solar energy. But I should also say that I do not see the Federal government as the sole motivator. Since much will depend on the efforts of the industry, State and local governments, and our nation's consumers, our dedication cannot and should not be measured in strictly budgetary terms. I am anxious to hear from you how, together, we should be applying our resources towards this end. I expect to be sending a solar message to the Congress within the next few weeks, and I want to have the benefit of your views.
TAB A: PARTICIPANTS

1. Denis Hayes, Chairman of the Solar Lobby, Worldwatch Institute
2. Jonathan Gibson, Sierra Club
3. Grant Thompson, Conservation Foundation
4. Ronald Brown, Urban League
5. Lola Redford, Consumer Action Now
6. Rick Katzenberg, Natural Power Inc.
7. Fred Branfman, California Public Policy Center
8. Ed Carlough, President, Sheet Metal Workers Union
   (assuming his plane gets here)
11. Brian Pardo, Vice President, Solar Energy Industrial Association, American Solar King

White House Staff
Stu Eizenstat
Kitty Schirmer
Tom Lambrix
Anne Wexler
Esther Peterson
Eliot Cutler
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: STU EIZENSTAT

SUBJECT: National Health Plan

You are meeting with Secretary Califano, the V.P. and myself on February 23 to discuss national health insurance.

HEW and the EOP are now in general agreement that the Administration should submit first phase legislation consisting primarily of Medicaid/Medicare reform and enhanced catastrophic coverage. Secretary Califano feels that to protect ourselves against charges from the left that you have abandoned your commitment to a comprehensive plan, you should lay out, in your message, in general terms, your vision of what future phases would look like, while sending up legislation only on phase I. I agree with this approach. Only with a first phase plan, as opposed to a comprehensive bill, can we take the initiative away from Senator Long, who has introduced a catastrophic-only bill, and pass meaningful legislation in this Congress.

Senator Long is planning to hold hearings on his proposal in late March and mark up a bill before the April recess. Although Senator Long may be persuaded to delay action for a short while, it is clear that, if we are to influence the Finance Committee proceedings, we must develop an Administration proposal within the next month. Therefore, I recommend that you direct Secretary Califano to work closely with DPS, OMB and the other relevant agencies and to prepare a first phase options memorandum by March 16.

In order to meet this tight timetable, I believe that we must announce promptly that we have decided on a first phase approach -- with a description of what future phases would look like. Without such an announcement, we would not be free to consult broadly with Hill and other experts on the details of our first phase plan. Furthermore, the longer the
comprehensive versus first phase issue drags on the more indecisive the Administration appears. Therefore, I recommend that you direct Secretary Califano to announce by March 2 that you have decided to submit Phase 1 legislation, accompanied by a description of your approach to a comprehensive plan. This will give him another full week to consult.

I believe you should meet with Senator Kennedy and Labor before Secretary Califano announces that we have decided upon a first phase approach. Although Kennedy and Labor continue to oppose a first phase approach, they acknowledge that first phase legislation is probably the sole alternative to Senator Long's catastrophic-only bill.

Kennedy's staff, in a significant potential concession, has suggested the following scenario:

A. Kennedy and the Administration reach agreement on a comprehensive plan.

B. The Administration submits only a first phase of that plan.

C. Kennedy states that he would have preferred comprehensive legislation but that he agrees with the substance of the first phase. In essence, Kennedy would mute his criticism of the Administration's failure to submit comprehensive legislation.

The problem with this scenario is that it is uncertain whether the Administration and Kennedy/Labor could ever reach agreement on either a comprehensive plan (we have not yet seen a draft of their plan) or an appropriate first phase plan. It is important for us to pursue potential detente with Senator Kennedy along these lines, but it is essential that this not delay development and submission of the Administration bill - or Senator Long will move forward in the interim.

It is also important for you to meet with Senator Long, whose committee has jurisdiction.
I'm worried that the continuous delays in developing the first phase of our National Health Plan may place the Administration on the defensive in the debate on improved health coverage for the American people. Two weeks ago, Senator Long introduced two health insurance bills with strong bi-partisan support. Both bills contain catastrophic health insurance provisions; the broader proposal also contains an expensive Federalization of Medicaid. Senator Long's preliminary estimates of the cost of these bills, when fully implemented, are $7 billion and $20 billion respectively. His statement was very supportive of your judgment not to propose comprehensive legislation, but he noted that Congress is likely to pass something very close to one of his proposals, probably closer to the narrower bill.

Senator Long intends to hold hearings on these bills in late March, with mark-up before April recess. By contrast, Secretary Califano's consultations on the tentative plan are in their fifth week and development of HEW Phase I options has not been completed. This pace could prevent us from developing a fully staffed-out Administration position in time for testimony and mark-up.

We believe that the Administration can design a bill (providing protection against catastrophic health expenses for all and improved health coverage for the aged and poor) with less Federal involvement and with costs near Long's catastrophic-only proposal (less than $10 billion). However, until the explicit decisions on the scope of our proposal are made, it is difficult to discuss our position publicly.

I recommend that you direct the Domestic Policy Staff to prepare, within two weeks, a decision memorandum outlining the parameters of such a limited approach. This would ensure that our negotiations with Senator Long and other interested parties on the details of our legislative proposal would be guided by your specific instructions.
Once the parameters have been set, I recommend that you make a public statement of your decision to propose only limited legislation as soon as possible. While this decision could be presented as the first step towards a broader National Health Plan, it would end confused public speculation on HEW's tentative plan and allow EOP and HEW staff to complete the careful and thorough staff work that this complex issue requires.

If these steps are taken expeditiously, we will have regained the initiative in this area and, with Senator Long's support, should be able to enact these important reforms in the near future.