December 19, 1990

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES CICCONI

FROM: WILLIAM F. SITTMANN

SUBJECT: Talking Points for December 19 Meeting with Business Leaders

Attached are Talking Points prepared for the President’s remarks to Business Leaders on December 19.

Attachment
Tab A Talking Points
Tab B List of Attendees
POINTS TO BE MADE FOR REMARKS TO ASSOCIATION HEADS

--- I AM GLAD TO HAVE THE CHANCE TO MEET WITH YOU ALL THIS MORNING.

--- THE ASSOCIATIONS YOU REPRESENT IN TURN REPRESENT HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS.

--- UNFORTUNATELY, NOT ALL ARE REPUBLICANS. BUT ANY AMERICAN, BE HE OR SHE A REPUBLICAN, DEMOCRAT OR INDEPENDENT, OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT OUR POLICY IN THE GULF. THIS IS THE MESSAGE I WOULD LIKE YOU ALL TO TAKE BACK WITH YOU TODAY.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED


--- OUR POLICY IS TO BRING ABOUT IRAQ'S TOTAL AND UNCONDITIONAL WITHDRAWAL FROM KUWAIT. OUR PATIENCE MUST NECESSARILY BE LIMITED. WITH EACH DAY, SADDAM HUSSEIN'S SOLDIERS BRUTALIZE KUWAIT, HIS POLICIES RESULT IN HIGHER OIL PRICES THAT THREATEN THE HEALTH OF NEW DEMOCRACIES, HIS GENERALS AMASS EVER-GROWING FORCES ARMED WITH THE WEAPONS OF GREAT POTENTIAL DESTRUCTION.

UNCLASSIFIED
WE ARE NOT ALONE IN FEELING THIS SENSE OF URGENCY AND DETERMINATION. WE HAVE THE BACKING OF THE UN AND NO LESS THAN 12 SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS. WE HAVE THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF NO LESS THAN 28 OTHER COUNTRIES. AND STILL OTHER COUNTRIES ARE SUPPORTING US FINANCIALLY.

NONE OF US HAS ANY DESIRE FOR WAR. WE'RE DOING ALL WE CAN TO PRESERVE THE PEACE. BUT WE MUST PRESERVE OUR PRINCIPLES TOO. WE EITHER STAND UP NOW FOR WHAT IS RIGHT, OR WE WILL HAVE TO FACE AN EVEN MORE COSTLY CHALLENGE IN THE FUTURE. AND IF WE HAVE TO FIGHT, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT WE WILL DO SO DECISIVELY.

TO UNDERLINE OUR INTEREST IN PEACE, I PROPOSED TO IRAQ THAT WE MEET DIRECTLY. SHOULD THESE MEETINGS OCCUR, IT WILL BE OUR PURPOSE TO ENSURE THAT SADDAM UNDERSTANDS WHAT IS REQUIRED OF HIM--AND WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES ARE IF HE CONTINUES TO STAND OUTSIDE THE LAW. UNFORTUNATELY, SADDAM APPEARS TO BE MORE INTERESTED IN MANIPULATING WORLD OPINION THAN IN DIPLOMACY.

THIS, THEN, IS MY BASIC MESSAGE. I CAN THINK OF NO BETTER WAY TO PRESERVE THE PEACE THAN TO SIGNAL SADDAM HUSSEIN AND THE IRAQI PEOPLE THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE UNITED AND RESOLUTE THAT THIS AGGRESSION WILL NOT BE REWARDED.
I hope I can count on all of you to get this word out to your members and to encourage understanding for what we are doing. In case there are questions, I will do my best to answer them.
Themes for President's Remarks to Association Heads

-- I am glad to have the chance to meet with you all this morning.

-- The associations you represent in turn represent hundreds of thousands of Americans.

-- Unfortunately, not all are Republicans. But any American, be he or she a Republican, Democrat or Independent, ought to be able to support our policy in the Gulf. This is the message I would like you all to take back with you today.

-- What is at stake--the security of the world's energy supplies, the economic health of this country and our key trading partners, common decency, the nature of the post-Cold War world--are not abstractions. They affect the lives of each and every one of us.

-- Our policy is to bring about Iraq's total and unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait. Our patience must necessarily be limited. With each day, Saddam Hussein's soldiers brutalize Kuwait, his policies result in higher oil prices that threaten the health of new democracies, his generals amass ever-growing forces armed with the weapons of great potential destruction.

-- We are not alone in feeling this sense of urgency and determination. We have the backing of the UN and no less than 12 Security Council Resolutions. We have the involvement of the armed forces of no less than 28 other countries. And still other countries are supporting us
financially.

-- None of us has any desire for war. We're doing all we can to preserve the peace. But we must preserve our principles too. We either stand up now for what is right, or we will have to face an even more costly challenge in the future. And if we have to fight, I can assure you that we will do so decisively.

-- To underline our interest in peace, I proposed to Iraq that we meet directly. Should these meetings occur, it will be our purpose to ensure that Saddam understands what is required of him--and what the consequences are if he continues to stand outside the law. Unfortunately, Saddam appears to be more interested in manipulating world opinion than in diplomacy.

-- This, then, is my basic message. I can think of no better way to preserve the peace than to signal Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi people that the American people are united and resolute that this aggression will not be rewarded.

-- I hope I can count on all of you to get this word out to your members and to encourage understanding for what we are doing. In case there are questions, I will do my best to answer them.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ATTENDEES FOR ASSOCIATION DESERT SHIELD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1990; 10:00 A.M., THE ROOSEVELT ROOM

Abenante, Paul, President
American Bakers Assoc.
296-5800

Ball, William, President
National Soft Drink Assoc.
463-0356

Baly, Michael, President
American Gas Association
703-841-8612

Beatty, Bert, Exec. Vice President
Associated General Contractors
393-2040

Black, Judy, Vice President
International Council of Shopping Centers
703-549-7404

Block, John R., President
National Assoc. of Wholesale Grocers
703-532-9400

Cavaney, Red, President
American Paper Institute, Inc.
212-340-0676

Colton, Kent, Exec. Vice President
National Assoc. of Home Builders
822-0200

DeFries, Gene, President
Marine Engineers Beneficial Association
638-2405

Driesler, Steve, Senior Vice President
National Association of Realtors
383-1238

Fritts, Edward, President
National Assoc. of Broadcasters
429-5300

Fuqua, Don, President
Aerospzce Industries Assoc.
371-8400
Gable, Wayne, President
Citizens for a Sound Economy
488-8200

Galles, John, Executive Vice President
National Small Business United
293-8830

Gerard, Joe, President
American Furniture Manufacturers Assoc.
466-7362

Gorman, Mark, Senior Director, Gov't Affairs
National Restaurant Association
331-5900

Hawkins, Charlie, Vice President
Associated Builders and Contractors
637-8800

Jasinowski, Jerry, President
National Association of Manufacturers
637-3105

Lesher, Dick, President
Chamber of Commerce
463-5300

Sam Maury, Executive Director
The Business Roundtable
872-1260

McKevitt, James D., President
McKevitt Group
822-0604

Motley, John, Vice President
National Federation of Ind. Business
554-9000

O'Neil, Joe, President
National Retail Federation
783-7971

Parker, David, President
Aluminum Association
862-5196

Rogstad, Barry, President
American Business Conference
822-9300
Ruane, Peter, President
ARTBA
488-2722

Satagaj, John, President
Small Business Legislative Council
639-8500

Valis, Wayne, President
Valis Associates
833-5055

Van Dongen, Dirk, President
NAWD
872-0885
# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet
## (George Bush Library)

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| 01. Memo              | Case Number 205191
From Richard Haass to Brent Scowcroft
Re: Talking Points for December 19 Remarks to Business Leaders (1 pp.) | 12/19/90 | P-5 | |

### Collection:

- **Record Group:** Bush Presidential Records
- **Office:** Records Management, White House Office of (WHORM)
- **Series:** Subject File - General
- **Subseries:** Scanned
- **WHORM Cat.:** MC003
- **File Location:** 203675 to 206688CU

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### RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- (b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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- (b)(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- (b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- (b)(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
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- (b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

PRM. Removed as a personal record misfile.
Ken Hill
Bill Sittmann
Bob Gates
Brent Scowcroft
Bill Sittmann
Situation Room
West Wing Desk
NSC Secretariat

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A

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SYSTEM PRS NSC INT

DOCLOG 11182 A/O

A = Action  I = Information  D = Dispatch  R = Retain  N = No further Action

cc: VP Sununu Other

Should be seen by: (Date/Time)

COMMENTS

DISPATCH INSTRUCTIONS:

Eve Sec's Office Has Disbble
TO: CICCONI, J

FROM: SITTMANN

KEYWORDS: PERSIAN GULF
SAUDI ARABIA
KUWAIT
IRAQ

SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS FOR DEC 19 MTG W/ BUSINESS LEADERS

ACTION: SITTMANN APPROVED RECOM
DUE DATE: 21 DEC 90
STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: HAASS

FILES: WH
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