

TALKING POINTS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY
SECRETARY ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE
RECEPTION TO WELCOME SUMMER INTERNS
WASHINGTON, D.C.
JUNE 6, 1985

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- * I AM SO HAPPY TO WELCOME YOU TO DOT FOR THE SUMMER.
 - * I KNOW YOU HAVE SO MUCH FRESHNESS AND ENTHUSIASM AND TALENT TO OFFER, AND WE ARE EXPECTING IT OF YOU.
 - * FOR SOME OF YOU, AT LEAST, I WOULD SUPPOSE THIS IS YOUR FIRST EXPOSURE TO WORK IN PUBLIC SERVICE.
 - * THIS IS A TIME TO GIVE SERIOUS THOUGHT TO THE KINDS OF THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE TO ACCOMPLISH OVER THE LONG HAUL -- TO MAKE SOME CHOICES NOW THAT WILL ENABLE YOU TO BE OF LONG-RUN SERVICE IN WHATEVER AREAS YOU CHOOSE. IN OTHER WORDS, TO THE EXTENT THAT YOU CAN DECIDE NOW THAT YOU WANT TO MAKE SOCIETY BETTER OFF IN SOME SPECIFIC WAY DURING THE COURSE OF LIFE, THE LIKELIHOOD OF HAVING THAT EFFECT WILL BE SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED.
 - * AS YOU BECOME MORE AND MORE INVOLVED IN PUBLIC SERVICE, REACH

POINT WHERE DON'T HAVE TO LOOK FOR WORTHY CAUSES. THEY FIND YOU. MUST THEN SET PRIORITIES. WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT, MORE DESERVING.

* YOU MAY BE LOOKING RIGHT NOW OUTSIDE THE ARENA. I URGE YOU TO CONSIDER MOVING INSIDE THE ARENA!

* AS I BEGAN MY CAREER IN THE MID-1960S, SOCIETY WAS BECOMING MORE AND MORE MASSIVE AND LESS PERSONAL. ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT REACTIONS, I BELIEVE, WAS THAT MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS OF AMERICANS BEGAN TURNING INWARD. DISCOURAGED ABOUT THE PROSPECTS OF CHANGING THE OUTSIDE WORLD, THEY TRIED TO BECOME MASTERS OF THEIR OWN INNER WORLDS.

* SOME SUGGEST THAT WE HAVE BEEN SUFFERING FROM TOO MUCH SELF-ABSORPTION AND TOO LITTLE INTEREST IN SELF-GOVERNMENT. WE SEEM TO

HAVE BEEN LIVING, AS WRITER TOM WOLFE HAS SAID, IN THE MIDST OF THE "ME DECADE."

* WE HAVE BECOME A MASS SOCIETY WITH MASSIVE, OVERPOWERING INSTITUTIONS -- BIG BUSINESS, BIG LABOR, BIG GOVERNMENT, MASS MEDIA -- AND THOSE INSTITUTIONS LEFT THE INDIVIDUAL FEELING LESS AND LESS SIGNIFICANT. THE SENSE THAT ONE MAN OR WOMAN CAN MAKE A LARGE DIFFERENCE IN THE DESTINY OF A NATION OR EVEN OF A NEIGHBORHOOD HAS GRADUALLY ERODED.

* PART OF MY VISION IS TO FIND WAYS TO DEAL WITH THE POWERS OF GOVERNMENT ON A MORE HUMAN SCALE. TO COMBAT APATHY, GOVERNMENT MUST BE MADE TO BE A PARTNER WITH THE PEOPLE AND NOT MASTER OF THE PEOPLE. THE INDIVIDUAL MUST UNDERSTAND THAT HIS VOICE DOES MAKE A

DIFFERENCE AND THAT THERE ARE THOSE IN GOVERNMENT WHO ARE LISTENING AND WHO CARE ABOUT HIS INDIVIDUAL PROBLEMS.

* AS INTERNS HERE AT DOT, YOU HAVE TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. TRANSPORTATION IS AN \$800 BILLION INDUSTRY -- ABOUT A QUARTER OF THE GNP -- AND WE AT DOT HAVE IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR OVERSEEING TRANSPORTATION SAFETY, WHILE WE ARE ALSO HELPING USHER IN A REFRESHING NEW ERA OF GREATER ECONOMIC FREEDOM FOR THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRIES. YOU WILL FIND HERE OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH ANSWERING CONSUMERS' TELEPHONE CALLS, ASSISTING IN THE PRODUCTION OF PRESS RELEASES TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE PUBLIC, HELPING POLICYMAKERS RESEARCH AND CONDUCT THEIR WORK.

* YOU CAN HELP BRING TO FULLER AND MORE ROBUST LIFE THE NEW

GENERATION OF PUBLIC-SPIRITEDNESS I SEE DEVELOPING -- THE "WE GENERATION."

* YOU WILL LEARN HERE THAT MODERN GOVERNMENT IS A TOUGH BUSINESS -- REQUIRES DIFFICULT DECISIONS AND CONSTANT COMPROMISES -- WORK TOWARD CONSENSUS -- TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CONCERNS, VIEWS OF MANY INTERESTED PARTIES.

* SURE, WE HAVE PROBLEMS IN THIS COUNTRY. BUT AS BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ONCE SAID, "THE MOST IMPORTANT TASK WE ARE UNDERTAKING AS A NATION IS TO SOLVE THE MAGNIFICENT CHALLENGE OF BEING A FREE PEOPLE."

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