

TALKING POINTS PREPARED FOR  
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE  
WITH WILLARD SCOTT ON THE TODAY SHOW  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
JUNE 7, 1985

- \* I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS MORNING, WILLARD.
- \* YOU KNOW, THEY SAY NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE SUCCESS AND THAT'S WHY I'VE COME TO DESIGNATE YOU AS THE HONORARY CHAIRMAN OF OUR SUMMER SAFETY BELT CAMPAIGN FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW.
- \* IT IS A PLEASURE TO PRESENT YOU WITH THIS PLAQUE ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU AGAIN TO REDUCE FATALITIES AND TO PREVENT A LOT OF SERIOUS, DISABLING INJURIES.
- \* YOU ARE FOCUSING ON SAFETY TODAY, BUT YOU REALLY DO ALL YOU CAN TO PROMOTE SAFETY ALL YEAR LONG. I THINK THAT'S BECAUSE YOU CARE SO MUCH ABOUT PEOPLE.
- \* ONE OF YOUR FAVORITE THINGS TO DO ON THIS SHOW IS TO ANNOUNCE THE BIRTHDAYS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE REACHED THE AGE OF 100 OR OLDER.



AT THE RATE YOU'RE HELPING US WITH THIS CAMPAIGN, I PREDICT YOU'LL HAVE A LOT MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS TO MAKE IN THE FUTURE!

\* I'VE ENJOYED WATCHING YOUR SAFETY BELT MESSAGES DURING THE YEAR AND I KNOW IN TALKING TO PEOPLE AROUND THE COUNTRY, MANY HAVE MENTIONED THAT HEARING WILLARD TALK ABOUT SAFETY BELTS MADE THEM BUCKLE UP.

\* NEW YORK, HOME OF THE "TODAY" SHOW, WAS THE FIRST STATE IN THE NATION TO PASS A MANDATORY SAFETY BELT LAW AND SINCE THAT LAW TOOK EFFECT, TRAFFIC FATALITIES IN THAT STATE HAVE DECLINED BY 27 PERCENT. THAT MEANS THERE ARE 65 PEOPLE IN NEW YORK ALIVE TODAY BECAUSE OF THAT ONE LAW.

\* TWELVE OTHER STATES HAVE JOINED NEW YORK IN PASSING MANDATORY SAFETY BELT USE LAWS OR HAVE BILLS AWAITING THE GOVERNORS'

SIGNATURES -- INCLUDING MY OWN HOME STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, I'M PROUD TO SAY -- AND THE MOMENTUM IS GROWING.

\* ACCORDING TO A RECENT GALLUP POLL, 40 PERCENT OF ADULTS REPORTED THEY WORE SAFETY BELTS THE LAST TIME THEY RODE IN A CAR. WHEN THEY ASKED THAT SAME QUESTION JUST A YEAR AGO, ONLY 25 PERCENT SAID THEY BUCKLED UP.

\* SO WE'RE MAKING TREMENDOUS PROGRESS AND A MAJOR REASON IS THAT WE'VE BEEN GETTING A LOT OF HELP.

\* SUGAR RAY LEONARD RECENTLY VISITED THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN WASHINGTON AFTER HE WAS INVOLVED IN A SERIOUS CAR ACCIDENT. LUCKILY, HE WAS WEARING HIS SAFETY BELT. SUGAR RAY THINKS THE BELT MAY WELL HAVE SAVED HIS LIFE.

\* BARBARA MANDRELL CREDITS SAFETY BELTS WITH SAVING HER LIFE AND THE LIVES OF HER CHILDREN IN A HEAD-ON CRASH -- AT A COMBINED SPEED OF ALMOST 100 MILES AN HOUR -- IN TENNESSEE LAST AUGUST.

\* WILLARD, WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR HELP ON OUR SAFETY BELT CAMPAIGN THIS SUMMER TO GET OUR MESSAGE OUT TO BUCKLE UP. HUNDREDS OF COMMUNITY SAFETY BELT PROGRAMS ARE GOING ON AROUND THE COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH THOSE PROGRAMS APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT.

\* AS WE MOVE INTO OUR VACATION PERIOD A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE GOING TO BE INTERESTED IN THE NATIONAL FORECAST AND THEY'LL BE LISTENING TO WILLARD TELLING THEM TO BUCKLE UP IN ALL WEATHER CONDITIONS.

\* THE IMPORTANCE OF BUCKLING UP JUST CANNOT BE STRESSED TOO OFTEN. AND THROUGHOUT THIS CAMPAIGN, WILLARD, YOU WILL MAKE A REAL

DIFFERENCE IN SAVING LIVES AS YOU TALK ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SAFETY BELT.

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