

TALKING POINTS PREPARED FOR
 SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE
 AT THE FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR DONALD DERMAN
 SEPTEMBER 5, 1985

* Within the past few months two of the Administration's most important budget directors have resigned and are leaving government. One headed up OMB. The other is our own Budget Chief, Don Derman.

* Along with most of the Department's current management officials and distinguished alumni, I'm very happy to see that Don's wife, Connie and daughter, Cheryl, were able to join us here to give Don a proper send-off.

For a number of us this is truly a special--if not a little difficult--occasion. A joyful one in that Don is completing a distinguished government career spanning more than 30 years as he begins what I am sure will be an equally distinguished career in the private sector. And we wish you all the best, Don.

* But we are a little sad, too, in that we are going to feel a keen sense of loss, both professionally and personally.

* Don rose to the highest career levels in government before his 1981 appointment by President Reagan as Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs.

* Since then he has been responsible at any one time for three separate fiscal year budgets.

* This becomes even more impressive when you consider that last year the Department's budget totaled almost \$29 billion, affecting over 100,000 employees and determining the country's transportation agenda.

* Don, I've come to appreciate your integrity, your insider's knowledge, as well as your innate ability to not only incorporate the Administration's policies in the budget, but also to develop a harmony between offices and agencies during the process.

* It's been very comforting having you as a right hand, helping me field all those Q's and A's during budget hearings.

* I think, too, that you handled that snowstorm of briefing papers pretty well, except the time you slipped me the note during one Congressional hearing saying, "Let's skip this joint."

* Although we can't continue to keep you chained to your desk, I do appreciate that you've agreed to consult with us in the future.

* Don, you exemplify all that is best in a public servant and I am confident that you will be equally successful in private enterprise. You have all our blessings and best wishes.