

[9/12/79-Not Submitted-DF]

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DF
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~~Summary~~

4023

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 12, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR ROSALYNN CARTER

FROM: SARAH WEDDINGTON

RE: BRIEFING ON MID-DECADE CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

Seven hundred women today attended a briefing on U.S. preparations for the 1980 Mid-Decade Conference on Women sponsored by the State Department.

At the briefing, we announced that a separate secretariat was being formed to handle U.S. preparations. Vivian Derryck was named the Director of the Secretariat. She is a Black woman with extensive experience in women and development issues, among other work.

The mood of those attending is difficult to summarize. There was hostility that only a small delegation would be named (we estimate 20), and that a portion of them would be government employees. There was appreciation for the fact that we are beginning preparations 7 months earlier than was done for the 1975 conference, that the meeting was held, and that we are seeking their involvement. There was hostility that the U.N. has announced that Copenhagen is unlikely to provide space for a Tribunal, as was done in Mexico City.

It is obvious that this is a conference that many women will be focusing on and that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to meet their hopes and expectations. However, the beginning preparations have begun well.

cc: President Carter FYI ✓
Judy Carter

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Hold
Revision to
arrive Monday
~~per Bill~~ 9/17 per Bill.
M.

Done
DF

Sp7th

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

9/17

Reflects work of C&E - where P
can do unique things in environ area

- does not want decision -
set direction - not specifics

Sp7th gave P "negative pub rpt" in
recent mtg - then a positive side
to what can be done.

Also, new agency had - trying to
build relationship w/P. Other
mtg went well w/ detailed info.

Timing is important re this issue
for general decision making.

=> Will work to knock out => 1pg
of memo + send in new one -
= MONDAY.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

9/12

No reason to go to
President. Call back
& tell Spivey to work
w/ Sr Staff 1st - and
Then, if necessary,
involve the President.

T. B. S.

John F. Kennedy

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FOR STAFFING
<input type="checkbox"/>	FOR INFORMATION
<input type="checkbox"/>	FROM PRESIDENT'S OUTBOX
<input type="checkbox"/>	LOG IN/TO PRESIDENT TODAY
<input type="checkbox"/>	IMMEDIATE TURNAROUND
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO DEADLINE
<input type="checkbox"/>	FOR APPROPRIATE HANDLING
<input type="checkbox"/>	LAST DAY FOR ACTION

<input type="checkbox"/>	ADMIN CONFID
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONFIDENTIAL
<input type="checkbox"/>	SECRET
<input type="checkbox"/>	EYES ONLY

ACTION
FYI

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VICE PRESIDENT
<input type="checkbox"/>	JORDAN
<input type="checkbox"/>	CUTLER
<input type="checkbox"/>	DONOVAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EIZENSTAT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCDONALD
<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	POWELL
<input type="checkbox"/>	WATSON
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WEDDINGTON
<input type="checkbox"/>	WEXLER
<input type="checkbox"/>	BRZEZINSKI
<input type="checkbox"/>	MCINTYRE
<input type="checkbox"/>	SCHULTZE
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ANDRUS
<input type="checkbox"/>	ASKEW
<input type="checkbox"/>	BERGLAND
<input type="checkbox"/>	BROWN
<input type="checkbox"/>	CIVILETTI
<input type="checkbox"/>	DUNCAN
<input type="checkbox"/>	GOLDSCHMIDT
<input type="checkbox"/>	HARRIS
<input type="checkbox"/>	KREPS
<input type="checkbox"/>	LANDRIEU
<input type="checkbox"/>	MARSHALL

<input type="checkbox"/>	MILLER
<input type="checkbox"/>	VANCE
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	BUTLER
<input type="checkbox"/>	CAMPBELL
<input type="checkbox"/>	H. CARTER
<input type="checkbox"/>	CLOUGH
<input type="checkbox"/>	CRUIKSHANK
<input type="checkbox"/>	FIRST LADY
<input type="checkbox"/>	FRANCIS
<input type="checkbox"/>	HARDEN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HERTZBERG
<input type="checkbox"/>	HUTCHESON
<input type="checkbox"/>	KAHN
<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDER
<input type="checkbox"/>	MARTIN
<input type="checkbox"/>	MILLER
<input type="checkbox"/>	MOE
<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSON
<input type="checkbox"/>	PRESS
<input type="checkbox"/>	SANDERS
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPETH
<input type="checkbox"/>	STRAUSS
<input type="checkbox"/>	TORRES
<input type="checkbox"/>	VOORDE
<input type="checkbox"/>	WISE

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
722 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

September 12, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Gus Speth

Gus Speth

SUBJECT: Environmental Policies of Longterm Significance

As we discussed at our recent meeting, I believe that some of your Administration's most notable and lasting contributions can be in the environmental area. Robert Cahn, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter, expressed a widely held view when he wrote in 1978 that "[Carter's] background and first two years as President indicate that he has the environmental ethic that could lead him to elevate the priority of the environment more effectively than any national leader since Theodore Roosevelt."

The historical moment for groundbreaking progress on some environmental issues occurred in the early 1970's, such as the control of air and water pollution and toxic substances. But there are at least five issues where the historical opportunity is yours. I believe that we should continue to build steadily towards a situation in which it can be said with justification that you:

- (1) preserved America's last great frontier -- Alaska -- for the benefit of all Americans;
- (2) protected the American countryside and coast from mismanagement and mounting pressures for overdevelopment;
- (3) put the nation on the path to a sustainable energy future -- one based principally on renewable resources and greater energy productivity;
- (4) redirected the management of the nation's water resources with an increased awareness of the necessity for water conservation and environmental protection; and
- (5) faced squarely the major global environmental problems such as food supply, nuclear non-proliferation, deforestation, desertification, CO₂ buildup, and acid rains.

In each of these five areas, you have already taken important steps. In the following paragraphs, I describe these themes in more detail and suggest ways for making the themes a more active and publicly visible part of your program.

Alaska

There is no question that your actions to protect the National Interest Alaskan Lands represent an historic achievement. Vigorous efforts to ensure Congressional enactment of Alaska legislation continue. Your proposals here have the backing of a coalition of over 50 national groups representing about 10 million people.

Protecting the Countryside and the Coast

Over the past decade the rural population growth rate exceeded the urban population growth rate for the first time since the industrial revolution. Since 1935, water and wind erosion have effectively destroyed about 100 million acres of potential cropland and decreased by half the topsoil on another 100 million acres. Thirty million acres of productive farmland have been lost to other uses over the past ten years. Widespread concern has also been voiced over the loss of family farms and over foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural land. Two-thirds of our barrier islands have been altered by man. It is estimated that 40 percent of our nation's wetlands have been altered or destroyed. These resources need to be protected from mismanagement and overdevelopment. Your experience as a farmer, a businessman, and a governor of a coastal state provides you with the perspective and understanding needed to address these critical problems.

Your second Environmental Message launched initiatives to confront these problems. Two studies initiated by the Message should provide a basis for strong policies to protect threatened farmland by January 1981. Your coastal protection initiatives declared 1980 the Year of the Coast and called for improvements in the Coastal Zone Management Act and other laws. And strong support was given to the federal/state/local partnership protecting the one million acre Pinelands National Reserve in New Jersey, enacted by Congress last year.

To underscore your commitment to protecting the countryside and the coast, you could take a number of actions over the coming months: visit Pinelands to highlight the importance of this novel, cooperative method of protecting "living landscapes;" participate in several Year of the Coast events to dramatize the importance of coastal protection; and comment on the continuing losses of productive agricultural lands while visiting farm states.

Sustainable Energy Future

Reliance on nonrenewable resources cannot be sustained indefinitely. Although it will take several decades to achieve, we need to commit ourselves to a sustainable energy future -- one relying largely on solar energy and energy conservation through increased energy productivity.

You have already taken several significant actions aimed at achieving this goal: declaring conservation to be the cornerstone of the National Energy Plan; establishing a goal of obtaining 20% of U.S. energy needs in 2000 from solar sources and calling in your Solar Message for a "national mobilization ... toward the time when our major sources of energy will be derived from the sun;" and proposing initiatives to implement these policies.

For the future, we need to strengthen the solar and conservation programs, particularly by using the Solar Task Force and the Energy Productivity Task Force of the Energy Coordinating Committee to monitor federal efforts and to develop new proposals. Congress is very active and innovative on these issues. Unless we remain active and quite visible in these areas, there is a risk that we will lose the initiative to the Hill and that our commitment to solar and conservation will be overshadowed by the size of the proposed synthetic fuels program.

In response, one specific idea that should be considered is a White House Conference focusing solely on increasing U.S. energy productivity. Such a conference would provide you with the opportunity to set out what we have already done, to call for new initiatives, and to stress the fundamental difference between the productivity and the curtailment routes to energy conservation. The public has tended to associate "energy conservation" with curtailment and inconvenience, rather than with increasing the productive efficiency of the energy we use. Another response is to broaden our oil import reduction program to include more support for conservation and solar. Suggestions to accomplish this were set out in my August 16 memorandum to you on our relationship with the environmental community. I will shortly provide Stu with a memorandum containing these and other ideas for strengthening our conservation program.

Water Resources

Your Water Policy Reform Message of June 1978 and the implementing actions now underway by 19 interagency task forces cover comprehensively what needs to be done in this area. However, your support for the significant policy changes you have achieved must be underscored and reaffirmed periodically in statements and speeches. As you know, Congress' decision to direct construction of Tellico Dam and to exempt it from any provision of federal law is highly symbolic. Many will consider your decision whether to veto the Energy and Water Appropriations bill as indicative of your continuing commitment to water resources reform. We will give you our advice by separate memorandum on whether the bill should be vetoed.

Global Environment

By 2000, world population is estimated to increase by 2.26 billion to 6.35 billion. Latin America is the only less developed area for which caloric consumption in 2000 will be above minimum requirements.

World forests are estimated to decline 20 percent by 2000. Forest losses have been a major cause of suffering for tens of millions of people and are a cause of CO₂ buildup. Fossil fuel combustion is probably the major cause of CO₂ buildup, which could cause significant climate changes, and is also a major cause of acid rain.

In January you promulgated an Executive Order requiring agencies for the first time to assess the environmental effects of their actions outside of the U.S. Your second Environmental Message launched initiatives to address the problems of world forest loss and acid rain. And, around the end of this year CEQ and State will publish a major study called for in your 1977 Environmental Message -- the Global 2000 Report -- that will document global environmental problems and indicate where remedial actions are needed. In addition, halting nuclear weapons proliferation has been a major theme of your Administration since the earliest months.

The opportunity to advance significantly your efforts in this area will occur during 1980 in developing new, important programs based on the Global 2000 study as well as other studies.

Conclusion

If you agree with this approach, I would like to work with other senior White House staff in making some or all of these themes a more active and visible part of your program. Regarding the 1980 campaign, my view is that the first three areas have the potential to be developed into broadly attractive campaign themes, but the last two (water resources and global issues), for different reasons, do not.