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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEETING WITH THE
COMMISSIONERS OF THE INDEPENDENT REGULATORY AGENCIES
Thursday, July 10, 1975
11:00 a.m.
The East Room
(90 minutes)

Thru: Jim Cannon 

From: Rod Hills

I. PURPOSE:

To discuss your regulatory reform program and enlist the support of the Commissioners in a joint effort to reform the procedures and policies of their regulatory agencies.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, AGENDA, AND PRESS PLAN:

A. Background:

You have stated on several occasions that you would meet with the Commissioners of the Independent Regulatory Agencies. On June 25th you met with Congressional representatives as a prelude to the meeting with the Commissioners.

This meeting provides an excellent forum to educate the public on the need for regulatory reform. You will be able to demonstrate leadership in a vital area and articulate the joint resolve of your Administration and the Congress to an independent and important portion of the regulatory bureaucracy.

An open meeting with full-scale press coverage has the usual risk that a participant may attempt to grandstand. However, your meeting with Congress and meeting between the White House Staff and the staffs of the regulatory agencies mitigate against such an occurrence. The advantage of an open meeting is that

it provides a clear and effective signal to the public at large that you are deeply concerned about this problem.

B. Participants:

- 1. Cabinet Members: Morton, Coleman, Dunlop, Levi, Simon, Hathaway, Weinberger.
- 2. Commissioners: See Tab D
- 3. White House Staff: Marsh, Rumsfeld, Lynn, Greenspan, Seidman, Hartmann, Buchen, Hills, Friedersdorf, Cannon, MacAvoy, Nessen, Bennett

C. Agenda:

- 1. The President-Prepared Opening Remarks - See Tab A. Summary of the Concerns of the President and Congress (10 minutes).
- 2. Program - (Moderated by Rod Hills. Each topic will be introduced by Paul MacAvoy).

Topic A: "Improving Economic Analysis in Regulatory Decisions"

- Key Note Comments by Lew Engman, Chairman, Federal Trade Commission (4 mins.)
- Trade Commission (4 mins.)
- General Discussion (15 mins.)

In order that discussion will continue after this topic is presented by Lew Engman, you may want to say:

--I understand Chairman Wiley of the FCC is quite concerned about the need for this kind of analysis and is proposing to undertake a general economic analysis of aspects of the communications industry. Dick, would you like to comment further?

Topic B: "Regulatory Procedures"

- Key Note Comments by William Anders, Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (4 mins.)
- General Discussion (15 mins.)

In order that discussion will continue after this topic is presented by Bill Anders, you may want to say:

--Chairman Stafford of the ICC has just had an internal study completed which I understand recommends a strengthened role for economic analysis in the regulatory process. Do you care to comment further, George?

Topic C: "Encouraging Competition in the Regulated Industries"

- Key Note Comments by Ray Garrett, Chairman, Securities Exchange Commission (4 mins.)
- General Discussion (15 mins.)

In order that discussion will continue after this topic is presented by Ray Garrett, you may want to say:

--Chairman John Robson (CAB) is proposing to take action that would test various competitive approaches in the area of airline regulation. Would you like to comment, John, on this aspect of CAB activity?

Topic D: "Reducing the Scope of Regulatory Activities Where No Longer Necessary"

- Key Note Comments by John Nassikas, Chairman, Federal Power Commission (4 mins.)
- General Discussion (15 mins.)

3. President's Closing Remarks - See Tab B.

D. Press Plan:

To be determined after final discussion between you and Ron Nessen.

Attachments:

- Tab A: President's Opening Remarks
- Tab B: President's Closing Remarks
- Tab C: Summary of Independent Regulatory Commissions
- Tab D: List of Regulatory Agency Members