

The original documents are located in Box 12, “7/15/75 - Talking Points: Presidential Summation Remarks, Defense Department Management Conference” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

TALKING POINTS:

PRESIDENTIAL SUMMATION REMARKS

DEFENSE DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

JULY 15, 1975

I. JIM AND BILL, THIS PRESENTATION HAS BEEN VERY
HELPFUL IN UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU ARE DOING TO GET GOOD
MANAGEMENT IN THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT.

2. I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE TALKING WITH JIM LYNN AND
HIS PEOPLE AT OMB ON WAYS TO IMPROVE MANAGEMENT. I
HOPE THOSE DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE.

3. AS A FIRST STEP, WE HAVE TO DECIDE WHAT WE WANT TO ACCOMPLISH AT THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT, THEN DEVISE THE BEST MEANS TO REACH THOSE GOALS.

4. WE MUST FOCUS ON WHAT OUR HIGH PRIORITY
NEEDS ARE.

KEY OBJECTIVES MUST BE CLEARLY DEFINED AND
UNDERSTOOD BY PEOPLE WHO WILL CARRY THEM OUT.

YOUR PLANNING, PROGRAMMING AND BUDGETING
SYSTEM (PPBS) IS WORKING PRETTY WELL IN THIS REGARD.

5. IN ADDITION TO SETTING PRIORITIES AND
ALLOCATING RESOURCES, WE MUST ALSO FOCUS ON ACHIEVING
RESULTS.

TOO OFTEN, WE TEND TO FOCUS ON HOW HARD WE
WORK RATHER THAN ON WHAT IS ACHIEVED.

I AM PLEASED AT THE PROGRESS YOU ARE MAKING
IN LOOKING FOR RESULTS, GETTING THINGS DONE THROUGH PEOPLE.

6. WE ALSO MUST FOCUS ON EVALUATING ALL OUR
EFFORTS.

EVALUATION PROCEDURE SHOULD BE CONCERNED
WITH THE IMPACT OF PROGRAMS -- AND ALSO WITH THE WAY
PROGRAMS ARE IMPLEMENTED.

WE WANT A GOOD FOLLOW-UP PROGRAM TO SEE
HOW WELL PEOPLE WORK, WHAT THE RESULTS OF THEIR WORK ARE --
NOT JUST HOW HARD THEY WORK.

7. FINALLY, ALL OF US KNOW THAT PEOPLE ARE QUICK TO CRITICIZE THE WORK THAT YOU AND OTHER FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ARE DOING.

PEOPLE OFTEN LOSE SIGHT OF THE FACT THAT WE HAVE THE BEST ARMED FORCES IN THE WORLD -- OFFICERS, MEN AND WOMEN, EQUIPMENT.

8. THAT TAKES OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND
MANAGEMENT WHICH JIM, BILL AND THE SERVICE HEADS ARE
PROVIDING.

9. THIS SESSION HAS MADE ME AWARE OF SOME
DETAILED PROBLEMS YOU FACE AND YOUR EFFORTS TO OVERCOME
THEM.

10. BY WORKING TOGETHER TO FURTHER IMPROVE
MANAGEMENT, I THINK WE CAN PROVIDE OUR CITIZENS WITH
THE NATIONAL SECURITY THEY NEED AT A COST THEY CAN AFFORD.

END OF TEXT