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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *dy*

TALKING POINTS

WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS

MONDAY, MAY 19, 1975

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CHAIRMAN KIRKPATRICK AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

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1. I CONGRATULATE THE NEW WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS CHOSEN

2,307

FROM TWO THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED-SEVEN APPLICANTS AND COMMEND

THE FINALISTS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION. I THANK CHAIRMAN

MILES KIRKPATRICK AND THE OTHER COMMISSIONERS FOR THE TIME THEY SO

UNSELFISHLY SPENT MAKING THE DIFFICULT DECISIONS ABOUT THE WINNERS.

2. THIS IS THE ELEVENTH CLASS OF FELLOWS NAMED AND

THE FIRST TO APPLY AND BE CHOSEN DURING MY ADMINISTRATION.

LIKE YOUR PREDECESSORS, YOU WILL ENJOY A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR

PUBLIC SERVICE. I AM ALSO SURE THAT THROUGH YOUR EFFORTS YOU WILL

STRENGTHEN THE PROGRAM AND CONTINUE ITS TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE.

3. THERE IS MUCH THE FELLOWS CAN LEARN, BUT THERE IS EVEN

MORE GOVERNMENT LEARNS FROM THE NEW THINKING THE FELLOWS BRING TO

THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. THIS ANNUAL INFUSION OF TALENT INTO THE

TOP LEVELS OF AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS IS OF GREAT VALUE.

4. THIS YEAR'S CLASS OF FELLOWS CAME TO THE WHITE HOUSE SHORTLY AFTER I DID. I ENJOYED WORKING WITH THOSE I'VE MET. JIM CONNOR AND WARREN RUSTAND, BOTH ON MY STAFF, ARE FORMER FELLOWS. ROGER PORTER OF THIS YEAR'S CLASS WORKS CLOSELY WITH BILL SEIDMAN, SO I KNOW FIRST-HAND THE KIND OF PEOPLE THIS PROGRAM GETS INTERESTED IN GOVERNMENT.

5. THE PROGRAM IS NOT DESIGNED TO GET THE FELLOWS INTERESTED IN A GOVERNMENT CAREER BUT TO OFFER NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING. THOSE SELECTED ARE ALREADY OUTSTANDING IN THEIR CAREERS AND POSSESS BROAD PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AND DEMONSTRATED RECORDS OF PUBLIC INTEREST AND SERVICE.

6. THE EXPERIENCE OF WORKING WITH MY CABINET LEVEL

ADVISERS COMBINED WITH CONVERSATIONS WITH LEADERS IN PRIVATE AND

PUBLIC LIFE IS UNIQUE. BUT THE UNSTRUCTURED PERSON-TO-PERSON

EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION ARE THE MOST VALUABLE.

7. TO THE FELLOWS STILL ON THE JOB AND THOSE NAMED TODAY

WHO WILL JOIN US IN SEPTEMBER, I THANK YOU FOR YOUR ENTHUSIASM

AND WILLINGNESS TO GET INVOLVED. BEST WISHES TO ALL OF YOU.

END OF TEXT