The original documents are located in Box 9, folder “5/19/75 - Talking Points, White House Fellows” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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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 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 advisors 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