The original documents are located in Box 12, “7/23/75 - Talking Points for Meeting with Congressional Summer Interns” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMER INTERNS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1975
(ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS)

1. IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU TO THE WHITE HOUSE TODAY. I HOPE THE TEMPERATURE OUT HERE ON THE SOUTH LAWN ISN'T TOO UNCOMFORTABLE.
THE REASON I MENTION THE WEATHER IS -- I WAS JUST ASKED WHERE THE NEW SWIMMING POOL IS . . . IT'S OVER THERE.

I WAS ALSO ASKED IF WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A SAUNA BATH TO GO WITH IT. THE ANSWER IS: YES. YOU'RE STANDING IN IT.
2. I CONGRATULATE YOU ON THE MANY PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS WHICH HAVE BROUGHT YOU HERE TODAY. I KNOW THAT COMPETITION FOR CONGRESSIONAL INTERNSHIPS IS VERY KEEN.
YOU CAN BE PROUD TO HAVE EARNED THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE YOUR GOVERNMENT AT CLOSE RANGE AND TO PARTICIPATE IN ITS WORK.
3. SOME OF YOU MAY RECALL THAT, WHEN

I FIRST ADDRESSED THE CONGRESS AS PRESIDENT LAST AUGUST,

I SAID THAT PART OF MY HEART WOULD ALWAYS REMAIN ON

CAPITOL HILL -- AND IT DOES. I JUST WISH SO MUCH OF

MY LEGISLATION DIDN'T HAVE TO STAY THERE WITH IT.
4. YOUR EXPERIENCE IN THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH IS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE GREATER LEARNING EXPERIENCE THAT BEGAN IN AMERICA TWO CENTURIES AGO.
AS YOU ARE FINDING OUT FOR YOURSELVES, THE POLITICAL PROCESS IN OUR DEMOCRACY IS REALLY AN EDUCATIONAL PROCESS AS WELL -- FOR IN OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT NO ONE CAN EVER CLAIM TO HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS.
AS AMERICA APPROACHES ITS BICENTENNIAL, I BELIEVE WE CAN BE PROUD THAT, IN SPITE OF SOME MISTAKES, THE COLLECTIVE WISDOM OF ALL HAS USUALLY PREVAILED.
OUR UNIQUE EXPERIMENT IN SELF-GOVERNMENT HAS ENDURED SO LONG BECAUSE WE HAVE RETAINED THE SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE AND COOPERATION. IN FACT, THE WORD "CONGRESS" ITSELF MEANS "TO COME TOGETHER."
Lately, however, the Congress does seem to be coming apart more than together.

6. When you return home, I hope it will be with a renewed sense of purpose and direction:
TO PLEDGE YOURSELVES TO HELP BUILD GREATER NATIONAL
UNITY AND TO CONTRIBUTE THROUGH YOUR PRACTICAL
EXPERIENCE NEW THOUGHT AND NEW INSIGHTS TO OUR
NATIONAL WISDOM.
7. I WOULD ALSO HOPE THAT MANY OF YOU WILL GO ON TO CONTINUE YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE AFFAIRS OF GOVERNMENT. DON'T LISTEN TO THE DOOMSAYERS WHO WARN YOU TO "STAY AWAY" FROM POLITICS OR FROM PUBLIC SERVICE.
WE NEED THE VERY BEST PEOPLE IN GOVERNMENT IF

AMERICA'S THIRD CENTURY IS TO BE AS GREAT AS THE TWO

THAT PRECEDED IT -- AND EACH OF YOU REPRESENTS THE BEST

OF YOUR GENERATION.
I AM PROUD OF YOU ALL. I WISH YOU A WONDERFUL SUMMER -- FILLED WITH EXCITEMENT AND KNOWLEDGE AND FULFILLMENT.

END OF TEXT
CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT

VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN

FROM: PAUL A. THEIS

SUBJECT: Talking Points: Congressional Summer Interns

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE:
5 PM, Wednesday, July 23, 1975, on South Lawn

SPEECHWRITER: Morrow

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Bill Kendall

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