Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

WHORM Subject File Code: FO006-13 (Economic Summit, Canada, [Toronto], 06/19/1988-06/20/1988) Case File Number(s): 555960-561511

To see more digitized collections visit: <u>https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material</u>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit: <u>https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories</u>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <u>https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-</u> <u>support/citation-guide</u>

National Archives Catalogue: <u>https://catalog.archives.gov/</u>

The President has seen

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Received

56151055 F0006-13 1998 J'1 -9 P" 7: 54

June 9, 1988

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

COLIN L. POWELL FROM:

SUBJECT: Weekend Reading for the Toronto Summit

On Tuesday, June 14, you will be briefed in preparation for what could be one of the most interesting sessions at Toronto -- the discussion of futures issues. That session will provide a unique opportunity for you to give other Heads your vision of the future.

To help make the briefing as useful to you as possible, we have prepared the attached background paper for your weekend reading.

Attachment Tab A Background Paper

> Prepared by: Stephen P. Farrar

> > cc: Vice President Chief of Staff (2)

BACKGROUND PAPER

TORONTO ECONOMIC SUMMIT

A Look at the Future

Introduction

The informal Heads-only session scheduled for Monday afternoon, June 20, is planned as a discussion of economic issues the Summit countries will face over the next 7 - 10 years. A briefing is scheduled for 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, June 14, to help you prepare for that session.

Other Heads have asked that you begin the discussion at the session. This is a good opportunity for you to define your economic legacy, highlighting the importance of flexible, market-based economies in the successful performance of the U.S. and world economies over the past seven years and in responding to the challenges of the future.

Past Successes

When you entered office, most Summit countries were faced with double-digit inflation, slow growth, and high unemployment. Within a year, the dominant problem was worldwide recession.

The past six years, however, have been marked by a prolonged period of growth with low inflation. This success is largely attributable to a remarkable convergence of thought within the U.S. and among Summit countries concerning the role of private enterprise and flexible markets in promoting growth and development. That policy convergence has been translated into positive cooperative action in the G-7, the GATT, the IMF, the OECD, and other world economic forums.

Future Challenges

Two related forces will dominate the development of the world economy in the future as they have throughout the post-war era: the rapid advances in technology and increasing global integration.

- -- Improvements in technology are continuously creating new products and more efficient production processes. Technology is also increasing the speed with which new ideas are dispersed around the world.
- -- Global integration occurs as national markets become more open to trade of goods and services and to flows of investment. Today's computers, advanced telecommunications, and rapid travel further shrink the globe. Mobility means that national boundaries are less and less important in shaping business decisions and influencing economic performance.

Future economic prosperity depends on taking advantage of the opportunity arising from advancing technology and global economic integration by increased international <u>cooperation</u> and market flexibility.

- -- Cooperation is vital because distortions in one country quickly produce market disruptions that spill across national boundaries. Also, cooperation is needed to promote growth in the third world, particularly in countries of special importance to the security of our alliances.
- Economic flexibility is the key to responding to tomorrow's challenges and taking advantage of its opportunities. Flexibility works by unleashing the innovative powers of private enterprise. Governments that are best able to shed the weight of economic rigidities and protective subsidies will be the most successful. Flexibility is increased, for example, by removing barriers to the flow of investment. This includes investment in education (human capital) and in research. A more educated, more productive workforce will be vital in the future as we seek to sustain growth while keeping our commitments to a steadily aging population.

Perhaps the best evidence of the need for market flexibility is the fact that the Soviets, the Chinese, and many other socialist governments have concluded that only a rapid turn toward openness and freedom can save them from economic extinction.

The Bottom Line

Summit Heads should be left with the message that the only way to prepare with confidence to meet the many challenges of the future is to continue our cooperative efforts to strip our economies of unnecessary baggage. We must be prepared to be adaptable, to travel light. This means clearing the way for individual freedom to innovate and to compete. In a very real sense, the future belongs to the flexible. NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

ACTION

June 9, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR COLIN L. POWELL FROM: STEPHEN I. DANZANSKY SUBJECT: Preparing for Toronto -- Weekend Reading for the President

Working with CEA, we have prepared a short paper on futures issues for the President's weekend reading (see Tab A). The paper provides background for the Toronto Summit briefing on these issues scheduled for Tuesday, June 14.

Ty Cobb and Marybel Batjer concur.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I forwarding the paper on futures issues for the President's weekend reading.

Approve VU

Disapprove _____

Attachments Tab I Memo to the President Tab A Background Paper

p/ne.

Prepared by: Sf Stephen P. Far

	National Security C The White Hou	ouncil se	COM
		System # Package # DOCLOG	4258 OM A/O
	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Sob Perito	2	Rm()	<u>H</u>
larybel Batjer	1		
aul Stevens			
ohn Negroponte	<u> 4 </u>	- for	
colin Poweli	5		
Paul Stevens			
Situation Room		mc 6/9	
West Wing Desk			N-Puer
NSC Secretariat			Noted
	Action R=Retain	D = Dispatch	N = No further Action
I = Information	Baker Othe	er <u>CLP</u>	
COMMENTS	Should be see	n by:	(Date/Time)
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
	,		
	/		

`

UNCLASSIFIED ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

DOC	ACTION OFFICER		ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED
	POWELL PRESIDENT	Z	88060919	FOR SIGNATURE FOR INFORMATION NOTED BY PRES

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: POWELL

DOC DATE: 09 JUN 88 SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: ECONOMICS TORONTO SUMMIT CANADA

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: PREPARING FOR TORONTO / WEEKEND READING FOR PRES

 ACTION: NOTED BY PRES
 DUE DATE: 13 JUN 88
 STATUS: C

 STAFF OFFICER: FARRAR
 LOGREF:

 FILES: WH
 NSCIF:
 CODES:

 DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

 FOR ACTION
 FOR CONCURRENCE

 FOR INFO

 FARRAR

COMMENTS :									
DISPATCHED	ВҮ			DATE	 W/ATTC	:Н:	YES	Ν	10
OPENED BY:	NSJWD	CLOSED E	3Y:	NSWINSK	DOC	3 (ΟF	3	

UNCLASSIFIED

RECORD ID: 8804258 RECEIVED: 09 JUN 88 12