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*Last Updated: 09/24/2024*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 4, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED RYAN

FROM: LINAS KOJELIS <sup>✓</sup>x6573, Room 198

SUBJECT: Presidential Meeting with Private Sector Supporters of SDI

Fred, it is my understanding that the Poindexter/Thomas working group has approved the President's meeting with private sector supporters of SDI (see attached copy of schedule proposal at Tab B). It is also my understanding that the general consensus is that it would be best to schedule the meeting immediately before the event honoring Paul Nitze at 11:00 a.m. this Thursday, November 7. As we have only four working days left before the 7th, it is very important to nail down this event as soon as possible.

I recommend the following scenario:

Date: November 7  
Time: 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.  
Place: Cabinet Room  
Program: Attached at Tab A

cc: Jonathan Miller, NSC <sup>✓</sup>  
Steve Steiner, NSC

A

2

2

PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR

MEETING WITH PRIVATE SECTOR SDI SUPPORTERS

Thursday, November 7, 1985, 9:30 a.m. -- Cabinet Room

\* \* \*

9:30 a.m.            Briefing by LGen Abramson, Director,  
                         Strategic Defense Information  
                         Office

Q & A

10:00 a.m.           Briefing by Bud McFarlane

Q & A

10:30 a.m.           Presidential drop-by

10:40 a.m.           Individual photos with POTUS as  
                         participants depart



5

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

September 27, 1985

TO: FRED RYAN, DIRECTOR  
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: WILLIAM F. MARTIN, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
LINDA CHAVEZ, DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

REQUEST: For the President to Meet with Key Private  
Sector Supporters of SDI

PURPOSE: To recognize key individuals, organizations  
and new coalitions which support SDI, and to  
encourage them in their continued work on  
behalf of SDI.

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BACKGROUND: In the last several months, several groups  
and organizations have mobilized to provide  
active support for SDI. These include: The  
Coalition for SDI, the Heritage Foundation,  
the American Security Council and Trilogy  
Foundation. At a White House meeting, the  
President would express support for their  
work, as well as the contributions of key  
individuals (including scientists, celebri-  
ties, labor and corporate leaders) who have  
spoken out in support of SDI.

The meeting would be preceded by a short  
policy briefing on SDI, coordinated by the  
NSC.

PREVIOUS  
PARTICIPATION: None

DATE: Week of October 7-11

DURATION: 20 minutes LOCATION: Cabinet Room

PARTICIPANTS: 35 private sector supporters of SDI inclu-  
ding; Gen. D. Graham (Chairman of the  
Coalition for SDI), John Fisher, Clarence  
Robinson (Trilogy Foundation), Dr. R. Jas-  
trow, Lee Iacocca, T. Gleason (Longshoreman's  
Union), Tom Selleck, Susan Anton, A. Mazewski  
(Polish American Congress)

6

OUTLINE OF EVENT: The President would enter the Cabinet Room, make brief remarks, take a few questions, and then greet each participant in a receiving line as they depart.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Talking points

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House pool for start of meeting only

PROJECT OFFICER: Linas Kojelis, x2741

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*L. Kojelis +*  
8971 *Mary W*

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

November 6, 1985

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM:

STEVEN E. STEINER *Steve*

SUBJECT:

Presidential Meeting with SDI Supporters

At Tab I for your approval are proposed talkers for your participation in the SDI leadership meeting tomorrow. The talkers we prepared for the President, which were sent through the OPL channel, are at Tab II.

The audience consists of some 30 leaders of private sector groups who have organized to support the program. We have pressed to have this event before the President addresses specific groups, as each of these groups wants to help in its own way. We want to show that we appreciate all of their efforts and will provide all appropriate assistance.

You will be preceded by BGEN Malcolm O'Neill of SDIO, who will brief on the program. (Abe will be out of town.) You are expected in the Cabinet Room at about 10:00, or as close to that as you can get there, to address SDI from a policy and strategy standpoint. The President will enter at 10:30, address the group for about 10 minutes, then pose for a handshake with each of them. At this moment, press is expected only for the President's appearance. You should nonetheless treat your own remarks as essentially on-the-record. Also, Secretaries Shultz and Weinberger have been invited.

RECOMMENDATION

That you draw on the talking points at Tab I.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

*SES* { Bill Wright, Sven Kraemer, Ty Cobb and Linas Kojelis (OPL) concur.

Attachments

Tab I      Proposed talkers

Tab II     Chavez Memo with List of Participants and Presidential Points



## SDI LEADERSHIP MEETING

### SUGGESTED POINTS

#### SETTING:

--Pleased to see you. Appreciate your excellent work in support of President's SDI program. My staff and I stand prepared to help in every appropriate way. Only such a combination of government and private sector efforts will succeed in getting the message across.

--SDI is a crucial component of our overall national security policy. Let me try to put it in this broad perspective.

--Face long term challenge of continued Soviet offensive buildup, as well as extensive programs in strategic defense.

--Three part response is required: 1) strategic modernization; 2) pursuit of equitable and verifiable arms control agreements; and 3) our own research and accompany testing in strategic defense.

--Strategy is working, as seen in strengthened defense posture, renewed national self-confidence, Soviet return to arms control table and fact that they finally tabled a counterproposal to our earlier reductions offers. President back on initiative with his new proposal, which builds on our earlier proposals and on "positive seeds" from Soviet counterproposal.

--As President has emphasized, four main objectives in Geneva talks: 1) deep cuts; 2) no first strike advantages; 3) research in defense, as defense is safer than offense; and 4) no cheating.

#### SDI:

--Turning to SDI itself, I'd like to make a few key points on how the President views, and wishes us to present, his program.

--First, it is a long-term research program designed to establish feasibility of advanced defensive technologies. Increased reliance on defenses which threaten no one would be a safer, more stable and morally preferable basis for deterrence.

--Program is designed to enhance Allied as well as US security. We are consulting closely with European and Asian Allies, and have asked them to join in the research. Have essential agreement with UK for joint research; hope some other key allies will also soon join. Talks going on with FRG, Italy and Japan.

--Prior to any decision on deployment, we will consult with our Allies, then discuss and--as appropriate--negotiate with the Soviet Union in accordance with terms of ABM Treaty. Seeking even now to discuss with Soviets in Geneva the vital relationship between strategic offense and defense, and how we might together carry out stable transition to a defense-oriented environment.

--Have made clear this will not give the Soviets a veto over any future defensive deployments.

### ABM Treaty Interpretation:

--President has made clear we will respect ABM and other treaty obligations. Re ABM, our careful analysis of the record has led to conclusion that a broader interpretation of the treaty is fully justified. At same time, President has decided to continue our program of research and testing as currently structured, which is consistent with the more narrow interpretation.

--We envision that in the future the day will come when our research will have answered the questions necessary to permit us to consider going beyond these restrictions that we have and will continue to observe under the current program. At that time, based upon the conditions that the U.S. and our allies face and the conduct of the Soviet Union in the interim, the U.S. will have the opportunity to reassess the guidance that has been set forth.

### Soviet Actions:

--Soviets doing everything they can to head off our SDI program. Reason is clear: to keep their own advantages in this area.

--Need your help here. Soviet propaganda line that US has gone into a "new" military area with SDI has had some effect.

--Important to have greater public awareness that Soviets deeply engaged for some 20 years in strategic defense programs, some of which in their case go well beyond research. Have spent roughly same as for strategic offense.

### --Some key examples of Soviet programs:

1. World's only deployed ABM system, which is around Moscow and is being upgraded significantly right now.
2. World's only operational ASAT system.
3. World's most extensive strategic air defense network and civil defense system.
4. Have engaged in activities which raise serious questions about their commitment to the ABM Treaty. In one case, their construction of Krasnoyarsk radar, they are engaged in an out-and-out violation.
5. Deeply engaged for years in some of the advanced research areas which we are now investigating. Our experts estimate that about 10,000 top flight Soviet scientists and engineers are working on these programs. Well ahead of us in some areas, and into development and weaponization. For example, we believe they may be able to put an advanced technology defensive system in space by the end of the century, and ground-based even sooner.

--In sum, we are concerned in looking at the aggregate of Soviet strategic defense activity that they may be preparing an ABM defense of their national territory, an act which would totally gut the ABM treaty and could have severe effects on the East/West balance.

--It took us some time, but we finally have published a report, the most comprehensive publicly available, on Soviet programs. I hope it is useful to you, and I encourage you to give it the widest possible circulation.

--Want to hear your views, particularly on how we can all improve our efforts to make the case on SDI to the public.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 6, 1985

MEETING WITH SUPPORTERS OF SDI

November 7, 1985

The Cabinet Room

10:30 a.m.

FROM: Linda Chavez

I. PURPOSE

To recognize private sector supporters of SDI, and reaffirm your commitment to SDI.

II. BACKGROUND

Since last spring, several groups and organizations have mobilized to provide active support for SDI. These organizations are raising hundreds of thousands of dollars to produce and air television and radio spots, purchase ads in newspapers and organize other grass roots support. These groups have asked to meet with you to express their support.

At this meeting you will be reaffirming your commitment to SDI and thanking them for their efforts. Before your arrival, the participants will have been briefing on SDI by BGen Malcolm O'Neill of the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization and Robert McFarlane.

III. PARTICIPANTS (Tab A)

IV. PRESS PLAN

Press pool for your opening remarks only.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

You enter the Cabinet Room and take your place. You make remarks (see talking points) and then open the meeting to two or three questions. At the conclusion of the meeting, you will go to the door and greet each guest individually and pose for a photograph as they depart.

Attachments: Tab A -- Participants  
Tab B -- Talking points



Mr. Winton Blount  
Blount Brothers International

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Carl Russell Channell  
American Conservative Trust

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Virgil Dechant  
Supreme Knight  
Knights of Columbus

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. John M. Fisher  
President  
American Security Council

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Max Fisher

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Gregory Fossedal

\* \* \* \* \*

Lt. Gen. Daniel Graham  
Chairman  
Coalition for the Strategic Defense  
Initiative

\* \* \* \* \*

Mrs. Sarah M. King  
President General  
National Society Daughters of the  
American Revolution

\* \* \* \* \*

Mrs. Beverly J. LaHaye  
Concerned Women of America

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Lewis E. Lehrman  
Chairman  
Citizens for America

\* \* \* \* \*

Mrs. Nina O. May  
President  
Renaissance Women

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Ed Noble  
Noble Foundation

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Charles R. Ord  
Executive Director  
Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, Inc.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. James Quayle  
Chairman  
Huntington Newspapers, Inc.

	*	*	*	*	*
Mr. Dale L. Renaud					
National Commander					
American Legion					
	*	*	*	*	*
Mr. Clarence A. Robinson, Jr.					
Founder					
Trilogy Foundation					
	*	*	*	*	*
Mr. Richard D. Sellers					
President					
Concerned Citizens					
	*	*	*	*	*
Admiral Robert Spiro					
Reserve Officers Association					
	*	*	*	*	*
Mr. Kenneth Steadman					
Director, National Security & Foreign Affairs					
Veterans of Foreign Wars					
	*	*	*	*	*
Dr. Edward Teller					
Lawrence Livermore Laboratory					
	*	*	*	*	*
Mr. Huck Walther					
U.S. Defense Committee					
	*	*	*	*	*
Mr. Paul M. Weyrich					
	*	*	*	*	*

TALKING POINTS FOR SDI MEETING

- Great to see so many friends of my SDI program in one place.
- Deeply appreciate your hard work in support of SDI. I know that Bud McFarlane and Linda Chavez and their staffs stand ready to support and help you.
- Today's advanced defensive technologies are very promising. I have called upon the nation's best scientific minds in this research effort.
- In the last 3½ years, this idea has gathered the momentum which is so vital in converting a vision into reality. SDI is uniquely American in its hopes for the future. However, the story needs to be told over and over again if we are truly to move mountains to secure a safer world for our grandchildren.
- I will be talking to Mr. Gorbachev about our program, and how we can move toward a safer world for all. And I'll ask him to talk about his own program.
- You in this room know that the Soviet Union has been deeply engaged for years in strategic defense, which in their case goes well beyond research. But the general public isn't as familiar with this. We all need to make this clear. I hope our recent publication on Soviet programs is helpful to you.
- This program is vital to future security of US, our Allies and entire world. Make no mistake about my determination to pursue it.