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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

file

September 26, 1983

PERSONAL

TO : Paul Weyrich
FROM : Bob Billings *Bob*
SUBJECT: Recent Meeting with Christian Educators

On Thursday of this week, I met with a large contingency of Christian school administrators in Indianapolis, Indiana. It was the most negative meeting about the President I have attended in my more than two years in the Federal Government and nearly seven years of supporting Ronald Reagan.

Constant comments were made on how the President had "betrayed us." Their concerns deal with the Social Security issue, the downing of the Korean Airline plane, the posturing of the Administration on private schools, the lack of definitive action on tuition tax credit and prayer in schools. When I asked some of the leadership where they were going to go, they replied, "We're going fishing."

Paul, I am convinced that unless someone beats the bushes for conservative causes among the religious right in the '84 campaign, we are going to lose a lot of races. I mentioned my fear to a ranking Administration official who told me that I was "out of touch with the Fundamentalists," that my fears were unfounded. Quite frankly, this Administration is out of touch with the Fundamentalists. There are few people in government who are as "in touch" with the Fundamentalists as I am.

BB:ms