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THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Press Secretary

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PRESS BRIEFING  
BY  
LARRY SPEAKES

January 18, 1985

The Briefing Room

12:02 P.M. EST

INDEX

SUBJECT

PAGE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presidential schedule.....1-10  
Prelude Pageant to the Inaugural  
Inaugural Activities/Balls/Speech  
Saturday Radio Address  
King Fahd  
President Mubarak

DOMESTIC

Jeane Kirkpatrick.....3  
Secretary Donovan.....4  
Budget.....10

FOREIGN

USA TODAY/Black Economic Groups.....4  
World Court.....3-4  
El Salvador aid.....4  
Bonn summit.....4

#1299-01/18

12:20 P.M. EST

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MR. SPEAKES: The President, this afternoon, goes to the Ellipse for the Prelude Pageant to the Inaugural. He leaves at 6:15 p.m. with a travel pool, 7:15 p.m. he's --

Q Larry, we can't hear you.

MR. SPEAKES: All right. Give me a little high power.

At 6:15 p.m. the President leaves for the Ellipse from the South Grounds to attend the Prelude Pageant to the Inaugural. Travel pool will accompany. At 7:15 p.m. he returns to the White House.

This morning we released a copy of the Bible which belonged to the President's mother, Nelle Reagan, which will be used in the swearing-in ceremony. It's available in the lower press office.

Do we have photographs of that? Is that what we --

MR. GRAY: Yes, we do. It was put out this morning.

MR. SPEAKES: All right. Photographs.

Q No, it's the actual --

MR. SPEAKES: At the conclusion of the briefing today, we'll have available the schedule and pool assignments for Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, during the Inaugural activities. You should be aware that anyone who parks on Jackson Place will not be allowed to do so on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.

The President and Mrs. Reagan have accepted an invitation on Monday night to attend the American Legion's Veterans Inaugural Ball, called, "Salute To Heroes," which will be held at the Capital Hilton. The Reagans will visit this ball, which honors the nation's Congressional Medal of Honor winners, 200 of which will be present.

He will do this after visiting the Presidential Inaugural Committee Balls. The Veterans Ball will be their last stop before returning to the White House.

Q Can you give us an estimated time?

MR. SPEAKES: Midnight, plus. I think, without the Veterans Ball, they were scheduled to get home at midnight. So it's running a little later.

The President will be resuming his weekly Saturday radio addresses on January 26th at 12:06 p.m. We're presently in discussion with the radio networks and they will be done on a pool radio network rotation.

The President has invited --

MORE

#1299-01/18

Q Larry, one question, please. Do you recall the last broadcast he made? The date?

MR. SPEAKES: That's the week of the election, I believe. We can get the date certain for you.

Q Yes.

MR. SPEAKES: Do you want to get somebody to look that up.

The President has invited His Majesty, Fahd bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud, to make a visit to the United States. The King has accepted the invitation and will meet with the President at the White House on February 11, 1985.

Q What was that?

MR. SPEAKES: February 11th.

Q 1985.

MR. SPEAKES: This is part of a series of post-election meetings the President has had and will have with other world leaders. King Fahd was high on the list of those recommended by Secretary of State Shultz for an early visit.

We regard the King as an important friend in the Middle East. We have a continuing interest in Saudi Arabia. I do not have a specific agenda to lay out for you at this time. But the President will likely seek King Fahd's views on the Middle East and global issues, such as the peace process, current status of the Gulf war, and his economic views.

This will be their second meeting. The President first met him at the Cancun Summit in 1981 -- October 1981. At that time, he was Crown Prince.

Q Larry?

MR. SPEAKES: Yes?

Q Have you announced the Mubarak visit in March yet?

MR. SPEAKES: We have not announced a visit of the Egyptian President --

Q Oh, yes, you have.

Q Yes, you have.

MR. SPEAKES: We have?

Q Yes.

MR. SPEAKES: All right. Did I do it?

Q Do you have a specific date on that?

MR. SPEAKES: Do you have --

MR. SIMS: No.

MR. SPEAKES: I remember we didn't have the date at the time.

MR. SIMS: It's in the record.

MR. SPEAKES: Get somebody to look at the date of that thing.

Q February --

Q Is Mrs. Kirkpatrick coming in on -- during this week and the election -- or the Inauguration?

MR. SPEAKES: Haven't seen her on the schedule. I do anticipate her coming in after the Inaugural, but I don't know how soon.

Q You don't know if it's next week?

MR. SPEAKES: I'd have to look at the schedule. I really haven't --

Q Do you have the week ahead?

MR. SPEAKES: I don't have it with me, no. Sorry.

Q Larry, the President doesn't speak tonight, does he?

MR. SPEAKES: Pardon? Does not speak tonight, no.

David?

Q Do you have an announcement on the World Court?

MR. SPEAKES: World Court? I do not. The State Department will be having an announcement this afternoon and a background briefing at 2:30 p.m. on the U.S. position on the World Court case, Nicaraguan mining.

Q What about Geneva? Do you have any announcements as to the delegation or --

MR. SPEAKES: No, do not have anything on that. Don't know whether -- I would not expect it today, I don't believe. Possibly over the weekend, possibly next week.

The Mubarak visit is March 12th.

Q Marlin, did the World Court do something?

MR. SPEAKES: No, we were dealing with the World Court on that case that the Nicaraguans brought before it. And we were in the process of making decisions about whether we would deal with their recent decision, right? I guess that's basically it.

Q -- decision -- is that basically deciding whether to appeal or whether we grant them -- jurisdiction?

MR. SPEAKES: Basically it, yes.

David?

Q Do you have any comment on The Times story about El Salvador aid?

MR. SPEAKES: Commented on it early this morning saying that we were following the Kissinger recommendations which calls for a steady flow of aid, Central America increases. And we will -- while I can't be specific -- than we do favor it.

Ira?

Q Is Ray Donovan still going to be around long?  
(Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKES: I saw where he says he was going to be four more years.

Q Who said that?

MR. SPEAKES: Ray Donovan.

Q Ray Donovan --

Q -- Ronald Reagan say?

MR. SPEAKES: Pardon?

Q What did Ronald Reagan say?

MR. SPEAKES: There's been no change in his status.

Q There have been certain rumblings -- press stories about him not being favored here particularly with his court case. Any comment?

MR. SPEAKES: No.

Q When the President met with the blacks within recent days, did he tell them what he told the U.S.A. Today that he felt that he had --

MR. SPEAKES: Don't know, Helen. Not having been able to sit in the meeting with the black economic group, I do not know.

Q Larry, anything definite yet on the President's travel plans after the Bonn Summit?

MR. SPEAKES: No. Speculation in Europe this morning I

learned from our Reuters friend -- Austria, Spain, Portugal. We indicated early this morning that plans have not been firmed up for the President's trip although there's a possibility we may take advantage of being in Europe.

Q -- expressing that he's coming to Austria --

MR. SPEAKES: Just don't have anything to announce on it.

Q What day?

Q After the summit.

Q Larry, can you tell us who will be in the President's booth with him in the reviewing stand on Monday?

MR. SPEAKES: It will -- I haven't seen the list. It will be --

Q What was the question?

MR. SPEAKES: Who will be in the Inaugural parade's reviewing stand with the President? Be a lot of folks. It'll be, I assume, the President, some members of the Cabinet, family, friends, officials.

Q Are these his personal invitations or are they by rank or how is that --

MR. SPEAKES: I am sure the Reagans decided by categories, I guess, as to who they'd like to have in there and probably a few seats reserved for their personal friends. I'm guessing. I haven't even looked at the list of them.

Q Do they have any idea how long the parade will -- how long you'll be there? You will be there from beginning to end --

MR. SPEAKES: I've got my experts back here. If you can produce one of them, maybe they can tell us -- somebody told me -- what, two and a half -- I don't know. We've got a schedule.

Pardon?

Q -- until 3:30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKES: How many horses?

Q -- 730.

Q -- 731 --

Q Is that right?

MR. SPEAKES: Owen?

Q -- invited any of these Democratic leaders like Tip O'Neill either to the Sunday Inaugural or -- reviewing stand? Is it going to be bipartisan in any way?

MR. SPEAKES: I haven't seen the reviewing stand or the guest list over in the Residence for Sunday. Monday will be bipartisan.

Q Not Sunday, as far as you know, which will be --

MR. SPEAKES: As I say, I haven't seen a list. So --

Q Will you be here Sunday?

Q Larry, is the guest list --

MORE

#1299-1/18

MR. SPEAKES: Be here all day every day this weekend.

Q Larry, is the guest list for Sunday's swearing-in available?

MR. SPEAKES: Is what?

Q Is the guest list for Sunday's swearing-in --

MR. SPEAKES: No, it's not. And I don't think the First Lady's Press Office intends to make it available.

Q Well, can you --

Q Why?

Q -- can you just characterize who would be there?

MR. SPEAKES: Reagan friends, members of the Cabinet, family.

Yes?

Q Well, you're talking about 100 people.

MR. WEINBERG: -- 2:50 p.m. to 4:05 p.m. for the parade.

MR. SPEAKES: -- 2:50 p.m. to 4:05 p.m. What's that -- an hour and fifteen?

Q How many people are going to be witnessing the swearing-in on Sunday?

MR. SPEAKES: Do we have those numbers, Mark? The number of people.

MR. WEINBERG: Around 100.

Q And can you say why you wouldn't be making that public since you're going to be -- have it televised?

MR. SPEAKES: Just the way the Reagans wish it.

Q Are you able to say whether or not there would be any -- like Congressional leaders there?

MR. SPEAKES: Do you know, are these Congressional leaders?

MR. WEINBERG: There are Congressional leaders. I have not seen a list. I haven't seen a name list.

MR. SPEAKES: Ira?

Q Will the President be wearing a bullet-proof suit?

MR. SPEAKES: We never talk about any security measures. The plaid suit is bullet-proof. (Laughter.)

Q Larry, can you say just -- about the parade itself -- will he be completely enclosed in that limosine all the way down?

MR. SPEAKES: Yes.

Q Larry, do you know that some of those young Republicans have sold their tickets?

MR. SPEAKES: Young Republicans have sold their tickets? That's the ultimate in capitalism. (Laughter.) The party of big



business, huh? Start them young.

Q Do you have anything -- can you tell us anything about the tone of the speech, the desired tone or goals of the speech or anything like that?

MR. SPEAKES: I think the President would characterize it as looking -- where we're going and where we've come from.

Q How long will it be, Larry? How long a speech is it? Fifteen minutes or so?

MR. SPEAKES: -- said yesterday no longer than 15 minutes; but we haven't seen a final, final draft to get the running time on it, Ralph.

Q -- didn't know. I saw that.

MR. SPEAKES: I'd bet it'd be a longer than that; but I don't know.

Q Ten to fifteen minutes, that's all?

Q Who was the main speechwriter?

MR. SPEAKES: He said 15.

Ronald W. Reagan.

Q Can you give us some stuff on what he's trying to achieve in the speech, what tone he's trying to set? Something we can --

MR. SPEAKES: Optimistic. I --

Q Seriously.

MR. SPEAKES: I really don't have anything on it right at the moment, no.

Q -- a little bit as to how long he's been working on it, how many drafts there have been? Anything?

MR. SPEAKES: The President's been working on it for a couple of weeks, wouldn't you say?

MR. FITZWATER: Since Palm Springs.

MR. SPEAKES: Since Palm Springs, a couple of weeks, and --

Q -- get a first draft in Palm Springs?

MR. SPEAKES: I think initially he got some suggestions, recommendations from various people on the staff. He then wrote the speech based on some of those recommendations and the speechwriters looked at it a time or two and he's looked at it a time or two, but basically signed off on it yesterday.

Q When will the text be available?

MR. SPEAKES: Nine a.m. Monday.

Q Is he going to bring back that favorite line of his, that "You ain't seen nothing yet" line, throw that in there?

MR. SPEAKES: I don't know.

Q Larry --

MR. SPEAKES: Be a good one.

Q Yes.

MR. SPEAKES: Lee Greenwood would then sing?  
(Laughter.)

Q No. Please, no.

Q What's the President do tonight after the pageant?  
Does he have any --

MR. SPEAKES: Not unless there's some family event in the White House. I don't know that --

Q Larry, would you look for any specific new proposals in the speech a la goals --

MR. SPEAKES: I don't --

Q Anything we haven't heard before in that regard?

MR. SPEAKES: I don't think so, John. I think our State of the Union will be the specifics and this will be the themes.

Q Can you give us a sense of the balance with domestic and international themes that will be in the speech?

MR. SPEAKES: I really haven't looked at the final draft of it yet.

Q Has he read the other Inaugurals -- Addresses, as a part of the preparation?

MR. SPEAKES: I don't think so.

Q Larry, you said you don't have a schedule for next week. But is there anything coming up next week --

MR. SPEAKES: I just didn't bring mine down, forgot to do it this morning.

Let's see, Sunday and Monday you know.

Tuesday, Bipartisan Congressional Leadership meeting, Cabinet meeting and that's it for the moment on Tuesday.

Wednesday, meeting with the Sherpa team for the Bonn Summit, that will be the initial meeting on the Summit in Bonn; meeting with Secretary Shultz, which is one of his regular meetings.

Thursday, lunch with the Vice President, Cabinet time on a tentative basis.

And Friday, an Executive Forum in Constitution Hall. That's the -- I presume -- the high-level appointees that we've done every year.

Is that it?

MR. ROUSSEL: Yes.

Q What's the Bipartisan Meeting about -- on there?  
Any particular --

MR. SPEAKES: New --

Q Let Reagan be Reagan.

Q Larry, Lester's not here, so somebody has to ask this, is the President giving any consideration to answering Mike Royko's column today in the Style Section --

MR. SPEAKES: I haven't seen Mike's column. (Laughter.)

Q Well, he wants --

MR. SPEAKES: And the President hasn't either.

Q -- various assessments on how you spend your evenings with your wife and things like that --

MR. SPEAKES: He wants the President's assessment? The President's assessment?

Q Well, yes, what he likes to do. (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKES: What's he trying to do? Match Ann Landers?

Q Yes.

Q -- precisely, yes.

Q That's right.

MR. SPEAKES: Yes? Don't they work for the same syndicate?

Q You underline the stuff in the column that you like and then you mail it in.

MR. SPEAKES: Oh, I see.

Q Well, is he giving any consideration to answering that? (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKES: I don't think he's seen it. And I think when he sees it, he won't give any consideration to it.

Q Will this Bipartisan meeting be --

Q Larry, Tuesday, when the Cabinet meets is that going to be a full Cabinet meeting --

MR. SPEAKES: Top to bottom.

Q On the Congressional Leadership Bipartisan --

Q What Cabinet members --

Q -- is it to set the tone --

Q -- consulted mainly about this speech?

MR. SPEAKES: I don't know.

Helen.

Q Is it to set the tone for the year or talk about the deficit or the --

MR. SPEAKES: The speech, you mean?

Q No, the Congressional Bipartisan -- on Tuesday morning.

MR. SPEAKES: That's getting a little bit ahead.

I don't know that an agenda has been developed yet for that. I'll just have to look. I don't know.

Andrea?

Q Is he leaving next week to sign off on the budget --

MR. SPEAKES: I think, for the most part, he has signed off on everything, with the exception of Stockman doing final computer runs that will give us final, final numbers.

Q Isn't it already at the printer's, Larry? It's not at the printer's?

MR. SPEAKES: Not all of it.

Q There's no need to look for further cuts to make up for any gaps?

MR. SPEAKES: No need to look for the cuts --

Q Further cuts or --

MR. SPEAKES: Not anymore, there's not.

Bob?

Q Larry, since some poor schmuck in the writing pool is going to have to write down 100 names on Sunday, could you see if you could get a list for at least when the event is held? A list of the guests?

MR. SPEAKES: I could see, but the answer is, no.

Sarah?

Q Oh, no.

Q Larry, that's a public record. Doesn't this --

Q Larry, have you -- a couple of the Senators were saying yesterday --

Q -- thing have a title, "We, the people,"? Doesn't this event belong to the nation?

Q -- that the White House has impounded a lot of funds for different agencies --

MR. SPEAKES: What?

Q Some Senators were saying yesterday that the White House has by letter ordering impoundment of a lot of funds of different agencies, funds that were voted by Congress last time, and that these -- they're waiting, they're holding up these funds until after the budget is presented and then they'll present a position on that. Can you give us an idea what funds are being held up?

MR. SPEAKES: I don't know. I don't know anything about that, Sarah.

Q Can you characterize the President's mood as he goes into the first day of his Inaugural activities? Is he excited, edgy? Is he -- does he have any --

Q He's worried about the weather.

MR. SPEAKES: No. I would say he's excited, enthusiastic, and challenged.

Q And what? (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKES: And magnificent, right?

Q Larry, he's magnificent, Larry:

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

12:20 P.M. EST

#1299-01/18