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Last Updated: 05/06/2025

MA



(Noonan/RR) 2/195/5/C July 27, 1984 //20 1:00 p.m.

3 P832 31 RE015 FG006-11 FG185

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: OLYMPICS
SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1984

My fellow Americans, there are many serious things that will occupy our attention in the coming weeks and in the fall, but today İ find my thoughts turning away from politics to something equally important . . . but happy, too.

Eleven weeks ago, I greeted the Olympic Torch when it was carried to the White House by a young man, a fine young athlete who had carried it high for almost a mile. Today the torch arrives in Los Angeles, and I am thinking of what a journey it knew, and what a country it travelled through.

The journey started in the East, in Manhattan, in front of the United Nations. From there it arcked South, and West, and passed from person to person in a marvelous relay. It was carried by former Olympians and handicapped kids, by elderly women and young athletes bright with the speed of youth.

They held the torch high and passed the flame one to another. They took it up hills and through lonely towns in the darkness, along grey highways at twilight and through bright towns at noon. They carried it past the malls and the airports, through the suburbs and cities, up the hills of steel towns and along the flat routes of America's heartland. They carried it through the gathering heat of the West in early summer, and they took it to Los Angeles, where today the torch lights the Olympic flame . . . and the Games begin.

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I think we can hear and discern in their music these days, certainly more than in the past, an optimism and a feeling of affection for our Nation.

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The torch is passed -- the Games begin -- the 23rd Olympiad of the modern era commences. And as it does, just for a moment,

Page 4

we think of the words of the psalms. "This is the day which the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad . . ."

Until next week, thanks for listening and God bless you.

(Noonan/RR)
July 27, 1984
1:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: OLYMPICS SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1984

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1/26 TO @ W. Ptg

(Noonan/BE)
July 26, 1984
3:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: OLYMPICS SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1984

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Comments from: WH-OCA (EOP020)

Posted: Thu 26-July-84 13:16 EDT Sys 64

July 26, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

FROM: CRAIG L. FULLER

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: OLYMPICS

[Saturday, July 28]

Please provide any comments/edits you may have by 2 pm today directly to Ben Elliott (456-6266) and an information copy to my office following your reply to him.

Thanks.

To: NPC002 (57:NPC002)
To: C.FULLER (EOP021)
To: T.GIBSON (EOP028)
To: WH-RM (EOP043)
From: WH-SPEECH (EOP047)

Posted: Thu 26-July-84 10:43 EDT Sys 64 (119)

To: WH-OCA (EOP020)

Subject: speech/ss/Radio Talk: Olympics

(Noonan/BE)
July 26, 1984
10:00 a.m.

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: OLYMPICS

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT JUL 26 PH 12: 56 OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

July 26, 1984

MEMORANDUM TO: BEN ELLIOTT

FROM:

DAVID GERSON GM

SUBJECT:

PROPOSED PRESIDENTIAL RADIO TALK: OLYMPICS

OMB has reviewed the attached material and has no comments.

cc: Richard Darman

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	l FYI
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McFARLANE					
McMANUS					

Document No	
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DATE:	26/84	ACTION/CONCU	RRENCE/CO	MMENT DUE BY:	2:00 P.M.	TODAY	
SUBJECT: _	PROPOSED I	PRESIDENTIAL	RADIO I	'ALK: OLYMPIC	S	₩-	
	(7/26 - 10):00 a.m. dra	ft)				
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REMARKS:							
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Please provide any edits/comments directly to Ben Elliott, with a copy to my office, by 2:00 p.m. today. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

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Ocument No.			

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	I FY!
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MARKS:	edits/comm	ments o	directly to Ben Ell Thank you.		

(Noonan/BE)
July 26, 1984
10:00 a.m.

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July 26, 1984
3:00 p.m.

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RULL 'S

1984 JUL 26 PI 7: 20

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 26, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING Orig. signed by FFF

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Draft Presidential Radio Talk

on the Olympics (July 28, 1984)

Our office has reviewed the above-referenced draft radio talk and has no legal or other substantive objection to it.

cc: Richard G. Darman

1984 JUL 26 PN 5:31

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



	ACTION	FY		ACTION F	
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MARKS: Please provide any to my office, by 2	edits/comm	ments o	directly to Ben Ell: Thank you.	iott, with a c	==

Richard G. Darman Assistant to the President Ext. 2702

1984 JUL 27 AM 10: 01

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORAND JUL 28

DATE:	26/84	ACTION/CONCURR	ENCE/C	OMMENT DUE BY:	2:00 P.M.	. TODAY	
SUBJECT:	PROPOSED PR	ESIDENTIAL RA	DIO 7	TALK: OLYMPIC	:s		
	(7/26 - 10:	00 a.m. draft	_)				·
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REMARKS:

Please provide any edits/comments directly to Ben Elliott, with a copy to my office, by 2:00 p.m. today. Thank you.

The NSC staff has reviewed and concurs with the attached 7/26, RESPONSE: 10:00 a.m. draft of the proposed Presidential radio talk on the Olympics, with edits on bottom of page 3 conveyed to Speechwriters.

> Robert M. Kimmitt Executive Secretary

Richard G. Darman Assistant to the President Ext. 2702

(Noonan/BE)
July 26, 1984
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Ten weeks ago, I greeted the Olympic Torch when it was carried to the White House by a young man, a fine young athlete who had carried it high for almost a mile. Today the torch arrives in Los Angeles, and I am thinking of what a journey it knew, and what a country it travelled through.

The journey started in the East, in Manhattan, in front of the United Nations. From there it arced South, and West, and passed from person to person in a marvelous relay. It was carried by former Olympians and handicapped kids, by elderly women and young athletes bright with the speed of youth.

They held the torch high and passed it one to another. They took it up hills and through lonely towns in the darkness, along grey highways at twilight and through bright towns at noon. They carried it past the malls and the airports, through the suburbs and cities, up the hills of steel towns and along the flat routes of America's heartland. They carried it through the gathering heat of the West in early summer, and they took it to Los Angeles, where today the torch lights the Olympic flame . . . and the Games begin.

Everywhere the torch went people came out of their homes and poured into the streets to cheer, and wave the flag, and urge the runners on. This outpouring reflected, I think, the New Patriotism that has swept our land.

So much of that new spirit involves our young people. It has seemed to me for some time now that there is a spirit of renewal among the young. It is as if they understand the future is great and huge and waiting for them. They seem to know once again that America is worth loving, worth caring about. They seem to take a quiet pride in all this Nation was and is; they show a happiness with our country that is wonderful to see.

I think we can hear and discern in their music these days, certainly more than in the past, an optimism and a feeling of affection for our Nation.

And there are the young people who will represent America in the Games themselves. They too show a marvelous spirit. They represent our country not in some kind of narrow nationalist sense but in a wider sense: They reflect the things we taught them about human conduct and human effort -- all the good things they learned on the playing fields and at the gym, on the city streets and in the playgrounds of America. In those places they learned that the pursuit of excellence is a fine thing in and of itself, and the elusive pursuit of perfection is one of the things that makes man human. They learned that you play by the rules, with a sense of fairness and generosity, that you don't cheat and that you take both victory and defeat with the same kind of grace and dignity.

Our young athletes deserve great credit. They were born with great gifts -- God blessed them with the physical talent that made it possible for them to compete in sports. But after that -- after the original gift -- after that it was all effort. To become champions they had to work hard, with discipline and desire and no small amount of tenacity. What they are and what they've done gives us a lift. It's always inspiring when we see young men and women try to resist gravity, to fight fatigue, to, in the words of the first astronauts, push out the edge of the envelope -- punch out of the things that hold us down and push on to new possibilities, new records.

Today it begins, and our athletes are ready. They will stand there, over the next few days, they will poise themselves on the blocks and stand at the edge of the diving board or stand with their toes on the line and wait for the shot to go -- and they'll know they're not alone. They'll hear the roar of the crowds, the great substantial cheer of the crowds, and -- who knows? -- if they listen close, maybe they'll hear the sound of Jesse Owens cheering, and Babe Diedrickson and Jim Thorpe, maybe they'll hear the cheers of all the young American athletes who once stood on the blocks waiting for the race to begin. Our young people are running for their country, running for greatness, for achievement, for that moving thing in man that makes him push on to the impossible . . .

The torch is passed -- the Games begin -- the 23rd Olympiad of the modern era commences. And as it does, just for a moment,

we remember the words of a character of William Faulkner. "It's good," he said. "It's good to be alive."

Until next week, thanks for listening and God bless you.

Document No.	

(7/20 10.	00 a.m. draft	- <i> </i>				
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Richard G. Darman Assistant to the President Ext. 2702

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Richard G. Darman
Assistant to the President
Ext. 2702

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

July 26, 1984 SP832-30

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

FROM:

DONALD R. FORTIER

SUBJECT:

Darman Referral - Draft of Presidential

Radio Talk on the Olympics

At Tab I is your response on a Darman referral memo conveying NSC clearance of the President's proposed radio address on the Olympics.

Karna Small concurs.

Recommendation

That you sign the memo at Tab I.

Disapprove ____

Attachment

Kimmitt/Darman w/draft remarks Tab I

N	ational Security The White Ho	use System	# <u>I</u> # <u>5734</u>
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Paul Thompson			
Bob Kimmitt			
John Poindexter		***********************	*****
Tom Shull		***************************************	*****
Wilma Hall	***************************************		**************************************
Bud McFarlane			
Bob Kimmitt			
NSC Secretariat	2	***************************************	
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I = Information A = Ac	tion R = Retain	D = Dispatch	N = No further Action
cc: VP Meese	Baker Deaver Oth	ner	
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(Date/Time)

ID # 817951 cu SP832-30

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure	X - Interim Reply	11 24	FOR OUTGOING CO	PRRESPONDENCE:
			Code	= Initials of Signer = "A"
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Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.

Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).

Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.

Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

		CLASSIFICATION SEC	TION	
No. of Additional Correspondents:	Media: _	Individual Code	ns:	
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 26, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING Orig. signed by FFF

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Draft Presidential Radio Talk

on the Olympics (July 28, 1984)

Our office has reviewed the above-referenced draft radio talk and has no legal or other substantive objection to it.

cc: Richard G. Darman

FFF:PJR:pr 7/26//84

cc: FFFielding PJRusthoven
Subject
Chron.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 26, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

PETER J. RUSTHOVEN

SUBJECT:

Draft Presidential Radio Talk on the Olympics (July 28, 1984)

Richard Darman's office asked us to provide comments directly to Ben Elliott by 2:00 p.m. today on the above-referenced draft radio talk, which the President is scheduled to deliver this Saturday, July 28.

The draft talk makes appropriate comments about the starting of the Los Angeles Summer Olympics, and presents no legal or other problem on which our office need comment.

A memorandum for Elliott, with copy to Darman, is attached for your review and signature.

Attachment

					
	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	I FYI
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Richard G. Darman
Assistant to the President
Ext. 2702

SP.

OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT

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ESPONSE TO:					

☐ John A. Svahn
Assistant to the President
for Policy Development
(x6515)

☐ Roger B. Porter
Director
Office of Policy Development
(x6515)

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RESPONSE TO:

☐ John A. Svahn
Assistant to the President
for Policy Development

Roger B. Porter
Director

Document No.	

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Richard G. Darman Assistant to the President Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 26, 1984

FOR: FILES

FROM: JUDY JOHNSTON

SUBJECT: Radio Talk: Olympics

Paul Simmons reviewed and approved the attached radio talk.