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(Gilder/ARD)
September 17, 1986
5:30 p.m.

Mike

RR

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT: SENATE CONFIRMATION OF JUSTICE WILLIAM
REHNQUIST AND JUDGE ANTONIN SCALIA
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1986

I am very pleased that the Senate has voted to confirm my nominations of William Rehnquist to be Chief Justice of the United States, and Antonin Scalia as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. William Rehnquist has served with great distinction as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court for the last 15 years. Known as an extraordinary legal mind from his early years in law, Justice Rehnquist earned renown in the Court for the brilliance of his reason and the clarity and craftsmanship of his opinions. I have no doubt that William Rehnquist will prove to be a Chief Justice of historic stature.

Judge Scalia is also widely regarded in his profession as a first class intellect, a persuasive jurist, and a warm, caring person. He will make a superb addition to the Court.

This vote in the full Senate is a bi-partisan rejection of the political posturing that marred the confirmation hearings. It's clear to all now that the extraordinary controversy surrounding the hearings had little to do with Justice Rehnquist's record or character -- both are unassailable and unimpeachable. The attacks came from those whose ideology runs contrary to his profound and unshakeable belief in the proper constitutional role of the judiciary in this country. Justice Rehnquist believes, as I do, that our Founding Fathers did not create the Supreme Court as a kind of supra-legislature; that judges should interpret the law, not make it; and that victims of

Page 2

crime are due at least as much consideration from our judicial system as criminal offenders.

Both Chief Justice Rehnquist and Associate Justice Scalia will be strong and eloquent voices for the proper role of the judiciary and the rights of victims; and I am confident that they will both serve the Court and their country very well indeed.

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Page 2

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Ball's
A's

(Gilder/ARD)
September 16, 1986
2:30 p.m. SS

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PJB
A'S

(Gilder/ARD)
September 16, 1986
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mike

September 16, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY DOLAN
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
CHIEF SPEECHWRITER

FROM: PETER J. WALLISON *PJW*
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Revised Presidential Statement:
Senate Confirmation of Justice
Rehnquist and Judge Scalia

We have reviewed the above-referenced draft Presidential Statement and have the following comments:

1. In the second sentence, it might be appropriate to refer to Rehnquist as "an Associate Justice" for the last fifteen years.
2. The final clause of the third paragraph should be toned down slightly without sacrificing the point. I suggest the following language: "and that the rights of society and of the victims of crime must be considered by our judicial system and not just those of criminal offenders."

cc: David L. Chew

Mike

(Gilder/ARD)
September 16, 1986
12:15 p.m.

SS

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CONGRESSIONAL
DIRECTORY, 99TH
CONGRESS, P. 761

TIME, 6/30/86,
P. 28

1ST
CLASS, N
TIMES,
P. A31

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WASH. A
9/12/86

LA TIMES
6/18/86
2:4

RANDOM
HOUSE
COLLECT
OICT.

NEW YORK
TIMES, 6/1
P. A3

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Page 2

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(Gilder/ARD)
September 16, 1986
2:30 p.m. SS

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(Gilder)
September 16, 1986
12:00 Noon

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COMG DIR
99TH CONG
P. 761

12:00
NYT
6/18/86
A31
TME
6/30/86
P. 28

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WASH POST
9/12/86
A22

LATM
6/18/86
24

NYT 6/25/82
P. A30

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Page 2

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