

NLWJC - Kagan

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Service - Radio Address *7/25/97*

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Address

Draft 7/25/97 4:30pm

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON CITIZEN SERVICE
THE WHITE HOUSE
JULY 25, 1997**

Good morning. I am joined here at the White House by the young men of Boys Nation, an outstanding organization that has inspired thousands of young people -- including myself -- to serve their country by serving in their communities.

I want to talk to you today about what we must do to make citizen service a part of every American's life, for his or her entire lifetime. As I said at Independence Hall in Philadelphia at the Presidents Service Summit this past April, the era of big government may be over, but the era of big citizenship must now begin. At that summit, thousands of Americans pledged their commitment to service. And as we prepare to go forward into the 21st Century, every one of us must join them, so we can meet our challenges and come together as one America.

For the past four and a half years, my administration has worked to give every American a chance to serve. We want to spark a renewed sense of obligation, a new sense of duty, and a new season of service all across America.

Of everything we have done to meet that challenge, I am proudest of AmeriCorps, our national service organization that has helped more than 70,000 young Americans all over the country to earn money for college while they serve their communities. AmeriCorps members do real work to address critical problems -- from cleaning up the environment, to helping at-risk children learn to read, to working with police to keep our streets safe, to helping our nation reach record levels of child immunization.

At the Service Summit I announced that our Administration would provide 50,000 new AmeriCorps scholarships over the next five years to organizations that offer young people the chance to serve. I am pleased to say today that 77 organizations have answered that challenge by offering to sponsor 10,000 new AmeriCorps members. And I thank those organizations for their commitment to promoting citizen service.

The success of AmeriCorps proves that citizen service works. And it is only one of the many things the national government is doing to work in partnership with citizens, businesses and civic groups. My Administration is busy following up on the commitments we made in Philadelphia at the Service Summit. This Fall, the Department of Agriculture will hold a food recovery summit that will help organize volunteers to distribute food to the needy. The Justice Department's new

Mentoring Alliance will link children in need with volunteer mentors. And the Department of Health and Human Services' new partnership with the Girl Scouts of America will teach girls about the danger of drugs. In all these ways, we are committed to encouraging service throughout American life.

Commitment to community should be an ethic that our children learn as early as possible, so they carry it throughout their lives. That is why I have called on every state to make service a part of the curriculum in high school or even middle school. There are many creative ways to do this -- including giving students credit for service, incorporating service into course work, putting service on a student's transcript, or even requiring service, as Maryland does.

In addition to the AmeriCorps scholarship program we announced at the Service Summit, last year we took additional steps to encourage our young people to serve their communities in high school. We said we would offer \$500 scholarships to high school juniors and seniors with the best record of service in their class if communities and private service organizations would match that amount.

Just one year later, I am proud to say that some of our nation's most prominent service organizations have answered that call. Today, I am pleased to announce that 1,600 high school students will receive scholarships of up to \$1,000 to pay for college, and many of them are here with me today. The American Legion, the Kiwanis Club, the Rotary Club, the Elks Club, the Lions Club, the Junior Leagues, and the Miss America Foundation -- community groups are the glue that hold America together. And now they are giving our young people another reason to give something back to our communities.

This is just the first year of the National Service Scholars program, and I know that next year it will be even bigger. Our goal is to make this program available in every high school, so that every high school principal in America can stand before a graduating class and announce the name of a National Service Scholar. And with the support of groups like those who have already committed to help, I am confident that we can make this happen.

Something very important to our nation happened at the President's Service Summit -- people from all walks of life looked beyond their differences and came together around the common goal of serving our country. This is the way we meet our challenges: business working together with government, religious and community groups joining forces, and people lending a hand to help one another. Today we are taking an important step to build on that progress.

The spirit of the Service Summit is stronger than ever -- and it is up to us to keep it alive.

▶ **Diana Fortuna**
07/24/97 04:31:30 PM
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Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP
cc: Cynthia A. Rice/OPD/EOP, Cathy R. Mays/OPD/EOP
Subject: Boys Nation/radio address event memo

Below is OPL's first cut of the event memo, much of which is based on what I gave them. I have already told Dan Wexler to fix the first paragraph (i.e., don't describe these as "private sector scholarships", mention the summit, etc.) Wexler will put your name on the memo along with Maria's. There are still a lot of typos to be cleaned up, but I thought you would want to see it at this point. I will plan on attending the briefing; I hear you may or may not attend.

July 24, 1997

1997 BOY'S NATION MEETING AND RADIO ADDRESS TAPING

DATE: July 25, 1997
LOCATION: East Room
TIME: 5:35 pm
FROM: Maria Echaveste

I. PURPOSE

You will announce new private sector scholarships to make it possible for more young people to participate in the civic life of their communities through service. You will be joined by the members of Boys Nation and representatives of supportive civic organizations as you discuss the importance of citizen service.

II. BACKGROUND

As you know, for more than 50 years, the American Legion Auxiliary has provided a unique opportunity for teenage boys to learn firsthand how our system of government works through the Boys State and Boys Nation programs. Almost one million teenage boys have participated since the first Boys State, and thousands have attended Boys Nation since it began.

In this weeks radio address, you will announce that over 1,600 high school students have won scholarships of at least \$1,000 as part of the first year of the National Service Scholars program. These scholarships recognize students with outstanding records of community service. You first called for this program in a speech at Penn State in May 1996, challenging communities to raise at least \$500 for their local high schools, which the federal government would then match. In the first year, a host of leading community organizations stepped forward to raise local scholarships, including the Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions, Dollars for Scholars, Seventh Day Adventists, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, Elks, Women's Clubs, Masons, Soroptomists, and Junior Leagues. The Miss America Foundation committed to provide scholarships in every state.

Sallie Mae provided the matching funds for every public high school in D.C. The Minnesota state legislature voted to fund the match for all high schools in that state. Each high school principal is invited to nominate a junior or senior for the scholarship. (It is interesting to note, in the context of Boys Nation, that 70% of the 1,683 scholarship winners are girls.)

You will urge all 20,000 high schools in the nation to participate next year. Congress appears fairly supportive of this program. The House Appropriations Committee recently voted to appropriate the full \$10 million cost of taking it nationwide. (A House floor amendment then cut all AmeriCorps programs in half, but the House is expected to reverse this in conference.) The Senate did not include it, but appears likely to agree to it in conference. The Corporation for National Service found funds internally for the \$800,000 cost of this year's program. In fact, it had set aside \$3 million for this purpose, which would have funded 6,000 scholarships, but the program got a late start.

In addition the Boys Nation participants, representatives of civic groups along with five scholarship winners will be in the audience. Our hope is that civic organizations will publicize this event in their newsletters and drum up even more support for this program next year.

You will also talk about how we are continuing to move forward to reach the goals of the Philadelphia summit on service. You will announce that service and religious organizations have responded positively to your summit challenge that we would provide 50,000 new AmeriCorps scholarships over the next 5 years to organizations that offer young people the chance to serve. Already, 77 organizations have answered that challenge by offering to sponsor 10,000 new AmeriCorps members.

Other progress includes: the Vice President's May announcement of a new partnership of civic organizations that will mentor families seeking to leave welfare for work; Eli Segal's Welfare to Work Partnership that is mobilizing businesses to hire welfare recipients, your announcement last month that Kaiser Permanente will commit \$100 million to provide health coverage for uninsured children in California; and federal agencies' efforts to implement the more than 40 commitments they made at the summit, including mentoring and tutoring and launching new partnerships with corporations and nonprofits.

Following your remarks you invite the Boys Nation President, Sterling Dowling from Orangeburg, South Carolina and the Vice President, Jason Cipriano from Hamstead, New Hampshire to the stage. They will present you with a Boys Nation shirt.

Lastly, one of this years counselors, Adam Ake (Boy's Nation, 1992) , was the 1997 class honor graduate at West Point. You met Adam earlier this year when you attended the West Point Commencement on May 31. You pinned on Adam's lieutenant bars during a reception at the Superintendents house. Adam received extensive media attention based on the fact that his father is serving a ten-year prison term in Alaska. Adam won a Rhode Scholarship as well as a Truman Scholarship and a Marshall Scholarship. He is the first West Point cadet to win all three. He will attend Oxford in the fall.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Ron Engel, Director/Coordinator, Boys Nation

Jack Mercier, Director of Activities, (35 years of service to the program and was counselor to your section in 1963).

George Blume, Legislative Director,(27 years service)

96 Boys Nation Senators (list attached)

30 American Legion/Boys Nation Staff

5 Scholarship winners and civic groups to be added

IV. PRESS PLAN

Closed Press. The ABC, CNN, AP, C-SPAN, CBS, NBC, Mutual, UPI, USA, American Urban Radio Network, and Standard News radio networks will carry the address live to their collective thousands of stations across the country on Saturday at 10:06 AM EDT.

The White House will also release a photograph to news organizations.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- o You will be briefed in the Blue Room.
- o WHCA will announce you into the East Room.
- o You proceed to the stage. On stage will be (to be added).
- o You take a seat and tape the radio address.
- o After the radio address, the stage participants will exit the stage and take a seat in the front row.
- o You proceed to the podium and make remarks.
- o After your remarks you invite the Sterling Dowling, the Boys Nation President and Jason Cipriano, the Boys Nation Vice President to the stage. They will make brief remarks and present you with a Boys Nation shirt and a copy of the legislation passed during the week.
- o You proceed to the Blue Room for a receiving line.
- o After the receiving line, you proceed to the North Portico for a group photo.
- o You depart

VI. REMARKS

To be provided by speechwriters.

The National Service Scholars Program

President Clinton announced today that more than 1,600 high school students have won scholarships of at least \$1,000 in the first year of the National Service Scholars Program. The college scholarships recognize outstanding community service.

The President proposed the program last year in an address at Penn State University, challenging communities to raise at least \$500 for their local high schools, which the federal government would then match. High school principals nominate the junior or senior with a strong commitment to community service to receive scholarships.

The \$500 federal match is provided by the Corporation for National Service, which launched the program this spring in partnership with the Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America. The deadline to apply for the program was June 30, and 1,683 high schools submitted nominees. Awards will be sent to scholarship winners in early August.

The program has proved extremely popular, with a host of leading community organizations stepping forward to raise local scholarships and secure the federal match. The most frequent local contributors include: Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions, Dollars for Scholars, Seventh Day Adventists, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, Elks, Women's Clubs, the Masons, Soroptomists, Junior Leagues, Optimists, Jaycees, Quota International, Sertoma, Parent Teacher Associations, and Chambers of Commerce. The Miss America Foundation committed to providing matching scholarships in every state; Sallie Mae provided the matching funds for every public high school in the District of Columbia; and the Minnesota state legislature voted to fund the match for all high schools in that state.

When he announced the initiative at Penn State, President Clinton said, "I want every principal in America to be able to stand up before a graduating class and announce the name of a National Service Scholar. We should make service to the community a part of every high school in America and a part of life of every dedicated citizen in the United States." Noting the success of the first year effort, the President today challenged schools and communities to award scholarships to many more students next year, with the goal of instituting the program in all high schools.

The President's FY 1998 budget includes \$10 million for the National Service Scholars Program, enough to take the program nation-wide.

Attending the radio address where the President made the announcement were two

scholarship winners and representatives from four civic groups that raised local scholarship funds (add names).

Talking Points on Presidents' Summit Followup

The President's Commitment: The President remains committed to the goals of the Presidents' Summit for America's Future in April in Philadelphia. The Summit's goals for children (a caring adult, a safe place, a healthy start, a marketable skill, and a chance to serve) are each vital goals of the Administration.

Since April, the President has continued to speak about the importance of service and volunteerism to audiences, including the Business Roundtable, the Conference of Mayors, and businesses attending the announcement of the Welfare-to-Work Partnership. He has talked extensively about how all of us must move forward to reach the goals of the Summit and to give more children what they need to grow up to be productive citizens.

In addition, the President applauds the work of General Powell and America's Promise and looks forward to possible participation in future Summit activities. In fact, Members of the President's Cabinet will soon begin to participate in follow-up Summits around the country.

National Service Scholars: On Saturday the President announced in his weekly radio address that over 1,600 high school students have won scholarships of at least \$1,000 as part of the first year of the National Service Scholars program. These scholarships recognize students with outstanding records of community service. The President first called for this program in a speech at Penn State in May 1996, challenging communities to raise at least \$500 for their local high schools, which the federal government would then match. In the first year, a host of leading community organizations stepped forward to raise local scholarships, including the Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions, Dollars for Scholars, Seventh Day Adventists, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, Elks, Women's Clubs, Masons, Soroptomists, and Junior Leagues. The Miss America Foundation committed to provide scholarships in every state. Sallie Mae provided the matching funds for every public high school in D.C. The Minnesota state legislature voted to fund the match for all high schools in that state. Each high school principal is invited to nominate a junior or senior for the scholarship. He urged all 20,000 high schools in the nation to participate next year.

Representatives of civic groups along with five scholarship winners were in the audience. Our hope is that civic organizations will publicize this event in their newsletters and drum up even more support for this program next year.

AmeriCorps Scholarships: Saturday the President announced that service and religious organizations have responded positively to his summit challenge that the Administration would provide 50,000 new AmeriCorps scholarships over the next 5 years to organizations that offer young people the chance to serve. The response

has been even stronger than expected, as 77 organizations have answered that challenge by offering to sponsor 10,000 new AmeriCorps members. The Corporation expects to make the first year's awards this summer.

Recent Actions on Welfare and Children's Health:

- In May, the Vice President announced that he will head a new partnership of civic organizations that will mentor families seeking to leave welfare for work.
- Eli Segal's Welfare to Work Partnership is mobilizing businesses to hire welfare recipients, so that those parents can move into the economic mainstream and improve their children's future. A major expansion of this group was announced in May.
- In June, the President announced that Kaiser Permanente will commit \$100 million to provide health coverage for uninsured children in California, complementing the Administration's efforts to enact new legislation on children's health coverage.

Federal Agency Commitments: Federal agencies are following through on the more than 40 commitments they made at the summit, which included mentoring and tutoring and launching new partnerships with corporations and nonprofits. They are also continuing to launch new initiatives and partnerships to reach the summit's goals. The following highlights some of our progress since the Summit.

- The White House has convened an interagency group to focus on this issue. It will meet regularly and hold agencies accountable for their progress. The White House has asked all agencies to complete timelines and milestones that show how they intend to reach their commitments.
- The Administration is working with the National Association of Partners in Education to meet its goal of adopting or establishing partnerships with an additional 500 schools by the year 2000. Prior to the summit, federal agencies had partnerships with approximately 1,500 schools across the country. The Social Security Administration and the Department of Transportation have already established new partnerships since the summit, while the Department of Health and Human Services is working with the organization "Everybody Wins" to adopt more schools. In addition, this summer the Labor Department is operating a new four-week summer academic enrichment program for D.C. public school students in partnership with the National Council of Negro Women.
- The Administration is working toward its goal of using national service as a

strategy in the President's proposed America Reads program, the national literacy campaign to ensure that every child can read well and independently by the third grade. At this time, the Senate has appropriated \$20 million for the Corporation for National Service to fund AmeriCorps tutor coordinators to help recruit, organize, and manage volunteers who will tutor children. While awaiting congressional action, the Corporation is launching a "Seniors in Schools" initiative, with nine pilot sites and support for 8,700 school-based Senior Corps programs. In September, the Corporation will deploy the DC Reads Initiative, with AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and federal work-study students tutoring in 18 of the lowest performing public elementary schools in D.C. In addition, the Corporation and the Department of Education have recruited over 500 colleges and universities to dedicate work study students as reading tutors. This summer, AmeriCorps members are helping 8,000 pre-K to 3rd grade students with reading as part of 20 "Summer Reads" programs.

- The Corporation for National Service is taking the lead on a strategy to meet the Summit's goal of engaging an additional 2 million young people in service. In August, it will convene a national strategic planning session in Washington in partnership with America's Promise and Do Something, with participation from the youth community, faith groups, the education community, and summit commitment makers in this area. The Corporation hopes that America's Promise will assist its efforts to expand the National Service Scholars program next year; its goal is to reach every high school in America. The Corporation will place an AmeriCorps*VISTA member in every public high school in D.C. to serve as the service-learning coordinator. Finally, the Partnering Initiative co-sponsored by the Corporation is working this summer to launch "partner schools" in the fall -- schools with model service-learning programs.
- The Corporation and its State Commissions on National and Community Service are taking lead roles in organizing many of the community and state summits in the months following the summit gathering in Philadelphia.
- In June, HHS Secretary Shalala launched a new partnership between the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and the Department's Girl Power! public education campaign. This national program will teach Girl Scouts about the dangers of substance abuse and other risky behaviors. It features a new patch that Girl Scouts can earn by completing the program. HHS has also launched its Playcorps commitment with Nike, which trains college students to coach and mentor kids in underserved areas in recreation leagues.
- In September, USDA Secretary Dan Glickman will convene his department's National Summit on Food Recovery, to develop a national strategy to

increase gleaning efforts by one-third by the year 2000.

- This month, the Department of Justice followed through on its commitment to expand its Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) program. DOJ gave out grants to 26 DEFY summer camp sites that are now serving 900 children. DEFY promotes positive life choices for children between the ages of 9 and 12. After the summer program, the children will have mentors from the local U.S. Attorney's office, police department, or university.
- In May, the Department of Justice and the Corporation for National Service held the first meeting of a new public/private Mentoring Alliance that will promote the mentoring goal of the Summit. Members include Big Brothers/Big Sisters, One to One, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Save the Children, and federal agencies. Plans include a teleconference in September on effective practices, a national 800 number to link mentors with opportunities, and development of best practices materials. In addition, DOJ expects to follow through shortly on its commitment to more than double the number of sites for its Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP).
- In June, the Attorney General kicked off the Department of Justice's new Youth Network in Baltimore, to provide a forum for young people and community organizations to exchange ideas on juvenile violence and delinquency prevention.
- The Department of Education now has 380,000 tutors and learning partners reading with children this summer, a significant increase over last summer's 300,000 and is well on its way to its goal of 450,000. The program's goal is to get 1.5 million children reading by the end of the summer. In addition, the Department has added 300 partners to its Partnership for Family Involvement in Education, for a total of 3,000 partner organizations.
- In May, Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater launched his department's new effort, the Garrett A. Morgan Technology & Transportation Futures Program, in Cleveland, Ohio, at the Garrett A. Morgan Middle School. With its industry and labor partners, the Department updated the school's computer lab, established a tutoring and mentoring program, and sponsored transportation career days for the students. To date, DOT has heard from over 200 partners who want to join its effort to reach one million students by the year 2000. The program's goal is to give one million students better math, science, and technology skills and information about careers in technology and transportation, through tutoring, mentoring, and educational curricula.