

TALKERS ON TOWER COMMISSION REPORT

Ruegh McMillan

o THE PRESIDENT HAS ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY. THE BUCK STOPS
IN THE OVAL OFFICE. HE'S NOT DUCKING THAT FACT.

o THERE WERE COLOSSAL BLUNDERS. THE LIMITS OF THE LAW WERE
STRETCHED, MAYBE EVEN BROKEN. THAT HAS TO BE PUT RIGHT -- NO
MATTER WHO WAS INVOLVED, NO MATTER WHERE THE INVESTIGATIONS LEAD.

o IF MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION DIDN'T PLAY BY THE
RULES; DIDN'T SERVE THE PRESIDENT FAITHFULLY AND WELL -- IT'S
TIME FOR THEM TO QUIT HIDING BEHIND THE PRESIDENT, AND GO. AND
IF THEY WON'T, IT WILL BE TIME FOR THE PRESIDENT TO BITE THE
BULLET AND SHOW THEM THE DOOR.

o BUT, AS IMPORTANT AS THAT IS, IT'S NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT
THING. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO GET THIS GOVERNMENT MOVING
AGAIN.

o THE FINGER-POINTING, BLAME-LAYING ARE GOING TO GO ON AND
ON. BUT THE PRESIDENT AND THE REST OF US WHO HAVE SOME
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY ARE GOING TO HAVE TO
GET ON WITH OUR BUSINESS.

o THERE ARE 22 MONTHS LEFT IN THIS ADMINISTRATION. AND WE CAN'T LET THINGS DRIFT. THERE ARE MANY, MANY CRITICAL DECISIONS AHEAD, ESPECIALLY RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY.

o THE PRESIDENT'S HAND HAS TO BE FIRMLY ON THE RUDDER. CLEAR POLICY DECISIONS HAVE TO BE MADE. AND THERE HAS TO BE VIGOROUS FOLLOW-UP, TO MAKE SURE THOSE DECISIONS ARE IMPLEMENTED.

o AND THE WHOLE SUPPORTING CREW -- SHULTZ, WEINBERGER, CARLUCCI AND THE REST -- THEY HAVE TO STAND UNEQUIVOCALLY BEHIND THE PRESIDENT AND WORK TOGETHER. ANYONE WHO'S NOT WILLING TO PLAY ON THE TEAM OUGHT TO BE THROWN OFF.