

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1989
TO: SENATOR
FM: WALT

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION:

o YOU ARE KICKING OFF THEIR 28TH GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON -- WEB HAWKINS INTRODUCES YOU. HE IS AN NNA BOARD MEMBER AND ITS FORMER PRESIDENT.

o 400 REPRESENTATIVES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE HERE. THEY REPRESENT 5,000 COMMUNITY PAPERS (4,300 WEEKLIES, 700 DAILIES).

o OTHER SPEAKERS FOLLOWING YOU WILL BE: GEORGE MITCHELL, HOWARD METZENBAUM, SECRETARY MOSBACHER, MARK SHIELDS, WILLIAM SESSIONS AND DAVID GERGEN.

o KANSAS TURNOUT IS REPORTEDLY LOW:

- * WEBSTER AND GLADYS HAWKINS, OSAWOTOMIE GRAPHIC.
- * RICHARD AND RACHEL CLASEN, EUREKA HERALD.
- * CARTER AND LOLITA ZERBE, KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION.
- * STEVE ROSE, JOHNSON COUNTY SUN.
- * FRED AND CAROLYN SEATON, WINFIELD COURIER.
- * HARRY AND SHERI VALENTINE, CLAY CENTER PUBLISHING.

o THEY CLAIM THEY WANT TO HEAR ABOUT TAXES, THE BUDGET AND CLIMATE FOR SMALL BUSINESS. IT MIGHT GO OVER FAIRLY WELL IF YOU MENTION THE IMPORTANCE OF JOURNALISTS AND WRITERS STANDING UP TO KHOMEINI'S DEATH AND RETALIATION THREATS IN THE WAKE OF "SATANIC VERSES". THE NNA CONFERENCE WILL LATER HEAR FROM THE EDITORS OF THE RIVERDALE PRESS-- A NEW YORK COMMUNITY PAPER -- WHICH WAS FIREBOMBED BY TERRORISTS AFTER THEY RAN EDITORIALS CONDEMNING THE AYATOLLAH.



NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

January 26, 1989

The Honorable Bob Dole
United States Senate
SH-141
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Dole:

We are delighted to hear that you will be joining us for NNA's 1989 Government Affairs Conference.

The general session will take place in the Dirksen Senate Office Building Auditorium on Thursday, March 16, 1989 at 8:30 a.m. We are asking that you plan to be with us 40 minutes.

Your long-time friend and NNA board member Webster Hawkins of Osawatomie, Kansas, will introduce you to our publishers and editors.

The following topics would be of particular interest to this newspaper audience: taxes, the budget, and the climate for small business. Ms. Meyer may contact me with further questions. Between now and March 16, we will be sending Ms. Meyer copies of our bi-weekly publication, Publishers' Auxiliary.

Sincerely,

Joann H. Buckley
Joann H. Buckley
Director
Member Services

cc: Betty Meyer
Webster Hawkins

380 people

845 - 915

- 1. senator Dole*
- 2. senator Mitchell*
- 3. Senator Mity*

not sure of topic
consumer rights

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NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

December 6, 1988

The Honorable Robert Dole
United States Senate
SH-141
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Dole:

We extend this special invitation to you to speak at a general session of the National Newspaper Association's 1989 Government Affairs Conference on Thursday, March 16, in the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

NNA sponsors this annual conference for publishers and editors of America's community newspapers. We expect more than 400 publishers of weekly and smaller city daily newspapers to attend.

More than 5,000 weekly and smaller city daily newspapers are members of the National Newspaper Association. The influence and leadership they exert in their communities is well recognized. It is for this reason that in recent years this relatively select group of 400 has met with President Reagan each year of his administration as well as with Cabinet officials and leaders of Congress. I've enclosed a copy of the 1988 program and list of participants for your information.

We would be honored by your appearance. We will be happy to work with your staff on the exact time and topics of discussion.

I hope to hear good news from you soon.

Sincerely,

David C. Simonson
Executive Vice President

cc: Betty Myer
Walt Riker

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NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

NEWS RELEASE

1627 K Street, N.W. • Suite 400 • Washington, D.C. 20006 • (202) 466-7200

Backgrounder National Newspaper Association

The publishers of more than 4,300 weekly and 700 daily newspapers turn to the National Newspaper Association for information on the latest technologies and issues, and for liaison with the various branches of government. NNA monitors a myriad of existing and pending laws and regulations affecting the newspaper business.

NNA was founded in 1885 to serve as a united voice for publishers and a center of information. The association's 104th annual Convention and Trade Show will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, October 25-28, 1989.

NNA publishes two bi-weekly trade journals, Publishers' Auxiliary and News Media Update. "Pub Aux" covers all aspects of newspapering, and the Update focuses on legal, legislative and postal issues.

NNA's Government Affairs Conference, held in the spring in Washington, D.C., draws an impressive array of top federal officials who provide formal and informal briefings on all aspects of government. Highlights of recent conferences include White House receptions and briefings with the president, visits

- more -

NNA Backgrounder
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to numerous embassies, and sessions with Administration officials, members of Congress, and Supreme Court justices.

Other NNA services include frequent international study missions, where publishers have an opportunity to meet with foreign officials and compare newspaper operations with their counterparts abroad.

Each year NNA also sponsors the "National Better Newspaper Contest" which, in addition to honoring the winners, affords members a chance to look at examples of journalistic excellence.

The National Newspaper Foundation, NNA's educational arm, awards scholarships, conducts industry surveys, distributes career information, and offers a newspaper evaluation program and several publications encouraging high professional standards.

NNA's subsidiary, American Newspaper Representatives (ANR) places national and cooperative advertising in NNA' members' community newspapers.

Through these and other programs, the National Newspaper Association is in constant communication with newspaper publishers nationwide, serving as a central clearinghouse of information and innovation, and representing publishers in Washington.

David Simonson is the association's executive vice president.

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SENATOR BOB DOLE
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
THURSDAY -- MARCH 16, 1989 -- 8:45 A.M.

THANK YOU WEB (HAWKINS). YOU AND I HAVE COME
ALONG WAY FROM RUSSELL, KANSAS. BUT I BELIEVE WE
STILL HAVE MUCH IN COMMON -- WE HAVE NEVER LOST
TOUCH WITH OUR ROOTS.

-2-

THAT'S WHY IT IS ALWAYS REFRESHING TO VISIT
WITH THIS OUTSTANDING ASSOCIATION. AS SOMEONE
WHO LIVES AND WORKS IN A TOWN WHERE THE MEDIA
'BIG BOYS' REIGN SUPREME, IT'S WELCOME RELIEF TO
SPEAK WITH FOLKS FROM THE REAL WORLD, REMOVED
FROM THE HYPE AND GLITTER OF THE EVENING NEWS
AND THE LATEST WASHINGTON NEWS NUGGET.

-3-

YOUR ROOTS ARE INDEED FIRMLY PLANTED IN THE
REAL WORLD AND AS FAR AS THIS SENATOR IS
CONCERNED THAT MAKES YOUR VIEWS ALL THE MORE
IMPORTANT.

I AM PROUD OF THE STRONG TRADITION OF SMALL
TOWN, SMALL CITY JOURNALISM IN MY HOME STATE --
WHETHER IT IS ONE OF 210 WEEKLIES OR 47 DAILIES, THE
PEOPLE OF KANSAS ARE WELL-SERVED BY A

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TRADITION THAT HAS PRODUCED THE LIKES OF WILLIAM
ALLEN WHITE, HUCK BOYD, CLYDE REED AND THE LATE
DOLPH SIMONS.

THE FACT THAT YOU WILL BE HOLDING YOUR 104TH
ANNUAL CONVENTION THIS YEAR RATES A HEADLINE OF
ITS OWN -- NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, WEEKLIES AND DAILIES
ARE ALIVE AND WELL AND MOVING ONTO THE 21ST
CENTURY.

-5-

A. TOWER REPRISE -- CHENEY ON THE WAY

THE TOWER BATTLE IS OVER. IT MAY HAVE BEEN A
ROUGH AND TUMBLE BRAWL BUT THERE WILL BE NO
HARD FEELINGS: TO PROVE IT, JOHN TOWER JUST SENT
EVERY DEMOCRAT A BASKET OF FRUIT -- FROM CHILE.

-6-

B. DEFICITS/BUDGET

THERE ARE SEVERAL ISSUES ON THE FRONT
BURNER THIS YEAR THAT WILL HAVE TREMENDOUS
IMPACT ON RURAL AND SMALL TOWN AMERICA. AND
YOU CAN START WITH THE BIGGEST ONE RIGHT UP
FRONT -- THE FEDERAL DEFICIT.

- O I THINK PRESIDENT BUSH IS OFF TO A GOOD START.
THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE REDUCING THE BUDGET
DEFICIT HIS NUMBER ONE LEGISLATIVE

-7-

PRIORITY. HIS FIRST MEETING WITH
CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, WHICH I ATTENDED,
WAS A BIPARTISAN MEETING ON THE DEFICIT THAT
LASTED TWO HOURS. AND JUST LAST WEEK,
BECAUSE OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENT THE
DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP IN CONGRESS AGREED
TO BEGIN DEFICIT REDUCTION NEGOTIATIONS.

THE BUSH BUDGET

O IN HIS ADDRESS TO CONGRESS, PRESIDENT BUSH HAS MADE GOOD ON HIS CAMPAIGN PROMISES TO PRODUCE A KINDER AND GENTLER BUDGET AND TO MEET THE GRAMM-RUDMAN-HOLLINGS TARGETS WITHOUT RAISING TAXES. AND SO FAR, NO ONE HAS CALLED HIS PLAN "DEAD-ON-ARRIVAL.

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O MOREOVER, IN SPITE OF THE CLAIMS MADE BY
SOME DEMOCRATS, THIS BUDGET DOES NOT LEAVE
THE TOUGH CHOICES TO CONGRESS. THE
PRESIDENT HOLDS DEFENSE GROWTH TO THE RATE
OF INFLATION, AND SIGNIFICANTLY CUTS OTHER
PROGRAMS.

THE BUDGET PROCESS

O FINALLY, I BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE
ACCELERATE THE NORMAL BUDGET PROCESS
WHICH CAN DRAG ON UNTIL OCTOBER OR
NOVEMBER. IMPORTANT DEADLINES ARE
LOOMING: THE SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE IS
REQUIRED TO REPORT A BUDGET RESOLUTION BY
APRIL 1. WITH A TWO WEEK EASTER RECESS AT THE
END OF MARCH, IT IS NOT LIKELY TO COMPLETE
THAT WORK ON TIME.

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O STARTING BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS NOW IS THE
ONLY RESPONSIBLE THING TO DO. THE FINANCIAL
MARKETS ARE NERVOUSLY AWAITING A SIGNAL
THAT CONGRESS INTENDS TO ACT RESPONSIBLY TO
MEET ITS DEFICIT REDUCTION TARGETS WITHOUT A
SEQUESTER.

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C. MANDATED BENEFITS AND SMALL BUSINESS

AS YOU KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE, THE
LAST THING BUSINESSMEN AND WOMEN UP AND DOWN
MAIN STREET NEED IS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
POKING ITS NOSE IN THEIR BUSINESS. BUT THAT IS
EXACTLY WHAT'S ON TAP IF TED KENNEDY AND SOME
OTHERS GET THEIR WAY ON THE LABOR FRONT.

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MANDATED BENEFITS ARE BACK AGAIN THIS YEAR.
WE SUCCESSFULLY BEAT BACK THIS BIG GOVERNMENT
AGENDA LAST YEAR BUT IT WILL BE ANOTHER TOUGH
ASSIGNMENT IN 1989. THE BOTTOMLINE IS THIS: DO THE
PEOPLE IN YOUR TOWN WANT A BENEFIT OR A
PAYCHECK?

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DO THEY WANT THE DOORS TO EMPLOYMENT
WIDE-OPEN, OR DO THEY WANT A FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT MANDATE SLAMMING THE DOOR IN THEIR
FACES?

O LAST FEBRUARY, SENATOR DODD INTRODUCED
A BILL THAT WOULD REQUIRE EMPLOYERS --
INCLUDED SMALL-SIZED BUSINESSES -- TO
PROVIDE UNPAID PARENTAL AND MEDICAL
LEAVE FOR PERIODS AS LONG AS 13 WEEKS.

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O I SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE PARENTAL AND
MEDICAL LEAVE POLICIES THAT MEET THE NEEDS
OF INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES AND THEIR
EMPLOYEES. NEVERTHELESS, EMPLOYEES AND
EMPLOYERS -- NOT JUST THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT -- ARE IN THE BEST POSITION TO
JUDGE WHAT THESE NEEDS ACTUALLY ARE.

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O THE FACT THAT SENATOR DODD'S BILL CALLS
FOR UNPAID PARENTAL AND MEDICAL LEAVE
DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE BILL WOULD HAVE
NO SOCIAL COSTS. THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING
OFFICE, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS ESTIMATED THAT
PARENTAL LEAVE LEGISLATION COULD COST
EMPLOYERS ALMOST \$200 MILLION ANNUALLY.

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O MOREOVER, AS ALL OF YOU WELL KNOW, A
NATIONAL "PARENTAL LEAVE" STANDARD WILL
DISPROPORTIONATELY HURT MANY SMALL
BUSINESSES. THESE BUSINESSES SIMPLY
CANNOT AFFORD TO HAVE EMPLOYEES ABSENT
FOR A SUBSTANTIAL PERIOD OF TIME.

LABOR ISSUES

O THERE ARE A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT LABOR
ISSUES THAT CONGRESS WILL TAKE UP THIS
LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

A. MINIMUM WAGE

O SENATOR KENNEDY, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS ALSO
INTRODUCED A BILL THAT WOULD RAISE THE
MINIMUM WAGE TO \$4.65 AN HOUR BY 1992.
THIS BILL SHOULD REACH THE SENATE FLOOR
SHORTLY AFTER THE EASTER RECESS.

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- O RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE HAS GREAT

POLITICAL APPEAL. AS A RESULT, YOU CAN

UNDERSTAND WHY SOME OF THE POLITICIANS IN

CONGRESS ARE PUSHING HARD FOR IT.

- O BUT IF ONE STEPS AWAY FROM THE POLITICAL

RHETORIC AND LOOKS AT THE HARD FACTS, IT

BECOMES CLEAR THAT RAISING THE MINIMUM

WAGE WILL ONLY SERVE TO FUEL THE

INFLATIONARY FIRE BY INCREASING THE COSTS

OF DOING BUSINESS.

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O HIGHER BUSINESS COSTS WILL HAVE ONE
DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCE: LONGER
UNEMPLOYMENT LINES.

O AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, THE PRESIDENT HAS
DEVELOPED HIS OWN MINIMUM WAGE PLAN.
THIS PLAN PROVIDES FOR A TRAINING WAGE
THAT WOULD ENABLE YOUNG PEOPLE TO
OBTAIN THAT VALUABLE FIRST JOB -- AT A TIME
IN THEIR LIVES WHEN MOST DO NOT HAVE THE
RESPONSIBILITY OF SUPPORTING A FAMILY --

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AND AT A COST THAT MOST BUSINESSES CAN
AFFORD. UNFORTUNATELY, THE LABOR
COMMITTEE REJECTED THE PRESIDENT'S PLAN,
INCLUDING HIS PROPOSAL FOR A SUBMINIMUM
TRAINING WAGE.

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O I INTEND TO SEND A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT
PLEDGING MY SUPPORT FOR A VETO OF ANY
LEGISLATION THAT WOULD INCREASE THE
MINIMUM WAGE ABOVE \$4.25 AN HOUR AND
THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE A TRAINING WAGE FOR
NEW EMPLOYEES OF A FIRM.

D. TAXES

I AM STANDING WITH GEORGE BUSH ON THIS ONE. I
DON'T HAVE TO READ HIS LIPS. I REMEMBER NEW
HAMPSHIRE. WITH MILLIONS OF AMERICANS FILLING
OUT THEIR TAX FORMS THESE DAYS, IT IS THE LATEST
REMINDER THAT WE HAVE JUST ENACTED TAX REFORM.
THE LAST THING WE NEED IS SOME NEW FEDERAL TAX
SCHEME JUST AS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE GETTING
USED TO TAX REFORM.

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THE REAL SCOOP IS ONE MOST OF YOU ALREADY
HAVE IN YOUR COLUMNS AND EDITORIALS -- YOU CUT
SPENDING FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD. YOU DON'T
RAISE TAXES TO BALANCE THE BUDGET.

O THE BUDGET PROPOSED BY PRESIDENT BUSH
MAKES GOOD ON HIS CAMPAIGN PROMISES TO
MEET THE GRAMM-RUDMAN-HOLLINGS DEFICIT
TARGETS WITHOUT RAISING TAXES. SOME
DEMOCRATS HAVE INDICATED THAT THE PRICE FOR
ENACTING SOME OF THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRAMS
MUST BE INCOME TAX RATE

-25-

INCREASES. I BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL FIND THAT
WHEN THE PRESIDENT SAID "NO NEW TAXES", HE
MEANT IT. THAT INCLUDES EXCISE TAXES, AS WELL
AS RATE INCREASES.

E. "SATANIC VERSES" & FREE SPEECH

WE NEED TO SEND A 'LOUD AND CLEAR' MESSAGE
TO THE AYATOLLAH AND HIS FELLOW CRAZIES THAT THE
UNITED STATES WILL NEVER KNUCKLE IN TO HIS DEATH
THREATS. THIS AUDIENCE KNOWS THE FIRST
AMENDMENT

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IS ONE OF THE PILLARS OF OUR DEMOCRACIES; AND
JOURNALISTS, WRITERS, PUBLISHERS AND THE
CONGRESS WILL STAND TOGETHER TO TELL THE REST
OF THE WORLD THAT OUR CONSTITUTIONAL
PROTECTIONS ARE SACROSANCT.

THAT IS WHY THE SENATE RECENTLY ENACTED A
RESOLUTION THAT SPELLED OUT EXACTLY HOW
AMERICA FEELS ABOUT OUR PRESS AND SPEECH
FREEDOMS.