

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

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August 28, 1989

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Andrew H. Card, Jr.
Assistant to the President and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Andy:

It was good seeing you earlier this month. I am writing to follow up on our discussion regarding a meeting between the President and the independent agency commissioners. As I mentioned, such a session would provide the President with an excellent opportunity to meet and get to know the individual commissioners who, in significant ways, determine the direction of the nation's economy. Further, it would allow the President to articulate -- as specifically or generally as desired -- his own regulatory philosophy and suggest broad guidelines to the agencies without in any way impinging upon their statutory independence.


As you may know, President Reagan had a group meeting during his first term with the chairmen of the independent regulatory agencies (under the auspices of CIRA -- the Council of Independent Regulatory Agencies). Although it was helpful to those attending, a frustration regularly expressed by agency chairmen is that even if they personally have some contact with the White House, their commissioners have none and so feel no need to consider their actions within the context of broader governmental regulatory policy. (I believe you got a sense of this frustration at our breakfast a few weeks ago.) A session with the President would be an important step in addressing that problem.

For your information, I enclose a list of the agencies involved. The total group would comprise approximately seventy-five people. If useful as a means of stressing the Administration's respect for agency independence, the meeting could be arranged under the sponsorship of either the Administrative Conference or the Council of Independent Regulatory Agencies.

I would suggest you consider a date in mid-October for such a meeting and follow it with a series of briefings by relevant administration officials. Please let me know if you think it useful to pursue this matter further.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,


Marshall J. Breger
Chairman

Enclosure
MJB/ujk

Bush Presidential Library Photocopy

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY AGENCIES

Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Consumer Products Safety Commission
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
Federal Communications Commission
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Federal Maritime Commission
Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission
Federal Reserve System
Federal Trade Commission
International Trade Commission
Interstate Commerce Commission
National Labor Relations Board
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission
Postal Rate Commission
Securities and Exchange Commission