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February 12, 1997

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The Honorable Walter Mondale
Dorsey & Whitney
220 South 6th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Dear Fritz,

In putting together a package of material on science and technology policy, I was hampered by two problems. First, most of the talks I give are from notes which even I have a hard time reading a month afterward; and, second, my talks tend to focus on specific topics within S&T-- particularly those with an international thrust-- and are probably a bit more detailed than you can use.

Nevertheless, I've gathered some items that I think may be of help. Let me describe them briefly:

- A handy little pocket data book on science and technology produced by NSF, which has all the kinds of numbers you might want to use laid out in easy to read charts and tables. I have updates on these data, but not in as convenient a form and they don't change things much (there is a major issue developing over reductions in U.S. public funding for research and development now taking place-- more about that below).
- A very recent packet of information produced by the National Academy of Sciences with some nice, terse summaries of what the major S&T issues are. I'd especially recommend the brochures on Science and Engineering Research in a Changing World and Technology and the Nation's Future.
- A new analysis of the federal S&T budget, done by the National Academy of Sciences, which shows some worrisome decreases that may be harbingers of even more serious problems that will come about with the balanced budget push. An important figure to keep in mind is that total research and development spending accounts for 14% of the discretionary federal budget. With entitlements protected, it's all but impossible to balance the budget without cuts of 20% to 30% in S&T over the next six years.
- A sample of some of the more general speeches and papers I've given or written that deal with international issues in science and technology. They deal as much with the globalization of technological development and the need for cooperation as they do with U.S. economic issues, *per se*. However, to a great extent the challenge is to figure out how to make all industrialized countries contribute their fair share in increasing the base of scientific knowledge, how to promote global technological development (which helps all of us), and then how to capture economic benefits for the U.S.

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I'm sure that this is more than you ever wanted to know about the subject. If it would be useful to get together either now, to sort out the issues, or after you've decided on the thrust of your remarks, I'm at your service.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken', followed by a long horizontal flourish line extending to the right.

Kenneth H. Keller

Enclosures:



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