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National Issues Forum Focus of Teleconference

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DAYTON, Ohio, March 1, 1984 -- A nationwide video teleconference, to be shared locally in the studios of WPTD at Wright State University on March 22, will use information generated by last fall's National Issues Forum here in Dayton. It will also be open to participation by area residents.

The teleconference is part of the day-long Second Presidential Library Conference on the Public and Public Policy, which will take place at the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum in Austin, Texas. Henry Kissinger, Robert S. McNamara, and Texas Governor Mark White will be among the participants in the conference. Cosponsors are the LBJ Library, the LBJ School of Public Affairs, the Austin American-Statesman, and the Domestic Policy Association.

The Domestic Policy Association, headquartered in Dayton, is a national network of community organizations, colleges, libraries, and museums that conducts a series of forums on specific national issues each fall. The 1983 Dayton forums were sponsored by the Junior League, League of Women Voters, the University of Dayton, Sinclair Community College, Wright State University, and Dayton Council on World Affairs.

More than 23,000 persons in 90 communities in 33 states participated in these National Issues Forum discussions this past fall. They dealt with three domestic policy issues - nuclear arms and national security, education, and the deficit and the
federal budget. The same topics will be discussed at the Austin conference, and panelists will include a dozen persons who were part of the National Issues Forum in their local communities. Michael J. Berning of 5421 Chimney Circle in Dayton will be one of those panelists. (See separate release.)

A sampling representative citizen opinion on the three issues, reported from the fall meetings, will be presented at the conference for the response of the policymakers in attendance.

The video teleconference, scheduled for 8:00 p.m. (EST) from the LBJ Library, will feature several of the policymakers and will be moderated by Brian Lamb, president of Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network (C-Span). During the teleconference, a two-way audio hookup will permit forum participants from around the country to participate directly in the Austin discussions. The teleconference is expected to last about two and one half hours. The Kettering Foundation of Dayton is providing support for the teleconference.

Anyone interested in participating in the teleconference in Dayton may contact Nora Duffy, convenor for the local National Issues Forum discussions, at the University of Dayton Office of Continuing Education. The telephone number is 229-2347.