

**REMARKS BY COMMISSIONER JAMES H. QUELLO
FOR BOB AWREY'S 70TH BIRTHDAY!**

March 2, 1995

**Bob -- dear old friend no, not old, I mean longtime best friend -
- Happy Birthday! Take heart -- I'm 10 years older than you are and
still enjoy delusions of adequacy and still retain 70% of my marbles
-- not a bad norm in Washington.**

**Now that you're advancing from the senior golden years to
your very senior platinum years, I have some homely facts to share
with you from my experience as a well established very senior
citizen.**

**One, don't resent getting old -- many are denied the privilege.
Remember, you can still be physically active, however, anyone who
says he can do at 70 what he did at 35 wasn't doing a hell of a lot at
35!**

At this particular stage in life you may find an inclination to play X-rated films backwards, because now you like to see people get dressed and go home. Another thing -- you will also be relieved from having to avoid temptation -- because temptation will avoid you.

Then too, you will probably develop a stronger ecumenical sense. I personally now accept all religions because I don't want to blow an opportunity for some kind of merciful eternal salvation on a religious technicality.

However you can find solace in these additional homely facts.

- 1. Being over the hill is better than under the hill.**
- 2. A "has been" is much better than a "never was."**
- 3. Immortality is a real long shot, but someone must establish the precedent -- I hope you are the one to establish that precedent, Bob.**

As far as I'm concerned, when people now ask me what kind of a year I had, I say great! I was here when it started and I'm still here when it ended. I hope to continue that trend in perpetuity.

In the meantime, Bob, please continue being the kind, tolerant understanding human being you are, keep that ingratiating sense of humor and please continue being my most valued personal lifetime friend.

So happy 20th anniversary of your 50th birthday and the very best to you and all the family -- and may the Lord be with you, but not too soon.

###