

## Interviewing History: Former U.S. Attorney General and Governor, Dick Thornburgh

On May 6, 2008, Travis Elliott, *research associate, Hills Program on Governance*; [Matt Frank](#), *research associate, Energy and National Security Program*; [Amanda Kozlowski](#), *assistant editor, the Washington Quarterly*; and Rebecca Perlmutter, *former program coordinator, Membership Groups*, gathered to interview former Pennsylvania governor Dick Thornburgh about his experiences during the Three Mile Island crisis.



Despite the lack of an effective evacuation plan and complete knowledge of the situation, Thornburgh successfully managed and resolved the crisis. At the dinner, he emphasized the importance of communication and surrounding himself with people who provided a realistic view of the situation, rather than telling him what he wanted to hear.



“Interviewing Governor Thornburgh has given me a profound respect for the leaders who successfully navigate crises with integrity and prudence. His insights will shape how I approach critical decisions throughout my career.”

—Amanda Kozlowski, *member, Team Thornburgh*