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IN
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SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO



660 HOWARD STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94105-3916 • 415/543-2699 • FAX 415/882-4999

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United Public Employees, 790

MODERATOR

San Francisco Labor Council
Facsimile Transmission

DATE: Sept 19, 1996

To The President

Organization The White House

Fax Number (202) 456-6218

Number of Pages Including Transmittal Sheet 10

From: Administration - Valerie

S.F. Labor Council
660 Howard St, 3d Fl
San Francisco, CA 94105-3916

Telephone: 415-543-2699

Facsimile: 415-882-4999

Original will ☒ **/ will not** ☐ **follow by mail.**

Comments:

mcq/ope-3-afl-cio(11)

11/94

Handwritten in blue ink:
S.F. Labor Council
San Francisco

Handwritten in blue ink:
cc
John
Emerson

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PRESIDENT EMERITUS
PAUL DEMPSTER

September 19, 1996

BY FAX (202) 456-6218

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

Once more President Clinton has visited California. Once more Vice President Gore visited San Francisco. Once more the Labor Movement was passed by. The San Francisco Labor Council, an organization which has probably consistently turned out the highest percentage of votes for Democrats of any place across the length and breadth of America was also passed by. Mr. President, are you thinking, 'why spend time with those who remain our friends whether the sun is shining or political storm clouds cover the sky... After all - they will be there for us'. Let's go where the "Big Money" folks are. Folks who may be Republicans in Democratic clothing; but what the heck, Money is Money. We know if times become tough the San Francisco Labor Council will be there. Sometime, at a picnic or a meeting, I will give them a hand-shake and maybe (depending on the time) even have a picture taken with them. That's enough. Now let's get on the plane and hit the "Big Money" trail.

Yes...a sad but true story. A story repeated over and over again. I'm quite sure you never see these letters. However once again I'm sending along copies of my earlier letters. My request - first made in August was simple and easy to understand - and to which - no response. Certainly it seems to me that some degree of loyalty should exist and it would be nice if you, Mr. President, or Vice President Gore would take time to be with the real people and to say thank you.

I heard a rumor that Hillary and Tipper may be in our fair 'City' maybe they could come to our dinner.

Clinton
Page 2
September 19, 1996

Well, I'll close for now but my letters will keep coming. Maybe somebody reads them.

So-long from the loyal dedicated Democrat who lives on a lonely political desert island - waiting for a Loyalty ship to sail by!

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Walter L. Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Walter L. Johnson
Secretary-Treasurer

cc: John Emerson
Harold Ickes

WLJ/vs-ope-3-afl-cio(11)

09/19/96
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16:00 SAN FRANCISCO LABOR → 202 456 2930

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PRESIDENT EMERITUS
PAUL DEMPSTER

September 11, 1996

BY FAX (202) 456-6220

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

Along with this communication I am enclosing copies of letters which were directed to you and your staff. The letters were in reality, simply invitations for you to speak at our Labor/Neighbor COPE dinner on September 26, 1996 which is our one and only fund raising event. Mayor Brown, Walter Shorenstein and many others give our Labor/Neighbor Program top rating and Mayor Brown gives Labor/Neighbor considerable credit for his big win in 1995. Naturally others thought I was dreaming to think that President Clinton would grace our dinner by his presence. However, being the eternal optimist I decided to "give it a try". Unfortunately, despite the fact you have blessed Californians with over two dozen visits, most have been fund raisers with the "Ivory Tower" crowd of our society. Apparently, little if any, attention is directed to those who work the trenches during a Presidential battle. From my point of view I find the failure to spend time at a dinner with real people to be a contradiction of the basic foundation of the Democratic Party.

All of the aforementioned actions are disappointing in nature but there is more to come.

Today I received a call from Art Pulaski who is the recently elected Secretary Treasurer of our California Labor Federation. Art had received a call from the White House regarding Vice President Gore's appearance at a fund raising dinner at the City Club a non-union restaurant. I understand the members of the club want the Vice President to come to "Their House". I find it ironic and somewhat amusing for the Vice President to go to "Their House" but neither the President or the Vice President will come to "The House of Labor" dinner with ordinary people who will be out working the Precincts every weekend while the Big Money givers will return to their comfortable cocoons to rest and check the earnings on their investment portfolios. I personally am sorely disappointed that despite your many visits neither will set aside time to come to

Clinton
Page 2
September 11, 1996

our fund raising party. Naturally a good portion of the funds will be directed to your election.

Well, I've said "my piece" and since I have a very independent personality I am glad I expressed my feelings and I might add that there can be no legitimate excuse since you have been here many times and you will be here again. Finally as I close this lament I assure you and your team that we will not in any manner shape or form diminish our effort to assure your election. I never let another person or group's action or non action determine my course of action. We in San Francisco will deliver over 80% vote for Clinton and Gore*. Since I strongly believe loyalty is the keystone of relationships, I will keep looking for the rainbow and I always remember the old saying. "Faith is the lark singing before the dawn." Listen...Do you hear the lark singing?

Sincerely



Walter L. Johnson
Secretary-Treasurer

Enclosures (3)

WLJ:vs
ope-3-afl-cio(11)

* For your information...after receiving a call from Celeste Gore, I tried to help ameliorate the situation. Celeste stated that in the future she would contact the Labor Council first.

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16:01 SAN FRANCISCO LABOR → 202 456 2930

NO. 452 P006/010

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PRESIDENT EMERITUS
PAUL DEMPSTER

FAX 202-456-2806

August 5, 1996

Dear Neal:

I just received (8-5-96, 11:15am) the information mentioning you were attempting to contact me on August 2, 1996 at 5:00 P.M. Sorry for the delay.

I am including in this FAX message, my recent letter to President Clinton, which was mailed last Friday.

The Labor/Neighbor Dinner on September 26, 1996, is our main fund raiser.

The San Francisco Labor Council Labor/Neighbor political program has been highly praised by Mayor Willie Brown and Walter Shorenstein, two of the leading democrats in the USA.

Both the Mayor and Mr. Shorenstein are of the opinion that Labor/Neighbor should be instituted across the length, Breadth of America. In fact it is being emulated in many places. President Clinton's participation would "be inspiring and provide a contact with real people" of the United States of America.

Thanks for your interest and cooperation and if you see Harold Ickes, please tell him I greatly appreciated his participation in the recent teleconference that took place during the California Labor Federation Convention, and I especially appreciated the frank and forthright manner he answered questions.

I look forward to hearing from you and if further information is needed, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Walter L. Johnson
Walter L. Johnson
Secretary-Treasurer

WLJ: mgm
ope-3-afl-cio

Enclosure

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PRESIDENT EMERITUS
DALE DREMPER

August 2, 1996

President Bill Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

I am enclosing a copy of my April 30, 1996 communication wherein an invitation was extended to you to be the honored guest speaker at our September 12, 1996 Labor/Neighbor Dinner. The purpose of this letter is to inform you and your staff of the change in the date for the dinner. Our new date is September 26, 1996, at the St. Francis Hotel.

I felt honored and privileged to be present at your recent Hilton Hotel dinner. We look forward to your future visits to "The City."

Naturally, we are all well aware of the fact election campaigns are costly in nature and we also well understand the need to hold fund raising after fund raising events. Frankly, our dinner is a fund raising event and we will use the revenue to enhance our Labor/Neighbor political program. However, once the "Big money" fund raising dinners are over ... they are over and the money goes to the Bank and the contributors go home to their comfortable cocoons.

Such is not the case regarding our fund raising events, Why ??.. The answer - - Simply because the money provides fuel to move our people out on the streets and our message goes on the air or in the newspaper. During Willie Brown's campaign we had hundreds of Union members and friends out in the streets, knocking on doors and using telephones. The aforementioned points of interest are reasons why we want and need your participation. There are other pluses - Namely, you will have contact with real people - workers, retirees and those who are just beginning to work. Yes, I'm sure it's nice to visit homes of those who are at the top of the economic ladder, but, isn't it just as important to be with those who "are the people of the USA"??.

August 2, 1996

President Bill Clinton
Page 2

My personal goal is to have the highest victory percentage in the history of San Francisco and I'm aiming at over 80% for President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore.

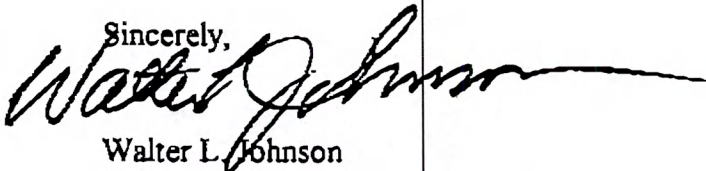
We in San Francisco are blessed, by the leadership of an innovative, inspiring and risk taking mayor. We want to put our forces together and sing the songs shared the other night by Peter, Paul and Mary - "Blowin in the Wind." - "If I Had A Hammer" and "This Land is Your Land - This Land is my Land" -

I am supremely confident we will, in the year 1996, reclaim America and restore a full and complete peoples' action Party ... and President Bill Clinton will lead the charge, Yes, lets do it ... TOGETHER!

I look forward to hearing from you or your staff.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Walter L. Johnson
Secretary-Treasurer

WLJ: mgm
ope (3) afl-cio (11)

Encl.

APPROPRIATE WORDS FOR THE 1996 CAMPAIGN

FENCE OR AMBULANCE

(By Joseph Malins in "Hearing News")

'Twas a dangerous cliff, as they freely confessed,
Though to walk near its crest was so pleasant,
But over its terrible edge there had slipped . . .
A duke and full many a peasant;
So the people said something would have to be done
But their projects did not at all tally;
Some said: "Put a fence 'round the edge of the cliff."
Some: "An ambulance down in the valley."

But the cry for the ambulance carried the day
For it spread through the neighboring city;
A fence may be useful or not, it is true,
But each heart became brimful of pity
For those who slipped over the dangerous cliff,
And the dwellers in highway and alley
Gave pounds or gave pence, not to put up a fence
But an ambulance down in the valley.

"For the cliff is all right, if you're careful", they said.
"And if folks even slip and are dropping,
It isn't the slipping that hurts them so much,
As the shock down below when they're stopping."
So day after day as those mishaps occurred
Quick forth would these rescuers sally
To pick up the victims who fell off the cliff,
With the ambulance down in the valley.

Then an old sage remarked: "It's a marvel to me
The people give far more attention
To repairing results than to stopping the cause.
When they'd much better aim at prevention.
"Let us stop at its source all this mischief", cried he:
"Come, neighbors and friends, let us rally;
If the cliff we will fence we might almost dispense
With the ambulance down in the valley."

"Oh, he's a fanatic," the others rejoined
"Dispense with the ambulance? Never!"
"He'd dispense with all charities, too, if he could;
No! No! We'll support them forever.
Aren't we picking up folks just as fast as they fall
And shall this man dictate to us? Shall he?
Why should people of sense stop to put up a fence
While their ambulance works in the valley?"

But a sensible few, who are practical too,
Will not bear this nonsense much longer.
They believe that prevention is better than cure
And their party will soon be the stronger.
Encourage them then with your purse, voice and pen
And while other philanthropists dally
They will scorn all defense and put a stout fence
On the cliff that hangs over the valley.

Better guide well the young than reclaim them when old;
For the voice of true wisdom is calling;
To rescue the fall is good, but 'tis best
To prevent other people from falling.
Better close up the source of temptation and crime
Than deliver from dungeon or galley,
Better put a strong fence round the top of the cliff
Than an ambulance down in the valley.