

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Folder Title:

Somalia, November 1993

Staff Office-Individual:

Defense Policy-Bell, Robert

Original OA/ID Number:

3665

Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:	Stack:
31	5	9	3	v

Like Somalia

8623

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

November 3, 1993

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

FROM: ROBERT BELL *RGB*

SUBJECT: Presidential Response to Larry Joyce

Attached at Tab I is a memorandum to the President requesting that he sign the letter at Tab A in response to Mr. Larry Joyce (Tab B), whose son was killed in Somalia.

Concurrence: *RAC* Richard Clarke

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I	Memorandum to the President
Tab A	Proposed Letter to Larry Joyce
Tab B	Incoming Letter from Larry Joyce

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE
SUBJECT: Letter to Larry Joyce

Purpose

To respond to Larry Joyce, a Senior Vice President at the AMA, and father of Sgt James Casey Joyce, who was killed in Somalia.

Background

John Podesta has already sent you the letter from Mr. Joyce. Attached at Tab A is a proposed reply.

If you decide to attend the November 8 Memorial Service at Fort Benning, you may meet Mr. Joyce on that occasion. For that reason, the text of your proposed reply to Mr. Joyce leaves open the question of whether you will phone him, as he requests.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Mr. Joyce at Tab A.

Attachment
Tab A Incoming Correspondence

cc: The Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Joyce:

I was profoundly touched by your letter concerning the death of your son, Sergeant James Casey Joyce, which I received today. Your eulogy to Casey at the service in Plano moved me deeply and spoke volumes of the character and uniqueness of this man, your son, who died too young.

As you may know, a few days after Casey was killed in Somalia I wrote Deanna and told her of my respect for his courage and his commitment to the ideals on which America was founded. I also mentioned the lives of the hundreds of thousands of Somalis that were preserved due to his efforts, and those of his fellow servicemen and servicewomen, in that desperately poor and suffering nation.

In your letter the pride you felt so keenly in his being a Ranger is manifest. In my remarks to the American people last month on our nation's military involvement in Somalia, I described the heroic ethic of Casey and the rest of the 3/75th Ranger Battalion. When the first Black Hawk helicopter was downed, they stayed with their comrades. They didn't retreat. They held their ground for hours under intensely heavy fire. Their bravery under fire will long be remembered in the annals of American military history.

I would expect that hardly a moment goes by when Casey is not on your mind. But as the 3/75th Ranger Battalion prepares for its memorial service at Fort Benning next week, I know you will think of him all the more. On this occasion, I again want to express my profound sympathy to you, to Gail, to Deanna and to all those who knew and loved Casey. I sincerely believe his death will not have been in vain.

I hope there will be an opportunity to talk to you soon.

Sincerely,

Mr. Larry E. Joyce
2219 North Orchard Street
Chicago, Illinois 60614

8623

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 3, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JOHN PODESTA *JP*
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM LARRY JOYCE

Attached is a letter from Larry Joyce whose son was killed in Somalia. Mr. Joyce is a senior Vice President at the AMA. This letter was delivered (sealed) in a round-about way through the AMA's Washington office.

Mr. Joyce appeared on "Larry King" prior to writing this letter where he attacked Secretary Aspin, but was respectful of you.

 He has included his number and would clearly like a phone call from you. I will have a letter for your signature prepared today, but since its taken awhile for this letter to get here, I wanted you to see it as soon as possible.

LARRY & GAIL JOYCE

2219 North Orchard Street
Chicago, Illinois 60614
312-871-2565

October 22, 1993

Dear President Clinton:

My son, Sergeant James Casey Joyce, was one of the "Unfortunate losses" you referred to in your recent interview with Chicago reporters while speaking about the October 3 Ambush of Army Rangers in Mogadishu. I'm enclosing a picture of Casey and a copy of the eulogy I gave him at one of his services. I gave the eulogy because he had requested it. I'm enclosing it now so you can put a human face on at least one of the "Unfortunate losses."

It's important to us that you know, as you read this, that my wife and I voted for you but have no party affiliation. We pray for your success because the nation's success is dependent upon yours. I also want you to know I have never written any of your predecessors.

As a 20-year Army Veteran with two combat tours in Vietnam, I struggled with my feelings about your early views concerning our involvement in Vietnam. However, I was able to rationalize your protest because I, too, had come to understand the futility of our vague and misguided policy regarding Vietnam. Now, I'm struck by the irony of your public statements about American interests in Somalia, Haiti and Bosnia which sound very much like the ill-fate

Obviously, the death of my U.S. Army Ranger son has heightened my interest in how our military is used to enforce American foreign policy.

As you may know, I have been openly critical of your choice for Secretary of Defense, but he is not the focus of this letter. Rather I'm writing to implore you to order an investigation about what went wrong in Somalia, and why, so we don't create another disaster.

My concern is not for retribution -- although I do believe those who were responsible for the October 3 tragedy should be held accountable. But it's essential that we use the knowledge this investigation will generate so future debacles can be avoided.

In the 33 years I've been associated with the United States Army, I can say, unequivocally, that we now have the best-educated, best-trained, best-led, most highly dedicated and motivated Soldiers I've ever seen. They are a national treasure. The men and women who serve in the defense of our nation -- at great personal sacrifice -- deserve dedicated and competent civilian leaders. Mr. President, please use Somalia as the catalyst to put that side of your administration in order.

I have talked to the families who,

talked to the wounded and their families. I've talked to active duty and retired soldiers of all ranks. I don't profess to be their representative but I believe I can help you understand their feelings -- including their apprehensions and their aspirations. I hope you will agree to meet with me soon, face-to-face. I promise that it will be a step in the right direction.

Respectfully yours,

Larry E. Joyner

Enclosures

P.S. My office number is 312-464-4312

**CASEY'S EULOGY
CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PLANO, TEXAS
OCTOBER 9, 1993**

LATE IN THE SUMMER OF 1969, NEIL ARMSTRONG STEPPED ON THE MOON, HURRICANE CAMILLE BATTERED THE GULF COAST, AND GOD GAVE US JAMES CASEY JOYCE.

JAMES IS A FAMILY NAME -- MY GRANDFATHER'S. CASEY IS A NAME I PICKED OFF A LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYER'S UNIFORM. I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS A UNIQUE NAME AND HOPED AND PRAYED THAT WE WOULD HAVE A BOY SO WE COULD CALL HIM CASEY. IT WAS A GOOD CHOICE. CASEY WAS SUCH A UNIQUE AND SPECIAL BOY. HE WAS A CLEVER, DETERMINED AND HAPPY CHILD WHO LITERALLY BEAMED WITH PERSONALITY.

HE WAS THE MOST EXPERIENCED LITTLE LEAGUE FOOTBALL MASCOT EVER -- FIVE TEAMS IN SEVEN YEARS. AND WHEN HE RETRIEVED THE KICKING TEE, HE COULD ALWAYS FIND A MUD PUDDLE TO FALL IN ON HIS WAY BACK TO THE SIDELINE.

BOBBY'S EULOGY
DALLAS, TEXAS
PAGE 2

AS HE GREW INTO HIS TEENS, HIS SENSITIVITY AND HIS ENDURING LOVE OF HISTORY, LITERATURE, AND FOOTBALL -- ESPECIALLY FOR THE COWBOYS -- WERE INGRAINED. AS HE MATURED INTO MANHOOD, HIS DISTINCTIVE LEADERSHIP TRAITS BEGAN TO EMERGE, AND HE HAD A MARVELOUS, AND SOMETIMES DEVILISH, SENSE OF HUMOR. HE LOVED TO LAUGH AND MAKE OTHERS LAUGH. WE LOVED TO LAUGH TOGETHER.

HE HAD UNIMPEACHABLE STANDARDS AND ETHICS HIS ENTIRE LIFE. HE CHOSE HIS FRIENDS CAREFULLY, HE PUT A LOT OF STOCK INTO COMMITMENT. HE MADE THOSE COMMITMENTS HIMSELF AND EXPECTED OTHERS TO DO LIKEWISE. HE WAS A WONDERFUL, TRUE AND LOYAL FRIEND. I KNOW -- BECAUSE WE WERE NOT ONLY FATHER AND SON -- WE WERE CLOSE, CLOSE FRIENDS. WE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO TALK -- JUST OCCUPYING THE SAME SPACE WAS ENOUGH. AND THERE WERE THREE WORDS WE USED THOUSANDS OF TIMES -- THOSE THREE WORDS WERE I - LOVE - YOU.

MY ONLY CONSOLATION IS THAT HE KNEW HE WAS LOVED AND HE LOVED DEEPLY. HE AND DEANNA ARE STILL IN LOVE SO DEEPLY IT TRANSCENDS LIFE ITSELF.

HE HAD INCREDIBLY STRONG CHARACTER AND HE WAS UNABASHEDLY PATRIOTIC. HE LOVED GOD, HE LOVED HIS FAMILY, HIS FRIENDS AND HE LOVED HIS COUNTRY. AND HE LOVED BEING A U.S. ARMY RANGER BECAUSE HE WANTED TO BE AMONG THE VERY BEST. HE CHOSE THE MOST DIFFICULT ASSIGNMENT AND TRAINED INTENTLY AND WITH GREAT DETERMINATION UNTIL HE REACHED HIS GOAL. I DON'T THINK I COULD HAVE DONE WHAT HE DID.

IN BATTLE HE FOUGHT BRAVELY. HE DIED BRAVELY. I ONLY WISH I COULD HAVE FOUGHT IN HIS PLACE -- OR AT LEAST AT HIS SIDE. HE IS TRULY AN AMERICAN HERO. HE IS MY HERO. HE WAS STRONG IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD. AND HE RECEIVED HIS STRENGTH FROM ALL OF US AND WE'RE ALL STRONGER BECAUSE OF HIM.

HIS SPIRIT IS HERE NOW. HE IS WITH US. AND HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH US IS EPITOMIZED IN THE LAST VERSE OF RUDYARD KIPLING'S POEM "THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE:"

"AS THE CREEPER ENCIRCLES THE TREE TRUNK,
EVER WEAVING, FORWARD AND BACK,
SO THE STRENGTH OF THE PACK IS THE WOLF,

CASEY'S EULOGY
PLANO, TEXAS
PAGE 4

BUT THE STRENGTH OF THE WOLF IS THE PACK."

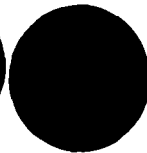
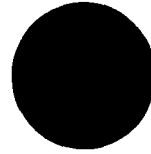
**AND HE'S SAYING TO US NOW "WHETHER YOU'RE IN THIS
FAMILY BY BIRTH, BY MARRIAGE, OR BY FRIENDSHIP, STAY
TOGETHER. LOVE AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER." IN OTHER
WORDS, "DON'T LEAVE THE PACK."**

11:10am 11/3
URGENT STAFFING REQUIRED

Pls. Staff to Bob Bell

Podesta's office needs response
for POTUS' signature by
COB today!

J



NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

November 3, 1993

MEMO TO BOB BELL

FROM: BROOKE

RE: Urgent Staffing Item

The attached is also making its way to you formally through the system but I wanted to give you a heads up since we need your office to prepare a response to be forwarded to President for his signature by COB today.

Please give me a call if you have any questions.

Thanks.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 3, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JOHN PODESTA 
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM LARRY JOYCE

Attached is a letter from Larry Joyce whose son was killed in Somalia. Mr. Joyce is a senior Vice President at the AMA. This letter was delivered (sealed) in a round-about way through the AMA's Washington office.

Mr. Joyce appeared on "Larry King" prior to writing this letter where he attacked Secretary Aspin, but was respectful of you.

 He has included his number and would clearly like a phone call from you. I will have a letter for your signature prepared today, but since its taken awhile for this letter to get here, I wanted you to see it as soon as possible.

LARRY & GAIL JOYCE

2219 North Orchard Street
Chicago, Illinois 60614
312-871-2565

October 22, 1993

Dear President Clinton:

My son, Sergeant James Casey Joyce, was one of the "Unfortunate losses" you referred to in your recent interview with Chicago reporters while speaking about the October 3 ambush of Army Rangers in Mogadishu. I'm enclosing a picture of Casey and a copy of the eulogy I gave him at one of his services. I gave the eulogy because he had requested it. I'm enclosing it now so you can put a human face on at least one of the "Unfortunate losses."

It's important to us that you know, as you read this, that my wife and I voted for you but have no party affiliation. We pray for your success because the nation's success is dependent upon yours. I also want you to know I have never written any of your predecessors.

As a 20-year Army Veteran with two combat tours in Vietnam, I struggled with my feelings about your early views concerning our involvement in Vietnam. However, I was able to rationalize your protest because I, too, had come to understand the futility of our vague and misguided policy regarding Vietnam. Now, I'm struck by the irony of your public statements about American interests in Somalia, Haiti and Bosnia which sound very much like the ill-fate statements of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson.

Obviously, the death of my U.S. Army Ranger son has heightened my interest in how our military is used to enforce American foreign policy.

As you may know, I have been openly critical of your choice for Secretary of Defense, but he is not the focus of this letter. Rather I'm writing to implore you to order an investigation about what went wrong in Somalia, and why, so we don't create another disaster.

My concern is not for retribution -- although I do believe those who were responsible for the October 3 tragedy should be held accountable. But it's essential that we use the knowledge this investigation will generate so future debacles can be avoided.

In the 33 years I've been associated with the United States Army, I can say, unequivocally, that we now have the best-educated, best-trained, best-led, most highly dedicated and motivated Soldiers I've ever seen. They are a national treasure. The men and women who serve in the defense of our nation -- at great personal sacrifice -- deserve dedicated and competent civilian leaders. Mr. President, please use Somalia as the catalyst to put that side of your administration in order.

I have talked to the families who, like my family, lost sons in Somalia. I've

talked to the wounded and their families. I've talked to active duty and retired Soldiers of all ranks. I don't profess to be their representative but I believe I can help you understand their feelings -- including their apprehensions and their aspirations. I hope you will agree to meet with me soon, face-to-face. I promise that it will be a step in the right direction.

Respectfully yours,
Gary E. Joyner

Enclosures

P.S. My office number is 312-464-4312

**CASEY'S EULOGY
CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PLANO, TEXAS
OCTOBER 9, 1993**

LATE IN THE SUMMER OF 1969, NEIL ARMSTRONG STEPPED ON THE MOON, HURRICANE CAMILLE BATTERED THE GULF COAST, AND GOD GAVE US JAMES CASEY JOYCE.

JAMES IS A FAMILY NAME -- MY GRANDFATHER'S. CASEY IS A NAME I PICKED OFF A LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYER'S UNIFORM. I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS A UNIQUE NAME AND HOPED AND PRAYED THAT WE WOULD HAVE A BOY SO WE COULD CALL HIM CASEY. IT WAS A GOOD CHOICE. CASEY WAS SUCH A UNIQUE AND SPECIAL BOY. HE WAS A CLEVER, DETERMINED AND HAPPY CHILD WHO LITERALLY BEAMED WITH PERSONALITY.

HE WAS THE MOST EXPERIENCED LITTLE LEAGUE FOOTBALL MASCOT EVER -- FIVE TEAMS IN SEVEN YEARS. AND WHEN HE RETRIEVED THE KICKING TEE, HE COULD ALWAYS FIND A MUD PUDDLE TO FALL IN ON HIS WAY BACK TO THE SIDELINE.

CASEY'S EULOGY
PLANO, TEXAS
JUNE 2

AS HE GREW INTO HIS TEENS, HIS SENSITIVITY AND HIS ENDURING LOVE OF HISTORY, LITERATURE, AND FOOTBALL -- ESPECIALLY FOR THE COWBOYS -- WERE INGRAINED. AS HE MATURED INTO MANHOOD, HIS DISTINCTIVE LEADERSHIP TRAITS BEGAN TO EMERGE, AND HE HAD A MARVELOUS, AND SOMETIMES DEVILISH, SENSE OF HUMOR. HE LOVED TO LAUGH AND MAKE OTHERS LAUGH. WE LOVED TO LAUGH TOGETHER.

HE HAD UNIMPEACHABLE STANDARDS AND ETHICS HIS ENTIRE LIFE. HE CHOSE HIS FRIENDS CAREFULLY, HE PUT A LOT OF STOCK INTO COMMITMENT. HE MADE THOSE COMMITMENTS HIMSELF AND EXPECTED OTHERS TO DO LIKEWISE. HE WAS A WONDERFUL, TRUE AND LOYAL FRIEND. I KNOW -- BECAUSE WE WERE NOT ONLY FATHER AND SON -- WE WERE CLOSE, CLOSE FRIENDS. WE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO TALK -- JUST OCCUPYING THE SAME SPACE WAS ENOUGH. AND THERE WERE THREE WORDS WE USED THOUSANDS OF TIMES -- THOSE THREE WORDS WERE I - LOVE - YOU.

MY ONLY CONSOLATION IS THAT HE KNEW HE WAS LOVED AND HE LOVED DEEPLY. HE AND DEANNA ARE STILL IN LOVE SO DEEPLY IT TRANSCENDS LIFE ITSELF.

HE HAD INCREDIBLY STRONG CHARACTER AND HE WAS UNABASHEDLY PATRIOTIC. HE LOVED GOD, HE LOVED HIS FAMILY, HIS FRIENDS AND HE LOVED HIS COUNTRY. AND HE LOVED BEING A U.S. ARMY RANGER BECAUSE HE WANTED TO BE AMONG THE VERY BEST. HE CHOSE THE MOST DIFFICULT ASSIGNMENT AND TRAINED INTENTLY AND WITH GREAT DETERMINATION UNTIL HE REACHED HIS GOAL. I DON'T THINK I COULD HAVE DONE WHAT HE DID.

IN BATTLE HE FOUGHT BRAVELY. HE DIED BRAVELY. I ONLY WISH I COULD HAVE FOUGHT IN HIS PLACE -- OR AT LEAST AT HIS SIDE. HE IS TRULY AN AMERICAN HERO. HE IS MY HERO. HE WAS STRONG IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD. AND HE RECEIVED HIS STRENGTH FROM ALL OF US AND WE'RE ALL STRONGER BECAUSE OF HIM.

HIS SPIRIT IS HERE NOW. HE IS WITH US. AND HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH US IS EPITOMIZED IN THE LAST VERSE OF RUDYARD KIPLING'S POEM "THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE:"

"AS THE CREEPER ENCIRCLES THE TREE TRUNK,
EVER WEAVING, FORWARD AND BACK,
SO THE STRENGTH OF THE PACK IS THE WOLF,

CASEY'S EULOGY
PLANO, TEXAS
PAGE 4

BUT THE STRENGTH OF THE WOLF IS THE PACK."

**AND HE'S SAYING TO US NOW "WHETHER YOU'RE IN THIS
FAMILY BY BIRTH, BY MARRIAGE, OR BY FRIENDSHIP, STAY
TOGETHER. LOVE AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER." IN OTHER
WORDS, "DON'T LEAVE THE PACK."**

October 7, 1993

Mrs. James C. Joyce
214 B Christian Lane
Fort Benning, Georgia 31905

Dear Mrs. Joyce:

Hillary and I were very sorry to learn of the loss of your husband. Sergeant James C. Joyce's death is a great loss for our nation, as well as for us personally, and our hearts go out to you in your sorrow.

Our efforts in Somalia have helped bring security and stability where anarchy, famine, and suffering once prevailed. You should know that your husband and his fellow service men and women have preserved the lives of hundreds of thousands of Somalis. Your husband's courage, and his commitment to the ideals on which America was founded, will long be remembered with pride by his fellow citizens.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sincerely, **BILL CLINTON**

BC/NSC/JP/JD/ws (Corres. #1051425)
somalia.condol
(10.joyce.jc)

✓ cc: White House Military Office

Xeroxed copy of personally signed original to NH
through John Podesta

CLEAR THRU JOHN PODESTA

PRESIDENT TO SIGN

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 7, 1993

Mrs. James C. Joyce
214 B Christian Lane
Fort Benning, Georgia 31905

Dear Mrs. Joyce:

Hillary and I were very sorry to learn of the loss of your husband. Sergeant James C. Joyce's death is a great loss for our nation, as well as for us personally, and our hearts go out to you in your sorrow.

Our efforts in Somalia have helped bring security and stability where anarchy, famine, and suffering once prevailed. You should know that your husband and his fellow service men and women have preserved the lives of hundreds of thousands of Somalis. Your husband's courage, and his commitment to the ideals on which America was founded, will long be remembered with pride by his fellow citizens.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

33 10



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0101



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DAEC-CA

30 September 1993

MEMORANDUM THRU EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, DOD
FOR DIRECTOR, WHITE HOUSE MILITARY OFFICE
SUBJECT: Notification of Death of Active Duty
Soldier

Name: James C. Joyce

Rank: Sergeant

Service: United States Army

Duty Station: Company B, 3/75th Ranger Battalion
Fort Benning, GA

Date of Death: 4 October 1993

Circumstances: Sergeant Joyce died from injuries received
during hostile actions.

Primary Next-of-Kin:

Full Name: Mrs. Deanna L. Joyce

Relationship: Wife

Mailing Address: 214 B Christian Lane
Fort Benning, GA 31905

Robert B. Mangold LTC GS
ROBERT B. MANGOLD ADECC
Colonel, GS
Director of Executive
Communications and Control

1051425

OK'd by [unclear]
[unclear]

OCT 5 1993

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

November 1, 1993

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

FROM: ROBERT BELL *RB*

SUBJECT: President's Participation in Somalia Memorial Services

The President has expressed interest in attending one of the memorial services being planned for members of the U.S. Armed Forces killed in last month's fighting in Somalia. The memorandum to the President at Tab I presents three options.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Attachment

Tab I Memorandum to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE

SUBJECT: Participation in Memorial Services for Servicemen
Killed in Somalia

Purpose

To request your participation in one of the scheduled memorial services for servicemen killed in Somalia.

Background

You have expressed interest in attending one of the memorial services being planned for members of the U.S. Armed Forces killed in last month's fighting in Somalia. There are three such events that you might consider:

- November 8, 11:00 a.m., Fort Benning, Georgia: 75th Rangers
- November 9, ^{3:30}~~2:00~~ p.m., Fort Campbell, Kentucky: 160th
Special Operations Aviation Regiment
- November 10, 5:00 p.m., Fort Bragg, North Carolina: U.S.
Army Special Forces Command

RECOMMENDATION

That you select one of the three services to attend below:

November 8 _____
November 9 _____
November 10 _____

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

November 1, 1993

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

FROM: ROBERT BELL *RB*

SUBJECT: President's Participation in Somalia Memorial Services

The President has expressed interest in attending one of the memorial services being planned for members of the U.S. Armed Forces killed in last month's fighting in Somalia. The memorandum to the President at Tab I presents three options.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Attachment,
Tab I Memorandum to the President

10/1/93
Per Col McLean - OSD
"Commanding Gen has
not been briefed; time
is now 10:00, instead
of 11:00. "Allison
Wright will make
changes on Pres' memo.
5:05 - change made 4:50 p.m.
see

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE

SUBJECT: Participation in Memorial Services for Servicemen
Killed in Somalia

Purpose

To request your participation in one of the scheduled memorial services for servicemen killed in Somalia.

Background

You have expressed interest in attending one of the memorial services being planned for members of the U.S. Armed Forces killed in last month's fighting in Somalia. There are three such events that you might consider:

- November 8, ^{10:00}~~11:00~~ a.m., Fort Benning, Georgia: 75th Rangers
- November 9, ¹⁵³⁰~~2:00~~ p.m., Fort Campbell, Kentucky: 160th
Special Operations Aviation Regiment
- November 10, 5:00 p.m., Fort Bragg, North Carolina: U.S.
Army Special Forces Command

RECOMMENDATION

That you select one of the three services to attend below:

November 8 _____
November 9 _____
November 10 _____

TO: JOYCE, LARRY E

FROM: PRESIDENT

DOC DATE: 06 NOV 93
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: SOMALIA

PERSONS: JOYCE, LARRY

JOYCE, JAMES C

SUBJECT: LTR TO JOYCE RE DEATH OF HIS SON WHO WAS KILLED IN SOMALIA

ACTION: FOR DISPATCH

DUE DATE: 06 NOV 93 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: BELL

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

WH STRIPPING DESK

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

BELL

CLARKE

NSC CHRON

COMMENTS: _____

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSJDA

CLOSED BY: NSMEM

DOC 4 OF 4

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 6, 1993

Dear Mr. Joyce:

I was profoundly touched by your letter concerning the death of your son, Sergeant James Casey Joyce, which I received today. Your eulogy to Casey at the service in Plano moved me deeply and spoke volumes of the character and uniqueness of this man, your son, who died too young.

As you may know, a few days after Casey was killed in Somalia I wrote Deanna and told her of my respect for his courage and his commitment to the ideals on which America was founded. I also mentioned the lives of the hundreds of thousands of Somalis that were preserved due to his efforts, and those of his fellow servicemen and servicewomen, in that desperately poor and suffering nation.

In your letter the pride you felt so keenly in his being a Ranger is manifest. In my remarks to the American people last month on our nation's military involvement in Somalia, I described the heroic ethic of Casey and the rest of the 3/75th Ranger Battalion. When the first Black Hawk helicopter was downed, they stayed with their comrades. They didn't retreat. They held their ground for hours under intensely heavy fire. Their bravery under fire will long be remembered in the annals of American military history.

I would expect that hardly a moment goes by when Casey is not on your mind. But as the 3/75th Rangers prepare for their memorial service at Fort Benning next week, I know you will think of him all the more. On this occasion, I again want to express my profound sympathy to you, to Gail, to Deanna and to all those who knew and loved Casey. I sincerely believe his death will not have been in vain.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

Mr. Larry E. Joyce
2219 North Orchard Street
Chicago, Illinois 60614

THE WHITE HOUSE THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
WASHINGTON 11/6/93

November 5, 1993

7 5 P6:44

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE
SUBJECT: Letter to Larry Joyce

Purpose

To respond to Larry Joyce, a Senior Vice President at the AMA, and father of Sgt James Casey Joyce, who was killed in Somalia.

Background

John Podesta has already sent you the letter from Mr. Joyce. Attached at Tab A is a proposed reply.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Mr. Joyce at Tab A.

Attachment

Tab A Incoming Correspondence

cc: The Vice President
Chief of Staff

8623

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 3, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JOHN PODESTA 
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM LARRY JOYCE

Attached is a letter from Larry Joyce whose son was killed in Somalia. Mr. Joyce is a senior Vice President at the AMA. This letter was delivered (sealed) in a round-about way through the AMA's Washington office.

Mr. Joyce appeared on "Larry King" prior to writing this letter where he attacked Secretary Aspin, but was respectful of you.

 He has included his number and would clearly like a phone call from you. I will have a letter for your signature prepared today, but since its taken awhile for this letter to get here, I wanted you to see it as soon as possible.

LARRY & GAIL JOYCE

2219 North Orchard Street
Chicago, Illinois 60614
312-871-2565

October 22, 1993

Dear President Clinton:

My son, Sergeant James Casey Joyce, was one of the "Unfortunate losses" you referred to in your recent interview with Chicago reporters while speaking about the October 3 ambush of Army Rangers in Mogadishu. I'm enclosing a picture of Casey and a copy of the eulogy I gave him at one of his services. I gave the eulogy because he had requested it. I'm enclosing it now so you can put a human face on at least one of the "Unfortunate losses."

It's important to us that you know, as you read this, that my wife and I voted for you but have no party affiliation. We pray for your success because the nation's success is dependent upon yours. I also want you to know I have never written any of your predecessors.

As a 20-year Army Veteran with two combat tours in Vietnam, I struggled with my feelings about your early views concerning our involvement in Vietnam. However, I was able to rationalize your protest because I, too, had come to understand the futility of our vague and misguided policy regarding Vietnam. Now, I'm struck by the irony of your public statements about American interests in Somalia, Haiti and Bosnia which sound very much like the ill-fated statements of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson.

Obviously, the death of my U.S. Army Ranger son has heightened my interest in how our military is used to enforce American foreign policy.

As you may know, I have been openly critical of your choice for Secretary of Defense, but he is not the focus of this letter. Rather I'm writing to implore you to order an investigation about what went wrong in Somalia, and why, so we don't create another disaster.

My concern is not for retribution -- although I do believe those who were responsible for the October 3 tragedy should be held accountable. But it's essential that we use the knowledge this investigation will generate so future debacles can be avoided.

In the 33 years I've been associated with the United States Army, I can say, unequivocally, that we now have the best-educated, best-trained, best-led, most highly dedicated and motivated soldiers I've ever seen. They are a national treasure. The men and women who serve in the defense of our nation -- at great personal sacrifice -- deserve dedicated and competent civilian leaders. Mr. President, please use Somalia as the catalyst to put that side of your administration in order.

I have talked to the families who, like my family, lost sons in Somalia. I've

talked to the wounded and their families. I've talked to active duty and retired soldiers of all ranks. I don't profess to be their representative but I believe I can help you understand their feelings -- including their apprehensions and their aspirations. I hope you will agree to meet with me soon, face-to-face. I promise that it will be a step in the right direction.

Respectfully yours,
Gary E. Joyner

Enclosures

P.S. My office number is 312-464-4312

**CASEY'S EULOGY
CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PLANO, TEXAS
OCTOBER 9, 1993**

LATE IN THE SUMMER OF 1969, NEIL ARMSTRONG STEPPED ON THE MOON, HURRICANE CAMILLE BATTERED THE GULF COAST, AND GOD GAVE US JAMES CASEY JOYCE.

JAMES IS A FAMILY NAME -- MY GRANDFATHER'S. CASEY IS A NAME I PICKED OFF A LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYER'S UNIFORM. I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS A UNIQUE NAME AND HOPED AND PRAYED THAT WE WOULD HAVE A BOY SO WE COULD CALL HIM CASEY. IT WAS A GOOD CHOICE. CASEY WAS SUCH A UNIQUE AND SPECIAL BOY. HE WAS A CLEVER, DETERMINED AND HAPPY CHILD WHO LITERALLY BEAMED WITH PERSONALITY.

HE WAS THE MOST EXPERIENCED LITTLE LEAGUE FOOTBALL MASCOT EVER -- FIVE TEAMS IN SEVEN YEARS. AND WHEN HE RETRIEVED THE KICKING TEE, HE COULD ALWAYS FIND A MUD PUDDLE TO FALL IN ON HIS WAY BACK TO THE SIDELINE.

AS HE GREW INTO HIS TEENS, HIS SENSITIVITY AND HIS ENDURING LOVE OF HISTORY, LITERATURE, AND FOOTBALL -- ESPECIALLY FOR THE COWBOYS -- WERE INGRAINED. AS HE MATURED INTO MANHOOD, HIS DISTINCTIVE LEADERSHIP TRAITS BEGAN TO EMERGE, AND HE HAD A MARVELOUS, AND SOMETIMES DEVILISH, SENSE OF HUMOR. HE LOVED TO LAUGH AND MAKE OTHERS LAUGH. WE LOVED TO LAUGH TOGETHER.

HE HAD UNIMPEACHABLE STANDARDS AND ETHICS HIS ENTIRE LIFE. HE CHOSE HIS FRIENDS CAREFULLY, HE PUT A LOT OF STOCK INTO COMMITMENT. HE MADE THOSE COMMITMENTS HIMSELF AND EXPECTED OTHERS TO DO LIKEWISE. HE WAS A WONDERFUL, TRUE AND LOYAL FRIEND. I KNOW -- BECAUSE WE WERE NOT ONLY FATHER AND SON -- WE WERE CLOSE, CLOSE FRIENDS. WE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO TALK -- JUST OCCUPYING THE SAME SPACE WAS ENOUGH. AND THERE WERE THREE WORDS WE USED THOUSANDS OF TIMES -- THOSE THREE WORDS WERE I - LOVE - YOU.

MY ONLY CONSOLATION IS THAT HE KNEW HE WAS LOVED AND HE LOVED DEEPLY. HE AND DEANNA ARE STILL IN LOVE SO DEEPLY IT TRANSCENDS LIFE ITSELF.

HE HAD INCREDIBLY STRONG CHARACTER AND HE WAS UNABASHEDLY PATRIOTIC. HE LOVED GOD, HE LOVED HIS FAMILY, HIS FRIENDS AND HE LOVED HIS COUNTRY. AND HE LOVED BEING A U.S. ARMY RANGER BECAUSE HE WANTED TO BE AMONG THE VERY BEST. HE CHOSE THE MOST DIFFICULT ASSIGNMENT AND TRAINED INTENTLY AND WITH GREAT DETERMINATION UNTIL HE REACHED HIS GOAL. I DON'T THINK I COULD HAVE DONE WHAT HE DID.

IN BATTLE HE FOUGHT BRAVELY. HE DIED BRAVELY. I ONLY WISH I COULD HAVE FOUGHT IN HIS PLACE -- OR AT LEAST AT HIS SIDE. HE IS TRULY AN AMERICAN HERO. HE IS MY HERO. HE WAS STRONG IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD. AND HE RECEIVED HIS STRENGTH FROM ALL OF US AND WE'RE ALL STRONGER BECAUSE OF HIM.

HIS SPIRIT IS HERE NOW. HE IS WITH US. AND HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH US IS EPITOMIZED IN THE LAST VERSE OF RUDYARD KIPLING'S POEM "THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE:"

"AS THE CREEPER ENCIRCLES THE TREE TRUNK,
EVER WEAVING, FORWARD AND BACK,
SO THE STRENGTH OF THE PACK IS THE WOLF,

CASEY'S EULOGY
PLANO, TEXAS
PAGE 4

BUT THE STRENGTH OF THE WOLF IS THE PACK."

**AND HE'S SAYING TO US NOW "WHETHER YOU'RE IN THIS
FAMILY BY BIRTH, BY MARRIAGE, OR BY FRIENDSHIP, STAY
TOGETHER. LOVE AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER." IN OTHER
WORDS, "DON'T LEAVE THE PACK."**

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

November 3, 1993

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

FROM:

ROBERT BELL *RBS*

SUBJECT:

Presidential Response to Larry Joyce

Attached at Tab I is a memorandum to the President requesting that he sign the letter at Tab A in response to Mr. Larry Joyce (Tab B), whose son was killed in Somalia.

Concurrence: Richard ^{RAC}Clarke

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I	Memorandum to the President
Tab A	Proposed Letter to Larry Joyce
Tab B	Incoming Letter from Larry Joyce

Tony -

I think we should hold letter until we know whether he's going to Fort Benning.

M
Tony - We should send the letter (I deleted the ref. to POTUS going to Benning). And the President should call Joyce as well. Read Joyce's letter at TAB B. - J.P.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

November 3, 1993

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

FROM: ROBERT BELL *RGB*

SUBJECT: Presidential Response to Larry Joyce

Attached at Tab I is a memorandum to the President requesting that he sign the letter at Tab A in response to Mr. Larry Joyce (Tab B), whose son was killed in Somalia.

Concurrence: *Rac* Richard Clarke

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I	Memorandum to the President
Tab A	Proposed Letter to Larry Joyce
Tab B	Incoming Letter from Larry Joyce

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE
SUBJECT: Letter to Larry Joyce

Purpose

To respond to Larry Joyce, a Senior Vice President at the AMA, and father of Sgt James Casey Joyce, who was killed in Somalia.

Background

John Podesta has already sent you the letter from Mr. Joyce. Attached at Tab A is a proposed reply.

If you decide to attend the November 8 Memorial Service at Fort Benning, you may meet Mr. Joyce on that occasion. For that reason, the text of your proposed reply to Mr. Joyce leaves open the question of whether you will phone him, as he requests.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Mr. Joyce at Tab A.

Attachment

Tab A Incoming Correspondence

cc: The Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Joyce:

I was profoundly touched by your letter concerning the death of your son, Sergeant James Casey Joyce, which I received today. Your eulogy to Casey at the service in Plano moved me deeply and spoke volumes of the character and uniqueness of this man, your son, who died too young.

As you may know, a few days after Casey was killed in Somalia I wrote Deanna and told her of my respect for his courage and his commitment to the ideals on which America was founded. I also mentioned the lives of the hundreds of thousands of Somalis that were preserved due to his efforts, and those of his fellow servicemen and servicewomen, in that desperately poor and suffering nation.

In your letter the pride you felt so keenly in his being a Ranger is manifest. In my remarks to the American people last month on our nation's military involvement in Somalia, I described the heroic ethic of Casey and the rest of the 3/75th Ranger Battalion. When the first Black Hawk helicopter was downed, they stayed with their comrades. They didn't retreat. They held their ground for hours under intensely heavy fire. Their bravery under fire will long be remembered in the annals of American military history.

I would expect that hardly a moment goes by when Casey is not on your mind. But as the 3/75th Ranger Battalion prepares for its memorial service at Fort Benning next week, I know you will think of him all the more. On this occasion, I again want to express my profound sympathy to you, to Gail, to Deanna and to all those who knew and loved Casey. I sincerely believe his death will not have been in vain.

I hope there will be an opportunity to talk to you soon.

Sincerely,

Mr. Larry E. Joyce
2219 North Orchard Street
Chicago, Illinois 60614

8623

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 3, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JOHN PODESTA 
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM LARRY JOYCE

Attached is a letter from Larry Joyce whose son was killed in Somalia. Mr. Joyce is a senior Vice President at the AMA. This letter was delivered (sealed) in a round-about way through the AMA's Washington office.

Mr. Joyce appeared on "Larry King" prior to writing this letter where he attacked Secretary Aspin, but was respectful of you.

 He has included his number and would clearly like a phone call from you. I will have a letter for your signature prepared today, but since its taken awhile for this letter to get here, I wanted you to see it as soon as possible.

LARRY & GAIL JOYCE

2219 North Orchard Street
Chicago, Illinois 60614
312-871-2565

October 22, 1993

Dear President Clinton:

My son, Sergeant James Casey Joyce, was one of the "Unfortunate losses" you referred to in your recent interview with Chicago reporters while speaking about the October 3 Ambush of Army Rangers in Mogadishu. I'm enclosing a picture of Casey and a copy of the eulogy I gave him at one of his services. I gave the eulogy because he had requested it. I'm enclosing it now so you can put a human face on at least one of the "Unfortunate losses."

It's important to us that you know, as you read this, that my wife and I voted for you but have no party affiliation. We pray for your success because the nation's success is dependent upon yours. I also want you to know I have never written any of your predecessors.

As a 20-year Army Veteran with two combat tours in Vietnam, I struggled with my feelings about your early views concerning our involvement in Vietnam. However, I was able to rationalize your protest because I, too, had come to understand the futility of our vague and misguided policy regarding Vietnam. Now, I'm struck by the irony of your public statement about American interests in Somalia, Haiti and Bosnia which sound very much like the ill-fate

Obviously, the death of my U.S. Army Ranger son has heightened my interest in how our military is used to enforce American foreign policy.

As you may know, I have been openly critical of your choice for Secretary of Defense but he is not the focus of this letter. Rather I'm writing to implore you to order an investigation about what went wrong in Somalia, and why, so we don't create another disaster.

My concern is not for retribution -- although I do believe those who were responsible for the October 3 tragedy should be held accountable. But it's essential that we use the knowledge this investigation will generate so future debacles can be avoided.

In the 33 years I've been associated with the United States Army, I can say, unequivocally, that we now have the best educated, best-trained, best-led, most highly dedicated and motivated soldiers I've ever seen. They are a national treasure. The men and women who serve in the defense of our nation -- at great personal sacrifice -- deserve dedicated and competent civilian leaders. Mr. President, please use Somalia as the catalyst to put that side of your administration in order.

I have talked to the families who,

talked to the wounded and their families. I've talked to active duty and retired soldiers of all ranks. I don't profess to be their representative but I believe I can help you understand their feelings -- including their apprehensions and their aspirations. I hope you will agree to meet with me soon, face-to-face. I promise that it will be a step in the right direction.

Respectfully yours,

Larry E. Joyner

Enclosures

P.S. My office number is 312-464-4311

**CASEY'S EULOGY
CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PLANO, TEXAS
OCTOBER 9, 1993**

LATE IN THE SUMMER OF 1969, NEIL ARMSTRONG STEPPED ON THE MOON, HURRICANE CAMILLE BATTERED THE GULF COAST, AND GOD GAVE US JAMES CASEY JOYCE.

JAMES IS A FAMILY NAME -- MY GRANDFATHER'S. CASEY IS A NAME I PICKED OFF A LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYER'S UNIFORM. I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS A UNIQUE NAME AND HOPED AND PRAYED THAT WE WOULD HAVE A BOY SO WE COULD CALL HIM CASEY. IT WAS A GOOD CHOICE. CASEY WAS SUCH A UNIQUE AND SPECIAL BOY. HE WAS A CLEVER, DETERMINED AND HAPPY CHILD WHO LITERALLY BEAMED WITH PERSONALITY.

HE WAS THE MOST EXPERIENCED LITTLE LEAGUE FOOTBALL MASCOT EVER -- FIVE TEAMS IN SEVEN YEARS. AND WHEN HE RETRIEVED THE KICKING TEE, HE COULD ALWAYS FIND A MUD PUDDLE TO FALL IN ON HIS WAY BACK TO THE SIDELINE.

WESLEY S EULOGY
PLANO, TEXAS
PAGE 2

AS HE GREW INTO HIS TEENS, HIS SENSITIVITY AND HIS ENDURING LOVE OF HISTORY, LITERATURE, AND FOOTBALL -- ESPECIALLY FOR THE COWBOYS -- WERE INGRAINED. AS HE MATURED INTO MANHOOD, HIS DISTINCTIVE LEADERSHIP TRAITS BEGAN TO EMERGE, AND HE HAD A MARVELOUS, AND SOMETIMES DEVILISH, SENSE OF HUMOR. HE LOVED TO LAUGH AND MAKE OTHERS LAUGH. WE LOVED TO LAUGH TOGETHER.

HE HAD UNIMPEACHABLE STANDARDS AND ETHICS HIS ENTIRE LIFE. HE CHOSE HIS FRIENDS CAREFULLY, HE PUT A LOT OF STOCK INTO COMMITMENT. HE MADE THOSE COMMITMENTS HIMSELF AND EXPECTED OTHERS TO DO LIKEWISE. HE WAS A WONDERFUL, TRUE AND LOYAL FRIEND. I KNOW -- BECAUSE WE WERE NOT ONLY FATHER AND SON -- WE WERE CLOSE, CLOSE FRIENDS. WE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO TALK -- JUST OCCUPYING THE SAME SPACE WAS ENOUGH. AND THERE WERE THREE WORDS WE USED THOUSANDS OF TIMES -- THOSE THREE WORDS WERE I - LOVE - YOU.

MY ONLY CONSOLATION IS THAT HE KNEW HE WAS LOVED AND HE LOVED DEEPLY. HE AND DEANNA ARE STILL IN LOVE SO DEEPLY IT TRANSCENDS LIFE ITSELF.

HE HAD INCREDIBLY STRONG CHARACTER AND HE WAS UNABASHEDLY PATRIOTIC. HE LOVED GOD, HE LOVED HIS FAMILY, HIS FRIENDS AND HE LOVED HIS COUNTRY. AND HE LOVED BEING A U.S. ARMY RANGER BECAUSE HE WANTED TO BE AMONG THE VERY BEST. HE CHOSE THE MOST DIFFICULT ASSIGNMENT AND TRAINED INTENTLY AND WITH GREAT DETERMINATION UNTIL HE REACHED HIS GOAL. I DON'T THINK I COULD HAVE DONE WHAT HE DID.

IN BATTLE HE FOUGHT BRAVELY. HE DIED BRAVELY. I ONLY WISH I COULD HAVE FOUGHT IN HIS PLACE -- OR AT LEAST AT HIS SIDE. HE IS TRULY AN AMERICAN HERO. HE IS MY HERO. HE WAS STRONG IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD. AND HE RECEIVED HIS STRENGTH FROM ALL OF US AND WE'RE ALL STRONGER BECAUSE OF HIM.

HIS SPIRIT IS HERE NOW. HE IS WITH US. AND HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH US IS EPITOMIZED IN THE LAST VERSE OF RUDYARD KIPLING'S POEM "THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE:"

"AS THE CREEPER ENCIRCLES THE TREE TRUNK,
EVER WEAVING, FORWARD AND BACK,
SO THE STRENGTH OF THE PACK IS THE WOLF,

CASEY'S EULOGY
PLANO, TEXAS
PAGE 4

BUT THE STRENGTH OF THE WOLF IS THE PACK."

AND HE'S SAYING TO US NOW "WHETHER YOU'RE IN THIS
FAMILY BY BIRTH, BY MARRIAGE, OR BY FRIENDSHIP, STAY
TOGETHER. LOVE AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER." IN OTHER
WORDS, "DON'T LEAVE THE PACK."

File: Christmas in Somalia

Staff
w/cpy to
5043

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

Return
to Bell

November 16, 1993

Sammy Davis
(in Vietnam)

MEMORANDUM FOR: TONY LAKE, NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

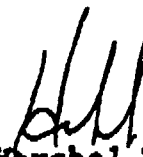
SUBJ: Volunteers for Christmas in Somalia

On November 10th while attending one of the many Vietnam Veteran events, two recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor told me that they would like to spend Christmas with our troops in Somalia. Their idea that two or three of them would just visit and show support. They would represent President Clinton as a caring and concerned Commander-in-Chief.

I recommend this idea be pursued and that the delegation be authorized to go. I would include a Vietnam Veteran named John Steer who is a one man band/singer (from Arkansas and known by the President). Silver Star

Please let me know if you are interested in pursuing this matter.

Chuck Iken at DoD


Hershel W. Gober

Cliff Bernath
403-697-0713

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

of pages 2

To	Bob Bell	From	Cliff Bernath
Dept./Agency		Phone #	OASD-PA 697-0713
Fax #	202-375-1185	Fax #	697-1144

NBN 7840-01-317-7388

5009-101

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

DRAFT**MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY**

SUBJECT: Request for Volunteers to visit Somalia during Christmas Holidays

Reference: Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs letter of November 16, 1993

We pose no objection to the subject request. Having volunteers visit our forces in Somalia, notably Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, may add to the soldiers overall military knowledge and is commendable on the part of the volunteers for wanting to donate their time.

However there are considerations that need to be noted in making the decision of whether these individuals are extended an invitation. First is the general health of the these men, second is how well will they tolerate the myriad of shots required, living conditions and meals are very spartan, security can not be guaranteed 100% safe and whether the troops will be that interested in their presence. A thorough briefing is an absolute must before they depart so that their exceptions match the reality of the situation.

While this is a good idea, it may well not go far enough to show the Administration's appreciation of the mission performed by the military. In fact this could be portrayed by the media as a less than adequate demonstration by the Clinton Administration of their appreciation for the troops especially during the holiday season.

While the approval of the request will require extensive logistical support to include transportation, billeting, feeding, and security costs. Additionally the request states that these individuals would go as special representative of the President of the United States. This is not a decision that the Department of Defense can make and should be coordinated with the White House.

202-395-1185

ABF Bell

Shawn ^{rough} Bernough - WH, #SC (with p. (Clarke))

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Jennifer Simms
FAX # SSCZ
224-1772

- Joel Klein -

~~SSCZ~~

SSCZ policy
Issues

Questionnaire

Mail - Bureau

Simms Davis
618-584-343

Not

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

21-Dec-1993 12:40 EDT

UNCLASSIFIED

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Nancy Soderberg

(SODERBERG)

FROM:

Robert G. Bell
(BELL)

SUBJECT:

Somalia Flights

DoD advises there are two C-5s going to Mogadishu before Christmas. Both leave Dover AFB, Delaware, tomorrow night (one at 11:30 pm; the other at 12:15 am Thurs). Both land at Rhein Main, FRG, pick up cargo and then fly into Somalia. Both would get to Mogadishu Thursday night but then fly out before Christmas. CENTCOM says the first available flight out after Christmas would be next Tuesday. In this case, then, the Medal of Honor winners would need to spend five days in-country. The security situation in Mogadishu would dictate that the visitors stay in the compound at all times, and they of course would require a military escort for those five days. I do not think this is a practical proposition. If there were a USO group or a Bob Hope ensemble being flown in to do a show Christmas Eve or Christmas Day and then flown out, we could ask the Medal of Honor winners to make some remarks as part of that show. But we are not sending any USO groups to Mogadishu due to the security situation (we are also discouraging CODELs). Accordingly, I recommend we (I) tell Hershel that we do not think this will work (though it was a well-intentioned and sincere idea) and that I call the individuals who volunteered to thank them personally for their interest and their offer. If you CONCUR, please advise and I will make the calls this afternoon.

CC: Records

(RECORDS)

Verbs & ~~out~~ Tuesday

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

2 Fets C-55

DOVER — Rhein
Main

weds
tomorrow

1130 AM

thurs

1215 am

am

(tentative) may not go

~~FEHDA~~ SAT return
flight
afternoon

Staff
w/cpy to 7THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR: TONY LAKE, NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR
SUBJ: Volunteers for Christmas in Somalia

On November 10th while attending one of the many Vietnam Veteran events, two recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor told me that they would like to spend Christmas with our troops in Somalia. Their idea that two or three of them would just visit and show support. They would represent President Clinton as a caring and concerned Commander-in-Chief.

I recommend this idea be pursued and that the delegation be authorized to go. I would include a Vietnam Veteran named John Steer who is a one man band/singer (from Arkansas and known by the President).

Please let me know if you are interested in pursuing this matter.


Hershel W. Gober

OPTIONAL FORM 104 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

To: Bob Bell

Dept: Agency

Fax: 202-395-1185

NBN 7640 01 3-7 7308

1 of 2 pages 2
Cliff B...
OSD PA 617-6713
615-1147

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY

SUBJECT: Request for Volunteers to visit Somalia during Christmas Holidays

Reference: Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs letter of November 16, 1993

We pose no objection to the subject request. Having volunteers visit our forces in Somalia, notably Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, may add to the soldiers overall military knowledge and is commendable on the part of the volunteers for wanting to donate their time.

However there are considerations that need to be noted in making the decision of whether these individuals are extended an invitation. First is the general health of the these men, second is how well will they tolerate the myriad of shots required, living conditions and meals are very spartan security can not be guaranteed 100% safe and whether the troops will be that interested in their presence. A thorough briefing is an absolute must before they depart so that their expectations match the reality of the situation.

While this is a good idea, it may well not go far enough to show the Administration's appreciation of the mission performed by the military. In fact this could be portrayed by the media as a less than adequate demonstration by the Clinton Administration of their appreciation for the troops especially during the holiday season.

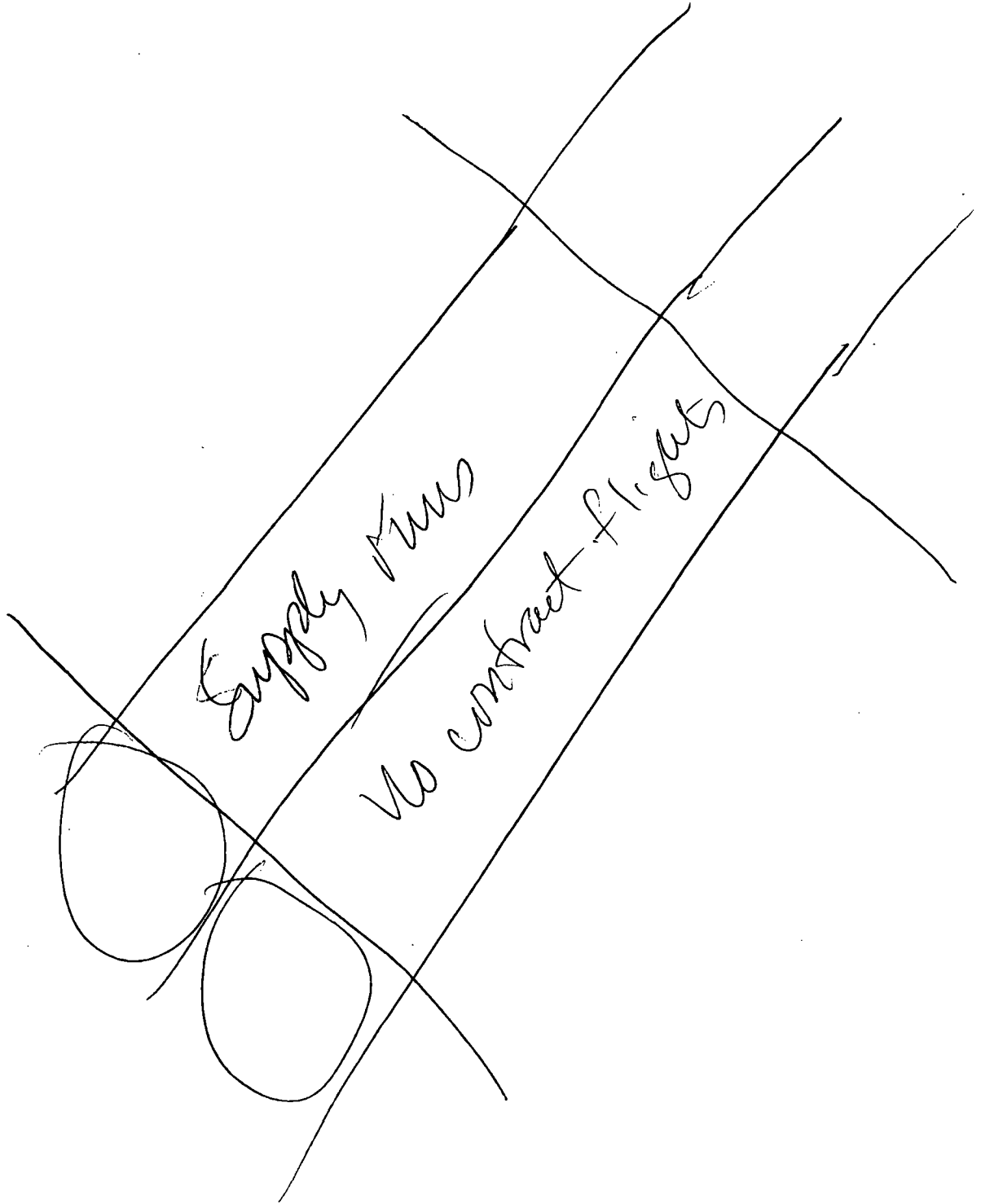
While the approval of the request will require extensive logistical support to include transportation, billeting, feeding, and security costs. Additionally the request states that these individuals would go as special representative of the President of the United States. This is not a decision that the Department of Defense can make and should be coordinated with the White House.

703-395-1155

ABO 11/15

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

Sharon Kinnahan - WH, #SC. (with p. 11/15/93)



PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION