

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                                  | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 001. form                | re: Petition for Pardon After Completion of Sentence (7 pages) | 01/14/1999 | b(6)        |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
Staff Secretary  
Chron Files  
OA/Box Number: 21406

### FOLDER TITLE:

Tuesday, December 14, 1999

2019-0990-S

rs3431

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

File

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
12-14-99

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 11, 1999

MR. PRESIDENT:

Attached are the following weekly reports:

- (A) Weekly Economic Briefing
- (B) Update on Global Markets/Interest Rates and Stock Prices
- (C) DPC
- (D) CEQ
- (E) Environmental Initiatives
- (F) OSTP
- (G) Intergovernmental
- (H) Cabinet Affairs
- (I) Communications
- (J) Public Liaison
- (K) Race Initiative
- (L) Special Envoy for the Americas/Columbia Trip Report
- (M) Political Affairs

Sean Maloney

- Tab A - copied Baily, Podesta  
copied p.8 to Frampton, Browner, Podesta
- Tab C - copied Reed, Liu, Podesta
- Tab E - copied Ballentine, Podesta
- Tab H - copied Marshall, Balderston, Podesta
- Tab J - copied Cahill, Podesta  
copied p.2 to Burkhardt for reply  
copied p.3 to Podesta
- Tab K - copied Johnson, Podesta  
copied p.3 to Cutler, Podesta
- Tab L - copied MacKay, Podesta

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

DATE: December 14, 1999

NOTE FOR: **The Honorable Carol M. Browner**  
**Administrator, Environmental Protection**  
**Agency**

The President has reviewed the attached, and it is forwarded to you  
for your:

Information ☒

Action ☐

Thank you.

cc:

12/16/99  
Okay to dispatch?

Yes ☒  
No ☐

Carol

12/16/99  
Okay to dispatch?

Yes ☒  
No ☐

Carol

12-14-99

INTERNATIONAL ROUNDUP

**€1 = \$1 = ¥100?** Last week, the yen soared to its strongest level against the dollar in 4 years despite interventions by the Japanese government, while the euro tumbled to its weakest level since its introduction at the beginning of the year, briefly dropping below parity with the dollar. Economic statistics released this week may help curb these trends in the yen and the euro. After growing soundly in the first half of the year, the Japanese economy contracted at an annual rate of nearly 4 percent in the third quarter, according to data released on Monday. Indicators suggest that the outlook for the fourth quarter is similarly dismal, which should dampen upward pressure on the yen. Turning to the euro, unemployment and other indicators released this week indicated improved economic prospects in Germany, suggesting a brighter outlook for the Euro-region. The euro has climbed back above parity and is currently at around \$1.02.

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Copied p. 8  
 Hampton  
 Carol Browner  
 Podesta

LC Geo Foundation  
 C. J. P. Foundation

# WEEKLY ECONOMIC BRIEFING OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

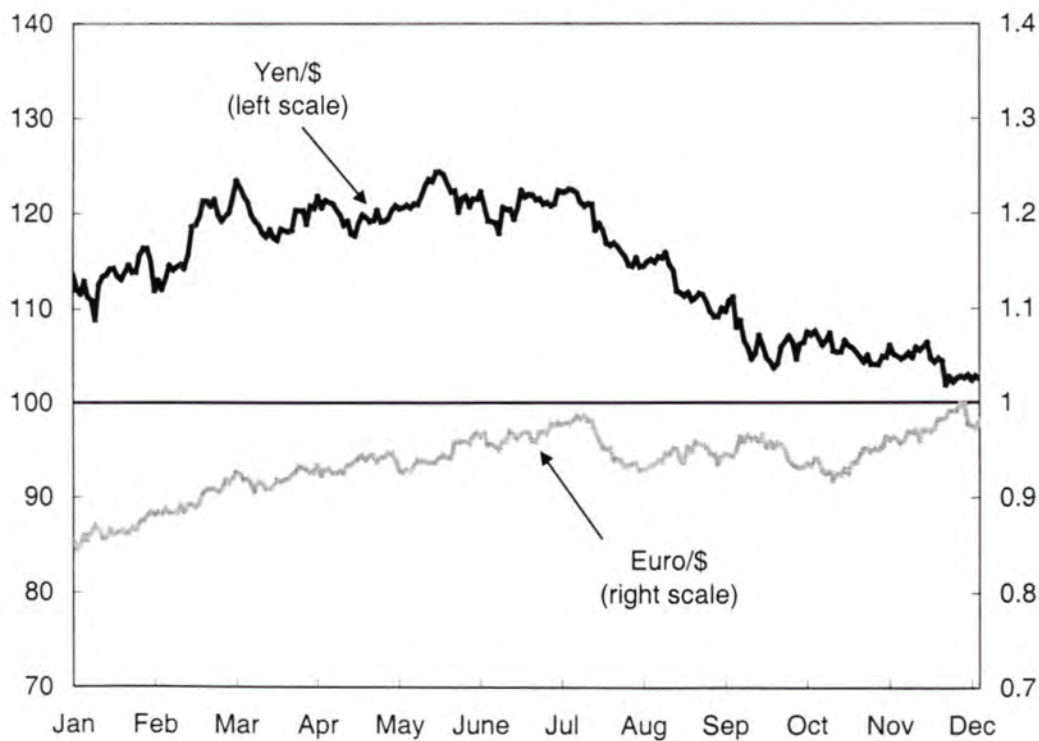
Prepared by the Council of Economic Advisers  
with the assistance of the Office of the Vice President

December 10, 1999

*copied  
Bailey  
Podesta  
p. 8 to  
Frankston  
Carol Browner  
Podesta*

## CHART OF THE WEEK

Convergence of Exchange Rates in 1999



The euro is nearly at parity with the dollar while the yen is nearly at parity with the penny.

## CONTENTS

### CURRENT DEVELOPMENT

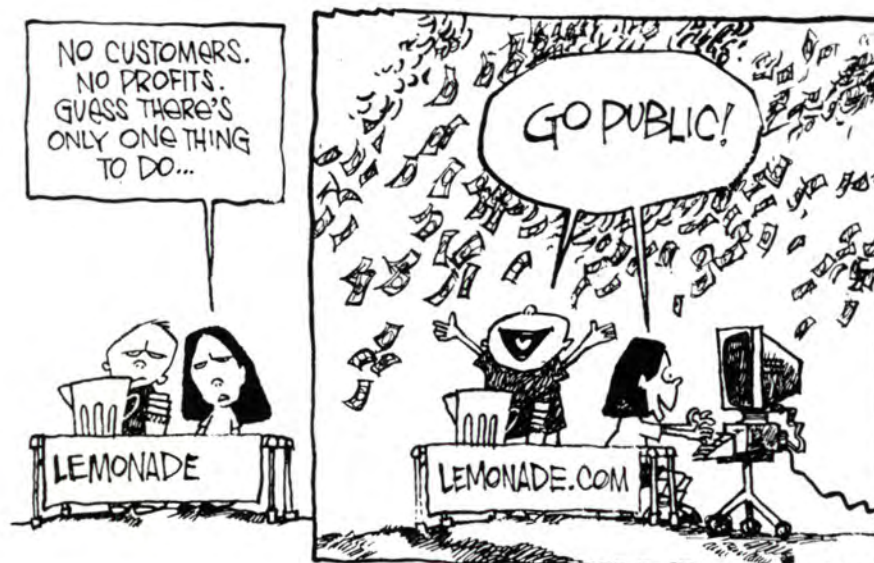
|                                           |   |
|-------------------------------------------|---|
| Have Oil Prices Reached their Peak? ..... | 1 |
|-------------------------------------------|---|

### ARTICLES

|                                                      |   |
|------------------------------------------------------|---|
| A Closer Look at Skill-Biased Technical Change ..... | 3 |
| Saving the Planet while Cutting Taxes .....          | 5 |

### DEPARTMENTS

|                                               |    |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|
| Business, Consumer, and Regional Roundup..... | 7  |
| International Roundup.....                    | 8  |
| Releases .....                                | 9  |
| U.S. Economic Statistics .....                | 10 |
| Financial and International Statistics .....  | 11 |



## CURRENT DEVELOPMENT

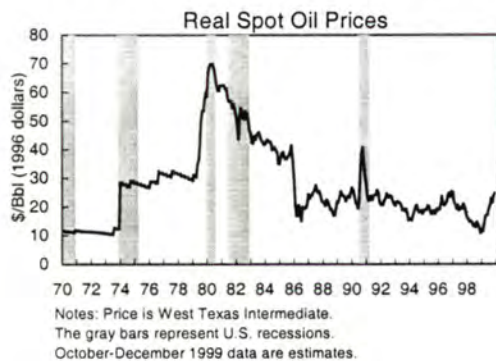
### Have Oil Prices Reached their Peak?

At the end of last year, real oil prices hit their lowest point in over 25 years. Since then, rising demand and falling supply have pushed crude oil prices back up. As of yesterday, the price stood at \$26 per barrel for West Texas Intermediate crude oil. Prices of refined products, like gasoline, have followed the same general trend. A key issue for the United States economy in the next year is whether oil prices have peaked or whether further increases are expected.

**Supply.** One of the reasons for the increase in oil prices is a reduction in supply. After oil prices fell below \$12 a barrel at the end of last year, the major OPEC countries agreed to production targets to limit the supply of oil and thereby increase the price. Analysts generally believe that the major OPEC countries have stuck to the agreed upon limits. In addition, Iraq cut off oil exports in November, reportedly to protest a shortening of the renewal period of the "Oil-for-Food" program from 6 months to 2 weeks.

**Demand.** Shifts in demand have also influenced oil prices. The Asian crisis and slow world growth dampened demand for oil last year. Since then, economic recoveries in Asia and in parts of Europe have combined with the booming U.S. economy to push up world oil demand this year. In addition, there is some anecdotal evidence of stock building of oil and refined products in preparation for possible Y2K-related disruptions. Demand is expected to remain strong next year.

**Outlook.** Futures prices for oil imply that markets expect oil prices will fall next year. Two factors support this view. First, most Administration experts agree that the New Year will not generate widespread disruptions in the flow of oil.



Moreover, Mexico, Venezuela, and Saudi Arabia recently announced that they would make up any Y2K-related shortfalls. Second, there are reasons to suspect that OPEC desires lower prices than those seen today. High oil prices encourage non-OPEC high-cost suppliers to increase production, cutting into OPEC's profits. In addition, high prices threaten the integrity of the cartel by making

production in excess of agreed upon targets more profitable.

Interestingly, none of the Blue Chip forecasters expect that rising oil prices will seriously threaten the current economic expansion, despite the experiences of the 1970s and early 1990s when oil price hikes were associated with economic downturns (see chart). This view seems justified because, relative to overall

prices, the price of oil is much lower today than the peaks reached in the 1970s and the early 1990s. Unlike past oil price increases, this one was preceded by a decline in oil prices. Moreover, the energy intensity of the economy has fallen steadily for the last 50 years, suggesting that the U.S. economy may be less vulnerable to oil price shocks. Arguably, only a precipitous spike in oil prices would pose a significant risk to the economy.

## ARTICLE

### **A Closer Look at Skill-Biased Technical Change**

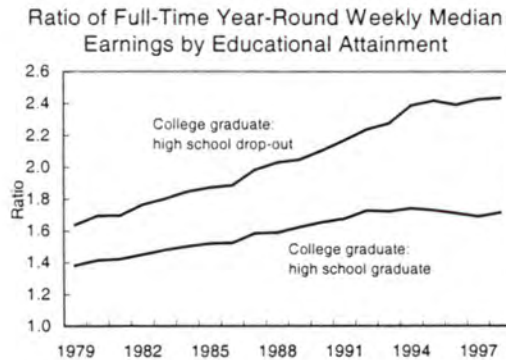
One common explanation for the increase in wage inequality in the United States from 1979 to the early 1990s is technical progress that has shifted labor demand toward more highly skilled workers relative to the less skilled—so called “skill-biased technical change.” Research is beginning to provide insights into how information technology (IT) affects the workplace and the demand for skills.

**Findings.** Case studies of individual firms have shown how companies use IT to change the way they conduct business. These studies find that successful IT investment is often coupled with changes in business strategy and organizational structure. A recent study provides broad supporting evidence based on survey data on about 400 large U.S. firms during the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s. The two key findings are:

- IT interacts with organizational structure and worker skills. Controlling for industry and firm size, firms that invest more in computer equipment also tend to have a decentralized workplace organization (including broader job responsibilities for line workers, more decentralized decisionmaking, or more self-managing teams) and employ higher-skilled or more educated workers. One reason for combining IT and a decentralized workplace may be that IT can put greater information in the hands of front-line workers who may be better able to make day-to-day decisions than upper-level managers. This increased role for front-line workers in turn may raise the importance of skills and education for job performance.
- These interactions affect productivity. Firms with high levels of IT investment, workplace decentralization, and more highly skilled workers tend to have higher productivity than those with lower levels. Moreover, firms that use IT intensively without instituting organizational changes often experience little if any productivity gains. This helps explain the apparent lag (during the 1980s and early 1990s) in the effect of IT on productivity in the United States, since it has taken time for firms to redesign their organizations to take advantage of their IT investments.

**Other evidence.** Trends in the economy over the last 25 years dovetail with the case-study and firm-level evidence. Impressive advances in the underlying science and engineering of IT have increased the capabilities and reduced the costs of this technology. As a result, real investments in IT have grown at double-digit rates for several decades. Meanwhile, decentralized workplaces appear to have become more common. The skill levels of the work force have also been rising, at least according to measures such as the proportion of college graduates in the work force. Until 1994, the demand for more educated workers outpaced supply, raising the wages of more-skilled workers relative to less-skilled workers (see chart). Earnings growth since 1994 has been much more evenly distributed.

**Implications and conclusion.** Based on evidence from large firms, IT and IT-enabled organizational change appear to be important factors in raising the demand for skilled workers. Of course, IT can reduce the demand for skills in some cases. For example, computer-assisted scanning devices for final sales or



inventory control may require lower average skills by retail clerks, and an automated teller machine may completely replace a bank teller. Nonetheless, it seems apparent that new technology and organizational change are making the acquisition of education and skills increasingly important for getting and keeping well-paying jobs. This highlights the importance of ensuring that students

learn the basic skills needed in the information economy: higher-level math, reading, and writing skills, personal skills such as the ability to work effectively in groups, and a knowledge of computers.

## ARTICLE

### **Saving the Planet while Cutting Taxes**

The Administration has proposed a domestic greenhouse gas tradable permit program for 2008 to 2012 subject to the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol. Recent analysis indicates that how the program is implemented will affect energy company shareholders and taxpayers, and could also affect the costs to society of achieving the Kyoto target.

**Effects of the tradable permit program on energy prices.** Implementing a tradable permit program would require industries covered by the program to restrict their greenhouse gas emissions to comply with the Kyoto Protocol emissions target. Abating greenhouse gas emissions involves costs associated with investing in new technologies, fuel-switching, and other ways to reduce emissions. As the energy sector becomes more competitive over the next decade, the costs of controlling emissions will be reflected in consumer prices. For example, the Administration's economic analysis of the Kyoto Protocol found that a tradable permit price of \$23 per ton of carbon would increase energy prices to consumers by about 5 percent in 2010, but this increase could be largely offset through the implementation of the Administration's electricity restructuring proposal.

**To "grandfather" or to auction?** A key question in implementing a tradable permit system is the allocation of permits. For example, the government could give away permits to firms ("grandfathering"); alternatively, the government could sell permits to firms through auctions. Importantly, the price of energy paid by consumers is likely to be the same in either case. Permits will be scarce, and the price of energy will reflect the cost of buying a permit or taking abatement measures regardless of how the permits were originally distributed. Producers who receive free permits will be like owners of particularly low-cost oil wells when oil prices go up: they will sell at the market price and reap windfall profits. In contrast, an auction allows the government to capture the value of the permits, because competition should lead companies to bid away almost the full value of any potential windfall profits from owning the permits.

Grandfathering would result in the giving away of permits valued in the tens to hundreds of billions of dollars annually. Because these firms can pass on most of the cost of reducing emissions to consumers, the grandfathering of permits would provide these firms with significant windfall profits, and allow them to enjoy higher profits under climate policy than without climate policy. However, if the government sells permits it would receive revenues in the tens to hundreds of billions of dollars annually. While energy firms would have lower profits under an auction, the permit revenues could be recycled back into the economy through tax cuts. Recent research has found that such revenue recycling could reduce the costs to society resulting from the use of greenhouse gas permits by up to 80 percent.

**Effects of permit allocation on energy industries.** One paper evaluated the effects of grandfathering and auctioning on energy industries. Giving away permits to energy industries would significantly increase equity values while selling permits would lower equity values. An alternative is to follow a hybrid approach that combines elements of grandfathering and auctions. It is estimated that grandfathering 5 to 15 percent of the permits to energy firms while auctioning the remaining permits would be sufficient to ensure that these firms' equity values would be the same under climate policy as they would be without climate policy. Furthermore, since most of the permits would be auctioned, such an approach would still provide significant revenues to the government.

**Conclusion.** The type of permit allocation does not affect energy prices. It can however, significantly influence the impact of climate policies on energy industries as well as the costs to society. A hybrid system of grandfathering and auctioning permits could preserve energy industries' profits and equity values while providing sufficient government revenues to finance tax cuts or for other purposes.

12-14-99

## BUSINESS, CONSUMER, AND REGIONAL ROUNDUP

**Midwest Feels the Heat of a Strong Economy.** After suffering from a weak labor market during the 1970s to early 1990s, labor market conditions in the Midwest have improved significantly. In fact, the Midwest's unemployment rate (3.4 percent in October of this year) has been the lowest among the four regions for every month since April 1991. As a result, business executives in the Midwest report that their most difficult problem is "finding good help at current wage offers." A recent study by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago suggests that the region's tight labor market will continue. One reason the study cites is slow work force growth caused by continued net-migration out of the Midwest. Another reason is the region's strong economy, which has propelled growth in labor demand, particularly for workers with high levels of education and skills. The study mentions possible public policy responses including encouraging migration to the region, improving education and training, continued welfare-to-work efforts, improving access to transportation and information about jobs for inner-city residents, and encouraging businesses to move to the central cities, where labor markets are typically not as tight.

**The Gains from Telecommuting.** In May 1997, more than 21 million Americans did some work at home as part of their primary job, according to a recent report. Lower prices and expanding access to mobile phones, laptops, e-mail, and the Internet have made it easier for people to work at home. The report finds that telecommuting provides benefits both to employees and businesses. Workplace flexibility reduces time spent commuting and may help workers balance work and family responsibilities. Not surprisingly, working parents take advantage of telecommuting more than childless workers; in fact, married women with children under the age of 6 had the highest home work rate at nearly 24 percent. Evidently, employers find that offering the option of telecommuting is a way to attract and retain employees and reduce absenteeism. In a 1998 study of large companies, 33 percent allowed employees to work off-site on a regular basis and another 14 percent said they were considering it.

**Beige Book Reports Continued Growth.** Reports from most Federal Reserve Districts indicated continued moderate to strong economic growth in October and November. Consumer spending picked up over the Thanksgiving weekend, after being hampered by warm weather earlier in November. Manufacturing activity continued to advance in most Districts. Commercial real estate markets remained strong in most parts of the country. Home sales have slipped. Agricultural conditions were mixed, and low prices persist for grains and some other commodities. Oil and gas drilling has increased. Bank lending has declined for residential mortgages but risen for consumer loans. Labor markets remain tight in all Districts. The pace of wage and salary increases did not appear to be accelerating generally, although there were some reports of larger recent salary increases in some industries and regions. Prices appear to be mostly steady at the retail level. Although prices of industrial goods were reported to be mostly steady in a majority of Districts, prices of some goods have been on the rise.

12-14-99

INTERNATIONAL ROUNDUP

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LC Gear Framework  
Curtis Peterson

Copied p. 8  
Tramplon  
Carol Browner  
Podesta

## RELEASES THIS WEEK

### **Producer Price Index**

**\*\*Embargoed until 8:30 a.m., Friday, December 10, 1999\*\***

The producer price index for finished goods rose 0.2 percent in November. Excluding food and energy, producer prices were unchanged.

### **Productivity**

Nonfarm business productivity rose 4.9 percent at an annual rate in the third quarter. Manufacturing productivity rose 3.9 percent.

## MAJOR RELEASES NEXT WEEK

Consumer Prices (Tuesday)

Retail Sales (Tuesday)

Industrial Production and Capacity Utilization (Wednesday)

U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services (Thursday)

Housing Starts (Friday)

## U.S. ECONOMIC STATISTICS

|                                       | 1970-<br>1993 | 1998 | 1999:1 | 1999:2 | 1999:3     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------|--------|------------|
| <b>Percent growth</b> (annual rate)   |               |      |        |        |            |
| Real GDP (chain-type)                 | 3.0           | 4.6  | 3.7    | 1.9    | 5.5        |
| GDP chain-type price index            | 5.2           | 1.1  | 2.0    | 1.3    | 1.1        |
| <u>Nonfarm business (NFB) sector:</u> |               |      |        |        |            |
| Productivity (chain-type)             | 1.7           | 3.1  | 2.7    | 0.6    | <b>4.9</b> |
| Real compensation per hour:           |               |      |        |        |            |
| Using CPI                             | 1.0           | 3.9  | 2.8    | 1.2    | <b>2.1</b> |
| Using NFB deflator                    | 1.5           | 4.7  | 2.9    | 2.9    | 4.4        |

|                                        |      |      |      |      |      |
|----------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>Shares of Nominal GDP</b> (percent) |      |      |      |      |      |
| Business fixed investment              | 11.4 | 12.5 | 12.6 | 12.6 | 12.8 |
| Residential investment                 | 4.5  | 4.2  | 4.4  | 4.5  | 4.4  |
| Exports                                | 8.2  | 11.0 | 10.7 | 10.7 | 10.9 |
| Imports                                | 9.2  | 12.7 | 12.9 | 13.4 | 13.8 |
| Personal saving                        | 6.6  | 2.6  | 2.2  | 1.8  | 1.5  |
| Federal surplus                        | -2.8 | 0.5  | 1.1  | 1.3  | 1.4  |

|                                       | 1970-<br>1993 | 1998  | September<br>1999 | October<br>1999 | November<br>1999 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Unemployment Rate</b> (percent)    |               |       |                   |                 |                  |
|                                       | 6.7**         | 4.5** | 4.2               | 4.1             | 4.1              |
| <b>Payroll employment</b> (thousands) |               |       |                   |                 |                  |
| increase per month                    |               |       | 103               | 263             | 234              |
| increase since Jan. 1993              |               |       |                   |                 | 20043            |
| <b>Inflation</b> (percent per period) |               |       |                   |                 |                  |
| CPI                                   | 5.8           | 1.6   | 0.4               | 0.2             | N.A.             |
| PPI-Finished goods                    | 5.0           | 0.0   | 1.1               | -0.1            | <b>0.2</b>       |

\*\*Figures beginning 1994 are not comparable with earlier data.

New or revised data in **boldface**.

PPI data **embargoed until 8:30 a.m., Friday, December 10, 1999.**

## FINANCIAL STATISTICS

|                                           | 1997 | 1998 | October<br>1999 | November<br>1999 | Dec. 9,<br>1999 |
|-------------------------------------------|------|------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Dow-Jones Industrial Average</b>       | 7441 | 8626 | 10397           | 10810            | 11135           |
| <b>Interest Rates</b> (percent per annum) |      |      |                 |                  |                 |
| 3-month T-bill                            | 5.06 | 4.78 | 4.86            | 5.07             | 5.10            |
| 10-year T-bond                            | 6.35 | 5.26 | 6.11            | 6.03             | 6.14            |
| Mortgage rate, 30-year fixed              | 7.60 | 6.94 | 7.85            | 7.74             | 7.84            |
| Prime rate                                | 8.44 | 8.35 | 8.25            | 8.37             | 8.50            |

## INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS

| <b>Exchange Rates</b>                                                           | <b>Current level<br/>December 9, 1999</b> | <b>Percent Change from<br/>Week ago</b> | <b>Year ago</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Euro (in U.S. dollars)                                                          | 1.016                                     | 1.4                                     | N.A.            |
| Yen (per U.S. dollar)                                                           | 102.6                                     | -0.1                                    | -13.1           |
| Major currencies index (Mar. 1973=100)<br>(trade-weighted value of the U.S. \$) | 93.05                                     | -0.8                                    | 0.1             |

| <b>International Comparisons <sup>1/</sup></b> | <b>Real GDP<br/>growth</b><br>(percent change last 4 quarters) | <b>Unemployment<br/>rate</b><br>(percent) | <b>CPI inflation</b><br>(percent change in index<br>last 12 months) |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| United States                                  | 4.2 (Q3)                                                       | 4.1 (Nov)                                 | 2.6 (Oct)                                                           |
| Canada                                         | 4.2 (Q3)                                                       | 7.2 (Oct)                                 | 2.3 (Oct)                                                           |
| Japan                                          | 1.0 (Q3)                                                       | 4.7 (Oct)                                 | -0.7 (Oct)                                                          |
| France                                         | 3.0 (Q3)                                                       | 11.0 (Sep)                                | 0.8 (Oct)                                                           |
| Germany                                        | 1.2 (Q3)                                                       | 9.0 (Oct) <sup>2/</sup>                   | 0.8 (Oct)                                                           |
| Italy                                          | 0.8 (Q2)                                                       | 12.1 (Apr)                                | 1.8 (Oct)                                                           |
| United Kingdom                                 | 1.8 (Q3)                                                       | 5.9 (Aug)                                 | 1.2 (Oct)                                                           |

1/ For unemployment data, rates approximating U.S. concepts as calculated by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

2/ Rate for unified Germany.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 10, 1999

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
12-14-99

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Bruce Reed  
Eric Liu

SUBJECT: DPC Weekly Report

Copied  
Reed  
Liu  
Padesta

*File* **1. Health Care – Patient Abuse in Group Homes for the Mentally Retarded.** You asked if we could take any actions to address the appalling state of many group homes for the mentally retarded in the District of Columbia. The Washington Post recently reported that since 1993 at least 116 people have died in these homes; 34 of the deaths were linked to delayed treatment, neglect, and falsified reporting. HCFA is charged with ensuring that homes receiving Medicaid reimbursement meet certain health and quality standards. In response to the Post report, Nancy Ann Min DeParle ordered HCFA staff to survey all 133 intermediate care facilities that fall under their jurisdiction. These surveys will be conducted by personnel from outside the District. In addition, HCFA is meeting with the HHS Inspector General and the Department of Justice to discuss whether the abuse and neglect uncovered in these homes warrants the transfer of patients or criminal or civil prosecution. We will keep you apprised of further developments.

**2. Health Care – Mental Health Report and Parity Issue.** This Monday, Mrs. Gore, Secretary Shalala, and Surgeon General Satcher will release the First Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health. This long-awaited report provides a broad review of numerous mental health issues, and will further help dispel myths and stigma associated with mental illness. That said, it is also likely to raise again the issue of whether we want full mental health parity in private health plans. We avoided this question when we announced that FEHBP plans would implement full parity. Extending parity to private plans would raise premiums a projected 1 to 3 percent. Because of the premium increases already likely to result from the Patients Bill of Rights (3 to 4 percent), we would advise maintaining a low profile on the parity issue.

*File* **3. Health Care – Signing of the Work Incentives Improvement Act.** Next Friday, you are scheduled to sign into law the Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999. Senators Jeffords and Kennedy, as well as a fairly large contingent of members of Congress and advocates, are likely to attend. As of this writing, we are hoping to hold the signing at the FDR Memorial, which would be a first choice of many within the disability community.

**4. Food Safety – Legal Challenge to Meat Inspections.** On Friday, a federal district court in Texas granted a preliminary injunction against the Department of Agriculture, barring USDA inspectors from shutting down a Supreme Beef Processors plant in Dallas. The plant had failed three consecutive tests for salmonella, prompting USDA to withdraw its inspectors November 30 and effectively halt operations. SBP brought suit, challenging the very legitimacy

of USDA's science-based inspection system. The new system – called the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point system – is the centerpiece of the Administration's advances in meat, poultry, and seafood inspections. As a result of the injunction, SBP's products continue to receive the USDA seal of approval, notwithstanding the Department's belief that these products should not be entering commerce at all. We are assuring consumer groups and the media that we are committed to defending this suit and moving forward on food safety issues.

**5. Education – Standards Coming Under Strain.** In the past several weeks there have been a number of press accounts about the inability of students across the country to meet rigorous state standards set for academic performance. The anniversary of the National Education Goals last week provided additional grist for these stories. As you told the National Education Summit in September, we are now reaching the hard part of standards-based reform – the stage where real and painful consequences begin to be felt. In the face of this pressure, Virginia, Massachusetts, New York, Arizona and other states are considering lowering their standards. Los Angeles also recently announced that it is retreating on its policy to end social promotion. We will continue to seek opportunities to get your message out about the importance of not backing down from high standards and accountability.

**6. Crime – Texas Gun Prosecutions.** This week, a front page story in the Houston Chronicle revealed that during Governor George W. Bush's tenure, the Texas Department of Public Safety neither investigated nor prosecuted several hundred known felons who had failed background checks in connection with their application for a permit to carry concealed handguns. The background checks were not conducted until *after* the felons completed the required training program, and it is believed that many of them trained with their own guns. The felons, including murderers, sex offenders and other violent criminals, not only falsified background check forms, but also broke state and federal laws prohibiting them from possessing firearms. Governor Bush, who endorses "enforcement of existing laws" as the best way to reduce gun violence, has directed the state police to follow up on the cases.

12-14-99

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 10, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ROGER BALLENTINE *[Signature]*

RE: OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES WEEKLY

copied

Ballentine  
Podesta

## Climate Change

Press, Science and Industry.

Numerous news outlets (e.g., *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *AP*) reported on Ford's decision to withdraw from the Global Climate Coalition, an anti-Kyoto lobbying group. In its announcement, Ford said there is credible evidence of global warming and companies should work together to find technological solutions. Others that have left the coalition include British Petroleum, Shell Oil, and Dow Chemical.

*Time* magazine ran a full-color, two-page map of the world highlighting recent events attributed by many to climate change ("Greenhouse Effects – Global warming is well under way. Here are some telltale signs", 12/13).

*Dow Jones Newswires* (12/10) reported on a new study by the Center for Energy and Climate Solutions claiming that the growth in e-commerce has driven not only the U.S. economy but also its relatively flat greenhouse gas emissions profile. The report concludes that eventually Internet shopping could reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by up to 75 million metric tons (equal to 31 average-sized power plants) through reduced energy consumption at retail outlets and reduced commuting by both consumers and workers.

*The Washington Post* (12/9) reported on a new study by the U.S. National Research Council and the Chinese Academies of Science and Engineering that urges greater collaboration between the U.S. and Chinese governments on developing clean energy technologies to reduce greenhouse gases. The report said the U.S. Congress and the President should authorize U.S. agencies to promote more efficient energy use in China and to help it pursue advanced, less-carbon intensive technologies for coal, renewable energy, nuclear energy, petroleum, and natural gas.

yes!! A new study in *Science* (12/10) shows that the periodic El Nino warming of the Pacific Ocean – which blocks the normal upwelling of cold, deep ocean water – sharply reduces the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere. The study reports that the 1997-98 El Nino kept 700 million metric tons of carbon from being released into the atmosphere – equal to half of the total U.S. annual emissions from burning fossil fuel.

Do you have this?

Do you have this?

Can Stewart follow up on this

We should follow up on this

12-14-99

New Initiatives

*Heavy Duty Truck Initiative.* We have been coordinating an inter-agency team led by the Department of the Army to develop a public-private partnership with truck and engine manufacturers. This partnership would be a research and development effort to double or triple the fuel efficiency and to reduce air pollutants from heavy duty trucks. In addition to the obvious environmental benefits, this program would improve the deployment readiness of our military forces by reducing fuel transport and use associated with military operations. Industry appears ready to commit to share the costs of the research, and to aim for the ambitious program goals.

*Federal Transport EO.* We are prepared to submit into OMB clearance an Executive Order that would require federal agencies to reduce their petroleum consumption from vehicles by 20% by 2005 (with appropriate exclusions, such as for tactical and law enforcement vehicles) through increased use of alternative fuels in the alternative fuel vehicles they are already required to purchase, and by acquiring vehicles with greater fuel efficiency.

**Lands Legacy**

On Monday, the Vice President released new figures showing that the conversion of farmland to developed land more than doubled in recent years. He then voiced strong support for USDA's Farmland Protection Program – a key part of your Lands Legacy Initiative – which helps states, local governments, and private groups purchase permanent development easements from farmers. That arrangement allows farmer and ranchers to resist offers from developers and allows them to continue farming and to pass the farm or ranch on to their children. On Tuesday, Secretary Glickman echoed support for the FPP program in an event in Iowa highlighting the same report (USDA's Natural Resources Inventory).

cc: The Vice President  
John Podesta  
Martin Baily  
Maria Echaveste  
Steve Ricchetti  
Charles Burson  
George Frampton  
Neal Lane  
Joe Lockhart  
Gene Sperling  
Jim Steinberg

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 10, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: THURGOOD MARSHALL, JR. T.M.  
KRIS M. BALDERSTON

SUBJECT: Summary of Cabinet Weekly Reports  
December 4 - 10, 1999

Copied  
Marshall  
Balderston  
Podesta

AMPLIFICATION OF PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES

- **Third Annual Leadership Conference:** On December 14, we will conclude the third annual Leadership Conference. The conference has been co-sponsored by the Council for Excellence in Government and the White House offices of Presidential Personnel and Cabinet Affairs for Presidential Appointees and Nominees. More than 150 subcabinet officials from nearly every agency registered for this year's conference with 60 to 80 attendees per session. This year's conference was comprised of five midday sessions, focused on three topics: Getting Results, Measuring Performance and Sustaining Momentum; Working Effectively with Congress; and, Working Effectively with the Media and Engaging Citizens.

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

- **Russia:** On December 3, after a meeting between IMF Managing Director Camdessus and the Russia G-8 Envoy, the IMF announced that disbursement of the next \$640 million tranche of Russia's IMF program would be delayed. While Russia has met the macroeconomic targets of its program, it has failed to take a number of required structural measures in such areas as reform of bankruptcy law, Central Bank reserve management and budget transparency. Russian Prime Minister Putin has sharply criticized the IMF's stance, claiming that Russia has met all the required conditions for the next tranche and that the IMF is delaying the tranche in order to put pressure on Russia to change its conduct in Chechnya.
- **E-Commerce:** On December 8, Secretary Summers met with six Chief Executive Officers of major technology companies, including Steve Case of America Online, to discuss E-Commerce issues. On December 14-15 in San Francisco, the next meeting of

12-14-99

the Congressional Advisory Commission on E-Commerce, created by the Internet Tax Freedom Act to study e-commerce tax issues, will take place. The most controversial issues discussed will be State and local taxes on sales made over the Internet and telecommunication taxes. The political debate over Internet taxation has intensified substantially over the past few weeks as several State tax and anti-tax proposals have been submitted. Treasury is not supporting any proposal at this time, but is seeking simplification of the existing tax system. The Commission is mandated to issue a report in April 2000.

*True vaccine in this*

✓ **Vaccines:** Treasury is working on developing a proposal for encouraging the development and delivery of vaccines for diseases that disproportionately affect the developing world. The proposal may call for: 1) contributing to the existing fund of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations and fostering an international effort to establish a Millennium Trust Fund to purchase AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis vaccines when they become available; 2) increasing private research development through a new tax credit and increasing public sector research funding for tuberculosis and malaria; and 3) calling on multilateral development banks to earmark part of their funds for vaccines and medicines, recognizing that investments in health are critical to economic progress. Department of Justice

- **Miranda:** On December 6, the Supreme Court granted a certiorari petition for in Dickerson v. United States which raises the constitutionality of a statute that allows for broader admissibility of certain criminal confessions. In the government's certiorari brief, DOJ argued that because the Miranda decision is of constitutional dimension, Congress may not legislate a contrary rule unless the Supreme Court were to overrule Miranda.
- **AL "English Only" Policy For Driver's Exams:** Prior to 1991, the state of AL gave written driver's license exams in approximately 14 foreign languages. In 1991, after ratification of a state constitutional amendment declaring English the official language of AL, the state adopted an "English-Only" policy, requiring the driver's license process be administered in English only, and forbidding the use of interpreters and translation dictionaries, even if used privately. On November 30, the Eleventh Circuit upheld the district court's ruling that the English-Only policy had an unjustified disparate impact on foreign-born individuals, in violation of Title VI.
- **Internet Crimes Against Children:** In mid-December, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is expected to award ten grants totaling about \$3 million. The grants will go to state and local law enforcement agencies under the Internet Crimes Against Children program. The program funds regional, multi-jurisdictional, and multi-agency approaches to investigate and prosecute offenders using computer technology to victimize children.

- **Parochial School Aid Case:** In *Mitchell v. Helms*, the Solicitor General argued that Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, is consistent with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment. Title VI permits local educational agencies to lend supplementary, secular instructional materials and equipment, purchased with federal funds, to religious schools for the benefit of students as part of a program which also serves public school and nonsectarian private school students. The Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit found that several Supreme Court decisions categorically prohibit giving such aid to religious schools.
- **Women Offenders Conference:** On December 13-15, OJP and CPO will host the National Symposium on Women Offenders. The conference will bring together teams from almost every state and several localities to discuss issues such as special needs of female inmates, gender-responsive programming, and issues of women offenders and children. MD Lt. Gov. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend will discuss Maryland's targeted response to women offenders and Toni Locy from *U.S. News and World Report* will discuss girls following mothers into the justice system. The Attorney General will speak at the closing session.
- **Juvenile Justice Publications:** In December, OJJDP is expected to publish *Highlights of the 1998 National Youth Gang Survey*. This survey found that gang activity continued to affect a large number of cities and counties in 1998, but the number of agencies reporting active youth gangs in their areas declined slightly for the second year in a row. The estimated number of gangs and gang members also decreased. The 1998 survey confirmed previous findings that gang members are often involved in a range of serious and violent crimes.

#### DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

- **Water Pumping in CA's Central Valley:** On December 10, DOI will begin curtailing water pumping from the Federal Central Valley Project. CA Governor Davis had asked DOI to delay curtailment until December 15 because of concerns about the alleged effects on water users. Federal biologists contend that curtailment must begin now in order to save the CA and Federally listed threatened spring run chinook salmon. The Central Valley Project Improvement Act requires DOI to modify operation of the project to balance fish and wildlife needs with those of urban and agricultural water users.
- **Snow Mobile Use in Denali National Park:** During the week of December 6, NPS will hold four public hearings regarding proposed permanent regulations at Denali NP. The most controversial of these is a definition of "traditional activities" that would prohibit snowmobile use in the two million acres of the park. There is national media interest and the congressional delegation's interest is expected to be high.

- **Potential New Parks:** The FY2000 Appropriations Act authorized 14 new studies of potential additions to the National Park System. Fifteen studies previously authorized or directed by Congress in prior years are expected to continue during FY2000.
- **Visibility Degradation at Big Bend National Park:** Deteriorating visibility at Big Bend National Park prompted a meeting between Director Stanton and the TX Natural Resource Conservation Commission. The discussion focused on the status of various pollution reduction programs in TX, while acknowledging the importance of addressing pollution from Mexico. An agreement was reached to jointly assess the effectiveness of current and planned programs with respect to their impact on air quality at Big Bend and to continue working together on a regional and binational scale.

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- **New Meat Safety Rule:** On December 10, in District Court for the Northern District of TX, USDA will challenge Supreme Beef Processors' request for a temporary injunction preventing USDA from suspending inspection, which would effectively close the facility, for the plant's failure to meet the performance standards of USDA's new science-based meat and poultry inspection system. USDA expects a coalition of consumer and public health interests to support USDA's position in a friend of the court filing, and believes it likely that representatives of the meat industry will side with the company.
- **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rural Housing Program:** On December 10, USDA will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its single family rural housing loan program in a celebration in Rutledge, GA, which was the site of the first house financed under the program. The ceremony will include several state and local officials, as well as the first borrower under the program. During the event, USDA will announce 100 partners who will work to boost rural home ownership as part of your Home Ownership Initiative, and will announce that USDA will commit \$60 million in FY00 to rural home owners through the rural home loan partnership.
- **Flue-Cured Tobacco Quota:** On December 15, USDA will, as required by statute, set the quota for the 2000 crop of flue-cured tobacco. This quota will be partly based upon the December 1 report of the purchasing plans of U.S. cigarette manufacturers, which showed a 12 percent drop to 286 million pounds for 1999, suggesting that the statutory formula will result in another reduction in the quota which has, in turn, begun to generate considerable concern among congressional tobacco interests.
- **Commodity Markets:** Weak exports and improved weather in the U.S. Southern Plains depressed wheat prices. Spillover pressure from wheat and a weakening export picture led corn prices lower. Soybean prices received a boost from concerns over South American planting conditions. Lackluster export demand and heavy supplies sent rice

prices down. Cotton prices fell as international competition continues to heat up and domestic demand remains sluggish. Steer prices were almost unchanged, but hog prices were up sharply following a pickup in ham and picnic prices. Broiler prices dropped slightly due to light retail demand. Cheese prices held steady, as heavy production was balanced by good seasonal demand. Butter prices dropped below \$1.00 per pound, as brisk production and large stocks continue to overhang the market.

- **Egg Safety Action Plan:** USDA has completed an egg safety plan to reduce salmonella-related illnesses from eggs by 50 percent over the next five years.

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

- **WTO Ministerial:** Before talks ultimately collapsed December 3, progress was being made on e-commerce and transparency in government procurement. However, in the non-agricultural market access talks, the EU refused to move forward on advanced tariff liberalization and the lesser developed countries refused to negotiate effective market access objectives, insisting that negotiations be based on the meaningless high bound tariff rates they maintain. Antidumping actions were under strenuous attack by a number of other WTO members causing DOC's team to spend much of its time focusing on this issue. There are major uncertainties regarding when and on what basis talks could resume.
- **NIST Minority Outreach:** Starting in January, NIST will visit minority-serving institutions with compatible research programs to award small research planning grants. NIST will visit seven historically black universities, three Hispanic-serving institutions, and two tribal colleges.
- **Mexico Border Car-Deposit Program:** On December 2, Mexico announced that it was suspending implementation of a controversial program begun December 1 to require up to an \$800 deposit for U.S. registered cars entering Mexico to discourage sale or transfer of the cars in that country. The International Trade Administration worked closely with Mexican officials to voice U.S. concerns and to advocate that Mexico needed to get reliable, accurate information to the traveling public.
- **Central American Reconstruction Program:** On December 7, DOC will host "Reducing the Caribbean Basin's Economic Vulnerability to Natural Disasters through Public-Private Partnerships." The sessions will take place in Miami, FL, in conjunction with Caribbean/Latin American Action's annual Miami Conference on the Caribbean and Latin America. In addition to presentations by U.S. officials and companies on reducing the economic impact of natural disasters in the region, the program will feature a series of workshops on agribusiness/forestry, energy, telecommunications; construction/ housing; and transportation.

- **Chemical Weapons Convention Regulations:** The Bureau of Export Administration (BXA) expects the Chemical Weapons Convention implementing regulations to be published in December. Industry will then have 90 days to submit declarations and reports on activities involving toxic chemicals and precursors from 1994-99. The State Department will transmit this information to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, which administers the Convention. Inspections of U.S. commercial facilities will begin next spring.
- **Easing of North Korean Sanctions:** BXA is participating in the North Korea Economic Interagency Working Group, organized by the State Department to discuss implementation of your September 17 decision to ease sanctions against Pyongyang. BXA is circulating interagency draft changes to the Export Administration Regulations to implement your initiative. Both DOD and DOE have raised concerns about the scope of the proposed liberalization.
- **President's Export Council Subcommittee on Encryption (PECSENC):** PECSENC will meet December 14. The Council provides advice on commercial encryption product issues. Under Secretary Reinsch and other BXA officials will provide an update on current BXA initiatives, including the forthcoming new encryption regulation and the recent meeting of the Wassenaar Arrangement. DOJ will brief the group on the legislative strategy for law enforcement access legislation, the "Cyberspace Electronic Security Act." PECSENC also plans to hold briefings on encryption developments within the European Union, on the status of NIST's Advanced Encryption Standard selection process, and on the Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

#### DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- **Society of Professional Engineering Employees/Boeing Corporation:** The members of the Society of Professional Engineering Employees, recently affiliated with the AFL-CIO, rejected a final offer from the Boeing Corporation and have given strike authority to their negotiating committee. Boeing spokespersons have indicated they will extend the contract, which expired December 1, through December 31. Both sides have expressed a willingness to talk during that period.
- **Health Care Industry:** Representative Campbell stated Speaker Hastert agreed to put a bill to give independent physicians collective bargaining rights with health plans back on the agenda of the House Judiciary Committee. Campbell predicted that the bill would easily win committee approval and could come to a vote on the House floor in early February.

- **Economic Statistics:** On December 14, BLS plans to release the Consumer Price Index for November 1999 and the Real Earnings for November 1999.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- **No Change in Drug Related Emergency Department Episodes:** The week of December 27, SAMHSA will release 1998 estimates of drug-related emergency department (ED) episodes from the Drug Abuse Warning Network, an ongoing national survey of hospital emergency departments. The analysis focuses on trends of drug-related emergency department episodes and specific drug mentions from 1991-98. Nationally, total drug-related ED episodes were stable from 1997-98. Among the drugs mentioned most frequently in ED reports, cocaine, and heroin/morphine were unchanged between 1997 and 1998, while marijuana/hashish mentions increased 19 percent. Among the 21 metropolitan areas covered by the analysis, cocaine mentions increased in five, heroin/morphine mentions increased in six, and marijuana/hashish mentions increased in three. Heroin/morphine mentions decreased only in one city, as did marijuana/hashish mentions. Youth age 12-17 comprise 11 percent of total episodes. For the 12-17 age group, total episodes were statistically unchanged from 1997 levels, but eight percent lower than in 1996.
- **New Breast Imaging Technology:** On December 16, a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) advisory panel will consider an application for the first digital imaging device for breast cancer screening, GE Medical Systems' Senographe 200D. FDA has expedited its evaluation of this application. The advisory panel meeting is expected to attract the attention of the clinical community and the media.
- **Report on Mental Health:** On December 13, Secretary Shalala will join Mrs. Gore and Surgeon General Satcher to announce the release of the first-ever *Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health*. The report aims to advance the state mental health in the nation, encourage those in need to seek help and dispel the myths and stigmas associated with mental illness.
- **CHIP Approvals:** During the week of December 13, the Health Care Financing Administration plans to notify MS, CA, and IN of the approval of the States Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) amendments.

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- **Homelessness Report:** After spending the night at the House of Ruth transitional housing facility for homeless families in Washington with actor William Baldwin. President of the non-profit Creative Coalition, Secretary Cuomo released a landmark study which reports that most people who become homeless have suffered severe

12-14-99

hardships, but are successful in escaping homelessness when they get help from federal and other programs. HUD's FY2000 Budget provides for \$1.02 billion in funding for homeless programs – a \$45 million increase over 1999.

- **White House Initiative on Guns:** In a series of print and television interviews, Secretary Cuomo supported the Administration's Initiative to start negotiations with gun manufacturers to address ongoing gun litigation. In addition, HUD announced the possibility of public housing authorities bringing suit in the event negotiations are unsuccessful. The basis of the suit, is the human costs of gun violence in housing authorities, as well as the serious financial costs they incur.
- **Mark-To-Market Program:** HUD announced that it has created a new, two-tiered fee structure for housing finance agencies that process "lite" transactions as part of the Mark-to-Market program. Lite transactions reduce above-market Section 8 contract rents to levels that are more in line with prevailing market rents without restructuring the outstanding debt on the mortgages. Under the new structure, HUD's Office of Multifamily Housing Assistance Restructuring (OMHAR) will increase compensation to Participating Administrative Entities (PAEs) when financial data or other information calls for a more thorough review of a property's expenses when determining if a transaction qualifies as a lite.
- **New Home Sales in October Hit 35 Year High:** New home sales in October were 986,000 units on a seasonally adjusted annual basis, the highest month in the 35-year history of the series. Sales were up 16.3 percent from September. Year to date, new home sales are running 4.8 percent higher than in 1998 which was the highest year ever. Projecting forward, 1999 could yield as many as 920,000 new home sales compared to 886,000 in 1998.
- **Housing Grants:** The following grants are being prepared for release over the next several weeks: Resident Opportunities Self Sufficiency Program; Community Development Technical Assistance and Fair Housing Initiative Program grants. In addition, Secretary Cuomo is scheduled to travel to Denver, Boston and Portland, ME to announce Homeless Continuum of Care grants in the next week.

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

- **Mission to Central America and the Caribbean:** From December 13-17, Secretary Slater will lead a Transportation and Trade Mission and will highlight several key deliverables. In Honduras, he will sign over navigation equipment to enhance aviation safety and replace the Maritime Navigation Aid System damaged by Hurricane Mitch. In Panama, he will join President Carter and Secretary Albright at the historic turnover of the Panama Canal. In Jamaica, he will attend the dedication ceremony for a patrol boat

formerly operated by the U.S. Coast Guard, and he will sign the 39<sup>th</sup> Open Skies agreement with the Dominican Republic. A business delegation with maritime, aviation, rail and other interests will support the visit to Honduras, Jamaica, and the Dominican Republic.

- **New York City Transit Union Workers Poised to Strike:** On December 15, the current labor agreements between New York City Transit and its unions will expire. The President of the Transport Workers Union Local 100 has been negotiating raises that are greater than the 11-percent-over-three-years recently received by the workers of MTA/Metro-North Railroad and MTA/Long Island Rail Road. While the New York State Taylor Law forbids strikes by public workers, the City and State agencies are developing contingency plans in case a transit union walkout occurs.
- **Environmentally Friendly Snow and Ice Control:** On December 7, Secretary Slater announced that researchers have discovered how inexpensive feedstocks, such as cheese whey, can be used to make inexpensive calcium magnesium acetate (CMA), an environmentally-friendly snow and ice control material used for roadway deicing and anti-icing. Several states use CMA to maintain the safety and efficiency of highways and bridges during the winter months. The Federal Highway Administration, in partnership with NY State Energy Research and Development Authority and several state highway agencies, funded the research which involves fermenting cheese whey to produce acetic acid which, in turn, reacts with lime to produce CMA. Researchers from Ohio State University's Department of Chemical Engineering conducted the research on behalf of the agencies.
- **Fifty Computers to AR:** During the week of December 6, Lee County School District in Mariana, AR received 25 computers and monitors in support of Executive Order 12999 regarding Educational Technology and Secretary Slater's Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program. The donation was coordinated by DOT's Transportation Administrative Service Center.
- **Greensboro, NC Grant:** On December 3, Secretary Slater spoke with Governor Hunt and announced a transit grant for the City of Greensboro in the amount of \$5.1 million. The project will use FY99 earmark bus funds for the creation of a Multimodal Terminal and acquisition of new buses, paratransit vans, and standard transit coaches.
- **New York Grant:** Two Federal Transit Administration grants were released on December 7, 1999. Suffolk County, NY received \$2,100,972 using FY98 bus earmark funds to purchase approximately twelve 35-foot buses. NY City DOT received \$7,328,971 using FY98 bus earmark funds to purchase 28 compressed natural

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

- **Oak Ridge Chemical Explosion:** On December 8, an explosion occurred at Oak Ridge's Y-12 plant involving sodium-potassium coolant. Ten employees were injured, one with serious burns. No release of contaminants outside the facility has occurred and no future release is expected. There is no indication of damage to the facility and no employees outside the facility were affected. DOE and Oak Ridge have been working with the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency to respond to the incident.
- **Spallation Neutron Source Project:** The Vice President is scheduled to attend a groundbreaking ceremony for the \$1.36 billion Spallation Neutron Source project at DOE's Oak Ridge Facility on December 15. The project is aimed at providing the scientific community with the world's most capable facility for neutron scattering and related research in the physical, chemical, materials, biological, and medical sciences. The project is organized as a five-laboratory partnership involving DOE's Argonne National Laboratory, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory under the leadership of a central Spallation Neutron Source Project Office in Oak Ridge.
- **Alternative Fuel Grants to National Parks:** On December 6, Secretary Richardson and Secretary Babbitt announced awards totaling \$460,000 to selected national park fleet managers to advance the development of alternative fuels. The DOE funds were awarded to 32 national parks and will be used to support the enhanced use of alternative fuel vehicles in the National Park Service.

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- **Meeting with Jesse Jackson:** On December 8, Secretary Riley and DOEd staff met with the Reverend Jesse Jackson to discuss school discipline, equity in educational opportunity, and issues related to Decatur, IL.
- **Investigator Says NYC Teachers Aided in Cheating:** On December 7, school investigators charged that dozens of teachers and two principals across New York City's public school system had given answers to students on standardized reading and mathematics tests which help determine how schools are ranked and whether students move on to the next grade. Investigators said the cheating, in grades three through eight over five years, involved more students and educators than any recent cheating case in American public schools.
- **Good Teachers:** An analysis of CA's teacher shortage warns that education reform is doomed unless the state makes a large investment to address the dearth of qualified teachers at public schools serving poor and minority children. The report, issued by a

coalition of the state's two public university systems and several private foundations, said teachers should be eligible for perks such as a salary of up to \$20,000 while they attend university training courses full-time.

- **Math Standards:** By the end of December, DOEd plans to release "High Standards in Mathematics for Every Student: A Guide to Effective Use of Resources." This guide summarizes lessons learned at three 1998 regional conferences that focused on strategies for using Federal, state, and local resources to improve student achievement in math.

#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

- **Patient Safety:** VA's emphasis on patient safety and ensuring consistently reliable, high-quality patient care has resulted in improvements that meet or exceed national standards. VA has created four Patient Safety Centers of Inquiry to develop innovative solutions to critical challenges in patient safety. More than four years ago, VA began using a "bar-code" system for medication that resulted in the reduction of medical errors by two-thirds. VA facilities have used electronic entry of prescriptions to eliminate mistakes resulting from illegible handwriting. Computerized patient records remind health care workers of routine services required by patients. This year, VA is requiring health care workers to attend forty hours of instruction in quality assurance.
- **Oversight Office to Monitor Research Safety:** A new Office of Research Compliance and Assurance has been established at VA. This office will ensure that VA's research programs place the highest priority on the welfare and dignity of patients in clinical studies, and will provide independent and routine assurance that VA's research is conducted legally, safely, and with integrity. Secretary West appointed Dr. John H. Mather as the Office's director.
- **Costs of Medical Materials:** VA and DOD entered into a Memorandum of Agreement to achieve lower medical material costs and reduce redundancies in federal contracting. The goal of this program is to negotiate the best possible price for quality products by leveraging the combined purchasing power of federal customers.
- **Cost-of-Living Adjustment:** On December 3, VA announced that more than three million beneficiaries of VA's compensation and pension programs will receive a cost-of-living adjustment of 2.4 percent in monthly benefit payments to be distributed later this month. This increase affects eligible veterans and survivors on VA benefits rolls as of December 1.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

- **Final Rules for Cars and Gasoline:** Last May, you announced a proposal for the toughest tailpipe standards ever for passenger vehicles, light-duty trucks and sport utility vehicles (SUVs). The proposal marked the first time that SUVs and light-duty trucks would be subject to the same pollution standards as cars. After months of receiving public comment on the proposal and meeting with stakeholders, EPA is in the final stages of finalizing the rules and accompanying support documents.
- **Northeastern States Clean Air:** In 1997, eight Northeastern states (CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, PA, VT) petitioned EPA to take action to reduce out-of-state windblown air pollution. In April, EPA made final determinations that sources in the upwind states named by the petitioning states were indeed significantly degrading air quality in the petitioning states. EPA will adopt and implement a market-based emissions trading program to control emissions from the upwind sources.
- **Safe Drinking Water Act Anniversary:** December 16 marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the principle federal law ensuring the quality of Americans' drinking water. The Act, which was last reauthorized in 1996, recognizes that providing safe water is a comprehensive and integrated effort involving water protection and treatment from the drinking water source to the consumer's tap.
- **Municipal Sludge Standards:** Next week, EPA expects to propose regulations to address dioxin and dioxin-like compounds in municipal sewage sludge that is applied to land (e.g., for agricultural purposes or in home gardens), incinerated or disposed of in landfills. The proposal would allow beneficial uses of sludge while ensuring that public health is protected. EPA's risk assessment for the proposal indicates that most sewage sludge is safe for land application. EPA is proposing, however, to establish a cap of 300 parts per trillion toxic equivalents on dioxins in land-applied sludge to protect against unreasonable cancer risk for highly exposed individuals as well as the general population. For incineration and land disposal, EPA will propose no action based on the results of risk assessments specific to those activities. The final rule is under court-ordered deadline for December 2001.

## UNITED NATIONS

- **UN Arrears:** Both this week and next, the Management Reform section will devote its efforts toward securing a Zero Nominal Growth (ZNG) UN budget for the 2000-2001 biennium, and preparing the ground for the achievement of the other benchmarks contained in U.S. arrears legislation. The budget negotiations, which are entering their final phase, center on closing a \$30-40 million gap between the Secretary General's proposed budget and ZNG. USUN is pursuing this goal through a demarche to capitals,

12-14-99

intensive bi-lateral meetings with Permanent Representatives, and negotiations on specific potential savings in the UN's Fifth Committee. Both this initiative and the U.S. larger arrears legislation implementation agenda are complicated by an enduring sense among member states that the U.S. has imposed unilateral conditions on the UN in violation of international law. Although the level of resentment remains significant, USUN is working to begin building a coalition of pragmatic states that will back achievement of the benchmarks as the best way to put right the U.S.-UN relationship and thereby safeguard the UN's role into the next century.

- **Iraq:** The P-5 remains at an impasse over the trigger for sanctions suspension in the UK's draft omnibus Security Council resolution; discussions continue in New York and among principals in capitals. Negotiations remain fluid. Russia has been negative concerning the U.S. position on key issues in the text, but has taken care not to reveal how it will vote. France and China also have not been forthcoming about their true intentions. Malaysia appears to be in the abstention camp. A separate U.S.-drafted resolution to extend the Oil-for-Food Program for six months will likely be adopted December 10.

#### OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

- **Office Visit with Representative Cummings:** On December 13, Director McCaffrey will meet with Representative Elijah Cummings and Mr. Frank Oliver, Director of the Black Newspaper Publishers Association. They will discuss drug policy issues in the African American community and how ONDCP is working to address these issues. Representative Cummings and Mr. Oliver have expressed a special interest in the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign and its efforts to deliver meaningful drug prevention messages to African American youth.
- **National HIDTA Conference:** On December 14-15, ONDCP will host the National High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Conference. HIDTA, Federal officials, and congressional staff will discuss changes and new patterns in drug trafficking and how the HIDTA Program should respond to them. Attorney General Reno, FBI Director Freeh, and DEA Administrator Donnie Marshall will also address the conference.

#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

- **Strategic Alliances:** From December 13-15, SBA will participate in the U.S.-Africa Energy Ministers Conference in Tucson, AZ. The conference will focus on the challenges of securing financing and investment for energy projects in Africa. This conference will represent the first time that the U.S. and 54 African Energy Ministers will meet to discuss the future of Africa's energy sector. U.S. participants will include the Sloan Financial Group, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, Citizens Energy, Solomon Smith

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
12-14-99

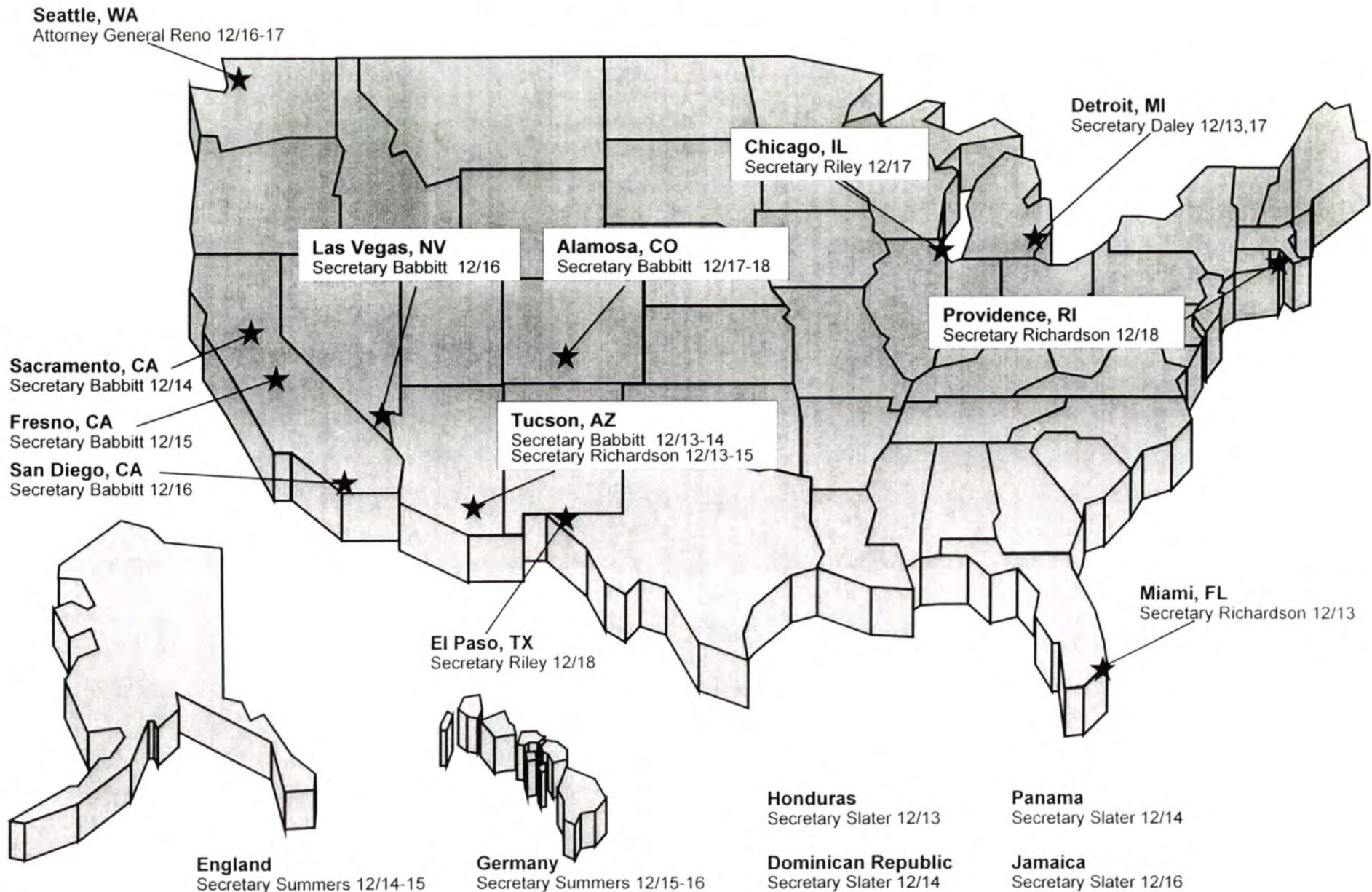
Barney. African participants include South Africa, Botswana, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Cote d'Ivoire, and Rwanda.

#### GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

- **Child Care Expenses:** The Treasury Appropriations Act 2000 gives Federal agencies the authority to subsidize the cost of Federal employee child care expenses. Once the regulations to implement this bill are published by OPM, it is likely GSA will participate in the program. The GSA Office of Child Care is conducting a survey to determine need and eligibility. Then the Office will determine the amount of the subsidy (or the funding required for the subsidy) and which employees would be eligible to receive it. GSA has 113 child care centers around the country.
-  **Excess Computers for DC:** GSA Region 3 recently donated 150 surplus computers to the Center of Community Change in DC. The computers will help 200 youths in the DC area prepare for graduation and move on to college.

# Cabinet Travel

*Monday, December 13 - Sunday, December 19, 1999*



cc:

The Vice President

John Podesta

Martin Baily

Sandy Berger

Sidney Blumenthal

Charles Burson

Mary Beth Cahill

Maria Echaveste

George Frampton

Mickey Ibarra

Ben Johnson

Joel Johnson

Janis Kearney

Neal Lane

Jack Lew

Ann Lewis

Joe Lockhart

Buddy MacKay

Sean Maloney

Minyon Moore

Bruce Reed

Steve Ricchetti

Doug Sosnik

Gene Sperling

Larry Stein

Lauren Supina

Loretta Ucelli

Melanne Verveer

12-14-99

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**NAACP Washington Bureau Director Meeting with Bill Lann Lee to Discuss Accusations of Discrimination within DOJ.** The NAACP has been meeting privately with Lee to avoid media attention, fearing that it could tarnish the positive advances your Administration and Lee have made on civil rights and race issues. They are working to identify positive action steps to address the allegations.

#### ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN OUTREACH

**Asian American Wins Citywide Council Seat in Houston.** The National Asian Pacific American Community is celebrating the election of Gordon Quan as an At-Large member of the Houston City Council. This is the first time an Asian American has won a citywide election in Houston. Quan participated in your Asian Pacific American Outreach meeting in early June. Asian Americans represent about 6% of the population in Houston and are the fastest growing minority in Texas.

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**Business Community Begins to Organize Around US-China Vote.** Steve Ricchetti and I met with former Administration officials Friday to review possible outreach strategies in preparation for next year's China vote(s). This meeting is part of the Administration's strategy to meet with outside groups and individuals from the private sector to discuss outreach, legislative, and message strategies for next year's activity relating to the US China Trade Agreement. In addition to meeting with corporate, environmental, legislative, and labor interests, Friday's informal meeting brought together former Administration officials, including Jack Quinn, Larry Stein, Don Baer and Greg Simon, to discuss the White House plan for next year. Additionally, the private sector is organizing a US China Trade coalition which includes the participation of the Business Roundtable, the US Chamber of Commerce, ECAT, US-China Business Council and over thirty other leading corporations to coordinate their congressional lobbying effort.

**Digital Divide Event an Immediate Success.** Michael Armstrong, AT&T; Steve Case, AOL; Dick Brown, EDS; and Duane Ackerman, Bell South were very pleased with the time they spent with you Thursday morning. After joining you in the Oval Office and in the Rose Garden, they participated in a roundtable discussion at the Commerce Department to develop new ways that the corporate sector can work with civil rights and education groups to bridge the digital divide. Response from the corporate community on your announcement for a digital divide New Markets tour has been immediate and positive.

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to Burkhardt  
for reply

Don't let him  
bring this

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**NSC Outlines Central and East European Priorities for Hungarian American Coalition.** In a briefing hosted by OPL, representatives from NSC and State outlined Administration policies promoting development and stability in Eastern Europe. NSC pointed to NATO's inclusion of Hungary, Poland and Czech as a vital step toward advancing mutual security throughout the region while serving as a model for other East European countries aspiring for NATO membership. Isolating the Milosevic regime in Serbia was highlighted by Ambassador Hill as a top Administration priority aimed at bringing down Milosevic, while not turning our back on the needs of the Serbian people. Hungarian Americans enthusiastically agreed with Ambassador Hill that Serbia will not begin to respect its multi-ethnic society – including ethnic Hungarians in Vojvodina– until the Milosevic regime is brought to an end.

#### *GAY/LESBIAN OUTREACH*

**"Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue."** The trial and sentencing of Private Glover, 18, who was convicted of using a baseball bat to crush Pfc. Barry Winchell's skull as he slept on a cot, has created new energy and focus on this controversial policy. Advocates are furious that, six years into the policy, the Department of Defense has still not provided training for law enforcement personnel, commanders, and supervisors about the limits of investigation and appropriate implementation. Service members continue to be interrogated, investigated, harassed, and threatened about their sexual orientation. The community has asked that you call on the leadership of the Pentagon to make it crystal clear, throughout the entire chain of command, that anti-gay harassment and hate crimes have no place in the U.S. Military; and that at the end of the trial you will ensure that any military commanders who violated this policy will be held accountable.

Podesta  
see memo within  
Br

Copied  
Podesta

12-14-99

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 10, 1999

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT

FROM: MARY BETH CAHILL  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

SUBJECT: WEEKLY REPORT (December 4 to December 10)

Copied

Cahill

Podesta

p. 2 to Burkhardt  
for reply

p. 3 to Podesta

I. ACTIONS SUPPORTING PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES:*STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS 2000*

**OPL Finalizes Memo of Constituent Priorities for White House Policy Offices.** Today OPL sent a memo to Podesta and heads of various offices outlining top policy and message priorities for consideration in your 2000 SOTU. Hate Crimes, School Violence, Medicare, and Social Security are top priorities for many OPL constituencies.

*HATE CRIMES*

**Human Rights Campaign Seeks Reinvigorated Support for Hate Crimes Legislation.** The Human Rights Campaign circulated very strong rhetoric that you and the Administration did not do enough to pass this legislation. HRC was very personally invested in attaining justice for the Sheppard family and could not separate the political loss from their emotional experience. Other constituent groups, elected officials and activists understand and believe that the Republican-controlled Congress is to blame but stress that this should be a top priority for next year and will support the administration in this fight for justice.

*MEDICAL ERRORS*

**Health Care Provider Groups and Consumers Pleased with Meeting on Medical Errors.** Although media coverage tended to demonize doctors, hospitals, nurses, and other health care providers, these groups acknowledged the problem and pledged to work with you to improve outcomes and reduce errors. It was the first meeting with you in several years for many of the groups, and a big success.

II. CONSTITUENT OUTREACH AND OTHER ISSUES:*AFRICAN AMERICAN OUTREACH*

**OPL Distributes African American Accomplishments Document to African American Constituency.** The revised document highlights your commitment to creating an Administration that looks like "One America," noting that 13% of your Administration Appointees are African

12-14-99

American -- twice as many African Americans as any previous Administration -- and that you have increased judicial appointments of African Americans.

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*To Burkhardt  
for reply*

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*Donnie's  
letter to him  
fr. me*

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Podesta  
see memo in  
Br

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Podesta

12-14-99

*LATINO OUTREACH***Conflicting Reactions to Vieques Plan Emerge Among Latin Organizations and Puerto**

**Ricans.** Latino Organization Leaders privately viewed the Vieques plan announced last week as progress, but did not make public statements in this regard because of the unanimous opposition to the plan among Puerto Ricans. Organizations have consistently deferred to Puerto Ricans on the issues. In a conference call, NPRC President Manny Mirabal suggested other Hispanic groups join Puerto Ricans in opposing the plan, but Raul Yzaguirre, NCLR, and Brent Wilkes, LULAC, said that you should be given more time to resolve the issues before the groups take a public position. LULAC later supported the call of Puerto Rican leaders for adding to the plan assurances that the Navy will end the bombing and leave Vieques by a specific date. NCLR, LULAC, NPRC, and MALDEF also expressed gratitude for your efforts to obtain a resolution of the issue that will satisfy Puerto Rican concerns.

*RELIGIOUS OUTREACH***Department of Education to Release Teacher's Guide to Religion in the Public Schools.**

While previous guides on religion in public schools were sent to superintendents, Secretary Riley will send this teacher's guide to all public schools. The guide was developed by the Freedom Forum at Riley's request and will be an excellent response to those who claim there is no prayer allowed in public schools.

Department of Health and Human Services

**Hablemos en Confianza:** Dr. Nelba Chavez, Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), will announce the availability of new materials titled "Hablemos en Confianza" which are designed to strengthen the dialogue between Spanish speaking Hispanic/Latino parents and their children. The announcement will be made at a community celebration and press conference in Tucson, AZ.

**Asian Americans and Federal Programs:** Deputy Secretary Kevin Thurm will travel to California to discuss the Executive Order 13125 on increasing the participation of Asian-American and Pacific Islanders in Federal programs where they may be underserved and to introduce the new White House Executive Director of the Asian-American and Pacific Islanders Initiative.

**Asthma Mortality in U.S. Hispanics:** In December 1999, *The American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* will publish an article based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's national vital statistics data for 1990 through 1995, to examine both national and regional age-adjusted asthma mortality rates for U.S. Hispanics of Mexican, Cuban, and Puerto Rican heritage, as well as for non-Hispanic whites and non-Hispanic blacks. Nationally, Puerto Ricans had an age-adjusted annual asthma mortality rate of 40.9 per million, followed by Cuban-Americans (15.8 per million) and Mexican-Americans (9.2 per million). In comparison, non-Hispanic whites had an age-adjusted annual asthma mortality rate of 14.7 per million and non-Hispanic blacks had a rate of 38.1 per million.

Age-adjusted asthma mortality for Puerto Ricans was highest in the Northeast (47.8 per million); this region accounted for 81 percent of all asthma deaths among Puerto Ricans in the United States. In the U.S., Puerto Ricans had the highest asthma mortality rates among Hispanics, followed by Cuban-Americans and Mexican-Americans. In addition, among Hispanic national groups, mortality rates were consistently higher in the Northeast than the Midwest, South, or West regions. These results further support that Hispanics do not represent a uniform, discrete group in terms of health outcomes, and that further public health research and interventions should take Hispanic national origin into account.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Tax-Exempt Bonds:** The White Mountain Apache Tribe in Arizona became the first Indian tribe to sell tax-exempt bonds to build homes for their citizens. The Tribe's housing authority sold \$25 million in bonds and will use the proceeds to build 250 single-family rental homes on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation in Arizona. This is the first time in history that an Indian tribe has been able to set-up a tax-exempt mortgage financing collateralized by GNMA securities. The Tribe's Housing Authority is using the HUD Section 184 loan Guarantee as the main vehicle to finance the homes.

To Lynn Cutler

This is good  
Maybe more should  
do it

Copied  
Lynn Cutler  
Rodesta

It's good  
this is good  
this is good  
this is good

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
12-14-99

DECEMBER 10, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

FROM: BEN JOHNSON

SUBJECT: OFFICE ON THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE FOR ONE AMERICA  
WEEKLY REPORT

*Copied  
Johnson  
Podesta  
p. 3 to Cutler  
Podesta*

ACTIONS

**Department of Defense Small Business Conference:** I addressed 700 DoD staffers and contractors attending the Department's Small Business Conference in New Orleans. I stressed the need to ensure that minority businesses are afforded every opportunity to participate in DoD procurements. The theme of the conference was "Providing the Keys to Open Doors for Small Business. The conference was well attended by contractors and military personnel. Our One America message was well received.

Additionally, I met with General Ballard, head of the Army Corp of Engineers. General Ballard, the highest-ranking African American Army general, has an aggressive small business effort underway but may need an infusion of about a million dollars to keep the program afloat. I asked him for materials that I could share with Jack Lew.

**Lawyers for One America (LFOA):** We attended the monthly meeting of the LFOA and Deputy Attorney General Holder and found that the collaboration is doing some excellent work inside and outside the legal sector. They have hired an additional staff person to work out of Washington and facilitate geographical and administrative coordination. Additionally, LFOA has appointed team leaders who are spearheading the development, collection and improvement of the existing "Best Practices" for increasing diversity in the profession, increasing access to legal resources and for training programs and resources to assist attorneys.

In addition, we met with LFOA and representatives from Department of Treasury Community Development Policy staff to discuss possibilities of establishing a linkage between LFOA and BusinessLINC. Both Treasury and LFOA felt that there was a natural synergy between the two entities. For instance, transactional attorneys could provide invaluable counsel in application, negotiation and regulatory compliance for minority businesses interested in government contracts. Although BusinessLINC programs have involved individual attorneys, there has been no "organized legal effort"

in the past. A BusinessLINC/LFOA partnership presents an exciting opportunity to move your economic development agenda for underserved communities even further.

LFOA is also working with the Conference of Chief Justices of State Courts to have a resolution, urging all attorneys to participate in LFOA, as an agenda item at their February 2000 meeting. Please find attached a copy of the proposed resolution to this report for your review.

**United Nations Racism Questionnaire:** Our office is collaborating with other federal agencies to draft a response to a racism questionnaire sent to the U.S. State Department by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. The portions of the questionnaire that the One America office drafted concern racial progress, government policies and practices designed to promote tolerance and racial understanding, as well as raise awareness of racism and discrimination. Many of the topics raised in the questionnaire were addressed by your Initiative on Race. We plan to submit a final report to the High Commissioner by December 17.

**Common Cause:** I spoke with Scott Harshbarger, the new President and CEO of Common Cause, to discuss ways that our offices can work together around a One America Agenda. When he was the Attorney General of Massachusetts, he was heavily involved in diversity programs and advised me that he wants to stay active. We intend to get together again after the holidays to explore ways to further the work of bringing Americans together.

**Congressional Black Caucus:** Following your meeting with the CBC, I was approached by Congressman Clyburn with a request that he wanted passed on to you. He specifically requested that I mention to you that the entire CBC wants to visit Camp David for a casual social event before the end of your term.

## **CABINET RACE INITIATIVE WEEKLY**

### **Department of Commerce**

**National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Minority Outreach:** Starting in January, DoC's NIST will visit minority-serving institutions with compatible research programs to award small research planning grants. NIST representatives will visit seven historically black universities, three Hispanic-serving institutions, and two tribal colleges.

**Chicago Minority Business Initiative:** The Interim Regional Director of the Minority Business Development Agency's Chicago Regional Office has accepted a leadership role on the new Procurement Roundtable, an outgrowth of your November tour of the Englewood community on Chicago's Southside, as part of the New Markets Initiative. The group's main focus will be to help small business entrepreneurs, especially minority and women-owned businesses, to grow.

12-14-99

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To Lynn Cutler

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## Department of Interior

**Timbisha Shoshone Tribal Homeland Legislation:** In response to a request from Senator Inouye, draft legislation is being prepared to put into effect the recommendations of "The Timbisha Shoshone Tribal Homeland: A Draft Secretarial Report to Congress to Establish a Permanent Tribal Land Base and Related Cooperative Activities." The proposed legislation should be sent to Senator Inouye this month. Meanwhile, work continues on the Legislative Environmental Impact Statement led by the Pacific West Region and Death Valley National Park.

**HI Reconciliation Hearings and Native Hawaiian Education Act:** During the week of December 12, DOI will testify at HI Reconciliation hearings. The hearings come just after a dozen officials of programs aimed at helping native Hawaiian students endorsed the reauthorization of the Native Hawaiian Education Act at Senate hearings held on the Hawaiian Islands. The Native Hawaiian Education Act is due to expire next year if not reauthorized. It supports 70 programs ranging from cultural education to working with the parents of at-risk native Hawaiian children. An attempt to reauthorize the legislation was thwarted in the House earlier this year.

## Department of Justice

**Race-Based Admissions:** On November 29, the Supreme Court issued a per curiam opinion affirming a lower court ruling that plaintiff cannot collect damages for race-based admission policy if plaintiff would not have been admitted under a race-neutral policy. The plaintiff in this case is a disappointed white applicant to a graduate program at the University of TX, who alleges that the University violated his civil rights by considering race in the admissions process. The district court granted summary judgment to the state defendants on the ground that, even assuming race had been taken into account, the plaintiff had not been injured because he would not have been selected under a race-neutral selection process.

**"English Only" Driver's Exams:** Prior to 1991, the state of AL gave written driver's license exams in approximately 14 foreign languages. In 1991, after ratification of a state constitutional amendment declaring English the official language of AL, the state adopted an "English-Only" policy, requiring the driver's license process be administered in English only, and forbidding the use of interpreters and translation dictionaries, even if used privately. On November 30, the Eleventh Circuit upheld the district court's ruling that the English-Only policy had an unjustified disparate impact on foreign-born individuals, in violation of Title VI.

## Small Business Administration

**Hispanic Outreach:** On December 11, SBA will host a workshop panel for *Latinas on the Move*, an event designed specifically for Latina women in the San Francisco Bay Area (Region 9). The one-day workshop, sponsored by DaimlerChrysler, will address issues important to Latinas, such as health, fitness, women in business and corporate

America, career, family, relationships and fashion. Over 300 women, including many small business owners and entrepreneurs, are expected to attend the workshop.

**New Markets:** The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) has requested Administrator Alvarez's participation in their monthly Sunday morning talk show, "Hispanic Business Today" to discuss New Markets. The NBC show debuted in October, 1999 in 10 key Hispanic markets. In January the show will air in 44 markets throughout the country, including cities where SBA district offices are located. Arrangements have been made for a videotaped interview on 12/9 at SBA Headquarters.

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES OF  
STATE SUPREME COURTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Conference of Chief Justice of State Supreme Courts have a long history of supporting efforts in the legal profession to strengthen our commitment to equal justice and diversity; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawyers For One America is a collaboration of lawyers and organizations in the legal profession committed to working together to insure both that the legal profession reflects the diversity of the society we serve and that the profession provides full service to communities of color so that those communities can enjoy equal access to our system of justice; and

**WHEREAS**, the collaboration currently consists of senior officers and representatives from the American Bar Association, the American Corporate Counsel Association, the Association of American Law Schools, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, the Bar Association of Columbus, the Bar Association of San Francisco, the Hispanic National Bar Association, the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the Native American Bar Association, the Pro Bono Institute, and other prominent lawyers from law firms, corporations, bar associations, civil rights organizations, and law schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the collaboration developed out of a challenge to the legal profession made by President William J. Clinton at a White House event on July 20, 1999 to renew the legal profession's commitment to civil rights that grew out of the call to action made by President John F. Kennedy in the summer of 1963; and

**WHEREAS**, participants in the collaboration made a commitment to seek to encourage pro bono activities to end discrimination, to provide economic opportunities to individuals, communities and entrepreneurs of color, and to seek to promote diversity in the legal profession; and

**WHEREAS**, to achieve the mission, Lawyers For One America will:

- Collect and magnify the work of the lawyers and legal organizations participating in this effort so that their coordinated efforts may be of exponential value and their stakeholders more informed and united in this effort.
- Identify the leaders of the legal community who are not yet pursuing the goals of Lawyers For One America and obtain their commitment to take action in furtherance of those goals.

- Seek more active involvement from all sectors of the legal community by developing avenues of participation for our efforts that are targeted to draw from their strengths.
- Survey, collect and disseminate information about best practices for enhancing diversity and pro bono work from the individuals and organizations that are making a difference and develop means that will allow other organizations to adopt those practices.
- Provide the means by which all stakeholders in the legal profession - lawyers, law schools, law firms, corporate employers of lawyers, government lawyers, bar associations, public interest organizations and others in the legal community - can work together to actively pursue equal justice and diversity.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES OF THE STATE SUPREME COURTS:**

1. Commends the organizations that are participating in the Lawyers for One America collaboration for their efforts to end discrimination against people of color and to promote diversity in all segments of the legal profession;
2. Urges all segments of the legal profession throughout the United States to support the mission and efforts of the Lawyers for One America collaboration to end discrimination against people of color and promote diversity; and
3. Urges its members to encourage all segments of the legal profession in their states to work with and support the mission of the Lawyers for One America collaboration.

John Podesta  
might have  
to do career  
appt. ASAP

John Podesta  
might have  
to do career  
appt. ASAP

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
12-14-99

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 10, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE-PRESIDENT

FROM: Kenneth H. MacKay, Jr. *KHM*

SUBJECT: Special Envoy for the Americas Weekly Report

*Copied  
Podesta  
MacKay*

**Argentina:** While serving as head of delegation for President de la Rúa's inauguration, I also held private meetings with President de la Rúa, President Menem, and newly-appointed Foreign Minister Adalberto Rodríguez Giavirri. Although de la Rúa's political alliance has publicly criticized Menem's foreign policy as being overly U.S.-oriented, in my meetings with de la Rúa, his Foreign Minister, and others, they clearly indicated that we will continue to enjoy close ties with Argentina. In fact, much of Menem's efforts to reorient foreign policy has broad support among the country's public and its political elite. Nevertheless, certain U.S. action is essential. We must move quickly to appoint an Ambassador, given the importance of Argentina in this hemisphere and the absence of one for over two years. In addition, the Argentines continue to push for a meeting between you and President de la Rúa to affirm the continuation of our close relations. Finally, Argentina, as the new chair of the FTAA negotiations, is looking for signs that U.S. commitment to the FTAA remains strong and that we will work with them to achieve economic integration by 2005.

**Caribbean and Latin America Action Conference (CLAA):** I attended the CLAA conference in Miami and participated in a number of meetings and panel discussions regarding the future of the FTAA, the WTO, and U.S. trade policy. My remarks at the opening plenary dinner conveyed the importance of continuing U.S. efforts to complete the FTAA by 2005, especially following the events that unfolded at the WTO. Given the successful meetings in Toronto in early November, I concur with the views of Tom Donohue, President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, that we should expedite completion of the FTAA within the next three years, rather than five.

**Honduras – Nicaragua Dispute:** I met with Honduras' Foreign Minister and Nicaragua's Vice Minister regarding the dispute over ratification of the 1986 treaty between Honduras and Colombia. I strongly encouraged both governments to avoid any further inflammatory rhetoric or retaliatory actions while they seek resolution of this matter before the International Court of Justice. As acts of good faith in the interim, I encouraged Honduras to agree to a voluntary stay of the delivery of the instruments of ratification and Nicaragua to rescind the economic sanctions it imposed upon Honduran goods. The immediate and future course of Central American integration may be influenced by the actions of these governments in the days ahead and that failure to respond appropriately could have important adverse affects.

12-14-99

**Dominican Republic:** During the CLAA conference, I met with President Fernandez of the Dominican Republic. He focused on their upcoming elections, stressing the need for U.S. assistance to ensure the credibility of the electoral process. Fernandez also expressed considerable interest in developing a Free Trade Zone near the border with Haiti, in an effort to promote and coordinate mutual economic development initiatives.

**Peru:** I met with newly appointed Prime Minister Alberto Bustamante early this week to discuss his new role and the preparations for Peru's elections in 2000. Bustamante noted that President Fujimori appointed him to his current position to oversee election issues. I congratulated him on his recent appointment and stressed that all elections must be conducted in transparent manner. I also noted that Peru has made a great deal of progress under President Fujimori, but democratic institutions must be strengthened to ensure freedom of the press and guarantee human rights.

**Bolivia:** I met with Ambassador Perez shortly before his departure from Washington. Perez assumes a Senate seat in the Bolivian Congress upon his return. I raised with him an effort sponsored by the Inter-American Dialogue that will bring legislators from the hemisphere together to discuss issues of common interest. As a former U.S. Congressman, I understand the importance of this effort and believe that if our Congress better understands the Americas and is in regular contact with their counter-parts in Latin parliaments, our relationship with the hemisphere will be further strengthened. I will keep you up-to-date on this developing initiative.

**WTO:** During the WTO, I met with Members of Congress and discussed the importance both of trade within the Western Hemisphere and of appropriately addressing the concerns of the demonstrators. The FTAA process serves as a useful model. The FTAA is one part of the Summit of Americas process which addresses trade, democracy, and social issues simultaneously. In addition to congressional meetings, Secretary Rodney Slater and I hosted two roundtable discussions on trade in the Americas with the heads of leading U.S. corporations and, later, with officials from Central American and Caribbean countries. Secretary Slater, Assistant Administrator Aida Alvares, and I also spoke to an audience of two hundred Latin America advocates, academics, and business leaders about Administration efforts in the Americas.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
12-14-99

99 DEC 8 4:31 PM

December 7, 1999

*copied*  
*Mac Kay*  
*Podesta*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Buddy MacKay *YMM*  
Special Envoy for the Americas

SUBJ: Colombia Trip Report

I recently completed a trade/business focussed trip to Colombia that highlighted the positive elements of our relationship. My visit coincided with a saturation of media reports on the lack of Administration and Congressional action on Plan Colombia. Discouragement due to the perception of U.S. indifference to Colombia's immediate problems was palpable. Your telephone call to President Pastrana had a positive impact, but private sector confidence is waning and a number of the most creative business and professional leaders are considering leaving Colombia.

I reiterated your commitment to support President Pastrana and Plan Colombia, still it is evident that many Colombians are doubtful that actions (i.e. additional funding) will follow the promises of support. Making a special mention of Colombia in your year-end comments would be helpful in reaffirming your understanding of the magnitude of Colombia's problems and your willingness to support Pastrana. In addition, we should explore the viability of seeking bipartisan support for adding Colombia to CBI. A creative trade and investment package would help strengthen Colombia's depressed economy, as well as provide alternatives to drug related employment. As you have pointed-out, close cooperation with Congress is crucial in these efforts. I am ready to work with my former colleagues on Capitol Hill to ensure that the bipartisan support for Colombia results in a comprehensive package that benefits the Peace Process and the Colombian People.

Because of our focus on Colombia's drug trafficking problem, we are coming across as having primarily a negative agenda. The fact is that their potential is extraordinary. Colombia must develop greater confidence in order to move forward and strong bipartisan support from Washington is essential in helping Colombia achieve stability and, ultimately, peace.

CC:

The Vice President  
John Podesta  
Sandy Berger  
Larry Stein  
Josh Gotbaum

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
12-14-99

Richard J. Kennedy  
M.C.

Copied  
Lindsey  
Podesta  
Brain-C  
(for reply)  
Chuck B.

~~PL~~

NT HAS SEEN  
4-99

*Pardon Request  
Patrick's Cousin  
who must write him*

*Red*

# Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                                  | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 001. form                | re: Petition for Pardon After Completion of Sentence (7 pages) | 01/14/1999 | b(6)        |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
Staff Secretary  
Chron Files  
OA/Box Number: 21406

### FOLDER TITLE:

Tuesday, December 14, 1999

2019-0990-S

rs3431

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]  
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]  
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]  
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]  
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]  
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]  
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]  
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]  
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]  
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]  
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]  
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]  
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

MARSHA SCOTT

Betty -  
Arb-Ed Romero  
brought this to give  
to BC. Please  
see he get it.

12/14/99

12-14-99

Send to  
NSC for reply?

Yes ☒

No ☐

S.C.

Thank you letter from King of Bulgaria  
Personal to the President



30th November, 1999

99 DEC 14 - 2:33

Mr. President,

Like most Bulgarians, I wish to thank you for your words of encouragement, during your recent official visit to my country.

Your praise for our Government's far from easy position during the Kosovo crisis, was just as welcome as your reference to the safeguarding of the Bulgarians of Jewish faith, during World War II. The latter is an episode of which I'm particularly proud, since it happened during my father's reign.

With only a handful of experienced political leaders and with scarce know-how in market economy, Bulgaria has managed to find once more its place in the world community, but desperately needs support from the West. My deep appreciation for it, Mr. President!

Conveying to you my esteem for the international prestige the United States is enjoying under your Administration, I remain,

Yours with every good wish,

William Jefferson Clinton  
President of the United States of America  
The White House

1  
Pernales y Ugentte

---

30 NOV 1999

REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICE

Excmo.Sr.D. Eduardo Romero  
Embajador de Los Estados Unidos de America  
c/ Serrano, nº 75

12-14-99

Send to  
Burkhardt?

Yes ☒

No ☐ S.C.

John  
O'Brien  
W. M. J. B.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
MILITARY OFFICE

Dec 13, 1999

Nancy,

I would sincerely appreciate your support in obtaining The President's signature on the recognition letters for these 2 GREAT Americans. Dan Burkhardt's office currently has these documents.

(over)

Chief Petty Officer Peters' letter is  
the more time-sensitive because  
he departs on December 17.

Again, thank you for your support.

VIR  
Jake IV

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 9, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN BURKHARDT  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND  
DIRECTOR OF CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESIDENTIAL  
MESSAGES

FROM: JOSEPH J. SIMMONS IV   
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND  
DIRECTOR, WHITE HOUSE MILITARY OFFICE

SUBJECT: Departure Letters Signed by the President

Request your approval for key members of my direct staff to receive a recognition letter, signed by the President, upon completion of their assignment at the White House. As dedicated White House Military Office (WHMO) personnel, these individuals play a vital role in the functioning of the White House Military Office and the proper fulfillment of its charter. In addition, their superior performance in very demanding positions help the President fulfill his duties as Chief Executive, Head of State, and Commander in Chief.

I hope that this memorandum will serve as an agreement between the Office of Correspondence and Presidential Messages and WHMO. That withstanding, the attached letters are submitted for your review and approval for signature by the President.

Thank you for your support in the matter.

Attachments

Chief Petty Officer Denver L. Peters, USN  
950 South Rolfe Street  
Arlington, Virginia 22204

Dear Chief Peters,

As a dedicated member of the White House Military Office, you have served the American people and the Presidency with skill, distinction, and steadfast commitment to excellence. You have played a vital role in the smooth functioning of the Military Office and the proper fulfillment of its charter, and your duties have been both varied and demanding.

As Personnel Officer, you have been an unfailing source of expertise and wise counsel for the White House staff. You can take pride in the knowledge that you have helped me fulfill my duties as Chief Executive, Head of State, and Commander in Chief.

Hillary joins me in wishing you good health and every happiness in the years ahead.

Sincerely

Staff Sergeant James L. Hill, USMC  
5480 Rector Drive  
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193

Dear Staff Sergeant Hill,

As a dedicated member of the White House Military Office, you have served the American people and the Presidency with skill, distinction, and steadfast commitment to excellence. You have played a vital role in the smooth functioning of the Military Office and the proper fulfillment of its charter, and your duties have been both varied and demanding.

As Administrative Officer, I am particularly grateful for your sensitivity and compassion in ensuring that my letters of condolence reach the families of our men and women in uniform who have lost their lives in service to our nation.

You can take pride in the knowledge that you have helped me fulfill my duties as Chief Executive, Head of State, and Commander in Chief.

Hillary joins me in wishing you good health and every happiness in the years ahead.

Sincerely

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12-14-99

Wm. Lehman  
North East Dade Involved Democrats

*to send  
for photo  
OK to send*

All Things Are Possible  
Pass The Word

Ginger Grossman  
President

20100 W. Country Club Dr.  
Suite # 202  
Aventura, FL 33180

Tel: (305) 932-0042  
Fax: (305) 932-2821

(see other side)

Please send a signed  
Photo "in appreciation"  
to  
Rabbi Barry J. Konvitch  
Aventura Jewish Center  
20400 N.E. 30<sup>th</sup> AVE AVENTURA  
FL 33180

12-14-99

Send to Burkhardt for reply?

Yes ☒

No ☐

S.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Date 12/14

To: **RODESA, TRANONTANO**

From: The Staff Secretary

I RECEIVED THIS  
LETTER FROM S.L.O.N. THIS  
MORNING. PLEASE  
ADVISE. I HAVEN'T RESPONDED.

-JFA✓

*Servicemembers Legal Defense Network*

\*\*\*\*\*

99 DEC 13 PM 7:18

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**FAX COVER SHEET**

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TO: Sean Patrick MaloneyFAX: (202) 456-2215FROM: C. Dixon Obsurn and Michelle M. BeneckeTo report any problems with this transmission, please call Steve Ralls at 202.328.3244.DATE: December 13, 1999PAGES (including cover): 2**COMMENTS:**

FYI. We have asked to meet with the President regarding "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue."  
Attached is a copy of the letter.

☐ Faxed \_\_\_\_\_  
Initial and Date

**WARNING:**

This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone, and return this original message to us at the address below. Thank you.

*Servicemembers Legal Defense Network*

\* \* \* \* \*

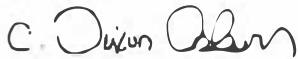
December 13, 1999

President William Jefferson Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

We request to meet with you regarding the implementation of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue." We appreciate your comments this weekend calling the policy "out of whack" and your pledge to work with the Pentagon to ensure that the original intent of the policy to protect service members' privacy is upheld. In six years, we have directly assisted 2,000 service members and their families hurt by the policy, including the family of slain soldier Private First Class Barry Winchell. We have also documented the continued asking, pursuit and harassment of suspected gay service members in direct violation of current regulations. Having made every diligent effort to resolve problems in implementing the policy at lower levels, we believe it is now appropriate to brief you of our findings and recommendations.

Sincerely,



C. Dixon Osburn  
Co-Executive Director



Michelle M. Benecke  
Co-Executive Director

B Lindsey  
a lot of news  
back to my Gov. Day  
1000 to do file - check  
with your own paper  
Lindsey  
Rutherford

Copied  
Lindsey

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 14, 1999

Harry Truman Moore  
Goodwin, Moore, Colbert & Broadway  
Post Office Box 726  
Paragould, Arkansas 72451

Dear H.T.:

Thanks for your letter -- I'm sorry I didn't get it before seeing you Friday. It was great to visit, as always.

You're right, of course, about all you said about Eastern Arkansas' relationship to my success. I will never forget what you and so many others from the area have done for me and my agenda over the years.

I've passed along your good suggestions to Skip Rutherford.

Happy holidays. Hope to see you again soon.

Sincerely,

Bill

12/9/99

12/6

LAW OFFICES  
GOODWIN, MOORE, COLBERT & BROADAWAY  
1201 WEST COURT STREET  
P.O. BOX 726  
PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS 72451

RAY A. GOODWIN  
HARRY TRUMAN MOORE  
ROGER U. COLBERT  
BRAD BROADAWAY  
ANGELA BOWDEN GRAY  
MICHAEL W. LANGLEY

TELECOPIER  
(870) 239-2780  
TELEPHONE  
(870) 239-2225

December 1, 1999

The Honorable William J. Clinton  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

Dear Mr. President:

I see from news articles in the local media that you will be in Little Rock on December 10 to share your views about plans for your presidential library to the Greater Little Rock Chamber of Commerce.

I also note that during that same trip, you will attend an event in support of your Delta initiatives.

The two events remind me of a suggestion that several individuals have made to you concerning the plans for a Presidential Library. We are all aware that portions of the library are planned to be located in Hot Springs and Fayetteville. The only part of the state that is not currently scheduled for inclusion in the library's plans is Eastern Arkansas.

I have written to you before setting from the many reasons why you should consider placing your papers relating to your Delta Initiatives at Arkansas State University, which is clearly Eastern Arkansas' premiere institution of higher education.

There is room for the collection at the new library, which you helped dedicate, so substantial costs in terms for construction would be saved.

Eastern Arkansas has always been your strongest political base. One needs only to look to the first of your political "comebacks" in 1982 to recognize where you received your margin of victory.

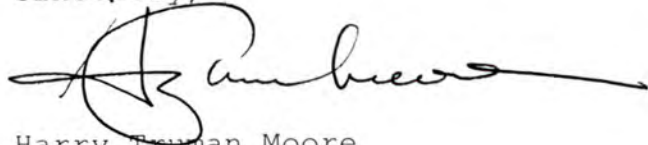
In the early days of your 1992 presidential campaign, it was an Eastern Arkansas event, held on the ASU campus, which provided you with a much needed post-New Hampshire primary, pre-Georgia primary boost, both financially and psychologically.

Hon. William J. Clinton  
December 1, 1999  
Page 2

I am attaching a copy of my previous correspondence to you on this subject.

Nothing would please those of us in Eastern Arkansas who have supported your effort for years than for you, on December 10, as you discuss your plans for your Library, to tell us that part of your heritage will be showcased in the area which helped make your political heritage possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Moore", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Harry Truman Moore

cc: Dr. Leslie Wyatt  
Hon. Rodney Slater  
Mr. Skip Rutherford

September 23, 1997

HAND DELIVERED

The Honorable William J. Clinton  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

Dear President Clinton:

We have all watched with great interest the competition among various cities in Arkansas for the location of the Clinton Library and other facilities which will bear your name. We understand the interest that Hope has in these matters, since it was your birth place. We understand the interest of Hot Springs, where you spent your formative years and graduated from high school.

We understand the interest of Fayetteville, since it was your "home" after you made a permanent return to the State of Arkansas, and we understand the interest of Central Arkansas since that was your "home" as Attorney General and Governor of our State.

However, there is one of your "homes" that has thus far been left out of the process, and that is your "political home," Northeast Arkansas.

In our past discussions, you have often talked about how your supporters in Northeast Arkansas came through for you time and time again both in terms of delivering votes and providing financial resources for your campaigns. There are many specific examples of this, particularly the 1982 "come back" election, when the two counties in the State which provided you over 70% of their votes were Woodruff and Greene Counties in Northeast Arkansas, and where Craighead County recorded over 10,000 votes on your behalf.

The snows were still on the ground in New Hampshire in February of 1992 when a highly successful fund raising event was held at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro at a time when your political coffers needed an infusion.

Honorable William J. Clinton  
September 23, 1997  
Page 2

Later in the Presidential primary season, you will recall that it was the "watch parties" sponsored by your Craighead and Greene County supporters that not only met their financial quotas, but sent representatives from those counties to Little Rock the next morning with the contributions received so that crucial media time in other states could be procured.

Those of us with deep roots in Northeast Arkansas feel that we have played a major role in your successes. We're proud of that role, just as we're proud of you. That is why we took such great pride in your decision to return to Jonesboro for the dedication of the library expansion at Arkansas State University. You could not have selected a better event to make your first major public appearance in our part of the state.

Since Arkansas State University is the only comprehensive public university located in and directly serving the Arkansas Delta, one of the major focuses of the ASU Library is its Delta Studies Center. Throughout your public life, you have strongly supported the development of the Delta. We think it is significant that your first cabinet member from Arkansas is a native of the Delta. Rodney Slater truly exemplifies the best that the Delta has to offer.

Because of the commitment that ASU has made to its Delta Studies program, and because a major portion of its library has been made available as a long term repository for significant works documenting the Delta's history, we wish that you would consider placing that portion of your papers which relate to your Delta Initiatives in the Arkansas State University Library.

We all recognize that the main Presidential Library will be located in Central Arkansas, but it seems that your papers relating to your Delta Initiatives would be better housed in an institution which has already begun the work of cataloging the Delta's history.

Previous Arkansas office holders have already donated their papers to ASU, including former Congressmen E.C. "Took" Gathings and Bill Alexander. Former Congresswoman Blanche Lambert Lincoln has also committed to donate her papers to ASU. The University has likewise obtained documents related to the service of former Senator Hattie Caraway.

Honorable William J. Clinton  
September 23, 1997  
Page 3

ASU President Leslie Wyatt and I have had the opportunity to discuss this proposal on many occasions. I know that President Wyatt will be contacting you in the near future to formally make the request, and he is aware that I am personally contacting you at this time. I am doing so because I know from my discussions with our mutual friend, Bill Bowen, that one of the Central Arkansas proposals to the Presidential Library Site Selection Committee includes "satellite" centers for the library in some of the locations previously mentioned. Since there will probably be some sanctioned facility celebrating your service to our country in the other three congressional districts in Arkansas, we in the First District would also like the opportunity to participate.

I have every confidence that President Wyatt and everyone associated with the ASU library can work in concert with the Presidential Library Commission to make the placement of your Delta Initiative documents at ASU a logical extension of the main branch of your Presidential Library.

Please excuse the length of this letter, but it is hard to convey its strong sentiments in fewer words.

Sincerely,

Harry Truman Moore

HTM:ldw  
pc: Dr. Leslie Wyatt  
The Honorable Rodney Slater  
Mr. William H. Bowen