

SHEILA JACKSON LEE

18TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEES:

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AND CLAIMS
RANKING DEMOCRATIC MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SPACE AND AERONAUTICS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
410 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-3816

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1919 SMITH STREET, SUITE 1180
THE GEORGE "MICKEY" LELAND FEDERAL BUILDING
HOUSTON, TX 77002
713-655-0050

4-11-00

April 10, 2000

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed for your consideration, you will find a letter from the Harris County Congressional Delegation, a letter from the Lee P. Brown, Mayor of the City of Houston, and background material from the Houston Technology Center. As you are aware Houston is a large diverse urban center with 600,000 African Americans and 600,000 Latinos. These are the people who have not benefited from the information age and we must ensure that they are included in Houston's prosperity.

All supporting the invitation to you Mr. President to come to Houston with respect to your efforts to overcome the Digital Divide.

Sincerely,



Shelia Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

Enclosures

cc: Gene B. Sperling, Assistant to the President for Economic Policy
Maria Echaveste, Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff

Send to legislative
Affairs?

Yes ☒

No ☐

cc: Scheduling

Yes ☒

No ☐ c.

SHEILA JACKSON LEE
18TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

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April 10, 2000

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing on behalf of the citizens of the City of Houston who will benefit enormously from a visit from you on the Digital Divide. Houston is home to over 1,000 technology companies and NASA. In fact, there are many technology companies that developed due to the presence of the Johnson Space Center. Despite the heavy concentration of technology companies in Houston, not all our citizens are reaping the benefits of the digital economy.

To ensure that all in society participate in the 21st century economy it is imperative that information technology is accessible and that education training is provided to empower individuals. Access to computers and use of the Internet is necessary for one's full participation in America's economic, political and social life. Today, use of information technology is rapidly becoming a requisite skill for employment and the technology industry generally pays 80 percent more than the average private sector job. A visit by you to Houston will help create economic growth and high-tech, high-wage jobs for our communities.

The City of Houston is currently experiencing a "digital divide" — a gap between those individuals and communities that have access and training in information technology and those who do not. We urge you to visit the City of Houston during your city tours on the Digital Divide. Closing the Digital Divide requires partnership among industry leaders, non-profit organizations and the government. Your visit will add vigor to Houston's efforts in eliminating the Digital Divide through our ongoing public-private efforts.

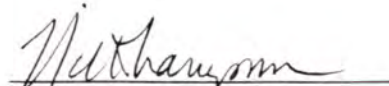
Please find enclosed our proposal for the hi-tech /IT Digital Divide visit to Houston.

We thank you for your consideration and for the Clinton-Gore Administration's leadership on making Digital Divide issues a top priority on your agenda.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sheila Jackson Lee', written over a horizontal line.

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Lampson', written over a horizontal line.

Nick Lampson
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gene Green', written over a horizontal line.

Gene Green
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Bentsen', written over a horizontal line.

Ken Bentsen
Member of Congress



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HOUSTON
TEXAS

LEE P. BROWN
MAYOR

April 10, 2000

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear President Clinton:

I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to the nation's High Tech City, Houston, Texas. Making Houston one of your designated stops for your upcoming New Market Tour for Digital Expansion will be an exciting opportunity to see first hand what Houston is doing.

Houston is home to more than 1,000 information technology companies and headquarters for Compaq Computer Corporation and BMC Software, which support a large percentage of our workforce. Among the list of companies is the Houston Technology Center, a non-profit cooperation, whose goals are to narrow the digital divide by assisting budding technology entrepreneurs, providing technical support to small businesses and increasing job skill levels in defined zones of the City's designated Enhanced Enterprise Community (EEC).

In partnership with the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans (AAMA), founded in 1997 to promote the advancement of at-risk and disadvantage youths in our community, a program for IT certification training began in January 2000. Currently, courses are being conducted at George I. Sanchez High School, a charter school accredited by the Texas Education agency and dedicated by Vice President Gore in May 1999. This program provides an alternative educational environment for students who have had limited success with traditional learning. Compaq Computer Corporation and Microsoft Corporation have donated all of the software and hardware equipment. Gilbert Moreno, President and CEO of AAMA states "Our students can now develop highly valued skills and become eligible for employment in high-demand technology fields through this program."

These are some of the many projects we are currently engaging ourselves. As we enter this millennium year and the 21st Century, we will continue to position Houston as the nation's leading city in the information technology.

I look forward to your acceptance to tour the first class international technology city of the nation.

Sincerely,

Lee P. Brown
Mayor

I. The Houston Technology Center

- The Houston Technology Center (HTC) is a non-profit corporation formed in January 1999 to educate entrepreneurs and assist emerging companies in Houston's key technology sectors: energy, information technology, life sciences and NASA-originated technologies. HTC's goal is to enhance Houston's position as a leading city for starting and growing emerging technology companies. HTC is supported by the City of Houston, more than 150 professional firms, corporations and organizations, as well as Houston's leading academic institutions, the Texas Medical Center and the Johnson Space Center.
- One of the Houston Technology Center's goals is to *narrow the digital divide* by assisting budding technology entrepreneurs, providing technical support to small businesses, and increasing job skill levels in defined zones of the City's designated Enhanced Enterprise Community (EEC).
- In 1997, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration awarded the City of Houston a \$1.1 million Public Works Grant to remodel and provide a facility for the development of HTC. The grant will be matched with an additional \$750K by the Midtown Redevelopment Authority, MRA (a Houston TIRZ).
- The City of Houston derives most of its job base from small businesses, but minority entrepreneurs and minority businessmen find that they face a great challenge in launching successful business ventures. HTC is located in the midst of a multi-cultural area in order to help create new jobs and advance sustainable development with the City of Houston's Hispanic, African-America, Asian, and other ethnically diverse communities.
- The MRA is in a central location that strategically places the HTC near key resources such as the Texas Medical Center, the University of Houston, Texas Southern University, the industrial hub of the City, Houston's East End and the Port of Houston. The MRA is an agency of the City and has the power to issue bonds, implement land use, and perform other activities related to the redevelopment plan of the EEC.

II. The Houston Technology Center's and AAMA's IT Certification Program

- The Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans (AAMA), founded in 1970, is committed to advancing the lives of at-risk and disadvantaged youths and families through an array of innovative programs of excellence that provide alternative education, social services and community development to Texas communities.
- HTC has partnered with AAMA to pilot a certification program for information technology (IT) training.
- AAMA currently has 16 programs which provide educational, health/human service and community redevelopment to Texas families and their youth.
- HTC and AAMA are conducting courses at George I. Sanchez High School, a charter school accredited by the Texas Education Agency and dedicated by Vice President Gore in [May 1999]. The program provides an alternative educational environment for students who have had limited success with traditional learning as provided by the public school systems.
- "Our students can now develop highly valued skills and become eligible for employment in high-demand technology fields through this program," said Gilbert Moreno, president and CEO of AAMA. "Initially, 20 to 45 high school seniors at George I Sanchez will be selected to participate in this innovative IT certification program."

- The initial program commenced in January and offers two IT training programs based on the personnel needs of the program's underwriters. As the program expands, the number of programs offered will significantly increase to reflect the needs of the entire market leading to significant employment opportunities with the more than 1,000 Houston-based information technology companies and other general businesses in need of IT-trained personnel.
- "AAMA and HTC recognize the needs of the business community for an increased number of skilled IT professionals and the potential of Houston's high school students to meet this need," said Paul Frison, president and CEO of HTC. At HTC, our goal is to expand the certification program to provide training for 500 local high school and college students annually."
- Initial training programs planned for year 2000 are scheduled to include: network router management, Web page publishing/design and Microsoft office applications. AAMA and HTC are committed to preparing the workforce with the precise skills that businesses seek," said AAMA's CIO, Joseph Trahan of DNSCorp.

Background on the IT Certification Program Funding

- Mr. Moreno has received 10 government grants for 20th Century Learning Centers.
- AAMA received a \$100K grant from the National Education Association (NEA), one of the initial Charter School Grants from the NEA (at V.P. Gore's discretion).
- A grant from the Houston Galveston Area Council and assistance from local corporations will help to further underwrite the cost to develop and administer the program.
- Microsoft Corp and Compaq Computer Corp. have donated all of the software and equipment used in the Sanchez School.
- Enron Corp. and the Lay Foundation (Kenneth Lay, Chairman of Enron Corp.) have made significant donations as well.
- American Communication Services and DNSCorp have provided pro-bono Telephony consulting services and cabling.

III. International eCommerce, Inc. –

an HTC Client Company narrowing the digital divide through serving the American and Latin American communities

- IeC was established in 1998 with the objective of serving the U.S. Hispanic American markets with enhanced interactive television (iTV), including eCommerce on demand and IP telephony.
- IeC seeks to deliver affordable interactive technology with special content for the Hispanic community in the U.S. and Latin America.
- During the last 15 months, IeC has integrated a suite of enhanced iTV services and products in English, Spanish and Portuguese under the brand name of "Net for All."
- "As the first mover in the interactive television market in the Hispanic community, we have a great business opportunity while making a positive contribution that impacts the market," said Roland Rodriguez, chairman and CEO of International eCommerce, Inc.
- "Teaming with the Houston Technology Center will create a win-win situation for both parties. We will have access to HTC's resources while we will be able to further extend access to a growing economic community in the Houston area and beyond."

- IeC is developing strategic partnerships in a vast array of industries, including financial, media, health and education to deliver enhanced Internet technology to bridge the "digital divide" between electronic "haves" and "have nots."
- "What IeC is doing will make the Internet a truly enabling and empowering technology for the Hispanic community. At HTC, we are proud to be part of such an endeavor, and look forward to working with IeC, as one of our new client companies," said Paul Frison, HTC president and CEO. "The exciting domestic and international market opportunities IeC is offering will further enhance Houston's position as a leading economic gateway to Latin America."

IV. High Tech Houston: The Gateway to Mexico

- Houston is the Energy Capital of the world, home to the world's largest Medical Center, the world-famous NASA-Johnson Space Center, and the world's leading P.C. manufacturer, Compaq Computer Corp. Additionally, BMC Software Corp. and more than 1,000 additional information technology companies are located in the Greater Houston Area.
- The Port of Houston is the largest port in the U.S. in total foreign tonnage (107.8 million short tons) and the 2nd largest in total tonnage (165.5 short tons).
- Mexico is the Port of Houston's top trading partner in tonnage for both imports and exports with a combined tonnage of 26 million in 1998.
- Mexico is the Port of Houston's 2nd largest trading partner in dollar value for both imports and exports with combined dollar value of over \$3 billion in 1998.
- Exports to NAFTA countries accounted for 26.7% of Houston's exports (land, sea, and air) in 1999, making it Houston's top market for exports.

V. Appropriate Houston Site Visit Location

- The most appropriate and convenient location for the President to visit during his stop in Houston would be the AAMA IT Certification Program at the Sanchez school.
- A convenient drive from Ellington Air Force Base, the Sanchez school is located 4 miles south of downtown Houston on I-45.

IDENT HAS SEEN
4-11-00

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To Tobacco's Rescue

By Elizabeth M. Whelan

When a Miami jury on Friday awarded nearly \$13 million in compensatory damages to three smokers who claimed they were harmed by cigarettes, it might have seemed a devastating blow to the tobacco industry. After all, the jury in this class action lawsuit can now go ahead and award punitive damages in the tens or even hundreds of billions of dollars.

However, the Florida legislature is trying to come to the rescue of the tobacco companies — whose product addicts as many as 3,000 minors per day and kills more than 400,000 Americans annually. Worse, the legislature is doing so under the guise of protecting the health of children.

For example, while the jury was in deliberations, Florida's attorney general, Bob Butterworth, proposed changing the rules of litigation in mid-stream. He wants to scrap the current class action protocol (which has been upheld by the Florida Court of Appeals), under which a few representative plaintiffs seek compensatory damages on behalf of the class before broader punitive damages are sought. Mr. Butterworth would require that compensatory damages be established for each and every member of the class before punitive damages are even considered. This proposal would basically negate the entire concept of a class action and would offer tobacco companies considerable financial relief by indefinitely postponing punitive damage awards.

A measure like this, which would effectively nullify a jury's decision, is a stark portrait of the hypocrisy of the state settlements with the cigarette industry in 1997 and 1998. Supporters of the proposal defended it by expressing concerns that a large monetary judgment against the industry might interrupt the annual flow of the \$450 million Florida is due from cigarette manufacturers under that state's settlement. John Thrasher, the Florida

House speaker, further argues that such legislation is necessary to ensure settlement-supported anti-smoking programs for children, worrying "about the kids in the state of Florida who are benefiting from the settlement."

Only a small portion of the settlement money is directed toward discouraging youth smoking, yet these lawmakers are chanting the usual "we want to protect our kids" mantra. However, they are actually maneuvering to protect their part of the loot by keeping the cigarette companies financially viable. To remain in business, the companies must ensure that people keep buying and smoking cigarettes so there is predictable supply of cash to send to Florida's coffers.

It is no wonder that tobacco company stocks are soaring, what with the prospect of a new Teflon coating for Big Tobacco against the threats of litigation.

The states take on the plaintiffs.

Florida is not the only state working hard to protect the tobacco companies. Bills to protect cigarette manufacturers from jury awards have been passed, or are being considered, in Georgia, North Carolina, Kentucky and Virginia. Novel protective approaches to blunt jury verdicts include placing "caps" on the amount of bond money the industry would have to post while appealing a case. State Representative Leo Daughtry of North Carolina was up front about his motives, telling a special session of the Legislature "we are here to help the tobacco companies." According to legal experts, such bills probably violate the constitutional requirement that states respect the judicial decisions of other state and federal courts.

If cigarette manufacturers continue to be protected from both federal regulations and jury-approved punishment, they will have no incentive to produce a safer product or fully inform their customers of the inherent health risks of smoking. □

Elizabeth M. Whelan is president of the American Council on Science and Health.



Center for Productive Aging Productive Aging Award Dinner

April 2000

May 10, 2000
Helen Thomas, Honoree

JEWISH COUNCIL FOR THE AGING

Judith S. Ball
President

David N. Gamse
Executive Director

Dear Friends:

JCA is proud to announce that **Helen Thomas, Grande Dame of the White House Press Corps**, will be our year 2000 Productive Aging Award honoree. The Productive Aging Award Journal will be featured at the Dinner and will help generate funds to enhance services to the senior community. The funds from this book will support a wide range of award-winning, non-sectarian programs, all of which enable seniors to continue to live in the homes of their choice and be involved in their community.

Please send this form, your payment and the wording you would like us to use or your black and white camera-ready artwork by **April 14, 2000** to guarantee placement of your message. Please make your check payable to: Productive Aging Award Dinner. Thank you.

Place an ad to:

- ☒ Support JCA
☒ Support a JCA Program
☒ Or Honor a Special Person

If you have questions or to request an invitation, please contact Micki Gordon, staff liaison for the dinner, at (301) 255-4231.

Name _____

Address _____

Contact Person _____

Phone/Ext. _____

- ☐ Full Page (\$500) ☐ Senior Notes/E
☐ Half Page (\$300) ☐ In Honor/Mem
☐ Quarter Page (\$200) ☐ Copy-Ready N

4-11-00
Send to Scheduling?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Sincerely Yours,

Susan Finkelstein

Susan Finkelstein
Co-Chair, Productive Aging Dinner

Irma Poretsky

Irma Poretsky
Co-Chair, Productive Aging Dinner

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TRANSPORTATION

N.H.

4-11-00

Thoughts?
Strogo
Oscar
See to do?



00 APR 11 AM 10:44

DC
Better
We should
do a
note

To: Minyon Moore, Director for Political Affairs From: Brent Thompson, Chief of Staff
Fax: (202) 456-2983 Pages: 2
Phone: Date: Thursday, April 06, 2000
Re: Dr. Emma Chappell CC:

☐ Urgent ☐ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Recycle

Dear Ms. Moore:

Attached is a copy of a letter that the CEO of our chapter has sent to the President, regarding the nomination of our chapter board member, Dr. Emma Chappell, to the National Board of Governors of the American Red Cross. I understand that you are acquainted with Dr. Chappell, and know of her relationship with the President, so I wanted to bring this to your attention personally.

On the Board of Governors, Dr. Chappell will serve alongside several cabinet level officials including Secretaries Albright, Cohen, Riley and Shalala, as well as other prominent leaders such as Chairman Shelton.

If the President would like to congratulate Dr. Chappell, her mailing address is as follows:

Dr. Emma Chappell
Chairman and CEO
United Bank of Philadelphia
300 N. 3rd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Sincerely,

Brent Thompson

4-11-00
Send to Bunkhardt?
Yes ☒
No ☐



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2
- Jhu - Ji



American Red Cross

Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter
23rd & Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 299-4000 • Fax (215) 299-4089

William J. Stallkamp, *Chairman of the Board*
A. Frank Donaghue, *Chief Executive Officer*

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Dr. Emma C. Chappell
Michael J. Curran
Stephen Holstad
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M. Lubert
Lundquist
on Malmud, M.D.
William J. Marrazzo
ren Martin
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rde A. Mauger, III
semary Mazzatenta
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Ter Shields, Esq.
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Lowell S. Thomas, Jr., Esq.
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Marie Ann Thompson
Commissioner John Timoney
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Walter H. Van Buren, Jr.
Ignatius Wang
Charles Warfield
Dr. Karol Wasylshyn
Joseph P. Welch
Jo Anne Wilder
Sue Williams
Margery Wolf
Andrew N. Yao

April 4, 2000

William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing to bring to your attention a remarkable accomplishment by Dr. Emma Chappell, Chairman and CEO of United Bank in Philadelphia. I understand that Dr. Chappell also serves as your appointee to the South African Enterprise Development Fund.

For several years Dr. Chappell has served with great distinction on the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Red Cross. Within the past few days, we have learned that she has been nominated for the American Red Cross' National Board of Governors.

This is an extremely high honor for Dr. Chappell, and I thought you might be pleased to know of her success.

Respectfully,

A. Frank Donaghue

Dr. Howard A. Rubin

PO Box 387
450 Long Ridge Road
Pound Ridge NY 10576
914 764 4931
914 764 0536 fax
howard_rubin@COMPUSERVE.COM

00 APR 11 AM 10:47

Date : April 6, 2000

For : Betty Currie

Subject : Material requested by the President

Enclosed you will find additional material as a follow-up to the information the President requested from me recently.

As usual, thanks in advance for your help.

If there is a need to reach me you may do so at the numbers above or via cell phone at 914 420 8568 or pager at 800-SKY-PAGE Pin# 2291309.

I hope that this note finds you well.



4-11-00
Send to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒

No ☐

cul

Dr. Howard A. Rubin
PO Box 387
450 Long Ridge Road
Pound Ridge NY 10576
914 764 4931
914 764 0536 fax
howard_rubin@COMPUSERVE.COM

Date : April 6, 2000

For : President Clinton

**Subject : Requested follow-up to conversation
related to the New Economy and the "digital divide"**

As you requested when we last had a chance to meet, enclosed you will find summary information on my new work on a "Global New e-Economy Index". The GNEI, as I call it, is a new measure that can be used as a basis for assessing the global competitiveness of nation in the New Economy. It focuses on a nation's technology infrastructure, its innovation potential, workforce, and education issues.

The GNEI research now covers about 50 countries and I am expanding its coverage by tapping the network of national Y2K technology coordinators that I worked with as part of my Y2K "Peace Corps" efforts that I coordinated with John Koskinen.

I have shared this work with David Beier as part of my involvement in the OVP's e-commerce working group project and his team is considering its use in the upcoming G-8 meeting.

I am also working with Rob Atkinson and Al From through the PPI to integrate this work as a natural follow-on to their efforts in the area of the State New Economy Index.

If you'd like additional details or wish me to provide a briefing to your staff, please let me know.

In addition, I would like to extend and open invitation to you and your family to visit next time you are free (if that ever happens) in Westchester... I live quite close to our mutual friend Jill Iscol.



THE WORLDWIDE IT TRENDS AND BENCHMARK SERIES

THE GLOBAL NEW E-ECONOMY INDEX



DR. HOWARD A. RUBIN
CEO, RUBIN SYSTEMS INC. & WWW.METAGROUP.COM
CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
META GROUP RESEARCH
Howard_rubin@compuserve.com
914.764.4933

DR. MARGARET RUBIN
RUBIN SYSTEMS
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
STAFF

March 28, 2000

Dear President Clinton:

The giant sequoia trees of the Sierra Nevada are among the oldest, largest, and most beautiful living things on earth. I urge you to protect this unique and magnificent natural heritage by implementing the NRDC/Sequoia Alliance proposal to create a Giant Sequoia National Monument. The monument you designate should permanently protect the remaining giant sequoia groves and 400,000 acres of surrounding watersheds in Sequoia National Forest, prohibiting logging, roadbuilding, mining and other development.

Please take this action NOW so that these national treasures can be preserved for this and future generations.

Sincerely,

Howard McDonald
1691 Redwood Way
Upland, CA 91784

4-11-00

Came in interoffice
mail

Send to Burkhardt

Yes ☒

No ☐

cd

3005 45th Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20016
 202-244-4555
 202-237-0092 fax
 240 Corporate Blvd.
 Norfolk, VA 23502

facsimile transmittal

'00 APR 11 PM 1:50

To: Mrs. Betty Currie

Fax: 202-456-1210

From: Beth Dozoretz

Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Re: Attached

Pages: 4

☒ Urgent

☐ For Review

☒ Please Comment

☒ Please Reply

☐ Please Recycle

Notes:

****PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL****

If you do not receive all of the pages indicated, please contact Karen Skeeter at 757-459-5133.

NSC -

Attached request
 for letter in
 Program Book !

4-11-00

Send to Burkhardt?

Yes

No

Coordinate w/ Counsel, NSC

cew

Beth E. Dozoretz
Beth E. Dozoretz

April 11, 2000

Mrs. Betty Currie
Personal Secretary to the President
The White House
West Wing
Washington, DC 20500

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Betty:

The Bialkins are great friends and I was hoping to help facilitate a letter from the President. Attached is a copy of their original request.

I spoke with Nava Barak yesterday, and she is very excited about this event. I know that a letter from the President would be very meaningful. Your thoughts?

Warmest regards,



Beth Dozoretz

BD/ks

Attachment



Youth In Distress In Israel

Spring Dinner

Tuesday, May 23, 2000 • Pierre Hotel, New York City

Recognizing the support of Israel's Leading High Technology Companies for the youth of Israel

Honorees

Kobi Alexander

*Chairman, CEO & President
Converse Technology,
Inc.*

April 6, 2000

Eli Barkat

*Chairman & CEO
BackWeb Technologies,
Ltd.*

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Shlomo Dovrat

*Chairman & CEO
Tecomatix Technologies,
Ltd.*

Dear Mr. President,

Gil Shwed

*Chairman, CEO & President
Check Point Software
Technologies, Ltd.*

On Tuesday evening, May 23, 2000, ELEM/Youth In Distress In Israel is hosting a dinner at The Pierre Hotel in New York City. We have just learned that Prime Minister Ehud Barak will be joining us and escorting Mrs. Barak who is ELEM's Honorary President.

Special Guest

Mrs. Nava Barak

First Lady of Israel

I am writing to request a letter of greeting for our program book and am enclosing information about the organization and the dinner's honorees for the required background information.

Dinner Co-Chairs

Barry Friedberg

*Executive Vice President
Investment Banking
Management
Merrill Lynch & Co.,
Inc.*

My sincere thanks for your kind consideration.

Robert Hurst

*Vice Chairman
Goldman Sachs & Co.,
Inc.*

Very truly yours,

Ann Bialkin

Ann Bialkin
President

Harvey Krueger

*Vice Chairman
Lahman Brothers, Inc.*

ELEM/Youth In Distress In Israel

Heidi Miller

*Chief Financial Officer
Citigroup, Inc.
Salomon Smith Barney*

Encl: About ELEM

About...

elem Youth In Distress In Israel

- Date:** Tuesday, May 23, 2000
- Time:** Cocktails 6:30 pm
Dinner 7:30 pm
- Place:** The Pierre Hotel
2 East 61st Street
5th Avenue @ 61st Street
New York, NY 10021
- Attire:** Black Tie
- Honorees:** Kobi Alexander-*Chairman, CEO & President, Comverse Technology, Inc.*
Eli Barkat-*Chairman & CEO, BackWeb Technologies Ltd.*
Shlomo Dorvat- *Chairman, Tecnomatix Technologies Ltd.*
Gil Shwed-*Chairman, CEO & President, Check Point Software Technologies Ltd.*
- Benefit Co-Chairs:** Barry Friedberg- *Executive Vice President, Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.*
Bob Hurst- *Vice-Chairman, Goldman Sachs & Co.*
Harvey Krueger- *Vice Chairman, Lehman Brothers*
Heidi Miller-*CFO, Priceline.com*
- Special Guests:** Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Mrs. Nava Barak
- Tables:** \$25,000 Associate Chair Table – Includes ten tickets to cocktail reception, premium seating for ten at dinner and a Benefactor full-page ad in the dinner journal.
\$10,000 Patron Table – Includes ten tickets to cocktail reception, preferred seating for ten at dinner and a Patron half-page ad in the dinner journal.
\$5,000 Sponsor Table – Includes ten tickets to cocktail reception, reserved seating for ten at dinner and a Sponsor listing in the dinner journal.
- Tickets:** \$2,500 Benefactor Ticket – Includes a ticket to the cocktail reception, priority seating at dinner and a listing in the dinner journal.
\$1,000 Patron Ticket – Includes a ticket to the cocktail reception, choice seating at dinner and a listing in the dinner journal.
\$500 Sponsor Ticket – Includes a ticket to the cocktail reception and dinner.
- RSVP:** Form Attached

About

elem Youth In Distress In Israel

ELEM/Youth In Distress In Israel was established in 1982 to bring attention and services to the thousands of troubled Israeli youth and assist them in becoming productive citizens. This is accomplished through community-based hostels, crisis shelters and outreach programs to successfully rehabilitate at risk and delinquent youngsters and their families.

For additional information contact: Janice Phillips
Event Associates, Inc.
162 West 56th Street • Suite 405
New York, NY 10019
(212) 245-6570 ☎ (212) 581-8717 Fax ✉

Clinton / Arkansas

Memo

To: Nancy Hemreich
From: Lynda Dixon
CC:
Date: 4/10/00
Re: 188th Fighter Squadron, Fort Smith



'00 APR 11 PM 12:39

Bill Bowen called this morning and asked me to talk to Col. Bunch at the Air National Guard. I called him, and it seems they want an F-16 Fighter that the military or someone won't give them.

Col. Bunch said they had contacted the Arkansas congressional delegation about it, and they wanted President Clinton to be aware of it.

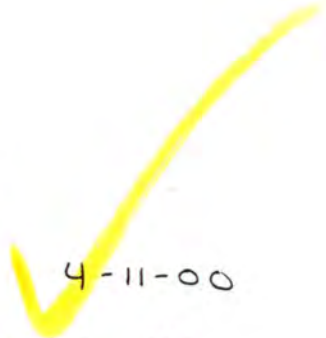
Following is the documentation they faxed to me.

Could you please get it to the person who handles this.

Thanks.

CONTACTS: Col. Bunch or Col. Phil Koch (pronounced COKE)

(501)648-5188

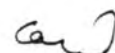


4-11-00

Send to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒

No ☐



F-16C CONVERSION FOR THE 188th FIGHTER WING FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

I. CURRENT STATUS

1. Fort Smith is the last truly general-purpose unit flying Block 15 F-16As
2. The three other F-16A units are Air Defense units currently undergoing conversion to GP
3. F-16As are not compatible with F-16Cs
4. Upgrade possibilities are C-model Block 30 or 32.

II. THE GOAL

The 188th Fighter Wing should be converted to Block 30 F-16Cs

III. BLOCK 30/32 CAPABILITIES

1. Avionics and airframe should be basically the same
2. Engine comparison
 - a. Block 30 - 28,000 pounds of thrust
 - b. Block 32 - 25,000 pounds of thrust
3. Block 30s (12 ANG Squadrons) can rainbow together, Block 32s can rainbow with Block 25s (5 ANG Squadrons)
4. The Block 30 Jet is the most capable airplane available, particularly in the out years

IV. POINTS TO PONDER

1. No one who flies the jet will tell you they are equal unless they trying to get you to take Block 32s
2. The active duty Air Force will continue to fly and fund Block 30 aircraft for a number of years. They do not use Block 32s in their real combat units.
3. Block 32s along with Block 25s are tomorrow's F-16As. Soon they will be the least desirable airplane for the war fighter because they won't be able to carry the load that the other Block airplanes can carry.

V. JUSTIFICATION

1. The 188th Fighter Wing is one of the most experienced units in the F-16
2. The 188th Fighter Wing has always made maximum use of its aircraft
 - a. Historically among the leaders in number of Level B pilots
 - b. Unit has historically had one of the lowest costs per flying hour in the ANG
 - c. First ANG F-16A unit to operationally carry AMRAAM missiles
 - d. First ANG F-16A unit to drop laser guided bombs
 - e. First ANG F-16 unit to participate in combat operations over Bosnia
 - f. Highest average Mission Capable rate in the ANG for the last 12 months

**F-16C CONVERSION FOR THE 188th FIGHTER WING
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS**

Page 2

VI. CONCLUSION

The 188th Fighter Wing has proven its capability time and again. It has met every test the Air Force has for fighter units and has excelled at every turn. Likewise the Wing has, at every opportunity, shown its absolute willingness and desire to support the Air Force mission. Historically the 188th has always been the unit flying the oldest airplanes. The 188th Fighter Wing needs Block 30 aircraft. This is the only way to ensure viability for the long term. We do not need an aircraft that is only good for training missions and exercises. The 188th Fighter Wing is a premier fighter unit in every possible way; it needs a premier aircraft. There is no other unit in the Air National Guard that can deliver the same "Bang for the Buck."

'00 APR 11 PM 12:38

April 10, 2000



12141 Lewis St.
Garden Grove
CA 92840
TEL: 714 971-4074
FAX: 714 748-9423

Ms. Carol Cleveland
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Ms. Cleveland:

Pursuant to our conversation, I am including a biographical profile on Dr. Robert H. Schuller and the Crystal Cathedral Ministries regarding my request that the President bestow the Medal of Freedom on Dr. Schuller on Sunday, June 18, 2000.

This Hour of Power program will be taped that day to be broadcast globally to our 20 million viewers as Dr. Schuller celebrates his 50 years of ministry, and Dr. & Mrs. Schuller celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

If there is anything else you need from me to expedite this matter, please feel free to give me a call at 714-971-4075.

Sincerely,

Michael Nason
Executive Assistant to
Dr. Robert H. Schuller

4-11-00

Mr. Nason called Betty
Currie - Betty asked
me to talk to Mr. Nason
which I did and asked
him to send me paperwork.
Send to Burkhardt?
Yes ✓

00 APR 11 PM 12:39

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Jan -

a friend of the Pres!
write asking him to
look into this - thought
it was a real injustice.

th

4-11-00

Send to Burkhardt

Yes ☒

No ☐

AGENCY
C/ASent
IF APPROPRIATE
Carl.
B

gymnasium took Friday, March 19. After Claiborne roof damage is \$100,000 worth, but were inside the company has damage and the waiting to hear repairs.

LOCAL FESTIVAL UP

March 25

AM

begin at the Old Market Street. The Mississippi Track through the beautiful where runners and the best of Port. Trophies or tot he top there categories and to

4:00 PM

owntown Port from dealers from

ge 12

group of ladies. In addition to the quilters, another 15 people from Port Gibson attended the day-long festivities, which included recognition by the State Legislature, a luncheon with

home they travel, remember their roots. Their creative souls are imbedded in Mississippi soil." Other recipients were: Sarah Gillespie, Arts Patron Award; John Palmer, Arts Patron Award; Hatties-

The show continues for Heritage Festival Weekend from Friday through Sunday, March 24-26, between 10 a. m. and 5 p. m. The show will hang until April 28.

busting with ous entertain the French C wagon which ride, along Express choo the street. Th and other gro and, as alwa filled with po Arts and c up along Mar thing from b porch to han orate your w Food vend Walnut and Pepsi booths the downtow Mountain De isfy you hung The Origin

Piggly Wiggly faces Food Stamp problem

Pay \$40,000 or else! Pretty tough orders, wouldn't you say? Of course, this is referring to the demand letter George Acker Hudson of Piggly Wiggly received from the USDA Officer in Charge Keith Jabati of Jackson about February 25th.

And the reason? According to the letter, one of Mr. Hudson's bag boys had accepted cash for food stamps on three different occasions - October 27th, November 23rd, and December 14th of 1999. Where? In the parking lot of the store.

Mr. Hudson said the stamps never came through his accounting system, and he thought they were spent in Vicksburg, not Port Gibson. But the letter demanding the \$40,000 or disqualifying him permanently from food stamps use in his store was just too much for Mr. Hudson. He said that if he had returned the letter with the \$40,000, everybody in town would have assumed he was guilty when he was in fact not even aware of the offense.

Mr. Hudson said the regulations on food stamps are in a rather thick book, and in one very small paragraph was the fact that you were

responsible for such activities occurring anywhere on the premises.

How many of us have ever worked in a store and tried to prevent shoplifting? I don't know the first thing about such a job, but to demand that you not only guard everything inside the store, but also the parking lot is a bit far fetched to me. Mr. Hudson said his Piggly Wiggly owner friends were definitely upset over his pointing out this fact.

There was some discussion with an investigator who did arrive at the store about trying to set up a trap for the bag boy once this pattern had been identified using the camera in the parking lot area. But this was never done. The investigator merely asked for the name of the boy coming in the store door. The investigator did not return, but the letter arrived demanding payment.

Recourse

Mr. Hudson stated that he has appealed this decision to Alexandria, Virginia. But in the meantime he was informed that he has been permanently disqualified and the last day to receive stamps would be March 10th. There are signs on the doors at the store informing the pub-

The Inner Circle
by
Emma Crisler



lic of the matter which is beyond the management's control.

USDA

We talked to Keith Jabati in the Federal Building in Jackson on Tuesday morning. He was not sure what information he could disclose and would get back in touch with The Reveille.

That afternoon a call came from Steve Watson of the USDA Public Affairs Office in Atlanta. All we learned from Mr. Watson was that Port Gibson's Piggly Wiggly had been permanently disqualified for giving cash for food stamps. This matter is now under administrative review and could be overturned if not substantiated, according to Watson. The matter had been reported to Washington, he said.

Support

Mr. Hudson stated that he has had many people come by and call offering to write or get in touch with Congressional delegates. And this is a good idea as suggested by our letter to the editor on page 2 of today's paper.

Hudson said that food stamps make up about 10% of his business. He also stated, "It hurts when you are trying to do the right thing." But then his dad taught him that "if you treat people right, they will always come back to you," he said.

Another strange thing about this matter is that even if the Hudsons are proven innocent, there is no recourse for them to get their money back which would have been lost with no food stamps customers in the store. There is also the fact that when the Hudsons requested a hearing, this was denied. What happened to innocent until proven guilty? Or how

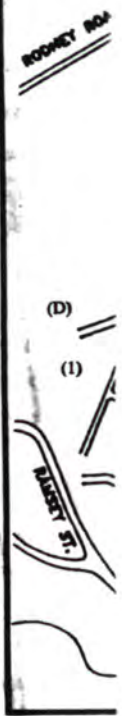
Continued on page 2



Supervisors and Dick Hall

Claiborne County Supervisors with Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall, who met in other officials. They are (from left to right) Supervisors Charles Shorts, Albert Butler, Martha Lott, all, Supervisors Charles Norrell, and Bill Moore.

(Photo supplied)



responsible for our sustenance. We owe all animals what we can never fully repay. It does not stop us from loving them. Our payments are not a burden, but a duty. We must take care of these creatures who have been a part of every human life. We are uplifted by God's creation. We live up to our name, we give care and respect to those who give us unlimited love and expect nothing but respect and friendship. Our society owe animals what we are giving them. There are many ways to make our animals; perhaps we can learn one and pursue it. It is all of us feel better as a result!!

Accident on Church Street. No injuries.
Disturbance on College Street.

Alarm activated at Claiborne Car Care.
Sick inmate taken to Hospital.

Random security check of all businesses 2nd and 3rd shifts.

Gulf

Piggly Wiggly, continued from page 1

about holding off the sentence until the appeals have been tried? A bit of a nightmare in bureaucracy.

Local Office

Although this writer spent many years working with the Dept. of Welfare or Human Services, I have been out of there for several years and did not know they don't issue food stamps locally any more. I went out to the office on Monday to see what I could find out about connecting with the USDA and found workers at the office were just as shocked as everybody else in the county over this accusation.

I can remember that in the past when stores were disqualified, the USDA was very quick to supply that information to our paper so that everybody knew it was true. Why was this information not forthcoming from USDA this time?

Something else is interesting to this writer. When we talked with the Jackson office, the officer seemed rather startled by the fact that Mr. Hudson had let me see the accusatory letters. Boy, am I glad I live in a small town where people do actually trust each other and do want to help each other over the tough spots.

Help

If you can write a letter or call on Mr. Hudson's behalf, please do so now. And do express your support to the Piggly Wiggly folks who need to know who their friends are right now.

Subscribe to the Reveille

WWW.Wideworld

Open 24 hrs. 7 days a week

WIDE WORLD IMPORTS invites you to our E-Commerce website where you can find collectibles for those you love.

We offer great pricing, quick shipping, seasonal variety, and merchandise in a huge selection of products (over 3500 items).

We accept credit cards, all transactions are secure.

Items will be on display (in front of store) @ a 20% discount Saturday, May 1st at the 8th Annual Port Gibson Market. Free catalogs will also be available for convenience.

Contact Info:

Georgia Cessna (owner)
RR 2, Box 7
Pattison, Ms. 39144-9300
Tel/Fax (601) 535-2873
Email www.wideworldimports.com
Website www.wideworldimports.com

FINAL NOTICE



Homebuyer Education

Workshop

Designed for anyone interested in buying a home, regardless of income or credit history.

On: April 15th and 22nd, 2000
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location: Germantown/Sugarhill Estates Community Building
114 Nickel Street
Port Gibson, MS

Participants must attend all sessions to be eligible for a certificate.

Topics of Discussion

- Are you Ready to Buy a Home?
 - Budgeting & Credit
 - Getting a Mortgage Loan
 - Shopping for a Home
- Keeping Your Home & Managing Your Finances

Space is Limited!

Call (601) 373-7040 to pre register

For more information call Clarence Scutter at 437-4176
Sponsored by: (MS Regional Housing Authority No. VI) and Mississippi Housing Initiative.

NURSING HOME ABUSE & NEGLECT

Nursing home abuse or neglect can take many forms including:

- BEDSORES
- SKIN ULCERS
- PRESSURE SORES
- DECUBITUS ULCERS
- GANGRENE
- MALNUTRITION
- DEHYDRATION

Bedsore also called pressure sores can be serious and life threatening. Nurses are required to reposition the patient, allowing them to stay in the same position. Failure by the nursing home to do so over time causes bedsores/pressure sores. Failure by the nursing home to have enough nurses aids to assist the patient in turning from side to side may lead to a breakdown.

NURSING HOME ABUSE ROBS PATIENTS OF THEIR RIGHTS

If you or a loved one has suffered or is suffering from nursing home abuse or neglect, please contact:

HAROLD J. BARKLEY, III
ATTORNEY AT LAW
TOLL FREE: 1-800-241-7641

P. O. Box 55849
Jackson, Ms. 39296-5849

P. O. Box 356
West Point, Ms. 39773

No recovery no fee

Free background information available upon request

Page 1; 4-10-00

U.S. TECTONIC RESOURCES CORPORATION
 9 Campbell Lane, Larchmont, NY 10538-1222
 Phone/FAX: 914-834-8044,
 email: fredwww@aol.com

00 APR 11 PM 12:45

To: Sean Maloney, Staff Secretary to the President at the White House. FAX: 202 456 2883. Mr. Maloney: please bring these pages to the attention of the President and Mrs. Clinton. 4/10/00

To the President and Mrs. Clinton:

My family and I wish to thank you for reading my FAXes addressed to you over the past 3 years and for taking appropriate actions which have resulted in the following:

It is our understanding that we now have the endorsement of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers through Jon Gornick and the Corps' Portland staff; and, through you, we believe, the Federal Reserve Bank.

We can now begin Portland and San Francisco Bay facilities for of platinum me from head dred non-warming at mitigate cany concrete will ladders; eart

Further; my f 10,000 others

The New York drugs that w have spinal cord

(NYT 1-27-2000)....All it takes 4/11/00 tests show we can recover up to \$3,000/ton of Corps' spoils of Juan de Fuca effluent, It is our understanding that the economic development commissions of Washington, Oregon and California have 60,000,000 tons of Corps' spoils stockpiled, ready to process with the latest patented processes of United States Tectonic Resources (family "S") Corporation.

We met with Don Hodel on May 29, 1985 relative to our U.S. Senate Testimony on the U.S. Navy discovery of metallic glass: Supermagnetic, superconducting, containing the world's richest platinum and gold (but refractory to convention) ores. Don said the Public Sector will provide my family company all of the data from U.S. Department of Interior archives....but we must get production funding from the global Private Sector. Corps and Monetary Fund endorsements will help do this. Thank you for your part in these endorsements....Enclosed, please find our FAX to Christopher Reeve and Dr. Ragnarsson. Thank you both for this 'head start'.....

Sincerely,
 Mark Brooks Wanzenberg, Fritz Walter
 Wanzenberg, Mark's father and Power of Attorney

Mark Brooks Wanzenberg Fritz Wanzenberg P.A.

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arc Buonoconti's and
 the cure of paralysis:

rs hope to design
 rves in patients who
 generative disorders
 Our last production

DAN - I HAVE NO
 IDEA WHO THESE
 PEOPLE ARE. PLEASE
 RESPOND, IF
 APPROPRIATE.

Page 1; 4-10-00

U.S. TECTONIC RESOURCES CORPORATION
 9 Campbell Lane, Larchmont, NY 10538-1222
 Phone/FAX: 914-834-8044,
 email: fredwww@aol.com

00 APR 11 PM 12:45

To: Sean Maloney, Staff Secretary to the President at the White House. FAX: 202 456 2883. Mr. Maloney: please bring these pages to the attention of the President and Mrs. Clinton. 4/10/00

To the President and Mrs. Clinton:

My family and I wish to thank you for reading my FAXes addressed to you over the past 3 years and for taking appropriate actions which have resulted in the following:

It is our understanding that we now have the endorsement of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers through Jon Gornick and the Corps' Portland staff; and, through you, we believe, the Federal Reserve Bank.

We can now begin to plan to use the proceeds of processing Portland and San Francisco Bay magmatic dredgings to deepen ALL American Harbors; thereby assure navigation and docking facilities for deepdraft ships; recover up to 20 troy ounces of platinum metals and up to 9.15 troy ounces of gold per ton from head dredgings of Federal Waterways of Portland and San Francisco Bay. The platinum metals will provide for a clean, non-warming atmosphere; eco-products in lieu of tailings will mitigate canyon, building and forest fires; high strength concrete will build flood control structures, viable fish ladders; earthquake, hurricane and cyclone-proof homes.

Further; my family, Christopher Reeve's, Marc Buonoconti's and 10,000 others each year, have new hope for the cure of paralysis:

The New York Times reported that researchers hope to design drugs that will help regenerate damaged nerves in patients who have spinal cord injuries or other neurodegenerative disorders (NYT 1-27-2000)....All it takes is money. Our last production tests show we can recover up to \$3,000/ton of Corps' spoils of Juan de Fuca effluent. It is our understanding that the economic development commissions of Washington, Oregon and California have 60,000,000 tons of Corps' spoils stockpiled, ready to process with the latest patented processes of United States Tectonic Resources (family "S") Corporation.

We met with Don Hodel on May 29, 1985 relative to our U.S. Senate Testimony on the U.S. Navy discovery of metallic glass: Supermagnetic, superconducting, containing the world's richest platinum and gold (but refractory to convention) ores. Don said the Public Sector will provide my family company all of the data from U.S. Department of Interior archives....but we must get production funding from the global Private Sector. Corps and Monetary Fund endorsements will help do this. Thank you for your part in these endorsements....Enclosed, please find our FAX to Christopher Reeve and Dr. Ragnarsson. Thank you both for this 'head start'.....

Sincerely,
 Mark Brooks Wanzenberg, Fritz Walter
 Wanzenberg, Mark's father and Power of Attorney

Mark Brooks Wanzenberg Fritz Wanzenberg P.A.

Page 2; 4/10/00

U.S. TECTONIC RESOURCES CORPORATION
9 Campbell Lane, Larchmont, NY 10538-1222
Phone/FAX: 914-834-8044,
email: fredwww@aol.com

To: Sean Maloney, Staff Secretary to the President at the White House. FAX: 202 456 2883. Mr. Maloney: please bring these pages to the attention of the President and Mrs. Clinton. 4/9/00

THE CHRISTOPHER REEVE FOUNDATION: P.O. Box 277 FDR Station, New York, NY 10150 0277 Phone: 1-888-711-HOPE; FAX: 973 912 9433; e-mail: tgold@crpf.org

Dear Amy: April 6, 2000 Thank you for your kind reasponse to Mark's solution this morning.

Our son Mark Brooks Wanzenberg, like Christopher Reeve, Marc Buonaconti, Steven McDonald; many others, became suddenly paralyzed below the neck. Mark and Christopher Reeve and their families were challenged to seek a cure for all paras and quads.

Mark Brooks enlisted his family's corporation, United States Tectonic Resources (Chapter S) Corporation to help the cure of paralysis which is being encouraged by Dr. Kristjan Ragnarsson, whose homeland, Iceland, is pure tectonic magma rich in metallic glass (See McGraw Hill Encyclopedia); Dr. Barth Green, many others.

USTRC S has completed a run of confirming tests to establish the prologue of a U.S. Navy discovery made the day the Pacific Fleet entered Nadi-Vatakoula Harbor in the Fiji Archipelago.

We may soon be able to provide you supporting funds for medical research which Christopher Reeve has helped to advance....after we obtain budget prices in Detroit and Europe for the number of turnkey plants needed. We seek, but not from you, to finance operations in Astoria, Oregon and the Tiburon, California decommissioned Navy Bases.

The economic development commissions of Oregon and Washington have stockpiled millions tons of federal Waterway dredgings which USTRC S has proven to contain up to 20 troy ounces per ton (topt) of platinum metals and up to 9.15 topt gold. Moreover, in lieu of tailings, each ton of this energy-stingy, ecologically-safe process outfeed contains 3/4 ton of waterglass crystals to produce eco-products which will prevent fires globally and mitigate floods, canyon & forest fires, hurricane and tornado dammage, photosynthesis-safe.

Market prices of these metals and eco-products are not expected to change as the world is in short supply of platinum metals for catalytic converters and fuel cells; gold for chip hardware. As magma is global, each country will be able to license these patented processes.

Sincerely,

Mark Brooks Wanzenberg *Fritz Walter Wanzenberg P.A.*
Mark Brooks Wanzenberg, Recorder
Fritz Walter Wanzenberg, Founder & President

Dan —

PLEASE ADVISE —

I THINK WE'VE SEEN
THIS BEFORE

[Signature]



[Handwritten signature]

WHITE HOUSE

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE OFFICE

Phone: 202-456-2957 • Fax: 202-395-4198

Date: 4/6/00

To: Mary for Nancy

From: Eugenie

Fax Number: 62883

Number of Pages Including Cover: 4

Comments: I think I sent this to
Nancy when Carolyn first sent
it to me — but I can't remember.
I might have sent it to Dan B.
Can you ask her if she recalls
this? — *EB*

PHONE (202) 233-2040 FAX (202) 233-2050

**National Institute for
Literacy****Fax***Eugenie -
Thank you! Carolyn*

To: Eugenie Bisulco	From: Carolyn Staley
Fax: ²⁴⁵ 456-4198	Pages: 3
Phone: 456-2707	Date: 02/18/00 (4-6-00)
Re: Letter request	CC:
☐ Urgent ☐ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Recycle	

• Comments:

Dear Eugenie:

I hope this finds you very well and happily moving along in the year 2000 without any transition litches!

I have had the opportunity to work with a very enthusiastic literacy program director, Trish McDonald, who truly believes that a standard letter of congratulations from the President to the program's new readers, young and old, would make a huge impact in their lives. She asked me to inquire about the possibility of this, and I agreed to do so without any promises that this would be approved.

Trish has drafted a possible letter for your review. Her idea would be to simply give a copy of the letter to all new readers who complete the program. The one copy of the letter from the President would be undated to be used at different 'graduation' ceremonies.

What do you think? I will be happy to communicate your decision.

Thanks a million, and hope to see you and Ben again soon.

All best,

Carolyn

Carolyn



(410) 342-1736
Fax (410) 342-1767

5718 Uttingen Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21206
USA

facsimile transmittal

To: Carolyn

Fax:

From:

Date: February 10, 2000

Re: Irish MacDonald

Pages: 1 plus cover

Dear Carolyn—

As you requested per our telephone conversation, enclosed is our suggestion for the letter of commendation from the White House acknowledging and celebrating a student's achievement as a "new reader." This letter would enthusiastically support the spirit of President Clinton's call to action in the America Reads Challenge and be a profound way for this President and future Presidents to honor the nation's students (much in the same way the White House sends out birthday congratulations).

Look forward to speaking with you next week —

Trish

Suggested letter from White House
DRAFT

Dear Winner,

I want to congratulate you on reaching the exciting goal of learning to read!

Your earned victory of reaching this milestone in your student life is a gift of hard work and perseverance - the sign of a winner!

To be able to read and to communicate will enlarge and enhance the potential of your dreams and enlarge and enhance the potential for happiness in your daily life experiences.

We at the White House ask you to continue on your Winner's path to educate yourself and strive to make your community and nation a better and happier place to live.

Winner - we are proud of you.

Best wishes,

President Clinton

KISSINGER McLARTY ASSOCIATES
AN AFFILIATE OF KISSINGER ASSOCIATES, INC.

April 7, 2000

Memorandum to the President

From: Thomas F. McLarty

Re: Perspectives on the Chilean Inaugural

As co-head of the U.S. Government Delegation to the inaugural ceremonies for Chilean President Ricardo Lagos, I was honored to witness what was a historic moment for not only Chile, but the entire Southern Cone region. I thank you for offering me the honor of representing our country at this important event and wanted to offer some perspectives on the weekend and on President Lagos.

In a hard-fought campaign, Socialist Ricardo Lagos defeated his rightist rival, Joaquin Lavin, in second-round balloting this January with just over 51% of the vote. While Lagos prefers to state that he is the third President of the center-left Concertacion alliance, this is the first time since 1973 and President Allende's brief tenure in La Moneda that a socialist has occupied Chile's Presidential Palace. The sophistication with which Lagos and Lavin have managed their respective victory and defeat are a testament to the maturity of Chile's democratic system and the call that both candidates feel to lead Chile beyond its divisive past -- a difficult task. Sensitive to his slim margin of victory, Lagos has carefully crafted a cabinet that reflects the varied colors of Chile's political spectrum. To illustrate, many in the Chilean business community originally supported the Lavin campaign, but -- I can tell you from my new roost in the private sector -- are now supportive of the Lagos economic team, in particular the technocratic Ministers of Finance and Economy, Energy and Mines. For his part, Lavin has been an exceedingly good loser, his sights apparently on a repeat run for the presidency in 2006.

A Third Way

I think that you will enjoy working with Lagos. Not only does he share your objective of inclusion and of ensuring that his team reflects the Chilean reality (an unprecedented five members of his cabinet are women), but he recognizes the importance of finding a "Third Way" to ensure that the fruits of dynamic economic growth are shared in Chile. Growth, but "with equality," was the Lagos campaign slogan in the first round of balloting, and while supportive of the market economy, he has stated that we cannot responsibly maintain a "market society." The first meeting Lagos held the day after his inauguration was with Argentine President De la Rúa, Brazilian President Cardoso and Italian Prime Minister D'Alema, at which the leaders discussed Third Way themes. Lagos has indicated a strong interest in participating in the May Berlin meeting of the Third Way movement and is favorably disposed to hosting a future meeting of the Third Way in Chile, at which he could guarantee the participation of De la Rúa and Brazilian

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President Cardoso. I have been working with Governor MacKay and the DLC to encourage a Third Way meeting in Chile this summer, and stand ready to be helpful in any way as this project progresses.

Bilateral Trade

I also see an opportunity to cooperate and coordinate with Chile in a meaningful way on trade. On this and all issues, Chile clearly wants to maintain the strong U.S.-Chile relationship forged under your leadership and solidified with the 1998 Santiago Summit and State Visit.

✓ However, I must tell you frankly that there appears to be some resentment at the U.S. delay in following-through on our pledge of free trade with Chile. Lagos, careful to not repeat past perceived missteps, has clearly stated that the ball is in the U.S. court on bilateral free trade. I think it would make a lot of sense for us to hit that ball back. This has the potential to build positive momentum for free trade by showing the world (to include skeptics in Congress) that responsible trade liberalization, taking into consideration labor and environmental standards, is possible. Lagos is a clear supporter of free trade, with son Ricardo Jr. in charge of the Foreign Ministry's WTO office. More importantly, he shares the U.S. desire and domestic political need to put a human face on trade policy (although without the possibility of sanctions for labor or environmental shortcomings). Like almost no other country, Chile can help us find a way to craft a free trade agreement for the new century, which effectively takes into account the social dimension of trade's impact. I see great benefit to initiating free trade negotiations with Chile under your watch. While the final agreement would be considered and ratified under the next Administration, the United States would embark upon this path under your leadership.

* This would be helpful to our global goals in the aftermath of Seattle and in line with previous proposals put forth by the Chilean Government. Further, such talks could help to keep the hemispheric focus on trade liberalization northward, when the distraction of late has been to deepen sub-regional ties. We can expect that the Lagos-De la Rúa friendship and Lagos' rhetoric to date to naturally lead to deeper Chilean integration into Mercosur. While a strong Mercosur is good for U.S. interests, it is important that we not let our leadership position in the FTAA slip to others who might not be as ambitious or as attuned to U.S. objectives.

Third Country Participation

All Mercosur Presidents were present. Lagos maintains a warm relationship with both Cardoso, whose poll numbers are finally rebounding in Brazil, and De la Rúa, with whom Lagos has a special tie. Given the growing importance of the Argentine market to Chile, the hope is that De la Rúa's strong first ninety days in office, during which he instituted difficult but necessary tax increases, bode well for the Argentine economy. I also had the occasion to chat with Colombian

President Pastrana, who was extremely appreciative of your leadership on the Plan Colombia, but nervous about its passage. I have noted with concern recent statements by Congressional leadership, including Senator Lott, that this package may be in trouble. As always, I remain willing to assist with Trent or others as you and the Administration work to move forward this important piece of legislation, so vital to the consolidation of the state in the troubled nation of Colombia.

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Protest Week

THE ARREST yesterday of seven protesters in downtown Washington provides a taste of what may be yet to come. The weekend meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund are attracting thousands of protesters, determined to show that last year's battle in Seattle was not a one-time show. Their passion is partly wonderful and partly dangerous.

Generalized attacks on "globalization" fall into the dangerous category. The past half-century has taught that international flows of trade and investment are a tremendous spur to economic growth. In the late 1950s South Korea and Ghana had the same GDP per person. South Korea has since exported its way to prosperity, while Ghana's attempts to do without trade in the 1960s and 1970s have condemned its people to continued poverty.

Generalized attacks on the World Bank and IMF for their "structural adjustment" policies are similarly unhelpful. If development aid is to work, it needs to come with conditions. Funding for a road should be conditional upon sound engineering and proof that the road is needed. Equally, funding for a budget should be conditional upon sound economic policies. If a country mismanages its exchange rate or causes hyperinflation, it needs structural

adjustment. Otherwise it will never beat poverty.

That said, some protesters make narrower arguments that hit closer to the mark. Trade is good. International regulatory agreements on things such as intellectual property promote trade and therefore seem good also. But if intellectual property can be regulated across borders, what about labor standards, human rights or the environment? There is no neat answer to this question. Indeed, the existing intellectual property regime probably goes too far in protecting first-world pharmaceutical companies at the expense of poor consumers.

Equally, some kind of structural adjustment may be necessary, but are existing formulas right? At times the international institutions have expected countries to cut public spending on health and education, though healthy and educated people are a key ingredient of economic growth. If the IMF and World Bank could get more resources to poor countries, structural adjustment would be less painful. This is why the protests aimed at blocking the bank's access to the capital markets are crazy. But it is also why last Sunday's demonstration in favor of debt relief for poor countries was right on the mark.

The Penalty Box

SENATE REPUBLICANS hope to force votes this week on a tax cut that Democrats have rightly condemned for its cost—a quarter-trillion dollars over 10 years—and heavy tilt in favor of the rich. So the Democrats have come up with an alternative, which turns out in some respects to be ... even costlier, and likewise tilted. The election-year bidding war has begun.

The bills are said to provide relief from the marriage penalty. But marriage penalty is a misnomer. In part what critics are denouncing when they attack the marriage penalty is the progressive nature of the income tax. The tax code steadily favors married couples, in the sense that a couple will always, and rightly, owe less than a single payer with the same taxable income. The supposed penalty arises because two earners, particularly if well-paid, will likely owe more taxes if they marry than remaining single. But that's because the code correctly taxes household income, and does so by graduated rates. The higher the income, the larger the bite. If it's fair to speak of a marriage penalty, then why not the pay raise penalty, to say nothing of the widowhood penalty, which occurs precisely because taxes for single payers are higher than for couples.

The would-be tax cutters are undeterred by this reality. They use the concept of a mar-

riage penalty as a gloss for an indiscriminate tax cut mainly for the better off. A lot of the couples who would benefit from the Republican bill aren't even subject to the so-called penalty. **Because most of their income comes from one earner, their taxes are lower than if both were single; they receive a marriage "bonus."** A disproportionate share of the benefit would go to those in the highest income brackets. The bill's true cost is also carefully masked, in that the legislation is backloaded; the full benefits don't phase in until the very end of the 10-year estimating period.

That's the Democratic critique, and it's all true. And so the Democratic bill ... is even more backloaded. Its ultimate annual cost is even higher, although its 10-year cost is lower, because it starts so slowly. In the end it would also mainly benefit the better-off. It wouldn't benefit those already receiving a marriage bonus; that is a virtue. It would also rid the Democrats of a pesky issue. But in the process of thus yielding for political reasons it would make the tax code less progressive in some respects and create significant differences in the tax treatment of married couples with similar incomes. **Many two-earner couples would owe less than one-earner couples with the same income. No doubt that would be the next "penalty" that the tax grandstanders would seek to reduce.**

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Moreover, the benefits to bigness, or at least coordination, seem larger in the information age. Software for minicomputers stagnated in the 1980s because each brand's version of the Unix operating system was incompatible with the others. The World Wide Web has boomed in the 1990s because its inventor, Tim Berners-Lee, made the software protocols available to everyone free.

In the early 20th century, the oligopolies that antitrust established were stable: Economies of scale were limited, so that General Motors had a cost advantage, but not that much of a cost advantage over Ford. Our new technologies have far larger and stronger economies of scale, meaning that, as economists Hal R. Varian and Carl Shapiro have written, markets will not and cannot look like the competitive markets of ideal economic theory. Given the size of the economies of scale, it is not clear we want them to.

So what does this mean for antitrust? First, we do not know how much antitrust law can matter. The economy is so much bigger today that even its largest companies play a smaller role than U.S. Steel, Standard Oil or AT&T did a century ago. The Microsoft case cannot have as much economy-shaking impact. Technology also seems to be moving sufficiently rapidly to make whatever antitrust remedy is reached in that case of doubtful relevance: The market and the industry will have changed too much. The smaller impact of any single case and the difficulty of keeping pace with changing technology may end up making judicial antitrust remedies irrelevant.

Perhaps courts and prosecutors will try to maintain the standard pattern: Tolerate oligopoly, break up monopoly. If so, antitrust authorities will have a busy time as they watch economies of scale create a dominant natural monopoly in sector after sector, then move to break up the monopoly and restore competition. Will such a pattern lead to an efficient and productive economy? We are not sure.

A second possible direction would be to have greater tolerance for monopolies that play fair: to focus on establishing and monitoring a code of conduct for information-age natural monopolies that allows us to reap all the efficiency benefits of bigness and still maintain a degree of virtual, if not real, competition. But can such a code of standard-setting friendliness be specified and enforced? We are not sure.

There are other directions in which antitrust law could move, directions that will come as a surprise, but that, perhaps, the Microsoft case will foreshadow. However, the dilemma of antitrust will remain: bigness vs. freedom of choice, competition vs. economies of scale.

Despite Controversies, WTO Power Is Severely Limited **By Charles Wolf Jr.**

Special to the Los Angeles Times

In the five years since it was established, the World Trade Organization, or WTO, has acquired a prominence based more on controversy than on influence. But the controversy, which came to a head at the WTO ministerial meeting in Seattle last year, is misconceived. The contest for liberalizing the global economy, the WTO's ostensible purview, is mainly being played on turf other than that of the WTO.

In both rich and poor countries, WTO opponents environmentalists, labor unions and farmers fear that the international organization will accelerate the opening of global markets and cause great harm to their interests. Supporters multinational business, high technology and finance hope the WTO will be able and willing to accelerate economic liberalization by removing or lowering barriers to the free flow of goods, services and capital.

Both the fears of WTO opponents and the hopes of its proponents are misplaced, because they share a view of the WTO's power that is belied by the organization's origins, character, record and prospects.

The WTO has 135 members (China is the prospective 136th, and Taiwan the 137th), a secretariat of 500 and an annual budget of about \$80 million. It decides by consensus, not by vote. The WTO's three operating entities the General Council, the Dispute Settlement Body and the Trade Policy Review Body include all WTO members. When consensus is not possible, the WTO agreement allows for the possibility of majority voting, a procedure unlikely to be invoked because industrialized nations oppose it.

The WTO's management structure contrasts with those of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. The latter institutions have executive boards that direct the agencies' officers. The major industrial countries are permanent participants, and voting is weighted to reflect their financial dominance. The WTO is unlikely to evolve a comparable structure, because the majority of members from the South (the less-developed countries) opposes ceding such control to the North (the developed countries). Although the organization's new director-general, Mike Moore, a former New Zealand prime minister and trade minister, is experienced and energetic, his power will be severely limited by the constraints inherent in the WTO.

Under these circumstances, it isn't surprising that the WTO's efforts to resolve disputes by providing "good offices" and appointing neutral panels of experts have been of little consequence. A case in point is its efforts to resolve trade disputes between the United States and the European Union, specifically those relating to the EU's banana-import rules and restrictions on imports of hormone-treated beef from the United States. Washington charges that these EU restrictions are unfair, unreasonable and in violation of previous agreements.

The WTO's review panels found in favor of the United States. But rather than comply with the ruling, the EU appealed. In response, Washington invoked sanctions under U.S. law, prompting the Europeans to file a complaint with the WTO, contending that the WTO's authority preempted U.S. law. The complaint was rebuffed by another WTO panel.

It remains to be seen whether the EU will again appeal or comply with the WTO's earlier ruling. If the Europeans do comply, it more likely will be because of U.S. sanctions, not the WTO.

The point isn't that the United States "won" in its dispute with the EU; indeed, the United States has "lost" in other disputes. In all cases, the significance of win or lose is muted by the limited reach of the WTO's influence and the dilatory processes by which it seeks to advance international economic liberalization.

Before one accepts what in Europe is called "liberalization fatigue," it's worth reflecting on another domain in which economic liberalization is proceeding with remarkable momentum: transborder mergers and acquisitions, which are largely (and perhaps fortunately) outside the WTO's immediate ambit. Major recent instances of this activity include Deutsche Bank and Bankers Trust; Daimler and Chrysler, and DaimlerChrysler and Mitsubishi; Bertelsmanns and Random House; Renault and Nissan; Ford and Volvo; BP Amoco and Arco; Vodaphone AirTouch and Mannesmann; General Motors (or Ford) and Daewoo (potentially); and innumerable others. The pace and magnitude of these transactions represent a remarkable phenomenon with broad implications for international economic liberalization.

In 1999, the value of global transborder mergers and acquisitions increased to \$798 billion, almost 50 percent higher than in 1998. Companies in the United Kingdom were the most acquisitive (\$245 billion), followed by the United States (\$155 billion), Germany and France (\$93 billion and \$92 billion, respectively). In Japan, which has been relatively impervious to such activity, mergers and acquisitions rose more than threefold, to \$24 billion, including deals with 65 U.S. companies (\$12.1 billion), 25 British companies (\$1.6 billion) and 12 French firms (\$7.7 billion). Similar transborder deals in telecommunications, mobile phones, automobiles and pharmaceuticals are pending elsewhere, involving businesses in India, China, Singapore and South Korea.

To be sure, in some instances, the incentives to merge are perversely related to liberalization. The aim is to gain preferred market access without removing or reducing barriers. But, in most cases, transborder mergers and acquisitions depend on, as well as generate, increasing economic openness, the breakup of anticompetitive, restrictive entities and practices (such as the "keiretsu" in Japan), enhanced predictability, increased transparency and more efficient markets. Lowering barriers to imports, expanding access to export markets and opening up domestic-goods and capital markets are necessary for the acquired assets to realize their full values. Hence, acquiring and acquired companies are likely to push in these directions. Moreover, the WTO's rules relating to "normal trade relations" among members require that concessions granted by any member to the companies of another are supposed to be granted to all members. This is what the administration is now urging Congress to grant to China permanently.

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By T. Christian Miller
Los Angeles Times

AUSTIN, Texas Presumed Republican presidential nominee George W. Bush will switch his focus Tuesday from teacher to social worker and announce the first in a series of initiatives to help the working poor move into the middle class.

After talking for much of last month about improving education, Bush will take the next two weeks to propose ways to better health care and homeownership for the poor. As part of a speech on "opportunity," the Texas governor will also emphasize his tax plan's role in benefiting the poorest Americans.

The effort marks yet another attempt by Bush to cast himself as a moderate conservative, putting as much distance between himself and the hard-line, Newt Gingrich-inspired policies that distanced crucial voting blocs such as suburban moms and minorities from the GOP during the 1996 and 1998 elections.

"He'll be a different kind of Republican," one Bush aide said. "It's a continuation of what he's been talking about."

Details of the new proposals will come during the next few weeks, but in the past, Bush has talked about measures such as tax credits to allow purchase of private health insurance by the working poor, who make too much to qualify for Medicaid.

Ari Fleischer, a Bush spokesman, described the governor's new package as innovative and said Bush will discuss health care, savings and homeownership in Ohio Tuesday and speak further on health issues in Missouri on Wednesday.

"The speech (Tuesday) will focus on ... helping the working poor to save money to accumulate wealth," Fleischer said. One example of Bush's plan to help the working poor is his \$483 billion tax-cut plan which would drop the lowest tax rate from 15 percent to 10 percent.

While Bush has never been an especially doctrinaire Republican, he shifted to the right during Republican primaries to stave off a determined challenge from Arizona Sen. John McCain. The new emphasis on traditional Democratic territory education and health care marks his efforts to return to his theme of compassionate conservatism.

But if Bush's record in Texas is any measure, he may have a hard time convincing voters that his proposals are anything other than shrewd politics.

While Bush can take some credit for improving health care in Texas, including passing a patient's bill of rights, health care advocates say his record on health care reform has been spotty.

For instance, a 1997 bill allowing Texans to sue HMOs became law without Bush's signature. And Texas ranks near the bottom of the nation in several categories of health care, including the number of poor children and elderly people with health insurance.

"It sort of stuns me that Texas is not one of the poorest states in the nation, yet it has one of the highest uninsured rates," said Diane Rowland, the executive director of the Kaiser Commission on the Future of Medicaid, a nonprofit group that studies health care issues for low-income Americans.

And the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs is mired in scandal, with several Bush-appointed political figures under investigation for improper use of federal housing money. The head of one of the state's leading housing advocacy groups said Monday that Bush has "done nothing" during his time as governor.

More than 650,000 households in Texas an all-time high are classified as having dire housing needs by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, said John Henneberger, co-director of the nonprofit Texas Low Income Housing Information Service.

"There are massive numbers of poor people living in terrible housing conditions and there has been little or no leadership from the governor to solve the problem," Henneberger said. "I do hope Bush comes up with initiatives to do something. Texas would be a nice place to start."

Bush can't be blamed for health care and housing problems that stretch back for decades, said Fleischer, the Bush spokesman.

"The governor deserves to be judged on the proposals he makes tomorrow," Fleischer said. "They're going to be innovative proposals."

Court Rules Immigrants' Indefinite Detention Is Illegal

By Henry Weinstein
Los Angeles Times

04-11-00

A federal appeals court in San Francisco ruled Monday that it is illegal for the Immigration and Naturalization Service to indefinitely imprison immigrants convicted of crimes who cannot be deported because their native lands such as Vietnam, Cambodia, Cuba and spinoffs of the former Soviet Union will not take them back.

The 3-0 decision by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has immediate ramifications for about 790 detainees in California and ultimately could affect more than 3,800 detainees nationwide.

The ruling upholds decisions by a special panel of five federal trial judges in Seattle and U.S. District Judge Terry J. Hatter in Los Angeles, who have said the INS policy violated the immigrants' rights.

However, the appeals court based its decision on an interpretation of a 1996 immigration reform law, rather than on constitutional grounds, which could make the ruling more likely to survive a Supreme Court challenge.

The 9th Circuit's ruling is at odds with decisions rendered by federal appeals courts in New Orleans and Denver. That makes it likely the U.S. Supreme Court will ultimately reconcile the conflict, according to William J. Aceves, a professor at California Western Law School in San Diego, who filed a brief in support of the immigrants on behalf of advocacy groups including Human Rights Watch and the Jesuit Refugee Service.

An INS spokesman said the agency probably would appeal the ruling.

Attorneys for the detainees were jubilant. "It's a very significant victory in terms of saying that the INS doesn't have this authority that it had been assuming it does that it can hold people for the rest of their lives if they need to," said Judy Rabinowitz of the American Civil Liberties Union's Immigrants Rights Project in New York.

The lead plaintiff in the case, Kim Ho Ma, a 22-year-old Cambodian refugee, was detained for more than two years by the INS after serving 38 months in prison for his role in a gang-related shooting five years ago. Ma, represented by Seattle deputy public defender Jennifer Wellman, was freed late last year, along with four other Seattle men, after the panel of federal trial judges decided that they had been illegally detained.

The 9th Circuit ruled that the INS lacks authority under federal immigration laws to continue to detain an alien who has finished serving his criminal sentence for more than a reasonable time beyond the normal 90-day statutory period authorized for removal.

The judges emphasized that their decision does not leave the government without remedies. The judges said that all aliens who are ordered released must nonetheless report to immigration officers periodically, submit to medical or psychiatric testing and accept severe travel restrictions.

Great-Uncle of Cuban Boy Has Meeting About Hand-Over By Mike Clary and Richard A. Serrano Los Angeles Times

MIAMI Three government-appointed mental health experts met Monday with the great-uncle of Elian Gonzalez to discuss the best way to transfer the 6-year-old Cuban boy to the custody of his father, waiting in Washington.

Neither Lazaro Gonzalez nor the two psychiatrists and a psychologist named by U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno to advise on the transfer commented after the meeting, which lasted a little more than an hour.

Earlier, lawyers for the boy's Miami relatives prepared last-ditch legal efforts in both state and federal courts to delay the transfer. As night fell, several thousand people gathered in a park not far from the Little Havana home of Lazaro Gonzalez for a prayer vigil.

In Washington, U.S. officials were expected to notify Lazaro Gonzalez by letter on Tuesday where the transfer of custody of Elian to his father, Juan Miguel Gonzalez, would take place. Gonzalez, 31, arrived in the United States from Cuba on Thursday with his wife, Nersy, and their infant son after being guaranteed by Reno and immigration officials that he would regain custody of Elian soon. Gonzalez is staying at the Bethesda, Md., home of Cuba's chief diplomat in the United States.

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Lagging in Education, the South Experiments

A By DAVID FIRESTONE

ATLANTA, April 3 — The states of the South, long home to the nation's poorest and worst-performing students, have desperately begun to experiment with education theories and school reform plans in ways that are drawing national attention.

While experimentation is going on in a few states in other regions, almost every Southern governor, Republican or Democrat, is either hunting for new school money or trying combinations of familiar and occasionally untested ideas for improving student achievement. Some of the plans mix new spending for large state education agencies and teacher salaries with conservative proposals like vouchers and an end to teacher job protection.

"The Southern states have really been pushing the envelope," said

Kathy Christie, who runs the information clearinghouse at the Education Commission of the States, a nonprofit policy group based in Denver. "They may be low in achievement, on average, but they have a number of high-quality proposals out there that may start to change that in the next few years."

Gov. Paul E. Patton of Kentucky seemed to be speaking for the entire South earlier this year when he informed state lawmakers of his top four priorities: "Education, education, education and education." Not all his colleagues have been quite so wry about it, but in virtually every statehouse in the South, the priorities are essentially the same.

Georgia is about to become the first state in the country to wipe out

all job protection for teachers, a measure Gov. Roy Barnes pushed through the state legislature over the objections of teacher organizations as a message that the world had changed. The end of tenure is the most attention-getting element of Mr. Barnes's sweeping education overhaul, approved last month, which mandates smaller class sizes, bonuses for teachers in good schools and a new education bureaucracy to monitor annual testing.

South Carolina has been spending more than \$70 million a year to raise teacher salaries above the regional average and provide scholarships for future teachers, and it has established a new training institute for principals.

A Texas approach begun in the early 1990's and enhanced by Gov.

George W. Bush has put a strong emphasis on testing, breaking new ground in the close monitoring of low-income and minority students.

North Carolina — hailed along with Texas in a 1998 study by the National Education Goals Panel as having made among the largest gains in reading and math scores in the first part of the 1990's — is tightening the licensing of both new and experienced teachers. At the same time, it is offering substantial bonuses for teachers in high-performing schools.

Florida has pioneered a program to provide private-school vouchers for students in poorly performing public schools. The program was recently ruled unconstitutional by a state judge, but the state is appealing the decision.

As the region with the lowest per-capita income, the South has always lagged the rest of the country in educational achievement, burdened by its former reliance on low-skill jobs and the residue of segregated school systems. Forty percent of Americans without high school diplomas are in the South, twice the percentage of any other region, according to the Southern Regional Education Board, a cooperative compact to improve the public schools.

The South was slower than the rest of the country to begin its school reform, and for all the recent years of innovation, performance has just barely begun to move up. The Southeast is still the lowest-ranking of the nation's four regions on the federal government's National Assessment of Education Progress tests.

Of the 16 states that belong to the regional board, only 6 meet the national average for proficiency in fourth-grade reading (although others have shown some improvement), and only 3 do so in eighth-grade reading. In the Deep South, only North Carolina meets the national proficiency averages for both grades.

"We've lagged behind the rest of the country for so long that there is a much greater receptivity to experimentation," said John Dorman, executive director of the Public School Forum, a nonprofit public policy group based in Raleigh, N.C. "The

states are trying a lot of high-stakes programs, but we're just now starting to fight our way up to average."

As in most states, the effort to improve public schools began in the South with the dire warnings published 17 years ago in "A Nation at Risk," a federal commission's report attacking the quality of American education, and was prodded by business leaders who said the regional economy was at stake. But the South had much further to go than the rest of the country. It spent less on education than any other region, and had by far the largest number of dropouts and failing students. Nowhere was the connection between student poverty and school performance more evident.

"We just didn't put importance in the state of public education until the last few years," Governor Barnes, of Georgia, said in an interview last week, riffling through bulging folders of education statistics. "Because in the South you didn't have to. You had manufacturing concerns — kids could drop out in high school and go to work at a mill. Well, the mills are no longer there; the mills are in Mexico or Asia. The economy has changed, and we've got to improve our standards or we won't have the smart people to fill those jobs."

Governors of the New South like Lamar Alexander in Tennessee and

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The New York Times

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2000

Richard Riley in South Carolina first began talking like this in the 1980's, trying to repair their states' reputations with the first wave of school reforms like testing and improving teacher quality. James B. Hunt Jr. of North Carolina, one of the earliest and most successful education advocates among the governors, was the founding chairman of the national standards board that certifies teachers in their fields, and his state now leads the nation in board-certified teachers.

Other states, particularly in the Deep South, moved more slowly, but now it is no longer possible to be a Southern governor without a similar agenda. In Mississippi, which has the nation's lowest-performing schools, Gov. Ronnie Musgrove promised in his inaugural address in January to find \$286 million to raise teacher salaries to the regional average over the next five years (although he has not yet persuaded legislators).

Next door, in Alabama, Gov. Donald Siegelman has also proposed substantial raises for teachers, in exchange for making it easier to dismiss them without a lengthy procedure. But after his plan for a state lottery to support education failed last year, he said the money would have to come out of the same pot as is used for higher education, and now university administrators have come out against the proposal.

In any case, it is the South's wealthier states, like Georgia, Florida and the Carolinas, that are setting the pace for innovation. Georgia's plan, centering on school accountability, is typical of what other Southern states are approving or considering, and Governor Barnes frankly admits that much of it was borrowed from North Carolina.

The Georgia plan, passed overwhelmingly in the state legislature last month and set to be signed into law in a few weeks, is based on annual tests in Grades 1 through 12 in reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies. If students meet the goals set by a new State Office of Education Accountability, the teachers in their school will get bonus pay. If students in a school fail repeatedly, they will be allowed to move to a different school, and teachers and administrators can be disciplined or dismissed.

At the same time, class sizes will

be limited to 21 students in first through third grade, down from the current maximum of 33; in later grades, class sizes can grow to 28. School councils of parents, teachers and business leaders will be set up to work with principals.

Any teacher dismissed will be given a written reason but will not have the right to a hearing. Although a few other states have shortened the hearing process, none of them have eliminated it entirely.

The larger of two state teachers organizations, the Professional Association of Georgia Educators, eventually dropped its opposition when Mr. Barnes agreed that the dismissal rule would be applied only to teachers hired from now on, not to existing faculty. But a smaller teachers group, the Georgia Association of Educators, remains opposed; its executive director, Drew Albritton, said the provision would drive away good teachers by permitting arbitrary dismissals.

Mr. Barnes, a Democrat who ran the risk of alienating a crucial constituency of his party with the measure, acknowledged that there was no statistical link between teacher tenure rights and student achievement. But he said the move sent a message to educators that change would be pronounced. "Tenure is an outdated concept," he said, "born of a time when we treasured process over performance."

Georgia's consensus is not always easy to come by, however, especially in states that passed the first reform measures some time ago and are now coming to realize that the costs only go up. In Kentucky, which has seen steady improvement since passing a school reform bill in 1990, legislators have been unable to agree on Governor Patton's proposal to pay for enhanced teacher training programs. Gov. Mike Foster of Louisiana has not been able to find the \$220 million he wants to raise teacher salaries to the Southeastern average, and the state's teachers groups are murmuring about an autumn strike.

"We've actually made a lot of progress, considering where we were," said Mark Musick, president of the Southern Regional Education Board. "But we had a lot of room to make progress. The next steps are going to be even harder."

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The President

**H.E. Mr. Bill Clinton,
President of the United States of America
Washington**

00 APR 12 AM 11:05

As we are leaving the territory of your friendly country at the end of our visit, it is with immense pleasure that I extend to Your Excellency and to all U.S. officials whom I met, sincerest thanks for the warm welcome accorded us during our stay.

This visit comes at a critical time for the Middle East Peace Process and negotiations on the various tracks. We intend to pursue continued consultations in order to serve our excellent relations and intensify our cooperation in all fields.

Our talks have focused on the peace process, regional and international issues, consolidating trade relations and technological cooperation in the context of our efforts to bolster the goals of partnership between our two countries.

Please accept, Excellency, our best wishes for your health and happiness, and for evermore prosperity and progress of the friendly U.S. people.

Highest consideration and appreciation.

Handwritten notes:
Crouch H
4/6
cloned by ~~Lovell~~
McGinnis-Lovell
Crutchfield/ORD
Spillford/CEG

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 7, 2000

Handwritten: TB Ellen 4-11-00
Lovell

Handwritten: Please to help
It's very important
to me

Handwritten: BC

Mr. Courtney C. Crouch, Jr.
Post Office Box 6040
Hot Springs, Arkansas 71902-6040

Dear Courtney:

Thanks so much for your letter about restoration efforts in downtown Hot Springs. It's always great to hear from you. I've shared your letter with Ellen Lovell, who handles our Save America's Treasures initiative, and I've asked that she follow up with you directly.

As you may know, applicants for Save America's Treasures grants must meet some requirements, including matching funds from non-federal sources. I agree that the historic Bath House Row would be a fitting candidate for a Save America's Treasures grant if the site can meet all the requirements.

Restoration of our national park facilities, such as Bath House Row, are normally funded through National Park Service appropriations. I'm pleased to report that the National Park Service has included Hot Springs National Park historic bathhouses in its five-year plan. I'm also making Secretary Babbitt aware of your letter so that he has your concerns in mind as the Park Service plans and budgets for restoration of the bathhouses.

Hillary and I are so glad to have Courtney here at the White House. We really value his work, and I know you must be proud of him. We send our best.

Sincerely,

Handwritten: Bille

Handwritten: Hillary to help

Handwritten: copied
Lovell
Podesta

cc Melanne

P/s su if can help them

COURTNEY C. CROUCH, JR.

Any land legacy
available

I'd want to help

BC

March 7, 2000

HRC has a copy
sent signed still to be
t-unsubscribed name in Ark

3-18-00

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20502-0001

Dear Mr. President:

Hot Springs
Foray

As I watched your final State of the Union Address on January 27, I was reminded of the many conversations I have had with my close friends, Ark Monroe, Ray Smith, Tom Wynne, and Stevie Stevens relating to the unprecedented achievements that you have accomplished during your Presidency. No President in our lifetime has left such a legacy of prosperity and vision for what America can and should be.

coord.
of Hampton/oms
re: lands legacy #

cul

BC SIG

Forest
City

I am personally interested and involved in historical restoration in Hot Springs. My dream is to see the Hot Springs historic downtown restored to its original grandeur. However, we need your help in completing the restoration and leasing of our Hot Springs National Park Historic Bathhouses.

copied
Verveer
Podesta
Burkhardt
(for reply)

Today, as you are aware, there has been renewed interest across the county in health spas, but unfortunately, we have been unable to revive this important part of our state's history. I am confident that with the proper resources, we could capitalize on this renewed interest and bring these magnificent structures back to life.

The First Lady's "Save America's Treasures" initiative has been tremendously successful in preserving and promoting the value of our nation's historic landmarks. As Hot Springs National Park was the first ever land set aside for protection by the federal government, I believe it would be very fitting to include the historic Bath House Row in this great program. The Bathhouses are exactly the type of landmark that this initiative is helping to protect, and this project - to help restore an important part of Arkansas' cultural history and a valuable asset to our state's economy - would provide a special capstone to both of your outstanding legacies.

Under the leadership of David French, Hot Springs, is making good progress revitalizing the old high school as the Clinton Cultural Campus, and through the efforts of Hot Springs' Fifty for the Future, the city is in the process of constructing a downtown parking facility to complement the National Park.

The President
March 7, 2000

Page 2

In 1990, my company was fortunate to acquire the former United States Post Office building from the City of Hot Springs and have restored this magnificent building as our Home Office. It would be an honor to show you our offices on one of your visits to Hot Springs.

X((I want to extend my deep appreciation to you and your staff for allowing my son, Courtney, to serve you as Director of Congressional Correspondence in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs.

My best to both you and Hillary, and I hope you will make the restoration of Hot Springs National Park as one of your goals this year before leaving office. With your leadership and support in this endeavor, together, we can bring back the grandeur of historic Bath House Row.

Sincerely,



Courtney C. Crouch, Jr.
P.O. Box 6040
Hot Springs, AR 71902-6040

CCCjr/lal

3-18-00

After you have seen,
we will send to
Burkhardt -

BC SIG

coord.
of Frampton/oms
re: lands legacy #

Cul