

Weekly Reports for the Week Ending August 18, 2000

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Tab A copied Bailey, Podesta, page 2 to Secretary Cohen
Tab C copied Reed, Chow, Podesta
 original to Burkhardt for Reply
Tab D copied Lane, Podesta
Tab G copied Miller, Johnson, Podesta

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WEEKLY REPORTS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING
August 18, 2000

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 21, 2000

MR. PRESIDENT:

Attached are the following weekly reports:

- (A) **Weekly Economic Briefing**
- (B) **Update on Global Markets/Interest Rates and Stock Prices**
- (C) **DPC**
- (D) **OSTP**
- (E) **Cabinet Affairs**
- (F) **Public Liaison**
- (G) **Race Initiative**

Lisel Loy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: 8/24/00

NOTE FOR: SECRETARY COHEN

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

Information ☒

Action ☐

Thank you.

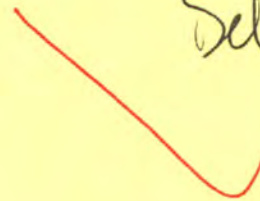
Staff Secretary
(x6-2702)

cc:

The Honorable William S. Cohen
Secretary
Department of Defense
The Pentagon - #3E880
Washington, D.C. 20301

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out ?

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WEEKLY ECONOMIC BRIEFING OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

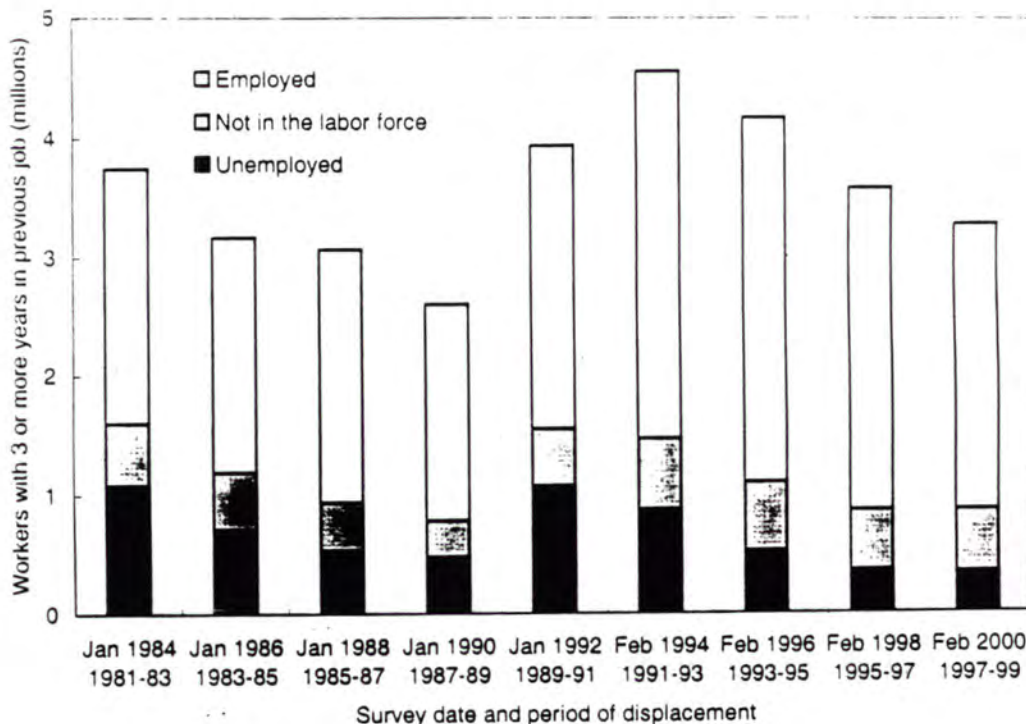
Prepared by the Council of Economic Advisers
with the assistance of the Office of the Vice President

August 18, 2000

*copied
Bailey
Podesta
page 2 to
see Cohen*

CHART OF THE WEEK

Displaced Workers and Subsequent Employment Outcomes



Displaced workers are those who lost their jobs because their plants or companies closed down or moved, their positions or shifts were abolished, or their employer did not have enough work for them. Biennial surveys since 1994 have shown a steady decline in the displacement of long-tenured workers. Although the level of displacement identified in the 2000 survey (for 1997-99) was higher than that in the 1990 survey (for 1987-89), the number of displaced workers who were still unemployed at the time of the survey was lower in 2000.

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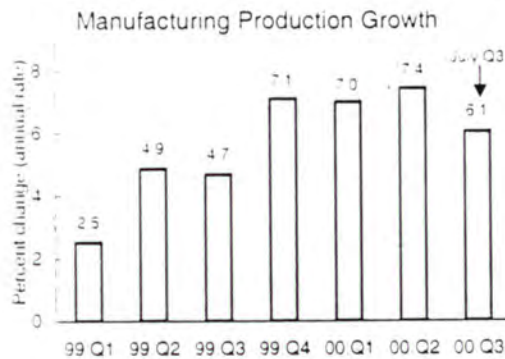
"It's very, very important that you try very, very hard to remember where you electronically transferred Mommy and Daddy's assets."

MACROECONOMIC UPDATE

The Economy Keeps Chugging Along

Economic activity appears to have been well-maintained into the third quarter, although at a reduced pace.

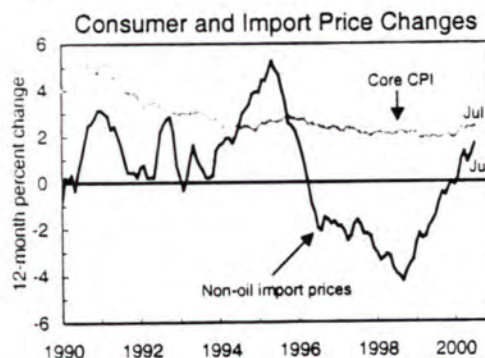
Concurrent indicators are still moving up. Production-worker hours are on track to increase at about a 1 percent annual rate in the third quarter—enough to support real GDP growth in the 3 to 4 percent range at an annual rate. Although



initial claims for unemployment insurance (available through mid-August) have increased slightly so far this quarter, they remain at levels consistent with continued growth. July data show manufacturing production growing at a 6 percent annual rate thus far in the third quarter—down only slightly from its pace in the three previous quarters (see upper chart).

Household spending is slowing but exports are picking up. The composition of activity is moving away from consumption and residential construction. Both decelerated in the second quarter. And thus far in the third quarter, consumption growth appears moderate, while residential construction is falling. Consumption was fueled by the stock market gains of the past 5 years and may be expected to slow with a cooler stock market. (Thus far this year, the broadly based Wilshire 5000 index has been flat.) As consumption and residential investment slow, their contribution to GDP growth may be partially offset by the external account. Slowing consumption may slow imports. And the 8½ percent growth in exports during the past four quarters—reflecting the pickup in growth among our major trading partners—has been encouraging. Net exports are still likely to subtract from GDP growth, but by less than during the past 2 years.

Inflationary creep. Besides strengthening the market for U.S. exports, stronger foreign growth has also caused an acceleration in prices charged for our non-oil imports (see lower chart). Declines in these prices had been one of the factors



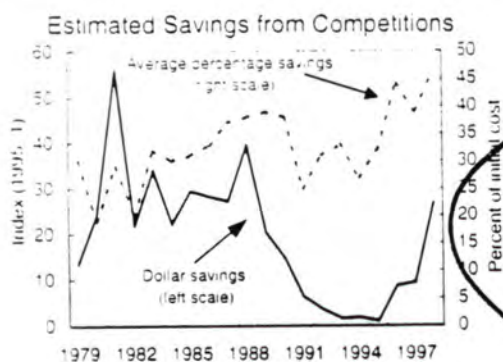
restraining inflation, but now this restraining influence has vanished. This import-price acceleration—together with a rise in petroleum prices—is putting some upward pressure on inflation. Thus far, a very strong rise in productivity has largely offset these inflationary influences. Nevertheless, the risk of a slow upward creep of inflation is increasing.

SPECIAL ANALYSIS

Public-Private Competition for DoD Commercial Activities

Over the past two decades, public-private competitions for the performance of commercial activities—tasks that could be obtained from the private sector—have generated substantial savings over initial costs for the Department of Defense. Average savings have been particularly large recently, and the numerous DoD tasks that remain available for competition represent significant additional potential savings.

Background. DoD completed over 2,000 public-private competitions (involving about 90,000 government positions) for the performance of commercial activities between 1979 and 1989, with estimated average weighted savings of over 30



percent of the initial cost. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, administrative and legislative constraints on the program led to relatively few competitions. But a renewed emphasis on competition since 1995, consistent with Reinventing Government initiatives, has been associated with average savings in excess of 40 percent and an increase in estimated total savings (see chart).

The public-private competition process. Competitions apply to commercial activities; inherently governmental activities are exempt. The latter are defined as activities so intimately related to the public interest that they must be done by a Federal employee (such as directing or supervising government employees or administering contracts). Government employees have the opportunity to bid against the private sector after developing their "most efficient organization" to perform the specified work. The government has won about half of the competitions. Early competitions usually were awarded on a lowest bid basis, but changes in 1996 have allowed a "best-value" approach, evaluating bids on both quality and cost.

Recent results. Average savings on DoD contracts have been very high recently in part because some large competitions have resulted in exceptionally high savings. For example, a Navy competition completed in 1999 for base operating services in Guam had 2,300 baseline positions and estimated savings of about \$91 million per year, or 68 percent of the baseline cost. Improved competition management has also played a role in achieving large savings. For example, DoD has been conducting larger competitions, which usually have higher percent savings. But even after controlling for factors like the size and scope of contracts, savings have been increasing recently. One possible explanation is that, in areas

that had not yet faced competition, the gap between public and private sector efficiency had been widening.

Interpret with care. Estimated savings are based on the winning bid for the work compared with the initial estimated cost, but actual savings may differ from these estimates. For instance, actual costs may often increase as a result of changes from the projected workload. Furthermore, efficiency gains may not translate dollar-for-dollar into budget savings, if, for example, the military realigns personnel whose positions have been eliminated to fill empty positions elsewhere. In addition, because the workload might change over time (for example, because of a base closure and realignment), estimates of cumulative savings cannot be extrapolated from these initial estimates. Finally, these estimated savings omit transition costs, such as severance pay and early retirement incentives, as well as the cost of conducting the competition.

Potential savings. Even with these caveats in mind, additional potential savings may be substantial. Since 1998 Federal agencies have been required to identify personnel positions associated with tasks that can be competed, and DoD has identified over 240,000 such positions. Based on average savings of 30 percent and an average cost of \$50,000 per position, this represents \$3.6 billion per year in potential savings.

ARTICLE

Are Free Trade Agreements Good for Free Trade?

Establishing a mandate for a new round of WTO negotiations is proving to be difficult, and the sense of momentum for trade liberalization in large regional groupings such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum appears to have waned. However, interest in bilateral or smaller regional free trade agreements (FTAs) remains intense.

A recent WTO tally based on press reports identified 65 such arrangements at some stage of development. While these arrangements may prove to be stepping-stones to freer trade multilaterally, they do pose some potential transitional problems for the global economy. FTAs involving large economies like Korea or Japan may pose particular problems for the United States.

Motivations of small countries. Small countries such as Singapore or Chile, both of which are particularly active in these developments, generally have limited bargaining power in multilateral settings. But they may be able to exact more concessions and get more attention in bilateral settings. Such countries may be particularly interested in becoming export platforms for multinational corporations, a goal that can be achieved through preferential access to large foreign markets. At the same time, unlike complex multilateral arrangements, free trade agreements between unequally sized partners may present fewer political obstacles in both countries. Small economies generally do not pose major threats to their FTA partners' industries, while the smaller country typically has the most to gain from the FTA, ensuring domestic political support.

Motivations of Japan. For most of the postwar period Japan relied exclusively on multilateral trade arrangements such as the WTO or "open" regional arrangements such as APEC. But it has recently changed its strategy. There are reports that agreements with Mexico, Korea, and Singapore are at various stages of completion. The agreement with Mexico is clearly defensive, allowing Japan to dilute the U.S. preferences gained from NAFTA. (The EU has implemented a similar agreement with Mexico.)

The motives behind Japan's Asian initiatives are more complex. Japan has begun to explore bilateral arrangements partly out of frustration at the lack of progress in multilateral and APEC negotiations. Of course, one reason for these failures is Japan's own unwillingness to liberalize its agriculture and forest products. Japan's FTA initiatives have therefore centered largely on countries that are not major agricultural exporters, such as Singapore and Korea. However, precisely because Japan and Korea have very similar trade patterns, one study found only small economic gains for Japan from the proposed FTA. With so little commercial benefit from these agreements, it becomes clear that Japan's interest in pursuing these negotiations is motivated more by political than by economic considerations.

Implications for the global economy. The proliferation of FTAs poses some problems for the global economy. First, goods may no longer be exported from the lowest-cost producer if that producer lies outside of the relevant FTA. This trade diversion is a particularly important concern if, as it appears, countries choose partners that will not compete with their uncompetitive sectors. Second, overlapping FTAs and their "rules of origin" may create regulatory burdens, with different rules governing trade with different partners. On the positive side, however, FTAs can increase trade between the member countries. In addition, there may be a domino effect from regional trade initiatives. The presence of one agreement may act as a catalyst for other agreements, and these arrangements may over time aggregate into ever larger regional groupings that could then serve as stepping-stones to multilateral trade liberalization.

Implications for the United States. Preferential trading arrangements that exclude the United States will have a minor impact on U.S. exports and economic welfare as long as they involve small, relatively open economies such as Singapore. By contrast, the United States could experience greater competitive disadvantages from arrangements involving relatively large, protected economies like Korea and Japan. Moreover, American influence in East Asia could erode if we are left out of regional decisionmaking. Aggressive promotion of multilateral liberalization in the WTO and in broad regional forums such as APEC offers a possible antidote to these effects.

BUSINESS, CONSUMER, AND REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Beige Book Finds Growth Moderating, Wages Up. Economic activity in all Federal Reserve districts continued to expand in June and July, but there were additional signs that the expansion was moderating in some sectors and the majority of districts. Seven districts—Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, New York, Richmond, and San Francisco—reported slowing economic growth. The Cleveland, Kansas City, Minneapolis, and Philadelphia districts reported essentially no change in growth rates, and the St. Louis district reported accelerating economic growth. District reports suggest that consumer spending, manufacturing, and construction were slightly softer than in the last report in June. Easing demand appears to be restraining price increases. Energy prices remain high but may have peaked, and reports suggest that most of the indirect costs of rising energy prices have been absorbed by final goods producers for the time being. Labor markets continue to be very tight, with indications that the shortage of workers is limiting growth of activity in some areas. Many districts reported wage increases and the growing use of non-wage benefits.

Study Examines Sources of HMO Savings. In the treatment of certain conditions, about half of the difference between HMO and traditional indemnity health insurance costs comes from the fact that HMO patients are less likely to have such conditions, according to a new study. Most of the remaining cost difference comes from lower costs for the same courses of treatment. The study, drawing on data for the 200,000 state and local employees in Massachusetts, found that HMO patients were younger, on average, than patients in the indemnity plan. Even after adjusting for age and sex, however, HMO enrollees were cheaper to cover: the incidence of heart attacks, cancers, pregnancy, and diabetes was about 50 percent higher among people enrolled in the indemnity plan. For each condition, the course of treatment followed did not vary systematically between HMOs and the indemnity plan, but the HMOs paid less for such treatment. For example, about 13 percent of heart attack patients received bypass surgery and about 53 percent received no surgical intervention, irrespective of whether they were covered by the indemnity plan or an HMO. But the HMOs paid only \$11,000 compared with the indemnity plan's \$18,000 when there was no surgical intervention, and \$52,000 versus the indemnity plan's \$73,000 for bypass surgery.

Charting Older Americans' Well-Being. The Federal Interagency Forum on Aging Related Statistics recently released a chartbook, "Older Americans 2000: Key Indicators of Well-Being." These charts depict the increasing size and diversity of the American population aged 65 and older, and the increasing health and economic security of older Americans. A smaller proportion live in nursing homes now than in the mid-1980s, and the percentage with a chronic disability has fallen. The income of older Americans has been rising steadily for more than 20 years—older Americans are now less likely to be poor than any other age group. However, the poorest quintile of older Americans derive 80 percent of their income from Social Security.

INTERNATIONAL ROUNDUP

Bank of Japan Abandons Zero-Interest Rate Policy. Arguing that Japan's economy was no longer in danger of damaging deflation, the Bank of Japan nudged interest rates up to 0.25 percent, ending an unprecedented year-and-a-half-long zero-interest rate policy. The move came after several months of signals that a rise was imminent, and the Bank indicated that it would maintain a relaxed, flexible policy. Characterizing the easing as in line with the improvement of the economy, the Bank said that innovations in communications and information technology, a resurgent world economy, and macroeconomic stimuli had sparked a gradual recovery that is likely to continue. International observers were less optimistic. The IMF, for example, noted that signs of growth were less certain and that other indicators pointed to a continuing threat of deflation and recession. The corporate sector also remained weak; bankruptcies rose 2.1 percent in June and are up 21.2 percent from a comparable period last year.

U.S. Usually Succeeds in WTO Dispute Settlements. Only one of the 17 cases brought against the United States before the World Trade Organization is likely to have a significant domestic commercial impact, according to a recent GAO analysis. That case, however, is the EU challenge to U.S. tax exemptions for exports of foreign sales corporations and is estimated to affect \$152.3 billion in U.S. exports that benefited from the exemptions. Otherwise, the GAO found that most of the 25 U.S. complaints have produced changes in foreign regulations and practices that strengthened intellectual property protection and increased market access. The GAO also argues that the overall tenor of the settlements has upheld trade principles important to the United States, including equal treatment of foreign and domestic goods. The report found that WTO proceedings have yet to challenge U.S. sovereign trade law in any substantial manner; furthermore, the WTO has upheld the validity of long-standing U.S. provisions (including the controversial section 301 actions against unfair trade practices) as a method of addressing trade grievances.

Trade Opportunities Reduce Corruption. A country's "natural openness," as determined by its geography and demographics, has a significant effect on the level of corruption and the quality of governance, according to a new study. Greater natural openness (defined as the predicted sum of exports and imports as a share of GDP, based on remoteness, size, and language) implies a greater role for international trade and investment. Since international traders have more outside options than domestic ones, they tend to avoid operating in corrupt countries. Hence, a country that is naturally more open would find it optimal to devote more resources to building good institutions and fighting corruption. Based on a sample of over 60 countries, the study did find natural openness to be a significant explanatory variable for the different levels of corruption across countries, after controlling for income, ethnic fragmentation, and political institutions. Higher average income was also associated with lower corruption. A naturally more open economy also tended to pay a better relative salary to its civil servants, even after controlling for the level of development of the country.

RELEASES THIS WEEK

U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services

****Embargoed until 8:30 a.m., Friday, August 18, 2000****

The goods and services trade deficit was \$30.6 billion in June; it was \$30.3 billion in May.

Industrial Production and Capacity Utilization

The Federal Reserve's index of industrial production increased 0.4 percent in July following an increase of 0.2 percent in June. Capacity utilization rose 0.1 percentage point to 82.3 percent.

Consumer Price Index

The consumer price index increased 0.2 percent in July. Excluding food and energy, consumer prices also rose 0.2 percent.

Housing Starts

Housing starts fell 3 percent in July to 1.512 million units at an annual rate.

MAJOR RELEASES NEXT WEEK

Advance Durable Shipments and Orders (Thursday)
Gross Domestic Product (Friday)

U.S. ECONOMIC STATISTICS

	1970- 1993	1999	1999:4	2000:1	2000:2
Percent growth (annual rate)					
Real GDP (chain-type)	2.9	5.0	8.3	4.8	5.2
GDP chain-type price index	5.2	1.6	1.6	3.3	2.5
<u>Nonfarm business (NFB) sector:</u>					
Productivity (chain-type)	1.7	4.1	8.0	1.9	5.3
Real compensation per hour:					
Using CPI	1.0	2.2	1.3	0.0	1.6
Using NFB deflator	1.5	3.3	2.9	1.1	2.9
Shares of Nominal GDP (percent)					
Business fixed investment	11.4	12.9	13.0	13.4	13.8
Residential investment	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3
Exports	8.2	10.6	10.8	10.8	10.8
Imports	9.2	13.4	13.9	14.2	14.5
Personal saving	6.6	1.6	1.1	0.1	0.2
Federal surplus	-2.8	1.3	1.5	2.4	N.A.
	1970- 1993	1999	May 2000	June 2000	July 2000
Unemployment Rate (percent)	6.7**	4.2**	4.1	4.0	4.0
Payroll employment (thousands)					
increase per month			171	30	-108
increase since Jan. 1993					22010
Inflation (percent per period)					
CPI	5.8	2.7	0.1	0.6	0.2
PPI-Finished goods	5.0	2.9	0.0	0.6	0.0

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

New or revised data in **boldface**.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

	1998	1999	June 2000	July 2000	Aug. 17, 2000
Dow-Jones Industrial Average	8626	10465	10583	10663	11056
Interest Rates (percent per annum)					
3-month T-bill	4.78	4.64	5.69	5.96	6.09
10-year T-bond	5.26	5.65	6.10	6.05	5.81
Mortgage rate, 30-year fixed	6.94	7.43	8.29	8.15	7.96
Prime rate	8.35	8.00	9.50	9.50	9.50

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS

Exchange Rates	Current level August 17, 2000	Percent Change from Week ago	Year ago
Euro (in U.S. dollars)	0.915	0.8	-13.0
Yen (per U.S. dollar)	108.5	-0.2	-5.0
Major currencies index (Mar. 1973=100) (trade-weighted value of the U.S. \$)	98.63	-0.5	4.4

International Comparisons ¹	Real GDP growth (percent change last 4 quarters)	Unemployment rate (percent)	CPI inflation (percent change in index last 12 months)
United States	6.0 (Q2)	4.0 (Jul)	3.5 (Jul)
Canada	4.9 (Q1)	6.6 (Jun)	2.9 (Jun)
Japan	0.7 (Q1)	4.7 (Jun)	-0.7 (Jun)
France	3.4 (Q1)	9.8 (May) ²	1.7 (Jun)
Germany	2.3 (Q1)	8.3 (Jun)	1.9 (Jun)
Italy	3.0 (Q1)	10.8 (Apr)	2.7 (Jun)
United Kingdom	3.0 (Q1)	5.7 (Apr)	3.3 (Jun)

1/ For unemployment data, rates approximating U.S. concepts as calculated by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, except as noted in footnote 2.

2/ Data from OECD standardized unemployment rates.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

8.23

August 18, 2000

cc: Reed
Chow
Podesta
Burkhardt
for Reply

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Bruce Reed
Barbara Chow

SUBJECT: DPC Weekly Report

* **Education -- Federal Funds Reaching the Needy:** This week the Department of Education released a report showing that federal education dollars help level the playing field between high and low-poverty schools. The report finds that state and local governments actually distribute less than average funding to poorer districts, whereas federal funds are targeted to those districts. Districts in the highest poverty quartile—which educate 25% of the nation's students and nearly 50% of the nation's poor children—received 43% of federal funds but only 23% of state and local funds. Even where states target funds to poorer students, federal Title I funds exceed the state compensatory spending. The study also found that districts in the highest poverty quartile receive 11% from federal contributions, compared to 2.5% for the lowest poverty quartile. In addition, the report found that Title I targeting increased significantly after the 1994 reauthorization. In 1997-98, 96% of the highest-poverty schools received Title I funds, up from 79% in 1993-94.

Education - - \$15 Million Gift for Model Schools. ~~Donald and Doris Fisher~~, the owners of the Gap clothing store chain, have given \$15 million to the Knowledge Is Power Program (KIPP) which currently consists of two middle schools serving poor and minority students, one in the Bronx and one in Houston. Established just five years ago by two former Teach for America teachers, KIPP is known for its success with disadvantaged student populations. The KIPP model incorporates many elements of your education agenda: extended learning time; high expectations for all; public school choice; and rewards and consequences for student and staff achievement. The Administration's FY01 budget includes \$240 million to help schools adapt and implement comprehensive school reform models. The House-Senate Conference report provides \$210 million for the program.

Doris
Letter to
them from
me



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

August 18, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: NEAL LANE *N.L.K.*
CC: JOHN PODESTA
SUBJECT: OSTP WEEKLY REPORT

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L.H.C.
Podesta

Human Subject Protections and Conflict of Interest

As part of its May 23 package of enhanced human subject protection measures, HHS convened a public conference on August 15-16 on the topic of conflicts of interest. The conference focused on how financial ties between investigators, academic institutions, and industry might influence the quality of Federally funded human subject research. Some participants suggested ways to manage conflicts to ensure that research subjects are appropriately informed and that research results are analyzed and presented objectively. But others took the position that financial conflicts of interest should be eliminated rather than managed. HHS will take public comments in this issue until September 30 before developing any new policy initiatives.

Administration's Approach to Climate Change Challenged?

NASA's Jim Hansen (who announced "climate change is here" at Senator Gore's hearing during the hot summer of 1988) has a new paper in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* that concludes non- CO₂ greenhouse gases have been the primary driver for climate change in the past century. The *New York Times* will report on this story tomorrow; many scientists – including PCAST member John Holdren – question Hansen's assertion.

Some newsletters have implied that this paper questions the wisdom of U.S. efforts focused on CO₂. It does not. Over the long term, you cannot solve the climate problem without significant reductions in CO₂. The lead-time to develop and deploy these emission reduction technologies is decades. Hansen proposes a near-term mitigation scenario that emphasizes reducing non-CO₂ greenhouse gases and holding the growth rate of CO₂ flat – an enormous challenge. A key aspect of this strategy is the focus on other greenhouse gases that cause local pollution, such as black soot aerosols and tropospheric ozone, which have human health and ecological impacts. Hansen's paper alleges that unlike the Kyoto Protocol, which could cast the developed and developing world as adversaries, all parties have congruent interests in reducing air pollution.

The official U.S. position has been – and continues to be – that we should control all greenhouse gases. We fought for this "basket of gases" approach in Kyoto, and we have actions in place under our Climate Action Plan to control the non-CO₂ gases.

New Advances in Stem Cell Research Show Great Promise

Researchers have produced rat and human nerve cells by using stem cells drawn from bone marrow. This is a significant breakthrough that could help people with Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease or spinal-cord injuries. These are preliminary results, but if this finding holds true, there is enormous

potential for using such adult stem cells as therapies for a number of diseases. These findings should not, however, exclude the pursuit of other sources of stem cells. Stem cells may be derived from early embryos created by in vitro fertilization or by inserting the nucleus from an adult cell into an egg with its nucleus removed; from the cells of an aborted fetus; from the blood cells of the umbilical cord at the time of birth; from some adult tissues; and from mature adult tissue cells reprogrammed to behave like stem cells. Reprogramming remains largely hypothetical and will require extensive studies to learn the necessary conditions and techniques. Theoretically, stem cells derived from early embryos have the greatest potential to develop into most types of tissue (they are often referred to as 'pluripotent'). The different types of stem cells are likely to have different properties and different potential uses as therapies for diseases.

How to Produce a Ton of CO₂

In helping to respond to a request from the *Village Voice*, we have attempted to give visual life to the idea of a ton of carbon dioxide emissions by providing vignettes on how long you would have to operate a given appliance or vehicle in order to generate one ton of CO₂. For example: to generate one ton (2000 lbs.) of CO₂ emissions, you would need to:

- drive a compact car for 11 weeks (assuming you drive 217 miles per week, the US average, and assuming 25 mpg); or
- drive an SUV for 8 weeks (19 mpg, and again assuming 217 miles per week); or
- fly coast-to-coast one way by jet; or
- run a typical refrigerator for 80 weeks; or
- watch a color television 6 hours per day for 6 and one-half years (1300 hours).

While gains in efficiency certainly would reduce CO₂ emissions, switching from fossil fuels to biomass-derived fuels would have far greater impact. Vehicles fueled by biomass-derived methanol would generate roughly one-sixth the CO₂ equivalents on a life-cycle basis (i.e., including the greenhouse gases generated from production of fuel) as a gasoline powered vehicle of the same efficiency.

Microsoft Co-Founder, Former Exec to Fund SETI Telescope

A cofounder of Microsoft and a former executive of the company have agreed to help fund the development of the world's largest radio telescope devoted to the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI). The SETI Institute announced that Microsoft cofounder Paul Allen and Nathan Myhrvold, former chief technology officer for the company, have donated \$12.5 million to the non-profit institute for its planned One Hectare Telescope, which will be renamed the Allen Telescope Array (ATA). The funds will pay for approximately half the cost to develop and construct the array, to be built at Hat Creek Observatory in northern California. The ATA, which will be fully operational by 2005, will consist of several hundred mass-produced small dishes, each just a few meters across, covering roughly 2.5 acres. Sophisticated computer systems will allow for the signals from the various dishes to be combined, effectively turning it into a single large antenna for the fraction of the cost. Also, portions of the array can be used to observe different objects simultaneously, allowing both SETI and regular radio astronomy work to take place in parallel.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

AUGUST 18, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

FROM: ADRIAN MILLER FOR BEN JOHNSON

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

cc: Miller
Johnson
Peters

ACTIONS

RACE INITIATIVE FOLLOW-UP: We met with Dr. Bennett M. Judkins, the Interim Vice President and Dean for Academic Affairs at Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, North Carolina. Dr. Judkins is taking a sabbatical to conduct research on your Initiative on Race and the substantive outcomes of the initiative. He was impressed with your sectoral leadership approach, and he wanted to further discuss the objectives of the One America office. Dr. Judkins hopes to conduct extensive interviews and do follow-up surveys with those who have participated in One America dialogues across the country during the past two years.

CABINET RACE INITIATIVE WEEKLY

Department of Agriculture

MOU to Resolve Solid Waste Problems on Native American Reservations: On August 11, USDA and several other Federal agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with several Indian Tribes to aid them in closing high threat open dump sites. Some 100 participants of a solid waste conference for Native American Tribes were present for the signing.

Department of Commerce

Speaking engagement: Secretary Mineta will address the Commerce Chapter of Blacks in Government on Monday, August 21.

Department of the Interior

Legends of Tuskegee On-Line Exhibit: A new NPS on-line exhibit celebrates the achievements of Booker Taliaferro Washington, George Washington Carver, and the Tuskegee Airmen. The web exhibit features collections at Tuskegee Institute National

Historic Site and selected items from Booker T. Washington National Monument and George Washington Carver National Monument -- all areas within the National Park System. It also features collections from the Library of Congress, National Digital Library, NARA, and DOD.

Department of Justice

Speaking engagement: On Thursday, August 24, Attorney General Reno will address the Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association in Washington, D.C.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUD Charges Arkansas Landlords With Discriminating Against Biracial Couple:

HUD has charged the owners and managers of a North Little Rock, Arkansas apartment complex with housing discrimination for refusing to rent to a biracial couple with a young child. She called and asked about 2- or 3-bedroom units, she was told that only 1-bedroom apartments were available.

HUD's investigation has revealed that at the time of this incident, 90 percent of the apartments in the building were occupied by whites, one percent, by a Hispanic, and 9 percent were vacant. 1990 census data shows that North Little Rock is 75 percent white, 24 percent black and 1 percent other.

Rental Property Owner Charged in Discrimination Suit: Wellston Properties of Milwaukee will pay \$60,000 under an agreement it signed recently with the U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ). The company had been charged with violating the Fair Housing Act by engaging in a pattern of discrimination against African-Americans and families with children.

The suit was the first filed in Wisconsin by DOJ's nationwide fair housing testing program. DOJ conducted testing with the Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council. Victims are to receive \$50,000 of the settlement; the civil penalty is \$10,000. The company will also provide fair housing training for its employees and conduct marketing of its properties to assure the apartments' availability on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Environmental Protection Agency

Tribal Grant: EPA announced a \$220,000 grant to the Squaxin Island Tribe in Washington for the purpose of developing a tribal environmental program.

Office of Personnel Management

Draft Executive Order on Hispanic Employment: On August 11, OPM sent a draft Executive order on Hispanic Employment in the federal government to the Office of Management and Budget for review and clearance. The order would institutionalize recruitment programs to correct the under-representation of Hispanics in the federal workforce. The goal is to have the order issued in conjunction with Hispanic Heritage Month.

Small Business Administration

New Markets/Digital Divide: SBA met with Wesley R. Buford, Founder, Chairman & CEO of Freedom Card, Inc., a minority business enterprise that offers quality financial services targeted to several key markets: urban consumers, multi-ethnic populations, large financial institutions interested in fulfilling their Community Reinvestment Act requirements, and minority institutions lacking capital.

FreedomCard offers credit products for the non-traditional market and low to moderate-income consumer who resides in major cities by establishing new credit for previously non-creditworthy consumers and restoring good credit. Critical to the success of this program is FreedomCard's Financial Literacy Training Program, which trains consumers to understand the importance of having and maintaining access to credit, thus enabling them to successfully transition to and participate in current financial systems and in the e-commerce arena.



STATE OF ARKANSAS

House of Representatives

Representative PERCY MALONE
518 Clay Street
Arkadelphia, Arkansas 71923-6024

870-246-4141 Business
870-246-7177 Residence

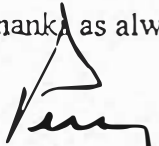
President Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington D.C.

Mr. President:

I thought you might find this as moving as I do. Attached is a letter I received from a local pastor telling me the story of Leonard Ferguson, a man who attends his church. After reading the letter and doing some research, I feel he should be recognized for his courage, and for his duty to our country.

I have been able to get a citation from the Arkansas Senate, but it would be wonderful if you could issue a citation, or commendation, from the White House. Whatever you would be able to do would be greatly appreciated by Mr. Ferguson and his family, I'm sure.

Thank as always. Hope to see you soon.


Percy Malone

To Dan/Delida-

Can we do something?
pls. discuss w/
Tim too.

-Seth

8/23

*Can we do anything
Percy is a
close friend*

MT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
Mt Zion Road Arkadelphia, Arkansas 71923

August 10, 2000

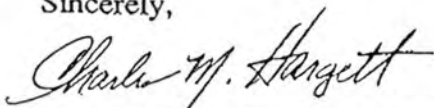
Honorable Representative Percy Malone
518 Clay Street
Arkadelphia, Arkansas 71923

SUBJECT: WW II Veteran - T/5 Leonard Andrew Ferguson, Serial No. 38445152, 853
Aviation Engineer Division - Survivor of the Sinking of The H.M.T. ROHNA, November
26, 1943

Honorable Representative Malone:

1. I am pastor of Mt Zion Baptist Church, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, and a personal friend of Leonard A. Ferguson.
2. Leonard is a retired carpenter and resides with his sister, Vida Ferguson, at his home located at 35 Ferguson Road Arkadelphia, Arkansas 71923 (Phone: 870-246-6271).
3. He performs finished carpentry work very meticulously with near flawless perfection. His willingness to contribute his carpentry skills was instrumental in the completion of a new auditorium at Mt Zion Baptist Church (dedicated November 15, 1998).
4. Since becoming pastor at Mt Zion about seven years ago, I have visited with Leonard on several occasions. During some of those visits, as we sat in his front porch swing and in his living room, he has shared with me the sorrow, agony and grief which he and others suffered during and after the sinking of The ROHNA. Even 56 years later, he tearfully remembers seeing his friend's head severed by a piece of shrapnel as they were running on the deck. Then as the ship sank, and he and others were wounded and clinging to floating debris in the icy waters, he described the compelling desire to survive, hoping and praying that they would be rescued.
5. Even now at the age of 80 (birth date: January 15, 1920), his memory of those events is spectacularly vivid; but his greatest regret is not for himself, but for those who have not been recognized nor decorated for their heroism in service of their country.
6. Leonard Ferguson is truly an American hero, and I believe that he and others who endured the pain and sufferings from the sinking of The ROHNA should be recognized and decorated for their bravery.
7. Will you please help them? May God bless you and continue to bless the USA.

Sincerely,



CHARLES M. HARGETT, Pastor
Mt Zion Baptist Church
5 Glen Cove
Arkadelphia, Arkansas 71923
(870) 246-3172

The Rohna Disaster

- On November 26, 1943, the United States suffered its greatest loss of troops at sea when the *H.M.T. Rohna* was sunk in the Mediterranean Sea off the coast of North Africa by a guided missile launched from a German bomber. A British troopship with officers and a crew of 195, it was transporting 1,981 American troops and seven Red Cross personnel to the China-Burma-India theater of war.
- Within an hour after being struck, the ship burned, flooded, and sank. Before dawn the next morning, 1,015 American troops, three Red Cross personnel and 120 crewmen had died. Hundreds had died when the missile entered the Rohna and exploded. Others died from the cold and exhaustion in the sea where darkness delayed rescue efforts. Many, ironically, were killed during frantic attempts to rescue and be rescued.
- More lives were lost in this action than on the *U.S.S. Arizona* at Pearl Harbor. It received little notice and was not acknowledged by the U.S. government. In addition to the record number of deaths, the bombing was historic because it was the first ever, successful hit by a remote-controlled rocket boosted bomb on a vessel chartered for military use in wartime. This incident was, in effect, the dawning of the missile age.
- For reasons of security, news of this catastrophe was immediately suppressed by the U.S. War Department. Adding to the pain of the tragedy, no details were given to grieving fathers and mothers, other than a troop ship had sank, and that there was little hope of survival for those on board. Even to this day, this event remains virtually unknown to the public. It's not that we forget, it's that we never knew.
- On May, 30, 1996, The Rohna Memorial was officially dedicated at the Fort Mitchell National Cemetery in Seale, Alabama

HERALD

August 21, 2000 • 10 Pages • 50 Cents

Remember the 'Rohna'

Arkadelphia man survived sinking ship; tragedy caused the greatest loss of life at sea in WWII

By Dolores Harrington
Siftings Herald

Nearly 57 years after he was aboard a ship that was sunk, Leonard Ferguson of Arkadelphia has vivid memories of the tragedy.

Ferguson was on a British transport the "HMT Rohna" in the Mediterranean Sea when the ship was struck by a remote-controlled bomb from a German warplane. The ship was part of a convoy bound for India.

He had not intended to volunteer for service during World War II, Ferguson said. "My father died when I was 16. I was the oldest boy." His family included one younger brother and four sisters; he had the responsibility of helping provide for them and his mother. "We were farming."

In January 1943, he was called to service. "They said come on, and I had to go." He went from Fort Chaffee to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., and then to an Air Force base at Dyersburg, Tenn. "I went from there to Mobile, Ala., for training — out there with ticks and chiggers.

"We were learning how to survive in the pine woods, but the billy goats like to have run us off." He said goats would come into the tents at night to get out of the rain. From Alabama, Ferguson went to Camp Patrick Henry in Virginia. "We did some more training. We were moving. Hadn't been for us, we'd have lost the war," he laughed.

He left Patrick Henry on a Liberty ship



Leonard Ferguson

Ferguson to receive special citation

By Dolores Harrington
Siftings Herald

Few Americans are familiar with the sinking of the "Rohna." More men were killed in the bombing of the ship than died on the "Arizona" at Pearl Harbor. According to

© 2000 by Daily S



Unfavorable
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— in a large convoy going to Europe. "We were in the middle of the convoy, a good safe place. We got half way across the Atlantic, and the motor conked out."

The convoy continued without them, and Ferguson's ship spent the night alone while the crew installed a spare engine. "We were sitting there like ducks," he said. By the next morning, the ship was moving again, and it went at top speed to rejoin the convoy.

After the convoy reached the Strait of Gibraltar and entered the Mediterranean, the troops disembarked in North Africa, and stayed about a month until a convoy arrived to transport them to India. Ferguson boarded the "Rohna," along with many other members of the 853rd Aviation Engineers Division.

The ship was really old, Ferguson said. "It was condemned two years before the war." The ship had wood decks, rather than steel, and they had begun to rot.

"There were some of the biggest rats and cockroaches on that ship I've ever seen. The ship was not seaworthy, but we were expendable so they put us on it."

Attack begins one day out to sea

"We were headed for Bombay, India, in a 30 to 40 ship convoy. We were going there to build B-29 bomber bases." They were off the coast of Algeria on Nov. 26, 1943, their second day out, when German bombers began an attack. "That was hilly country; they came over the mountains behind us. We didn't have a chance."

Ferguson said his ship was in the "graveyard corner — that's the farthest left and the last ship" in the convoy. A British escort ship was on one side of them.

"The first thing I knew was I saw them (the escort ship) turning around in the water and going back the other way. They fired on a German plane. He got that plane the first lick.

"Thirty German bombers were after us. They were all around us, bullets flying everywhere." The "Rohna" was outfitted with weapons, but the crew was untrained in their use, Ferguson said.

ALLCARE
"Forgotten Tragedy: The Sinking of the HMT Rohna," it was the greatest loss of life at sea in World War II and one of the worst tragedies in maritime history.

Jackson said the disaster was kept secret for security purposes, but even after the war little was told about it. Some of the families of those lost at sea never learned what happened to their loved ones.

The second tragedy of the sinking was the fact that those who experienced it received no decorations to speak of. Some did get Purple Hearts, but nothing else. Most of them, certainly all those who died, should have been eligible for Purple Hearts for wounds received in battle. Most were probably eligible for Bronze Stars, and perhaps even higher awards.

An organization, The Rohna Survivors Memorial Association (RSMA), has instituted an effort to rectify that situation. The organization has urged survivors and the families of those who died to write to their congressmen and other officials asking that the men on the "Rohna" be remembered.

See CITATION on Page 2

"They had to get some of our guys who had a little training. They were shooting every which way.

"A bomber was flying just to the left of us with a radio bomb strapped on the bottom. He cut that bomb loose. It came right in the side of the ship and hit the boiler room. The ship started listing "right away" he said.

"We were in a storm with waves higher than a building. It (the ship) stopped dead still, and they strafed us." The ship's passengers were ordered down to a lower deck, and Ferguson nearly fell onto the next deck.

"It would have killed me. I fell head over

See THE ROHNA on Page 2

Currently on the
to Mike Farrell,
d who now is on
Ariz.

seeing a young
Pamela Tiffin. I
appended to her?

Area weather summary

Yesterday's high103

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The Rohna: Local man survived when ship was sunk

heels, but I hung onto a pipe to keep from falling." Something hit his left knee and injured it. "My best buddy, Charles Sheckel — he was from Edna, Texas, was about 15 feet from me. Shrapnel cut his head completely off, and it rolled down the deck." After all these years, Ferguson still gets choked up when he relates that incident.

The men who weren't killed in the bombing and strafing began to try to abandon ship. Only one lifeboat was equipped with a motor, and it had been launched.

Ferguson later learned that his outfit's commanding officer, a major, was one of those who got into that boat, leaving his men to fend for themselves. "He was a very smart man. He looked out for number one."

Lifeboats were mostly useless

Other lifeboats had rotted ropes that broke on one end when they were lowered. The people in them were dumped into the ocean. Some, who dropped near the hole where fire raged in the boiler room, were sucked into the hole and died in the fire.

The men had life jackets that had to be punctured to inflate, and Ferguson punctured his. "I went down a rope into the water. It lacked about 10 feet reaching the water. I jumped into the water, and dropped 'astraddle' of our doctor." He said the doctor later asked him, jokingly, if he was trying to kill him.

Ferguson's watch stopped when he hit the water — at 5:15 p.m. "We were in such high waves. The Germans came over us and were strafing us in the water. Then it was just a battle to survive until about 11 o'clock."

He got to a boat, but it was supposed to hold 30 people, and Ferguson thought it already had about 60 people in it. The boat had loops of rope around its sides. "I stuck my feet through the loops. I was hanging there, doing pretty good, until that boat sank. An Indian worker got on top of me. He didn't have a life preserver and couldn't swim."

The rough seas caused the boat with the people hanging on to it to turn over and over again. "Only seven of us were left when we got picked up." The rescue ship threw a rope to Ferguson, but he couldn't hold on to it.

"They threw another one, and I wrapped that thing around me a time or two. A wave carried me up

to where they could grab me. They stood me up, and I just fell."

The troops had been paid just before the German attack, and Ferguson had secured his billfold by buttoning it into his shirt pocket. "They would take our wet clothes, and just throw them back. I said, 'wait a minute. I want my dog tags and billfold.'" Unlike some others, he managed to get his things back.

"They put me in a little bunk, and I passed out. I didn't wake up until the next morning." Ferguson said as far as he knew no other ship was sunk, but 1,015 men, nearly half of those on board the "Rohna," died in the ship's sinking. Two other area residents were on the ship. Lewis Orr of Bismarck died, and the late Noah Buck of Hollywood survived.

Service continues after ship wreck

The survivors were taken to a place in North Africa where they slept in tents on the ground. Eventually they were taken by train to another town. "We got on a '40 or eight train." The cars were designed to hold 40 men or eight horses.

"We'd go a mile or two and stop. We'd wait and wait. We'd be stopped two or three hours at a time." From the time they had boarded the "Rohna," the men had had nothing but terrible food.

"We were about to starve to death," Ferguson said. Some of the food was rotten, full of weevils or simply the kinds of food American troops were not accustomed to eating. At one point when the train was stopped, a boxcar on a nearby track was filled with grapes and figs. Some of the men broke into the car. They were stopped by authorities, but, "they brought a bunch of them back."

The train took the men to a port city, and they stayed there through December and the first week of January. Christmas dinner turned out to be a disaster. "We had Italian prisoners of war doing the cooking. They washed those turkeys in soapy water, and didn't rinse them" — giving the men diarrhea. "You couldn't get in the latrine."

While they waited for transportation, the men had one more bizarre experience. "The ship we went across the Atlantic on was hit by a submarine and was cut in half." Half the ship floated into the shore where the men were.

Finally, transportation to India

"On Jan. 8, we got on a British ship and headed to the Suez Canal. We went through the canal into the Indian Ocean where we got tangled up with Japanese submarines." They evaded the submarines and went on to Bombay.

The division went to a small town about 40-50 miles west of Calcutta. "We built the first B-29 base in India." The bases were necessary for the bombers that flew across the mountains to bomb Japan.

Ferguson said the planes could barely carry enough fuel to make the round trip to Japan and back. At times, a plane would come back with too little fuel to maneuver the plane into position to land on the runway. It would come in across the runway, and crash, explode and burn.

He spent about two of his three years of military service in India. His job was chiefly to go and survey rock quarries. The rock had to be crushed for gravel to use in building the bases for the bombers.

Effects of sinking still felt

Following the sinking of the boat and the injury to his knee Ferguson developed a blood clot in that leg. It required treatment and he said it has remained weak to this day.

Among other ill effects due to the sinking of the ship, Ferguson said, "I've had a lot of nightmare about it. It made an impression on me, let me tell you."

He received only one decoration for his service. "I got a Good Conduct Medal. That's all I know. We were just a bunch of dogs over there, doing dirty work."

Ferguson said, "It took three ships to get me from home to Bombay, and all three of them were at the bottom of the ocean by the time we left India." The ship that transported the men from North Africa to India was later lost at sea during a storm.

The ship came home on his close call, too, Ferguson said. "The commander was mad. I wanted to go home, and he wanted that ship at top speed and knocked a hole in the front of and like to sink it."

"I promised myself if I got home safe, I would never get on another ship as long as I lived." Ferguson now 80, never has, he said, not even on a fishing boat.

08/21/2008 18:05
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ALL CAKE
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EFFECTS OF SINKING... PAGE 08
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now 80, never has, he said, nor
even a on fishing boat.

Citation: Malone secures citation for Ferguson

Among others, they suggest
writing to: U.S. Sen. Tim
Hutchinson, 708 Hart, U.S.
Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510;
Sen. John Warner, Chairman,
Armed Services Committee, 225
Russell Building, Washington,
D.C. 20510; Rep. Floyd Davidson
Spence, Chairman, House of
Representatives Committee on
Armed Services, 2120 Rayburn
House Office Building,
Washington, D.C. 20515; or
William S. Cohen, Secretary of
Defense, 1400 Defense Pentagon,
Room 1E757, Washington, D.C.
20301.

Anyone who is interested is also
asked to write. The more support
the organization can get the more
likely the "Rohna" will not be for-
gotten.

The only recognition the sur-
vivors and those who died have

received is a memorial plaque in
Fort Mitchell National Memorial
Cemetery in Alabama. The sim-
ple plaque that begins with the
words "Remember the Rohna"
was dedicated on Memorial Day
1996.

Ferguson will be recognized

State Sen-elect. Percy Malone of
Arkadelphia said he had not
heard the story of the "Rohna"
until a recent letter from Rev.
Charles Hargett, pastor of Mt.
Zion Baptist Church, apprised
him of it.

"I hadn't heard of it," Malone
said Friday. He immediately
arranged for a citation from the
Arkansas Senate to be presented
to Ferguson. Among other things,
the citation says: "1/5 Ferguson ...
endured great pain and suffering
in service to his country and sur-

viving the sinking of the HM
Rohna on November 26, 1918,
clinging to floating debris in
waters to await rescue; ..."

The citation concluded
"Members of the Arkansas Sen-
join with the Mt. Zion congre-
gation and all of Clark County in
celebrating the wonderful life
Leonard Andrew Fergus
thankful to God that this her
gentleman was spared during
awful tragedy of war, able
return home and devote his
ents to his community
church."

Malone said he also intend-
ed to get in touch with Presid-
ent Clinton about the "Roh-
tragedy. "I want to make
aware of Leonard's story —
Arkansan who was on
"Rohna."

"It's quite a story," Malone s

IP: Gurdon mill to shut down for one week

W. P. Malone, Inc.PHARMACY CHAIN OPERATION
COMPUTER TIME-SHARING
FACILITY MANAGEMENT518 Clay
Arkadelphia, Arkansas 71923
(501) 246-5553

FAX COVER SHEET

TEL: (870) 246-5553
FAX: (870) 246-6616No. Of Pages
(including cover sheet) 8Date: 8/24/00To: Nancy Henneicht

cc:

From: Percy Malone

Notes:

Nancy -Thanks so much. Please call
if you have any questions.Percy Malone

This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This message may contain information that is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone and return the original message to us as the above address via the U.S. Postal Service. Thank you.

WINSTON & STRAWN

35 WEST WACKER DRIVE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601-9703

200 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10166-4193

BERYL F. ANTHONY, JR.
(202) 371-5754
bfanthony@winston.com

1400 L STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3502

(202) 371-5700

FACSIMILE (202) 371-5950



21 AVENUE VICTOR HUGO
75116 PARIS, FRANCE

43 RUE DU RHONE
1204 GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

August 11, 2000

'00 AUG 21 AM 8:34

Nancy Hernreich
First Floor, West Wing
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Nancy:

Attached is a request to the President from Dwayne Howell, President and CEO of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, for a brief ceremony at the White House commemorating September as Leukemia & Lymphoma Awareness month.

May I impose upon you to personally pass this along to the President and his scheduler?

As always, thanks for your assistance and please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Best personal regards,

Sincerely,



Beryl F. Anthony, Jr.

Enclosure

8.21.00
To Burkhardt
for reply
coordinate w/
scheduler

(u)

8.23.00



**The Leukemia &
Lymphoma Society**

Fighting Blood-Related Cancers

August 8, 2000

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

Dear President Clinton:

On behalf of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, I would like to request your participation in a small White House ceremony to commemorate September as Leukemia & Lymphoma Awareness month.

In a brief (10-15 minutes) ceremony, we would be most appreciative if you would be photographed:

- Accepting an awareness month poster from 12 children (and their parents) who are leukemia or lymphoma patients/survivors, and
- Encourage the American public's participation in the Society's Light the Night Walk, which will take place in 170 cities nationwide on September 21, 22, 23 or 24. The Walk is one of our most important programs to raise funds to help fight these devastating blood-related cancers.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Your participation will help provide the visibility that is so important to building awareness of our mission, funding research for cures, and offering more services to patients.

Sincerely,

Dwayne Howell
President and CEO

NEW BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
1739 Ninth Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20001

TELECOPIER: Faxline (202) 986-0267

TELECOPIER TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

TO Ms. Betty Currie

LOCATION The White House

TELECOPIER NUMBER (202) 456 1210

8/23/00

To
scheduling?

Staff Secy -

Revised Copy

am, I am embarrassed to have discovered
ye of my letter to the President today.

o substitute this second page for the one
ks a million.

2 PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET. IF TOTAL
OT RECEIVED, PLEASE CALL (202) 387-9100



NEW BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
1739 Ninth Street, Northwest
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TELECOPIER: Faxline (202) 986-0267

TELECOPIER TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

TO Ms. Betty Currie

LOCATION The White House

TELECOPIER NUMBER (202) 456 1210

DATE 8/21/00

TIME _____

MESSAGE Ms. Currie:

Perfectionist that I am, I am embarrassed to have discovered
two typos on the second page of my letter to the President today.

Would you be kind enough to substitute this second page for the one
I sent you yesterday. Thanks a million.

**THIS TRANSMITTAL INCLUDE 2 PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET. IF TOTAL
NUMBER OF PAGES ARE NOT RECEIVED, PLEASE CALL (202) 387-9100
IMMEDIATELY.**

FROM *Wesley Fink*

Walters has assumed the responsibility for organizing that panel, the purpose of which is to explore how we in the African Diaspora can assist the African heads of state in their historic quest.

I write you with a special request on behalf of the Honorable James E. Clyburn, chairman of the CBC and myself that you grant the new President of the OAU, His Excellency Gnassingbe Eyadema, President of Togo, an opportunity to meet with you at the White House during the week of September 13th, 14th or 15th leading up to our Annual Congressional Black Caucus Dinner. President Eyadema will be our guest at the workshop that is tentatively set for Wednesday, September 13, 2000.

We know that this request comes on very, very short notice. We will certainly understand if you cannot possibly fit it in to your September schedule, but we will certainly appreciate it if you would thoroughly examine the prospect of this happening for us. I may be reached at Roundtable office at (202) 296 0250, at home at (202) 723 5608, on my cell phone at (301) 928 6728.

Finally, as one who considers himself an able speechwriter in his own right, I must thank you for your magnificent and awesome speech at the Democratic National Convention. It was the singularly most important thing to happen at our convention, and history will record that it was the watershed moment for what I believe will be our victorious effort on November 7th to continue your astounding legacy in the Gore Administration years that lie ahead. Thanks for all that you do and for all that you mean to people of goodwill in our time and for all time.

Sincerely,



Walter E. Fauntroy

NATIONAL BLACK LEADERSHIP ROUNDTABLE

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Dr. Dorothy I. Height
Vice President

The Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy
President

The Honorable Mervyn M. Dymally
Secretary

Joseph E. Madison
Treasurer

August 21, 2000

Elias Datch
Assistant Treasurer

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

As you know, on July 12, 2000 in Lome, Togo at the 36th Summit of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the heads of thirty African states signed a Constitutive Act to form a **United States of Africa**. The members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and its national network vehicle, the National Black Leadership Roundtable, believe that this is both a timely and urgently needed development in light of the political and economic blocks being formed in Europe with the European Union (EU), and the process underway in the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to form a political and economic union in that region to assure that they, too, remain viable in the new global economy.

We also believe that it is in the enlightened self-interest of our country that the United States support and encourage the formation of this political and economic union. We believe, moreover, that our country should partner with the union once it is formed to assure that there will be peace and stability on all of the continents of the world in the new global economy.

Accordingly, the CBC has decided to devote its Legislative Conference session on International Relations to a discussion led by a panel of African American constitutional experts on how the original thirteen colonies went about forming the United States of America. The panel will also include African American economists who are conversant with what it took to integrate thirteen economies into effective whole. Dr. Ronald W.

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