

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memo	Melanne Verveer to POTUS [partial] (2 pages)	08/29/2000	b(6)
002. memo	Stephanie Streett and Shannon Butler to POTUS (1 page)	09/12/2000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Staff Secretary
Chron Files
OA/Box Number: 21409

FOLDER TITLE:

Thursday, September 14, 2000

2019-0990-S

rs3439

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Libby Hickel
268 Warwick Ave
Staten Island, NY 10314

00 SEP 14 PM 4:53

718 477-1200

917 821-1438

9/12/00

Dear Betty Currie:

I met you & Moshe and I - we visited with Hilla

9-14-00 how are

Send to Cohen?

I have a picture that I have been

Yes ☒

send

No ☐

ad.

However, very moment on my sleep is so

Coordinate w/ WSC?

is

no

Yes ☒No ☐

Following my I was asked to bring your attention - and I have.

and any

Love to new

I know the First Lady met with the Berenson's at the White House. While we may think the situation has gotten better - it has not. Lori's father tells me they are trying to force her to speak at a pre-trial exam in her cell and her lawyer hired only on Friday is not prepared. Due process does not exist.

The Jewish Press has now taken an interest and has written this letter to the President. Please place this letter

Libby Hickel
268 Warwick Ave
Staten Island, NY 10314

00 SEP 14 PM 4:53

718 477-1200

917 821-1438

9/12/00

Dear Betty Currie:

I met you on July 5th, 2000 when Moshe and I and Elissa and Lianne visited with Hillary.

I have a picture I took with you that I have been meaning to send.

However, very pressing at this moment on my mind and in my sleep is Lori Berenson.

Following my meeting with Hillary I was asked to bring Lori to her attention - and I have.

I know the First Lady met with the Berenson's at the White House. While we may think the situation has gotten better - it has not. Lori's father tells me they are trying to force her to speak at a pre-trial exam in her cell and her lawyer hired only on Friday is not prepared. Due process does not exist.

The Jewish Press has now taken an interest and has written this letter to the President. Please place this letter

My religious upbringing taught me - there is no greater deed than saving a life.

Please participate in this effort by asking the President, in my name to take a stronger stand with the Peruvian government to secure Lori's release.

My children will never forget your hospitality. Today Lianne age 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ had to be left up in the voting booth to pull the lever for Hillary.

I hope, with your gentle reminder, to hear only good news from Peru.

All The best
God be with you.

Lilly Likins



HAUDENOSAUNEE
 MOHAWK - ONEIDA - ONONDAGA - CAYUGA - SENECA - TUSCARORA
 ONONDAGA NATION - VIA BOX 319-B NEDROW NEW YORK 13120

HAUDENOSAUNEE

ONONDAGA - CAYUGA - SENECA - TUSCARORA

- VIA BOX 319-B NEDROW NEW YORK 13120

9-14-00

Copied
 Cutler
 Podesta

Mr. President
 Personal

9-14-00

Mr. Cutler
 Mr. Hill
 Mr. Podesta

gs and well wishes to you and your family. We
 r of the Onondaga Nation, to have breakfast with
 native nations.

g with you to discuss our ideas for economic
 /our own Native American economic empowerment
 rk.

th of our eight communities are dependant upon the
 .udenosaunee are seeking an environmentally
 i that focuses on the great history, cultures and arts

< economic empowerment of the Six Nations that

venience, where we can meet.

Dawnaytoh,

Sidney L. Hill
 Sidney Hill
 Tadadaho
 Onondaga Nation



9-14-00

HAUDENOSAUNEE

MOHAWK - ONEIDA - ONONDAGA - CAYUGA - SENECA - TUSCARORA

ONONDAGA NATION - VIA BOX 319-B NEDROW NEW YORK 13120

September 14, 2000

Honnahdahguyuss
President of the United States
William Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C.

Greetings President Clinton:

The Haudenosaunee send their greetings and well wishes to you and your family. We thank you for inviting Oren Lyons, Faithkeeper of the Onondaga Nation, to have breakfast with you and other religious leaders of the various native nations.

The Haudenosaunee requests a meeting with you to discuss our ideas for economic revitalization for central New York, and how your own Native American economic empowerment policies could be implemented here in New York.

We fully realize that the economic health of our eight communities are dependant upon the economic growth of the entire region. The Haudenosaunee are seeking an environmentally sound, family oriented form of cultural tourism that focuses on the great history, cultures and arts of this area.

It is our hope that together we can seek economic empowerment of the Six Nations that provides a benefit for the entire region.

Please let us know, at your earliest convenience, where we can meet.

Dawnaytoh,

Sidney L. Hill
Sidney Hill
Tadadah
Onondaga Nation

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 12, 2000

9-14-00

copied
100: Sperling
Reed
Podestay

Handwritten signature/initials, possibly "J. M. Reed" or similar, with a checkmark.

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: NEAL LANE *ml*

SUBJECT: Implementation of Recommendation from the Task Force on Training Technology

Last week, you noted that the recommendations of the Federal Task Force on Training Technology in the *Technology: Transforming Federal Training* were good but inquired as to how the recommendations will be implemented. Provided below is a summary of the recommendations and current and planned implementation efforts. This timely initiative has been extremely well received by all levels of Federal employees—from the managers who need more information on how to integrate learning technology into agency training programs to the employees who need and desire more flexible training opportunities.

Establish a One-Stop-Shop for Federal Training Technology. An interagency group is drafting an Executive Order that would establish a Federal steering committee to promote the effective use of learning technologies for Federal training and provide coordination and oversight of a learning technology resource center. The committee also would prepare an annual progress report on how Federal programs and integrated planning are supporting the development and use of learning technologies for Federal government employees.

Make Training a Strategic Planning Priority for All Agencies. Working with the Task Force, OMB added language to the FY-2002 Budget Circular A-11 for agencies to integrate training goals and measures into their Annual Performance Plans. OPM has drafted guidelines to assist agencies to strategically align training resources with mission requirements.

Establish a Government-wide Fund for Learning Technology Innovation Grants. OPM, working with OSTP, is developing a FY 2002 budget proposal to establish a Training Technology Innovation Grant Fund and is reviewing the possible necessity for additional legislative authority to manage such a fund.

Launch a Campaign to Educate Decision-Makers on the Advantages of Using Learning Technology. In FY 2001, OPM will work with the Human Resource Development Council to design a curricula to increase management understanding of the effective uses and benefits of learning technologies.

Develop a Program to Promote Existing Procurement Flexibilities for Agency Acquisitions of Learning Technology. GSA, OPM, and the Office of Federal Procurement Policy will work with the relevant interagency councils to mount an aggressive awareness campaign for employees involved in the learning technology procurement process.

THE
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

AS SEEN
9-5-00

424
OEOB

Gwyn
Smith
Livingston
Moore

August 31, 2000

MR. PRESIDENT:

Once you have seen Neal's memo
and the attached report, we
will execute an acknowledgement
letter to Task Force Chair Janice
Lachance on your behalf.

Adam Rosman AR

~~Good~~
~~How will the recs. be implemented?~~
~~BC~~

copied
Lane
Padesta

Good.

How will the recs. be implemented?

BC

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 2000

00 AUG 23 PM 4:23

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: NEAL LANE *A. Bienenstock for N. Lane*

SUBJECT: Report of the Task Force on Federal Training Technology

Summary: Last year you signed Executive Order 13111 that established a Presidential Task Force on Federal Training Technology. As requested in the Executive Order, the Task Force has completed its report to you—*Technology: Transforming Federal Training*. OSTP and NEC will work with stakeholders to develop a response to the Task Force's five recommendations (see below). In the short-term, I recommend that you send the attached acknowledgment to the Task Force Chair, Janice Lachance.

Background: Part of the Administration's strategy to promote life-long learning is to ensure that the Federal government is making adequate investments in the training of its own employees, and to make appropriate use of new instructional technologies. These technologies can allow Federal workers to acquire new skills "anytime, anywhere" -- at a time, place, and pace that is convenient for them.

The Presidential Task Force on Federal Training Technology, chaired by OPM Director Janice Lachance, recently completed the attached report on transforming Federal training through the effective use of learning technologies. The Federal government must accelerate its use of technology in order to ensure the availability of readily accessible and high quality training to its workforce. Public expectations for services from government agencies are now higher. At the same time, the breadth of Federal training needs is ever increasing—ranging from training in basic reading and math skills, information technology, leadership and management to complex defense training scenarios. To be sure, the Federal government has been increasing its use of and investment in learning technology. To meet all these needs, however, more must be done to move aggressively toward using learning technology to provide anytime and anyplace training opportunities to its workforce.

The Task Force found two necessary precursors to successful use and integration of training technology: (1) the adoption of common software and system standards across the public and private sectors to enable interoperability and reusability on a large scale, and (2) cultural change in the agencies that encourages more interagency collaborations and private sector partnerships to aggressively promote training technology.

The Task Force makes the following recommendations to spur the integration of these precursors in the Federal government.

- Establish a One-Stop-Shop for Federal Training
- Make Training a Strategic Planning Priority for All Agencies
- Establish a Government-wide Fund for Learning Technology Innovation Grants
- Launch a Campaign to Educate Decision-Makers on the Advantages of Using Learning Technology
- Develop a Program to Promote Existing Procurement Flexibilities for Agency Acquisitions of Learning Technology

THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON FEDERAL TRAINING TECHNOLOGY



Report to the President

Technology: Transforming Federal Training

July 2000

JP/Steve/Munyon
used to see each other

7-17-00

POTUS CONVENTION 2000 REQUESTS

Ph

7/10/2000 10:36 AM

Organization	Date	Location	Event
*Democratic Party of Arkansas: "interaction with the Arkansas delegation"	TBD	TBD	TBD
DLC small fundraiser	TBD	TBD	Dinner
NBC News Tom Brokaw Post-Speech Interview	TBD	STAPLES Center	Interview
National Stonewall Democratic Federation Convention	Flexible Open between August 9-13	Palm Springs, CA	TBD
SKG on behalf of the Hanks for a small dinner party	TBD		Dinner
*LA Convention 2000 Host Committee Economic Roundtable, "Los Angeles: Technology's Portal to the 21 st Century"	Friday tl	geles Central Library	Roundtable Call time: 10:30 am (ends at 3:00 pm)
LA Convention 2000 Host Committee Community Festival/Opening Ceremonies	Friday tl	geles Convention Center, Hall	Opening Ceremony Call time: 6:00 pm
"Use Your Voice" Town Hall Teen Forum Sponsored by TEEN PEOPLE Magazine, SHINE and The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars Student Recognition Breakfast	Saturday	ity of Southern California and Gown" room	Breakfast Call time: 9:00 am
Congressional Black Caucus "Western Regional Housing Summit" invitation to speak to the morning Plenary, Luncheon or Closing Session Reception	Saturday the 12 th	Oakland	AM Plenary, Luncheon or Closing Session Reception
LA Convention 2000 Host Committee Media Festival	Saturday the 12 th	Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles County & the Department of Water & Power Plaza	Festival Call time: 7:00 pm

JP/Steve/Munyon
used to be curd like

7-17-00

POTUS CONVENTION 2000 REQUESTS

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National Stonewall Democratic Federation Convention	Flexible Open between August 9-13	Palm Springs, CA	TBD
SKG on behalf of the Hanks for a small dinner party	TBD	TBD	Dinner
*LA Convention 2000 Host Committee Economic Roundtable, "Los Angeles: Technology's Portal to the 21 st Century"	Friday the 11 th	Los Angeles Central Library	Roundtable Call time: 10:30 am (ends at 3:00 pm)
LA Convention 2000 Host Committee Community Festival/Opening Ceremonies	Friday the 11 th	Los Angeles Convention Center, South Hall	Opening Ceremony Call time: 6:00 pm
"Use Your Voice" Town Hall Teen Forum Sponsored by TEEN PEOPLE Magazine, SHINE and The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars Student Recognition Breakfast	Saturday the 12 th	University of Southern California "Town and Gown" room	Breakfast Call time: 9:00 am
Congressional Black Caucus "Western Regional Housing Summit" invitation to speak to the morning Plenary, Luncheon or Closing Session Reception	Saturday the 12 th	Oakland	AM Plenary, Luncheon or Closing Session Reception
LA Convention 2000 Host Committee Media Festival	Saturday the 12 th	Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles County & the Department of Water & Power Plaza	Festival Call time: 7:00 pm

Democratic Governor's Association small dinner	Saturday the 12 th or Sunday the 13 th	Los Angeles: location TBD	Dinner
"Victory Over Hate" Rally: North Valley Jewish Community Center/ Congressman Brad Sherman (CA-24)	Sunday the 13 th	Pierce College in Woodland Hills, CA	Rally Call time: 10:30 am
*Library event	Sunday the 13 th	TBD	Brunch
*Latino Committee 2000 Media Brunch (Latino Cmte 2K is Chaired by Rep. Xavier Becerra, Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard is Secretary & Supervisor Gloria Molina serves as Treasurer)	Sunday the 13 th	Paramount Studios	Brunch
Congressional Black Caucus "Western Regional Housing Summit" invitation to speak at Brunch	Sunday the 13 th	Oakland	Brunch
Governor's Cup Golf Tournament hosted by Gov. Gray Davis to benefit the California Democratic Party's coordinated campaign	Sunday the 13 th	Riviera Country Club in Santa Monica, CA	Golf Tournament Call to carts: 12:10pm Shotgun start: 12:30 pm
Italian American Democratic Leadership Council Awards Event Honoring Reps. LaFalce, Miller, Moakley & Oberstar	Sunday the 13 th	Matteo's Restaurant in West Los Angeles	Reception Call time: 2:00 pm
*Rudy Duran and Jack Nicholson other celebrities: event for FLOTUS and to thank POTUS for years of friendship and his leadership	Sunday the 13 th	TBD	Dinner
LA Convention 2000 Host Committee Delegation Receptions: CA, AR, NY & TN	Sunday the 13 th	Various locations across Los Angeles	Receptions Call time: 6:00pm
Ron Brown Golf Tournament (drop-by)	Monday the 14 th	TBD	Golf Tournament Time TBD
California Democratic Party honoring Gov. Gray Davis and statewide constitutional officers	Monday the 14 th	Los Angeles: Regal Biltmore	Breakfast Call time: 8:30 am

22

Should work into H's deal

✓	Arkansas Delegation hosted by LA Mayor and Mrs. Riordan (Marsha Scott)	Monday the 14 th	@ the President's hotel	Brunch
	*Gov. Gray Davis and Mrs. Davis to welcome Democratic Governors and their spouses. FLOTUS also invited.	Monday the 14 th	Los Angeles: Union Station	Luncheon
	*National Democratic Institute for International Affairs 14 th Annual Democracy Awards Luncheon. POTUS invited to give the keynote address.	Monday the 14 th	Los Angeles: Dorothy Chandler Pavilion	Luncheon
2	*American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association: to honor POTUS as the "Education President"	Monday the 14 th	Beverly Hills: Beverly Hilton Hotel	Luncheon Call time 11:30am
2	California Democratic Party Finance Council honoring Mayors of America's Great Cities	Monday the 14 th	Los Angeles: Regal Biltmore	Luncheon Call time: 12:30 pm
2	DSCC	Monday 14 th	Home of Edie & Lew Wasserman	Reception Call time 3:00 pm
2	Latino Committee 2000 Reception/Dance	Monday the 14 th	Los Angeles: outside on Hope Street (closing down section of the street near Bunker Hill)	Reception/Dance
2	*DNC fundraiser w/ Major Supporters	Monday the 14 th	Los Angeles: Paramount Studios	Dinner Call time: 8:00 pm
2	Reception with FOB's & FOH (Marsha Scott)	Monday the 14 th	TBD	Reception
X	California Democratic Party honoring Members of the U.S. Senate	Tuesday the 15 th	Los Angeles: Regal Biltmore	Breakfast Call time: 8:30 am
X	California Democratic Party Finance Council honoring White House Cabinet Secretaries	Tuesday the 15 th	Los Angeles: Regal Biltmore	Reception 3:30-5:00 pm
X	"Mardi Gras Goes Hollywood" Honoring Senator John Breaux sponsored by the Democratic Leadership	Tuesday the 15 th	Los Angeles: Paramount Studios	Reception and Street Parade Call time: 7:00 pm

7-17-00

	Council			
X	DNC Cocktail/Dinner Party hosted by GTE, Holly & Rodney Peete & Rev. Jesse Jackson	Tuesday the 15 th	Encino: Home of Yvette & Kyle Bowser	Cocktail/Dinner Party
X	Latino Committee 2000 formal dinner for 500 dignitaries and elected officials	Tuesday the 15 th	Los Angeles Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandizing	Dinner
X	California Democratic Party honoring Members of the U.S. House of Representatives	Wednesday the 16 th	Los Angeles: Regal Biltmore	Breakfast Call time: 8:30 am
X	California Democratic Party California Delegation Party	Wednesday the 16 th	Universal Studios at The City Walk	Reception Call time: 8:00 pm
X	"Reception to celebrate the Democratic Presidential Nominee and Salute to African American Elected Officials" (Chair of event: LA Sup. Yvonne Burke)	Wednesday the 16 th	Bel Air: Home of Cynthia and Larkin Arnold	Reception Call time: 9:00 pm
X	California Democratic Party honoring former Senator Bill Bradley	Thursday the 17 th	Los Angeles: Regal Biltmore	Breakfast Call time: 8:30 am
X	DSCC	Thursday the 17 th	Home of Janet & Ron Burkle	Luncheon Call time: 12 Noon

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

2000

**National Medal of the Arts
Nominees**

&

**National Humanities Medal
Nominees**

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

00 AUG 30 11:23

September 12, 2000

MELANNE VERVEER

MR. PRESIDENT:

M The attached binder from Melanne
FF presents for your decision
SU recommendations for the National
— Medal of the Arts and the National
Th Medal of the Humanities. As
the Melanne notes, you gave Robert Coles
for (NEH list) the Medal of Freedom; as
En you know, you also just gave
the John Kenneth Galbraith (also NEH
fol list) the MOF.

Lisel Loy

9-14-00

ID NA

or the
IS made its recommendations

mmendations generated by
lly and the biographies
n the first priority list,
priority list to make

Also enclosed in the binder are the recommended candidates for the 2000 National Medal of the Humanities Award from the NEH listed as "most highly recommended" and "also recommended." The candidates are listed alphabetically within each listing.

The National Medal of the Arts is the highest award that the President can bestow on our nation's artists and patrons. The award was created by Congress in 1984 to honor "individuals or groups who are deserving of special recognition by reason of their outstanding contribution to the excellence, growth, support and availability of the arts in the United States." The legislation empowers the President to choose the recipients of the Medals on the basis of the recommendations made by the National Council on the Arts. No more than twelve Arts Medals may be awarded per year.

The National Humanities Medal honors individuals or groups whose work has deepened the nation's understanding of the humanities, broadened citizens' engagement with the humanities, or helped preserve and expand Americans' access to important resources in the humanities.

Also enclosed in this binder, for your information, is a list of previous National Medal of Arts recipients and National Medal of the Humanities recipients (including recipients of its predecessor, the Charles Frankel Prize). This year's ceremony is tentatively scheduled for November or early December.

Copied
Verveer
Podesta

41 -
you gave Robt.
Coles the Nat'l
Medal of Freedom.
He's on the NEH
list.
Lisel Loy
is on NEA "B" list
but he's been
fired & his
committee

*See memo
to: [unclear]*

9-14-00

00 AUG 30 14:28

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 29, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MELANNE VERVEER *md*

SUBJECT: NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS AND NATIONAL MEDAL OF
THE HUMANITIES

The National Council on the Arts has made its recommendations for the 2000 National Medal of the Arts awards, and the National Endowment of the Humanities has made its recommendations for the 2000 National Humanities Medal.

Enclosed in this binder are the first and second priority lists of recommendations generated by the National Council on the Arts. The names are listed alphabetically and the biographies follow. The Council strongly recommends the artists and patrons on the first priority list, however, as you know, the President is welcome to use the second priority list to make substitutions.

Also enclosed in the binder are the recommended candidates for the 2000 National Medal of the Humanities Award from the NEH listed as "most highly recommended" and "also recommended." The candidates are listed alphabetically within each listing.

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Podesta*

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2019-0990-S
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9-14-00

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 29, 2000

PRESIDENTIAL ACTION MEMORANDUM

FROM: MELANNE VERVEER

Please choose a total of 12 recipients for the 2000 National Medal of the Arts from the following first and second priority lists of nominees generated by the National Council on the Arts. Biographies of each nominee follow under specified tabs.

FIRST PRIORITY NOMINEES

Tab #	Nominee Name	Field	Age	Resides	Birthplace	APPROVE
1	(b)(6)					
2	Mikhail Baryshnikov	Dancer	52	NY	Latvia	
3	Benny Carter	Jazz Musician, Composer, Conductor	92	CA	NY	
4						
5	Horton Foote	Playwright	84	TX	TX	
6	Al Hirschfeld	Caricaturist	96	NY	MO	
7						
8						
9	Toni Morrison	Writer	69	NJ	OH	
10	National Public Radio, Cultural Programming			Located in DC		
11						
12	Jim & Mary Semans	Patrons	90 & 80	NC	PA & NY	

9-14-00

SECOND PRIORITY NOMINEES

Tab #	Nominee Name	Field	Age	Resides	Birthplace	APPROVE
13	Maya Angelou	Author, Actor	72	NC	MO	_____
14	Eddy Arnold	Country Singer	82	TN	TN	_____
15	Tony Bennett	Singer, Musician	75	CA	NY	✓ _____
16	Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center			Located in TX		_____
17	(b)(6)					_____
18	Lewis Manilow	Patron	72	IL	IL	✓ _____
19						_____
20						_____
21	Itzhak Perlman	Violinist, Conductor	54	NY	Israel	✓ _____
22	Harold Prince	Musical Theater Producer, Director	72	NY	NY	✓ _____
23	Ellen Stewart	Theater Producer	80	NY	IL	_____
24	Tina Turner	Singer/Songwriter, Dancer, Actor	60	TN	NY	✓ _____

9-14-00

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 29, 2000

PRESIDENTIAL ACTION MEMORANDUM

FROM: MELANNE VERVEER

Please choose the recipients for the 2000 National Medal of the Humanities from the following "most highly recommended" and "also recommended" lists of nominees generated by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Biographies of each nominee follow.

MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDED CANDIDATES

NAME	APPROVE
Will D. Campbell	☒
Robert Coles	☐
Judy Crichton	☒
David Driskell	☒
Ernest Gaines	☒
John Kenneth Galbraith	☐
Herman Guerrero	☒
Quincy Jones	☒
Edmund Morgan	☒
Toni Morrison	☒
Virginia Driving Hawk	☒

How many
can I give

ALSO RECOMMENDED CANDIDATES

NAME	APPROVE
Robert Bellah	☒
James MacGregor Burns	☐
Clifford Geertz	☐
Barbara Kingslover	☒
Alan Lomax	☐
Earl Shorris	☒

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN
20TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

REPUBLICAN POLICY
COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT REFORM

SUBCOMMITTEES:
POSTAL SERVICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE, DRUG POLICY
AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3220

September 13, 2000

9-14-00

Send to

legislative
affairs ?

Ham
Stubb secret

'00 SEP 14 PM 12:29

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Following OPEC's meeting on September 10th, the cartel announced that it would increase production of crude oil by an additional 800,000 barrels per day. This increase in production was to reduce the price of crude oil which has been at near record prices of \$34 dollars per barrel, which OPEC members freely admit is too high. This raise constitutes an increase of 3 percent. Regrettably, this increase is simply not enough to bring down the price of crude oil. OPEC needs to undertake aggressive measures to bring down the price of oil, and an increase in production of 3 percent is not enough - - not enough by half!

OPEC is aware of the gravity of the situation, as evidenced by OPEC President and Venezuela's oil minister Ali Rodriguez' statement, "[that] we are approaching a crisis of great proportions because oil production capacity is reaching its limit." In the midst of this crisis, OPEC's increase will not even go into effect until October 1st. OPEC agreed to meet again on November 12th to reassess "market conditions," with full knowledge that its increase was a trivial gesture towards reducing prices of imported crude oil. As reported in *The New York Times* (9/12/00), heating oil is at record levels, its highest price in a decade - - now 51 percent higher than the average for last fall and winter. Some analysts believe that imported crude oil may further spike at \$40 dollars per barrel. Conservatively, it will take a minimum of 6 weeks to ship the increased oil to the United States and another week to 10 days to refine it. Mr. President, we are looking at early December before the oil (and its by-products) will be available to consumers. In real terms, OPEC's increase is too little, too late to alleviate the astronomical and nearly prohibitive cost of home heating oil that confronts the hard working people of our country.

Parts of Europe are in a state of paralysis over this crisis, and in England, Prime Minister Blair authorized the use of the military to quell protesters. In our own country Mr. President, this crisis is grave enough that there are calls to release oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) which is at a 24 year low, and further depletes a reserve that is historically maintained for use during wartime and national emergencies.

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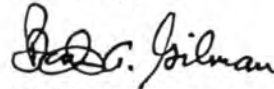
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President William J. Clinton
September 13, 2000
Page 2

Mr. President, this grave crisis calls for strong measures in dealing with OPEC, and therefor it is imperative that you use the full powers and resources of your office in showing OPEC that its good faith gesture, is not good enough for the people of our country. Mr. President, I will welcome any plans that the Administration is developing to resolve this oil crisis, and I thank you for your urgent attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ben A. Gilman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ben" and last name "Gilman" clearly distinguishable.

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN
Member of Congress

BAG:mmh

9-14-00

September 11, 2000

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MARIA ECHAVESTE

RE: NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ON SCHOOL LUNCH/SALMONELLA

You asked about a recent New York Times article reporting that USDA officials were starting discussions of possibly relaxing the new standard for preventing *Salmonella* contamination in ground beef used for the nation's school lunch program. According to USDA, however, their current "zero tolerance standard" for *Salmonella* will remain in place until other options can be fully evaluated from scientific and consumer health perspectives. As noted below, USDA is exploring with stakeholders whether procedures for detecting *Salmonella* can be improved. We will keep in touch with USDA on this to keep you informed.

For your information, following is a brief summary of the issue.

BACKGROUND

USDA's current standard for preventing *Salmonella* contamination was adopted after a court ruling held that USDA could not engage in random inspections in a plant that had demonstrated *Salmonella* contamination. Adopted in June, this standard requires that every batch of ground beef USDA buys be tested and is free of *Salmonella*. This new standard has been criticized by the meat industry. The industry argues that end product testing simply looks at whether a particular sample is contaminated and is not an indication of the overall safety and quality of the product or the system by which it was produced. Beef meeting this standard has been in short supply and more expensive but this situation is improving.

In response to industry concerns, USDA is starting to have some internal agency discussions to see if the process for detecting *Salmonella* contamination can be improved. For example, they are looking to see if more emphasis on ensuring non-contamination should occur during processing, rather than total reliance on end product testing. This would be consistent with top of the line commercial practices like McDonalds and Jack in the Box, none of whom use end product testing to determine whether to accept or reject suppliers. Although USDA is not changing their current policy at this time, they are working with key stakeholder groups to consider other options that protect the public while responding to industry concerns.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

9-1-00



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National Desk

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Looser Rules Are Considered For Bacteria in Students' Beef

By MARIAN BURROS

Agriculture Department officials say they are discussing the possibility of loosening their new standards for preventing salmonella contamination in ground beef used for the nation's school lunch program.

The reconsideration, which was provoked by criticism from the food industry, has angered consumer advocates.

Since June, the department, which provides 70 percent of the ground beef used in schools, has required that every batch it buys be free of salmonella. Before that there were no standards for any pathogens, including salmonella, bacteria responsible for about 600 deaths and 1.4 million illnesses last year.

Meat processors complained that the standards were unnecessary, because proper cooking kills the bacteria, and too difficult to meet. At first many declined to even bid on government contracts for the school lunch program. But the industry ended up with a glut of beef and over the last few weeks more companies have offered their meat for sale. Still, the department has been able to buy only half the ground beef it needs for schools, and at about 55 cents a pound more.

School officials in Wisconsin and Illinois said they would buy ground beef on the open market to ensure a steady supply, and New York City officials said they would do the same but reduce the amount they used.

Faced with the industry criticism, department officials began to reconsider the salmonella rules.

When asked this week whether the department was scaling back the standards, Kathleen Merrigan, administrator of the department's Agricultural Marketing Service, said, "I would prefer to say we are fine-tuning them."

Neither Ms. Merrigan nor anyone else at the department would say what the new standards might be.

Consumer groups accused the department of caving in to industry.

Carol Tucker Foreman, a former Agriculture Department official and now director of the Food Policy Institute of the Consumer Federation of America,

said the department was falling back on its more traditional role of promoting the interests of the food industry and neglecting its duty to protect consumers. That duty is one that Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman has taken on with greater vigor than most of his predecessors.

"What we are saying is they should change their priorities," Ms. Foreman said. "They are saying to buy meat with no salmonella costs us more money and it's not worth it."

"Its first obligation is to assure safe food for children who eat school lunches," Ms. Foreman said of the department.

Officials of the American School Food Service Association said its members, who are in charge of school feeding programs, are caught in the middle.

"We are fully committed to all steps appropriate to ensuring safety of food for kids," Barry Sackin, the association's director of government affairs, said of the salmonella rules. "Our only concern is the precipitous way it has been implemented."

The department adopted the new specifications after a federal judge rebuffed its efforts to implement random tests for salmonella at a Texas meat-processing plant. The department wanted to close the plant, which had supplied as much as 45 percent of the ground beef used in the school lunch program, after it failed tests for salmonella three times. But the judge said the department did not have the authority to use such tests, which the department has implemented nationwide, and ordered that the plant remain open.

Mr. Glickman canceled the department's contract with the company, Supreme Beef, and adopted the new standards for its ground beef purchases. Since the regulations went into effect, salmonella contamination has dropped by as much as 50 percent, studies show.

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JUDY MANN

Battered Girlfriends Need Protection, Too

Barbara Dehl, a 44-year-old mother of four girls, lives a lot of her life in hindsight. Every day, she wonders why she didn't get "Cassie's Law" passed before her 17-year-old daughter, Cassandra, ended up dead—the victim, her mother has testified, of an abusive relationship with a boyfriend.

After Cassie's parents divorced and her mother moved near Boise, Idaho, Cassie chose to remain with her father, Curtis Dehl, in Soda Springs and finish school there. When she was 14, she met Justin Neuendorf, a former altar boy at her church, who was three years older than she was. For the next year, she went out with him off and on.

Her parents didn't realize that their daughter was undergoing verbal and mental abuse. In testimony before a state legislative committee, Barbara said she found out later, from Cassie, that Neuendorf would tell her such things as she wasn't pretty enough for anybody else to love. "Once a wedge had been inserted between Cassie and her family and friends, the physical abuse began," Barbara testified.

In the spring of 1998, Barbara testified, he choked Cassie hard enough to make her bleed from her nose and ears and ruin a white coat. Cassie had been staying with a girlfriend while her father was out of town. About six weeks after the incident, the girlfriend told Cassie's father about it, and he confronted his daughter. Cassie denied it. He intercepted a letter in which Neuendorf said he was "sorry for almost killing you" and explained that he had been on drugs. Curtis intercepted another letter in which the boyfriend mentioned slitting Cassie's throat.

"We gave these letters to the local police, the prosecutor, the probation officer and to his parents," Barbara says in an interview. "Nobody believed a teenage girl living in her parents' home could be abused by her boyfriend. They just said, 'Why doesn't she walk away?' Nobody believed abuse could happen to a young girl who wasn't married to the abuser. . . . He had her so manipulated that in her mind she thought she was in love with this guy, and she was as helpless to leave him as a victim of battered-wife syndrome."

"When she was 18, she said, 'If I was only better, he wouldn't have to hit me.' When I would confront her, she would tell me it was her fault."

It's a 350-mile trip, each way, between from Boise and Soda Springs, and Barbara says she drove it weekly, trying to get help for Cassie. "We put Cassie into domestic-abuse counseling twice, but they didn't have training in dealing with young girls and dating violence," Barbara says. "We never allowed him to see Cassie. He'd take her out of school, out of work, out of state."

"Idaho did not have a domestic-violence order to cover girls her age. I filed for one, anyway. We went before the judge, and he said we had all the evidence in the world, but there were no domestic-violence laws to protect Cassie."

On the night of Dec. 3, 1999, Neuendorf picked Cassie up from a girlfriend's house and did not allow

her to get her coat, according to Barbara Dehl. It was below zero. "After midnight," Barbara says, "the truck crashed down an embankment. He was not in the truck. She was. We don't know how he got out. He was slightly injured, with a broken wrist."

"The accident was not reported for more than 15 hours," she says. "The fact that she was in the accident and left at the scene was not reported for 18 hours. When the sheriff's deputy arrived on the scene, she was dead and her body frozen solid. That's how they found my baby."

Neuendorf has been charged with vehicular manslaughter.

"Her sisters and father and I decided we had to make sure no parent ever had to walk in our shoes," Barbara says.

The Idaho legislature started in January. Barbara wrote what became known as "Cassie's Law," which allows judges to issue a domestic-violence protection order for people in an abusive dating relationship. It allows parents to secure this restraint even without a child's help. Barbara quit work, cashed in her retirement and used her savings to lobby the legislature. The bill passed, was signed into law by the governor on April 3 and went into effect July 1.

Barbara Dehl is now helping the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence Against Women lobby for the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. The act, passed in 1994, expires in October, and unless Congress reauthorizes it during what remains of this session, the agencies that help victims of domestic violence will be greatly weakened.

Over the past six years, \$1.6 billion has gone to states and communities to train law enforcement officials and counselors on how to deal with domestic violence. "A lot of it is going to police and prosecutors and shelters and community education," says Pat Reuss, chair of the coalition. "It's been a very good bill."

In 1993, women experienced an estimated 1.1 million violent offenses at the hands of an intimate partner, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. By 1998, the estimate had declined 21 percent, to 876,340 offenses, even though women have become more likely to report crimes of domestic violence. And the number of women killed by an intimate partner declined 23 percent between 1993 and 1997.

The Violence Against Women Act is every bit as important as some other political hot topics, such as prescription drug coverage and hate crimes. It is saving lives. The House version covers women in dating relationships; the Senate version does not.

What happened to Cassie Dehl should persuade the Senate to go along with the more inclusive House provisions. If anything, teenage girls are more susceptible to abusive relationships than mature women.

The bills have strong bipartisan support, and they should be passed promptly. They are too important to be caught up in the last-minute rush of election year politics.

The Washington Post

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2000

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DIPLOMATIC DISPATCHES

Nora Boustanjy

American Seeks New Deal With OAS Neighbors

Luigi R. Einaudi formally assumed his post as assistant secretary general of the Organization of American States yesterday after an unprecedented four-country nomination by Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia and the United States that led to his election in July.

Einaudi, one of the most decorated U.S. diplomats, has had a distinguished State Department career, crowned recently with successes in resolving conflicts between Ecuador and Peru as well as between Nicaragua and Honduras. He said in an interview yesterday he was committed to democratic principles, but would respect each OAS member country's identity and culture. Unresolved spats in the Americas spanning countries such as El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Chile, Argentina, Ecuador and Bolivia, as well as more active disputes along the Caribbean rim, are costly in terms of outside investments and slow down regional integration, he said.

The United States, which should be an instrument for solutions, has had a tendency not to ignore the OAS, he said. "I think that this hemisphere is our natural neighborhood and instead of being the backyard, it should be treated as the front garden," he added.

"We may be able to go beyond the Cold War finally and get a new hemispheric bargain among neighbors," he said of his mission, which will also tap into his experience in multilateral governance. "I believe in America, not in a restrictive fashion, but in an inclusive definition that understands that we are all immigrants and that we must unite with the indigenous Americans. Our blessing in America is that we are not burdened with the feudalism and traditionalism that has held back Europe for so many years."

There are major headaches ahead, he conceded, such as Haiti and Cuba. "With Haiti, the international community feels as if it has plowed the sea and invested uselessly, yet at the same time, we must not turn our backs on it. We have an obligation to support democratic processes there and to be insistent and patient. We all want the return of Cuba to the OAS, but what we want is the return of a democratic Cuba."

Taiwan Would Welcome Support

Taiwan's new man in Washington, Chen Chien-jea, who has the official title of representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States, told Washington Post editors and reporters Wednesday that his country would welcome an unequivocal declaration that the United States would support it should it come under attack from China.

When asked if such remarks would be harmful, given the Chinese sensitivity over

Taiwan, or useful, he responded: "Of course you are the last superpower with other global considerations. As far as we are concerned, we have no objections if the United States says it will defend us if attacked. It is good not to be ambiguous. I think it would help, not hurt." Taiwan needs a larger security cushion, Chen said, noting that though his country is qualitatively better equipped than China in the area of defense, quantitatively the Chinese are ahead, and in 10 years, Taipei could find itself in a "very precarious position."

When Taiwan's president traveled through Los Angeles last month, the State Department made it clear he could not meet with administration officials and privately pressured him not to meet with U.S. legislators, either. When U.S. representatives and senators travel to Taiwan, there are no restrictions on them, he observed.

Commenting on the tight restrictions on senior Taiwanese officials, who are not allowed to visit Washington or meet with administration officials and only permitted to transit through the United States, Chen said his countrymen and government would like to see the relationship with Washington improve in terms of access to higher officials. Because they live in a democracy, Taiwanese "people are so well educated, they do not like to be treated as second-rate citizens of this world. . . . People aspire to more, they want to be treated better."

Greek Anti-Terrorism Efforts

Michalis Chrysoschoidis, Greece's minister of public order, is meeting with Attorney General Janet Reno today to sign a memorandum of understanding between Athens and Washington on terrorism and organized crime.

Over breakfast at the residence of Greek Ambassador Alexander Philon yesterday, Chrysoschoidis said spillover from the Balkans and the migration of populations across changing borders have led to an increase in organized crime. Greece has had to take such new crime-fighting measures as deploying 3,000 guards along its borders, he said. He pointed out, however, that Greece has one of the lowest crime rates in the region. Chrysoschoidis said the problem of terrorism in Greece is a "qualitative" one with the attackers going after selected single targets who are "symbols."

He referred to the case of British defense attache Brig. Stephen Saunders, gunned down while en route to a meeting to discuss possible tank sales to Greece. A communique issued by the November 17 guerrilla group on June 9 reflected Greek nationalist opposition to Allied military action last year against Yugoslavia. No one has been able to identify the political background and affiliation of that mysterious group, he said.

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In Guatemalan Jungle, A Mayan Wall Street?

Enormous Palace Was Major Trading Center

By GUY GUGLIOTTA
Washington Post Staff Writer

The palace is three stories high, covers an area the size of six football fields, and lay nearly intact for centuries beneath the dense vegetation of central Guatemala's Peten rain forest.

In a major discovery, archaeologists working at the site at Cancun yesterday announced that they had found the remains of an enormous Mayan trading center that flourished at the apogee of the Mayan civilization in the eighth century A.D., and whose size rivals the central acropolis at the famous ruins of Tikal.

"This site is very important because it changes some of the perspective on Mayan states," said Vanderbilt University archaeologist Arthur Demarest, leader of the Cancun excavation.

Like other scholars, he said he believed that "the basis of royal power among the Maya was religion and warfare." But Cancun "has no temples, no defense, no evidence of warfare, no evidence of important wars," Demarest said. Instead, hieroglyphs at the site suggest that the business of Cancun was business, and that the city prospered by making political alliances "on a Machiavellian scale."

In expeditions sponsored by Guatemala's Institute of Anthropology and History, the National Geographic Society and Vanderbilt, Demarest determined the scope of the site last spring. His team subsequently mapped a labyrinthine three-story limestone building measuring 240 yards by 153 yards and containing 170 rooms built around 11 courtyards.

Outside the palace, buildings housed the bureaucrats and artisans who managed a thriving trade in natural resources from Guatemala's central highland—jade for ornaments and jewelry, obsidian for knives and chopping tools and pyrite. Cancun lies at the foot of the highlands, on a small natural harbor precisely where the Pasion River becomes navigable.

Cancun was a rich city, even for workers, Demarest said. Common graves found in caves in the hills surrounding the palace contained finely painted ceramic pots, jewelry and utensils. The skeleton of one woman showed ornamental jade inlays in 10 of her teeth.

Mayan civilization may have begun as early as 2500 B.C., but it was not until 3,000 years ago that large numbers of people began to settle in the jungle lowlands of what today is Central America, including all of Belize, most of Guatemala, large areas of Mexico and pieces of El Salvador and Honduras.

The Mayan "classic period" lasted from 250 A.D. to 900 A.D., when for as yet unknown reasons, the population in jungle areas declined. The Maya endured and periodically thrived, however, until the Spanish invasion in the 16th century.

The Maya are known for their architecture at elaborate

sites such as Tikal, Chichen Itza and Copan, but the region—rain-sodden, overgrown and beset for decades by guerrilla war—is difficult to explore, and "I think there are a good number of sites that have not come to the notice of archaeologists," said Maya specialist Wendy Ashmore, an archaeologist at the University of California at Riverside.

Cancun was discovered in 1905 and visited in the 1960s by a group of Harvard graduate students who mapped "5 percent of the site," Demarest said. He added that the vegetation is almost impassable, and the site is filled with snakes. In the K'ekchi language spoken in the area, Cancun means "place of serpents."

The prevailing view among scholars was that Cancun was a "minor site," an opinion shared by Demarest until the day this spring when he was walking across what he thought was a stone platform built over landfill and suddenly fell up to his armpits in tropical vines and muck, Demarest said.

"I realized I was in the middle of a courtyard," he said. And unlike most Mayan ruins, the surrounding walls were built of solid limestone and were largely intact, as were the roofs and ceilings. Beneath the palace were the ruins of at least three older buildings, he said.

Demarest described the palace as a maze-like structure containing dozens of small rooms with vaulted ceilings 20

feet high. The rooms were clustered around equally compact courtyards, suggesting that they may have been intended to house large numbers of high-ranking visitors, perhaps in town to negotiate business deals, he said.

The jungle reclaimed the palace once it was abandoned, but the vegetation preserved and disguised the building rather than destroying it, Demarest said. Over time the trees and brush that swelled the courtyards also served to shore up the inner walls.

The walls themselves, made of solid limestone, did not collapse, but reinforced each other even as the jungle encroached. And outside the palace the Mayan kings had paved two square kilometers of jungle with cobblestones, which kept local farmers from trying to plant there once Cancun had been abandoned.

Demarest said the team has barely begun excavating the site, and next year will enter the palace. "I'm going to have to excavate and restore at the same time," Demarest said, otherwise "the rooms will fall on you" as vegetation and other supporting debris is removed.

But if Cancun was intact, it was not undisturbed. Demarest said Guatemalan researchers involved in the dig have been able to track down monuments, stairs and other carved stones that have been stolen from the site over the years. The inscriptions describe a powerful kingdom ruled by a dynasty that governed peacefully for centuries by aligning itself bloodlessly to city states ranging from Teotihuacan, in what is now Mexico, to Tikal. "There is a different base of power here," Demarest said. "This is totally different from the other great Mayan sites."



A vase with geometric designs was found in a grave at Cancun.

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Mr. Putin's War

IT DIDN'T GET much attention the other day when the United Nations high commissioner for refugees warned that about 170,000 Chechens are facing the prospect of a second grim winter in tents and other makeshift shelters outside their home province in Russia. The man most responsible for their plight, Russian President Vladimir Putin, happened to be in New York this week. But he wanted to talk about missile defense, not Chechnya, and Americans seemed more interested, if at all, in his handling of the sinking of the submarine Kursk. That tragic accident cost 118 sailors' lives. Mr. Putin's year-old war in Chechnya has claimed many more lives than that every week, and the war continues.

Chechnya is a province of southern Russia, at the edge of the Caucasus Mountains, that in Soviet times was home to about 1 million people. After the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991, Chechnya sought to secede. Boris Yeltsin went to war to prevent this in 1994, killed many people and by 1996 essentially admitted defeat. Chechnya was allowed to go its own way.

Last summer, after Chechen guerrillas launched an attack on a neighboring province, then-Prime Minister Putin went to war again. At first the Russian people approved heartily, even as their troops essentially destroyed the

capital city of Grozny and many of its civilian inhabitants. The war boosted Mr. Putin's popularity and propelled him into the presidency.

Now the war is less popular, but Mr. Putin does not seem to know how to end it. His occupying army is nominally in control of a mostly wrecked Chechnya, but snipers and guerrillas regularly kill his men. Russian soldiers routinely torture Chechen men and extort bribes from their relatives for their release. The elected Chechen government-in-hiding recently charged that its parliament speaker, Ruslan Alikhajiev, has been tortured to death in a Moscow prison. Russian authorities acknowledge that they arrested the man four months ago, but claim they don't know where he is now. On Wednesday Russian troops detained, beat and extorted \$600 from an Associated Press reporter who happened to be an ethnic Chechen.

For a time, Western leaders noisily insisted that Mr. Putin hold his generals accountable for war crimes, allow humanitarian workers to help Chechen refugees and initiate a dialogue with Chechen leaders. The Russian president has stiffed them on all counts, but no one makes much noise anymore. The war goes on, but outside of Chechnya most everyone has lost interest.

The States Milk Medicaid

THE STATES are forever complaining about excessive federal regulation. Federal aid comes wrapped in too many rules, the governors say, why not just give us the money and get out of our energetic way? But the answer is, in part, that without the rules the states will rip off the federal programs. The record is clear; the latest example involves, once again, Medicaid, by far the largest of the grant programs.

The federal government reimburses the states for a little over half the cost of Medicaid, the health care program for the poor. What the states have once again done is find a legal way to pad their bills. They overstate their costs, the feds pay half the overstated amounts, and the states walk away with a dividend that they can use for other purposes. Sometimes those involve health care, even health care for the poor, but sometimes not. In effect, the accountants have converted Medicaid into a form of general revenue sharing.

No one knows the full extent of the phony billing, but more than half the states are either using the current ploy or preparing to do so. The extra cost to the feds is currently estimated to be between \$3 billion and \$4 billion a year, and rising. The cost of Medicaid has continued

to rise in recent years even as the caseload has declined; the increase in phony billing is thought to be the principal reason why.

The administration will shortly publish a proposed regulation to stop what amounts to theft on the part of the states. But if past is prologue—this sort of thing has happened before—it will take awhile to cut off the funds. The states use the poor as pawns; they warn that an end to their scheme will have dire consequences for the health care of the poor. No politician, nor administration, is eager to have those laid at its doorstep, least of all in an election season.

At a Senate Finance Committee hearing the other day, Chairman William Roth said the health care program for the poor has been turned into "a bank account for state projects having nothing to do with health care." The practice "cannot . . . continue," he intoned. But it's unlikely that Congress will take action; too many members, including many who deplore the cost of the program, come from states that benefit. The administration should use its regulatory powers, said the chairman. No matter that he and others who feel the same way are normally foes of regulation. What are regulators for, if not to be heavies while politicians flee?

The Washington Post

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2000

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Ambassador talk

Joseph Prueher, U.S. ambassador to China, is under fire again.

The retired four-star admiral was in town this week and met with members of Congress. According to congressional aides, Adm. Prueher told lawmakers that he has been working in Beijing to convince Chinese leaders to pull back the mobile short-range missiles being deployed in large numbers opposite Taiwan, in Fujian province.

Our sources say the ambassador has been telling the Chinese the removal of the missiles "would make the people in the United States feel like they were actually backing off the Taiwan issue."

Adm. Prueher, the aides say, also suggested to the Chinese how they could carry out a bit of threat-reduction-by-deception: "And besides, if anything happened, the missiles could always be moved back quickly," he was quoted as saying.

The ambassador provided another curious explanation for urging the Chinese to move their missiles: "It would undercut American hard-liners who think China is a threat," he was quoted as telling lawmakers.

The remarks raised eyebrows from several aides who called Adm. Prueher a "panda hugger" — critics' term for pro-China officials and their acolytes in academia. The corresponding label for the anti-Beijing crowd from the huggers: "alarmists."

Asked about the remarks, a State Department spokesman said Adm. Prueher "didn't think it was appropriate to discuss his private conversations with folks on the Hill."

The Chinese in the past have rejected U.S. appeals to pull back the missiles. The Defense Intelligence Agency warns in secret reports that the missiles could reach most of Taiwan's major military bases with little or no warning.

Adm. Prueher had his nomination held up temporarily last year by Sen. Robert C. Smith, New Hampshire Republican, over questionable contacts with the Chinese military. And in April, he was criticized for hosting a dinner at his Beijing residence with three U.S. satellite makers and Chinese satellite companies who were under federal investigation for improperly sharing missile technology.

Navy transformed

Adm. Vernon Clark, the new chief of naval operations, is living



up to his reputation as a revolutionary thinker who will shake up the orthodoxy.

Navy officers tell us that Adm. Clark is preaching, in so many words, "it's the requirements, stupid," as the sea service participates in the Pentagon's second quadrennial defense review (QDR). The officers said the chief wants planners to justify any bid for new ships or sailors with a concrete requirement, not a fuzzy scenario.

Adm. Clark already has ordered a shake-up of his Pentagon staff effective Oct. 1. He has established the new positions of deputy chief of naval operations for warfare requirements and programs, and deputy CNO for fleet readiness and logistics.

Unlike before, the newly configured warfare office will deal strictly with the needs of the fleet, leaving budgeting concerns to another office. He wants a constant dialogue between his staff and the force, which suffers shortages of ships, sailors, spare parts and training hours. A Navy memo from the top also promises changes in readiness and training.

"A flag-level study group will be established ... to examine the appropriate alignment for Navy training responsibilities and resources," the memo states. "This group will report its recommendations to the Chief of Naval Operations coincident with the results of the full-time effort to be charted at the Naval War College to determine how to initiate and implement a revolution in Navy training."

Adm. Clark's appetite to shake things up may mean he is receptive to new ideas from the outside.

The boldest proposal yet comes from Rep. Ike Skelton, Missouri Democrat, who would become House Armed Services Committee chairman if Democrats win back the House in November.

Earlier this week, as top admirals and Marine Corps generals dined on asparagus and pine-nut salad, salmon, and filet mignon, Mr. Skelton called on the Navy to

transform itself into a lighter, more mobile fleet.

"I'm not much given to dramatic statements, but let me say this clearly: America should rebuild its Navy. And we should begin now," Mr. Skelton said of a fleet that has dipped to 316 ships, about 30 below a floor set by President Clinton in 1993. His appearance was sponsored by the Washington-based Business Executives for National Security.

The Navy is building seven ships each year, an insufficient rate to sustain even a 300-ship force, experts said.

Air Clinton II

We reported earlier how the Pentagon was forced to divert scores of military aircraft to ferry President Clinton and company during visits to India and Pakistan. Now comes word that the extensive presidential travel is hurting the ability of the military to move troops and supplies.

A military officer revealed serious readiness problems with the U.S. Transportation Command, the joint military center set up after the Persian Gulf war to centralize all military movements.

According to the officer, the number of military flights increased dramatically during the Clinton administration. It used to be that a normal mission month for military flights was an average of between 50 and 60 aircraft flights — everything from huge C-5 cargo jets to F-117 training flights. Those figures included some "presidential" missions such as Air Force One and other executive travel.

Statistics compiled by the Air Force's Air Mobility Command showed a sharp rise from that average, increases that are continuing as Mr. Clinton steps up his travel in the waning months of his presidency.

According to the statistics, the average number of military flights in 1992 was 76 missions a month. By 1996, that figure had increased to 86 missions a month. In the first eight months of 2000, the number had jumped to a

whopping 140 flights a month. "The reason is Clinton, Hillary and Gore," our informant said. "It just blows my mind."

The officer was talking about Mr. Clinton's jaunts around the world and the military flights to support first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and her New York campaign for Senate, along with cross-country campaign flights by Vice President Al Gore.

Numbers scrub

The Pentagon is deep into the process of writing a new national military strategy and a force structure to match contained in the congressionally mandated Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR).

The Joint Staff — the Joint Chiefs of Staff's planners and functionaries — are leading the search for the right mix of strategy, force structure and weapons. War games are to begin shortly.

The strategy is due out in June, with the QDR out in September. Officers at the Pentagon say they expect the reports to retain the primary military requirement of being able to fight two "major regional contingencies" (MRC) nearly simultaneously.

Officers say they expect the QDR to endorse a ramp-up in weapons research and development and in procurement to replace equipment worn out by a decade of miniwars and peace-keeping.

The two most likely flash points are South Korea and the Persian Gulf. But last year, the Air Force itself fought the equivalent of a major regional conflict in the skies over Serbia. So, even if tensions ease on the Korean Peninsula, QDR number-crunchers would be hesitant to change the two-MRC scenario.

In this regard, Gen. Henry H. Shelton, Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman, is required to submit his independent assessment. Pentagon planners say that if the general decides the two major regional conflicts present an unacceptable risk to his troops, he will say so.

The risks of increased casualties in a second war has shot up the past year because of combat-readiness shortfalls. Not all units have sufficient weapons and men to carry out their missions.

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9-14-00

Faulstich

DAVID HACKWORTH



Inside look at military readiness

Justin P.D. Wilcox resigned last week over the plague that's destroying our Army. He was a future George Marshall or Dwight Eisenhower. This nation's armed forces cannot continue to lose such dedicated patriots. Here, in his own words, is why he quit in disgust:

"Listening to the secretary of defense and top brass dispute the Bush/Cheney readiness claims has reaffirmed my decision to leave the Army as a captain this month. I served for the past five years in a



declining institution which needs urgent help from its top leadership. My decision to leave the Army stems from my refusal to live the 'readiness lie' portrayed by the nation's top leaders.

Their concern is so great that they surveyed majors with at least 10 years of service to discover why captains were leaving. It is hard to find out what is wrong when you really do not want to know.

"In the age of 'do more with less,' the most frequent topic of discussion for today's Army junior officer is the decision to leave the military. Accordingly, the top brass express their concern with the large numbers of captains departing the Army between four and six years of service.

"I was excited to begin my Army career after graduating from West Point in June of 1995, but over the next five years my zeal diminished. I realized that the brass and political leaders expected 110 percent capability but resourced for 50 percent. I received soldiers from Basic Training who could not pass fitness tests, qualify with their weapons, or uphold basic discipline standards.

"At Fort Bragg (N.C.), as a combat engineer in the XVIII Airborne Corps, my unit shot its weapons with live rounds only once a year for qualification and once a year for a live-fire exercise, due to ammunition constraints. Vehicles and equipment were rarely used during the months of August and September due to budgetary constraints at the end of the fiscal year. Newly fielded equipment did not meet the specifications of the equipment it replaced and only became reliable after at least two years of retro fits and recalls. (It is probably not known that from December 1998 until this summer, every new 2.5- and 5-ton vehicle on Fort Bragg, as well as the Army, could not be driven over 35 mph until retrofitted to prevent the drive shaft from drop-

ping during movement and causing the vehicle to flip.) On a weekly basis, I saw more attention placed on landscaping and details in the unit area than on training soldiers in the field.

"For those who claim these statements are merely subjective, I can offer further proof of the poor unit readiness I witnessed. For two years I participated in the unit readiness report for my battalion, as the project officer for the report and the head of battalion maintenance. Throughout the past year, maintenance or personnel issues have prevented achievement of top readiness ratings.

"Excellence is no longer the standard. The pursuit of mediocrity has become the norm. When will a general officer finally lay his stars on the table and stand up to the current administration for his soldiers?

"Junior officers stand where the 'rubber meets the road.' They have the responsibilities of preparing their soldiers for battle and ultimately to prepare them in such manner as to prevent casualties due to inexperience or lack of training. When the brass decide their objectives, the lieutenants and captains

bear the responsibility of taking these objectives.

"Retired Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf stated in his autobiography that a commander can delegate authority, but never responsibility. I realized that in the future I could be responsible for the deaths of too many men who could have been saved by proper training.

"I was not prepared to sacrifice good men, knowing that their deaths could have been avoided. I could not in good conscience continue to live the lie of our current readiness.

"When the next round of bloodshed by U.S. servicemen happens due to lack of preparation, the current brass and civilian/political leaders should be responsible for signing the following casualty notification letters:

"Dear Mrs. Smith, I regret to inform you of the death of your son. His death is my fault, for I did not properly train him."

Thank you for your rare courage, Capt. Wilcox.

David Hackworth, a retired colonel in the U.S. Army, is a columnist and author.

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Revised
Revised

American Committee of the International Philosophy Olympiad

Alexander M. Leeser
President, International Philosophy Olympiad
Executive Director, American Committee of the IPO

13 September 2000

00 SEP 14 9:00

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing to inform you of a development in regards to the IX International Philosophy Olympiad. During the past two weeks I was privileged to be in attendance at the Millennium Peace Summit as well as the State of the World Forum.

A very significant consensus derived from these meetings: History consists in an interactive human enterprise; the pace of transformation and the precarious conditions of global civilization demand immediate analysis; youth embody the horizon of futurity that must fund our understanding of the present; and it is incumbent upon us to inoculate our young people against the effects of the vast semantic shifts that threaten to bereave human wisdom of voice and language.

It is for this reason that I have decided to expand the scope of the Olympiad that the United States will host next May in Philadelphia. Attached please find details concerning the World Congress of Youth: Funding Global Vision. I believe that this initiative comprehends the significance of the vision adduced in the theme of the last World Congress of Philosophy and the ongoing mission of the *Paideia* project that commits philosophy to the education of humanity. Initiatives such as these constitute nothing less than prolegomena to the survival of our species.

[I am eager to learn of your reaction to the proposal that you serve as honorary chair of this event.]
The list of individuals who have agreed to participate in the organization of the World Congress of youth is, as you may read, quite impressive. The involvement of the most visionary and important leader of the new century would undoubtedly exercise a most profound effect upon the first World Congress of Youth to be held in the birthplace of modern democracy. I am joined by many others, including Secretary General Annan, in the hope that you will agree to convene this summit.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Leeser

Send to Cohen?

Yes

he

and

The World Congress of Youth: Funding Global Vision

An initiative of the American Committee of the International Philosophy Olympiad

"In the thought of tomorrow there is a power to upheave all thy creed, all the creeds, all the literature of the nations, and marshal thee to a heaven which no epic dream has yet depicted. We walk as prophecies to the next age."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

The following is a *draft* version for the review of organizations and individuals who may choose to be involved in this initiative. It is *not to be released in its current form*.

Introduction:

The World Congress of Youth is an initiative of the Committee of the Paideia project and the International Philosophy Olympiad. The International Philosophy Olympiad is an annual event sponsored by a different country each year. The IX International Philosophy Olympiad will take place next year in the United States. The International events are supported by national organizations around the world. The extraordinary acumen and philosophical commitment of the young people who are convened annually for this event offer the world community a unique opportunity to hold discussions with the emerging intelligentsia, and to enact the ideas and concepts that were the fruit of the millennial meetings that took place in New York this past summer.

The Program:

Earth Charter Initiative will provide the framework for the working sessions. While in New York, I met with several members of the Earth Charter Commission. One member of the Commission, John Hoyt, has already agreed to join the committee that I have begun to assemble to work on this project. I will be asking several other members of the commission to join this committee.

I also met with Pierre Marchand in New York. Mr. Marchand is the Chairperson of the Appeal of the Nobel Peace Prize Laureates for the Children of the World. This initiative endorsed by all of the Nobel Peace Laureates requests that the first decade of the next millennium, the years 2001-2010 be declared the INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE AND NON VIOLENCE FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD. Since the spirit of the IX Olympiad and the World Congress are so sympathetic to this cause, I am hopeful that Mr. Marchand and the Nobel Laureates will agree to endorse the World Congress of Youth: Funding Global Vision.

This initiative resonated deeply with the discussions that took place at the Millennium Summits and the World Forum. The stunning quality and breadth of the individuals, institutions, and organizations that have already agreed to support the concept of the World Congress testify to the dramatic significance and great promise of this summit meeting of youth. Jane Goodall, Wally N'Dow, Karan Singh, Ted Kennedy, Thomas Berry and Deepak Chopra, Prince Norodom of Cambodia, Robert Muller and President Wahid of Indonesia have already agreed to serve on the Board of International Advisors. I will be presenting this initiative to others including Queen Nor of Jordon, Oscar Arias, Rudd Luubers, and Seiji Ozawa.

The institutions that have agreed to participate in this initiative are also quite impressive. As I mentioned, the Earth Charter Initiative will provide the framework for the summit meeting. Thus John Hoyt and the rest of the Earth Charter Commission will play a key role in organizing the summit. The Arlington Institute and the International Space Sciences Organization have agreed to assist in providing delegates with state-of-the-art research capability as well as an informed sense of the scenarios that might result from rapid climate change. We are in discussion with Matts Karlsson at the World Bank that would present young delegates with information concerning the implications of poverty and its effect on Peace and global stability. The Global Security Institute will assist delegates in the examination of the threat posed by nuclear weapons. Biopolitics International has agreed to address the ethics of current biological and genetic advances. The Harvard-Yenching Institute will present delegates with a world-class perspective on Chinese thought and culture. The Global Dialogue Institute's Seven Stages of Deep Dialogue will contribute to the structural dynamics of the discussions that will take place among the delegates and their leaders.

Each of the supporting institutions will present twenty to thirty minute presentations in the context of a plenary meeting. Delegates will then participate in small group fora with the presenters. Each of these fora will be responsible for generating a report to be presented in a closing plenary. These reports will be published on an internet site. The goal summit will be for the young delegates to draft a philosophical Declaration of Purpose. This draft will be refined by on-line discussions that will take place among the delegations throughout the coming year.

Alexander M. Leeser

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Date: Thursday, September 14, 2000

**Pages including this
cover page:** 5

Comments:

14 September 2000

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Attached please find a letter to the President and a description of the World Congress of Youth initiative that developed while I was in New York.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Alexander M. Leeser

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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9-14-00

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

00 SEP 13 PM 4:14

Copied
Podesta
Tramontano

September 13, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: GENE SPERLING

SUBJECT: Additional Steps on Home Heating Oil

*TP - included
202 but in time
44 - Let's discuss
COP - only
Can't do more*

On Sunday morning, OPEC announced that it would increase crude oil production by 800,000 barrels per day. Although this will be allocated on a pro rata basis across OPEC members, countries other than Saudi Arabia may not have sufficient excess capacity to increase crude oil production. Accordingly, the markets are concerned that the actual production increase may be less than 800,000 barrels. On Monday, the price of oil for October delivery rose \$1.51 to close at \$35.14 per barrel based on market concerns that OPEC's production increase will not meet growing demand. On Tuesday it fell 86 cents to \$34.28.

In response to the possibility of high heating oil prices this winter, you approved last week a package to supplement the establishment of the home heating oil reserve in the Northeast. That package includes:

- Secretary Richardson meeting with refiners to discuss fall production issues;
- Encouraging federal, state and local governments to fill heating oil tanks early and contract for the purchase of heating oil for the winter;
- Announcing a substantial release of LIHEAP funds, while asking states to use the funds to encourage recipients to stock up early;
- Working with state utility commissions on issues surrounding interruptible natural gas contracts; and,
- Directing the Environmental Protection Agency to work with states on identifying flexibility in air quality plans to allow the use of heating oil with higher sulfur content.

In addition we will continue to work with the producers and major oil consuming countries to ensure that OPEC countries implement their recent decision to increase quotas and to get their commitment to further increase production if the market warrants it. Our overriding goal remains to get more oil on the market.

POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL STEPS

The interagency process has identified four policies that would be seen as more aggressive responses to the heating oil situation.

Policy 1: Initiate a Time Exchange of Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) Crude Oil

You could decide to initiate a time exchange of crude oil from the SPR. The Department of Energy (DOE) could provide 30 to 60 million barrels of crude oil from the SPR to the market in September and October (500,000 to 1,000,000 barrels a day for 60 days) in exchange for commitments to return slightly more oil to the SPR next year or in 2002. By putting more oil onto the market in the near term, we hope to reduce the current price somewhat relative to the future price and encourage more near term production of refined products, including home heating oil, by reducing refiners' costs. However, despite the diplomatic groundwork laid by you and Secretary Richardson, this option could elicit a negative response from oil producing nations.

The Energy Information Administration estimates that a 60 million barrel exchange would increase U.S. distillate stocks by about 4.6 million barrels by December and decrease retail heating oil prices by 1.0 cent in December and 2.6 cents per gallon in January. The economic agencies are skeptical of these estimates. Although there is not consensus among the agencies whether this would actually happen, the move would nonetheless be seen as a significant attempt to increase supply and reduce prices of crude oil.

Policy 2: Sell SPR Crude in a Test Sale. Use Proceeds to Purchase Heating Oil to Sell on the Open Market

This approach was not included in our prior memoranda. Secretary Richardson could use existing legal authority to undertake a 5 million barrel test sale of SPR crude oil. The proceeds of the test sale could then be used to purchase heating oil, preferably produced at refineries outside the United States that are not operating at capacity so as not to divert current domestic production. DOE could then import the heating oil and auction it on the open market. (The proceeds of the sale would be used to repurchase crude oil for the SPR within one year, as required by law). By purchasing oil from underutilized foreign refineries, DOE would be adding to private U.S. stocks heating oil that would otherwise have never come to the United States, though paying the extra cost of bringing that heating oil to the United States. This option has the advantage of producing additional heating oil directly and then allowing the market to allocate it (rather than keeping it in the Heating Oil Reserve). Further, since it involves a much smaller sale of SPR crude (5 million versus 30 - 60 million barrels), it should reduce the concerns about precedential use of the SPR to affect world crude prices. However, it is administratively and logistically more complex than the simple SPR time exchange.

Policy 3: Increase the Size of the Regional Home Heating Oil Reserve

You could direct DOE to increase the size of the home heating oil reserve by exchanging additional crude oil from the SPR for heating oil produced at refineries outside the United States that are not operating at capacity so as not to divert current domestic production. This would build on and support a program that we have already begun, and provide the government with a larger cushion against the effects of heating oil shortages or price spikes. DOE probably would have to pay above the domestic market price to obtain such heating oil because of the additional cost of transporting it to the United States. Further, we would have to address the absence of effective criteria for the use of the reserve, because until Congress authorizes a home heating oil reserve with a workable trigger, the trigger for the reserve is an energy supply emergency, the same as the crude oil reserve. Enlarging the reserve also runs the risk of discouraging private stockpiling and of underscoring our dependence on foreign production.

Policy 4: Propose Tax Incentive to Purchase Heating Oil Early in Season

We can design a tax credit to reward home heating wholesalers for purchasing heating oil early in the season and either storing it themselves or selling it to customers. This would be a clear incentive to build private stocks. A very rough calculation by CEA suggested that a credit decreasing from about \$2 per barrel to about \$1 per barrel might increase distillate production by about 4 million barrels by December. It would, however, involve a substantial on-budget expense (depending on the design, up to \$500 million) and be difficult to administer. Further, it would be difficult to get enacted and even if enacted it could be difficult to implement quickly enough to provide short-term relief this winter; it might serve to shift responsibility to the Congress without providing actual relief. As we did with the tax incentives for oil producers last March, we could tie the passage of this tax incentive to passage of our conservation and energy efficiency tax credits.

AGENCY VIEWS

As noted above, all of your advisors supported moving forward with the five elements in the base package. Each of your advisors recognizes the imperative to take an additional substantial step in order to demonstrate responsiveness to the possible heating oil situation this winter. There is, however, no consensus *which* step you should take. The interagency process has identified three additional options:

1. Initiate a Time Exchange of SPR Crude Oil (Policy 1)
2. Use SPR Crude to Acquire Foreign Heating Oil and Sell It Domestically (Policy 2)
3. Enlarge the Heating Oil Reserve *or* Propose Tax Incentive to Support the Building of Heating Oil Stocks (Policy 3 *or* Policy 4)

Time Exchange of SPR Crude Oil: While your advisors have some disagreements regarding the other options, they disagree most intensely about initiating a significant SPR crude oil exchange. (Attached to this memorandum are one page memoranda from both Secretary Richardson and Secretary Summers in which they convey their strongly held views in their own words.)

Secretary Richardson believes that two market conditions – historically low heating oil stocks and concerns about available worldwide oil production capacity – warrant a bold response from the United States government. Moreover, he believes that the American people believe that the Federal government owns this problem, and expect us to provide a credible response. He supports a crude oil exchange, which would ultimately obtain more oil for the SPR in the future while helping address the short-term heating oil shortage. In his view, an exchange presents an opportunity to add nearly 5 million barrels of heating oil to inventories in the Northeast by lowering refinery costs (the cost of crude oil) and increasing refinery margins, thereby creating an incentive for refiners to maintain high levels of capacity utilization throughout the fall, a time when they historically reduce utilization as they move away from the peak driving season. Secretary Richardson notes that an exchange is allowed under the law, and that prominent oil market analysts have indicated that an exchange is desirable and could be the government's only option to increase home heating oil stocks and dampen market speculation at this point.

Secretary Summers, Chairman Baily, Director Lew and NEC Director Sperling strongly oppose a crude oil exchange. They believe that using the SPR at this time would be a significant policy mistake. They believe that any attempted portrayal of the exchange as a policy relating to the technical management of the SPR (the legal justification for an exchange) would simply not be credible in the current environment, and they find the estimated potential benefits to be negligible (2.6 cents per gallon of heating oil and 4.6 million additional barrels according to the DOE's own estimates). In addition, they see four significant risks: Undertaking a large SPR exchange would increase the sense of Administration ownership of oil prices; it would be seen as setting a new and ill-advised precedent of using the SPR to manipulate oil prices; despite the diplomatic efforts with the Saudis, there is a risk that it will attract a high profile that it will lead other OPEC countries to adjust their supplies in response because it looks like we are pushing them around; and, if we use the SPR now, using it in response to a subsequent disruption of Iraqi oil would place the SPR under unprecedented operational demand. The State Department also opposes a crude oil exchange because of uncertainty about the reaction of other key producers and the prospect for only a limited effect on heating oil prices.

The National Security Council (NSC) had expressed concern in recent weeks that this action could provoke a negative reaction from the Saudis. Following your conversation with Crown Prince Abdallah and Secretary Richardson's conversation with Foreign Minister Saud Faisal in Los Angeles on Saturday, however, the NSC believes that the Saudis will understand a decision to initiate a time exchange of SPR crude oil, so long as it is justified as dealing with a home heating oil crisis and not as an attempt to affect crude prices and so long as they are not cited as approving our ability to use it. The NSC and the State Department has expressed a concern, difficult to evaluate, on whether use of the SPR here will undermine our ability to use it later in response to the potential for more disruptive production cuts by Iraq.

Test Sale of SPR Oil: Secretary Summers, Chairman Baily, Director Lew and NEC Director Sperling each support the initiation of a SPR test sale, with the proceeds being used to purchase preferably foreign heating oil for sale in the United States, because it directly pursues our goal of increasing U.S. heating oil inventories. It is more directly related to building heating oil reserves than an SPR crude oil exchange, and according to Office of Management and Budget estimates is likely to increase heating oil inventories by 3.5 to 4 million barrels, almost as much as a 60 million barrel SPR exchange, without the concerns of policy and precedent raised by that option. Although heating oil markets are tight worldwide, the economic agencies believe that by paying a market price, the government can find heating oil on the market (if not, then none of these proposals would work). Unlike enlarging the heating oil reserve, it would place the stocks in private hands so that the market can direct the use of the heating oil.

Although this proposal is a test sale and not an exchange, because it represents a 5 million barrel removal of oil from the SPR rather than a 60 million barrel removal, and because it is narrowly targeted at finding heating oil instead of reducing the price of crude oil, it should be of less concern to the Saudis and other foreign producers. At the same time, however, it would demonstrate our ability and willingness to use the SPR, and might reduce market volatility by offering the markets, which are concerned about the availability of excess oil production capacity anywhere in the world, some assurance that we could initiate a larger exchange or release of SPR oil if necessary in the near future. The economic agencies acknowledge that there is a risk that some of the heating oil could be exported, but note that this same risk exists under the SPR crude swap proposal. Finally, it is less expensive and more likely to be accomplished than the tax incentive proposal.

Secretary Richardson strongly opposes this option on both policy and operational grounds. He argues that: 1) this is a totally untested SPR initiative; 2) even if it were workable, he believes it likely will net only three million barrels of distillate, after transportation and transaction costs are factored in, versus DOE's estimate of almost five million barrels for the SPR crude oil exchange; 3) there is no evidence that there is distillate available outside the normal U.S. supply chain (the Saudis, for example have represented that they have no distillate available); and, 4) even if there were distillate available somewhere in the world, in addition to the high transportation costs associated with physical transport of the product over long distances, 50 percent of this product would have to be transported on U.S.-flag tankers, pursuant to the Cargo Preference Act, for which waivers are usually only granted in emergencies, and which generally generate opposition from labor unions.

Secretary Richardson believes that time consuming or complex regulations that could take 60 to 90 days to issue (too late to respond to this crisis) would be required to ensure that there is actually a net-gain to U.S. heating oil supplies, and that there is no way to ensure that buyers of heating oil sold by the government will not export it. Finally, Secretary Richardson notes that an SPR sale is completely contrary to his representations to Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal that we are only considering an exchange.

If you choose this option, both the NSC and the State Department request adequate time to discuss it with the Saudis before announcing it.

Enlarging Heating Oil Reserve or Tax Incentives: If you do not choose to undertake a test sale, then your economic advisors believe that you should either enlarge the heating oil reserve or propose a tax incentive to promote building inventories of heating oil. Secretary Summers and Director Lew recommend that you increase the size of the home heating oil reserve, because we can do it ourselves without legislation, it is less expensive than other remaining options, and it reminds people of what we have already done. Moreover, Secretary Summers is concerned that implementing tax incentives would be administratively complex. NEC Director Sperling recommends instead that you propose a tax incentive to support the building of heating oil inventories because it is most directly targeted at creating an incentive to build stocks of heating oil, which is the underlying problem. Moreover, he believes that as a new policy, such a tax incentive could attract significant public attention that could aid in its passage. Chairman Baily is comfortable with either option.

Secretary Richardson strongly supports the tax incentives because they will increase incremental stocks of heating oil, but does not believe that the tax incentives are sufficient to replace the SPR crude oil exchange option.

DECISION

Option 1: Initiate an Exchange of SPR Crude Oil _____

Option 2: Test Sale of SPR Crude Oil, Purchase Heating Oil With Proceeds _____

Option 3: Enlarge the Regional Heating Oil Reserve *or* Propose Tax Incentive _____

Let's Discuss _____



The Secretary of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

September 12, 2000

UNCLASSIFIED BUT SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

From: Bill Richardson *BR*
RE: Possible SPR Exchange

BACKGROUND

U.S. crude oil stocks are the lowest they have been since 1976; measured in terms of days of supply, they are at the lowest level ever recorded. Nationwide, stock levels of distillate are 20 percent lower than they were last year. Even more worrying, stock levels on the East Coast – the primary market for home heating oil – are 44 percent lower than they were last year.

- ◆ 8/99 distillate inventories nationwide: 140.0 million barrels
- ◆ 8/00 distillate inventories nationwide: 110.0 million barrels
- ◆ 8/99 distillate inventories in the Northeast: 65.5 million barrels
- ◆ 8/00 distillate inventories in the Northeast: 35.7 million barrels

Last year was a mild winter and a single cold snap sent heating oil prices over \$2.00 per gallon; another week of cold weather would likely have resulted in spot heating oil shortages. It could be much worse this year, because we are starting from a lower distillate inventory base line and crude oil prices are higher.

SPR EXCHANGE

As you know, we are currently authorized to do a time exchange of SPR oil in order to acquire more oil for the SPR at a future date. An example of how an exchange would work: ExxonMobil is awarded the winning bid to take 15 million barrels of oil at today's price of \$34 per barrel. Exxon contracts with DOE to return 16.5 million barrels of oil to the SPR starting in April 2002. Futures prices in April 2002 are \$26 per barrel. Exxon makes money on the spread between \$34 and \$26 and the SPR gets more oil.

The impact of an exchange would be to marginally lower crude oil prices and temporarily increase refiner margins, providing additional incentive to maximize production. Refiners in the United States are currently operating at 99 percent capacity, although under normal circumstances, they would cut back to around 92 percent in October, November, and December. Lowering the underlying price of crude oil would provide additional incentive for refiners to produce at maximum



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capacity. If we decided to proceed with an exchange, we would meet with refiners to see about possible sequencing of refinery maintenance in order to maximize production.

An exchange would be temporary – we would announce from the outset the number of days the oil would be available and when we would start returning it to the SPR. We would be putting oil on the market now when demand is strong, and pulling it off the market in six or eighteen months, when demand is normally lower. A sale of SPR oil requires a Presidential finding of an energy emergency; an exchange is allowed under law. A sale is permanent and depletes the SPR; an exchange actually adds to our reserves.

We estimate that an exchange could add up to five million barrels of distillate to the market by December. This amount will not move us into the normal range for distillate stocks but it will help. The Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve will also help and should be fully operational by the end of October.

SENSITIVITIES

Concern: A large exchange of SPR oil would be a major change in SPR policy.

Response: An exchange represents a change in how we have historically managed the SPR but it is an authority that exists under current law and would ultimately result in additional oil in the SPR. Historically low crude and heating oil stocks in the U.S. are a serious problem. This change in policy, while not radical (we have done small exchanges in the past) is warranted given current market conditions – this action would signal to the American public that we are prepared to change our policy to make certain there is heating oil this winter. All other significant options under consideration envision pulling supply off the market (e.g., doubling the size of the Reserve), which would place additional pressure on markets – and likely raise prices -- as we enter the heating oil season

Concern: An exchange might not work – a crude oil exchange is an extremely indirect way to impact heating oil stocks.

Response: Without exception, oil market analysts report that the fundamental problem with heating oil stocks is the underlying high price of crude. An exchange is the only option under consideration that would actually add supply to the market. A significant number of market analysts believe that the lack of worldwide production capacity is driving prices and are privately urging DOE to do an exchange of SPR oil.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON D.C.

September 13, 2000

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

00 SEP 13 PM 2:17

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Lawrence H. Summers *LH*

SUBJECT: Strategic Petroleum Reserve

Chairman Greenspan and I believe that using the Strategic Petroleum Reserve at this time, as proposed by DOE, would be a major and substantial policy mistake. Even DOE suggests its impact on heating oil prices would be quite small. Moreover, it would set a new and ill-advised precedent, and the claim that the exchange is nothing more than a policy of technical SPR management would simply not be credible in the current environment. If you are inclined to authorize a SPR exchange, I would like to speak with you before you make your decision.

The proposed sale of 60 million barrels is $3\frac{1}{2}$ times as large as the largest previous such sale, which was during the Gulf War. Even DOE estimates that the proposed sale would reduce the price of home heating oil by only 2.6 cents per gallon by January. An effect of this size would be lost in day-to-day price fluctuations. In part, the modest size of the impact reflects the fact that refineries in the U.S. have only limited capacity, no matter what the availability of crude petroleum.

Chairman Greenspan and I believe, for a number of reasons, that even this modest effect overestimates the probable impact. In particular, DOE fails to take account of (a) any offsetting effect from the repurchase segment of the swap; (b) any offsetting reduction in privately held inventories; and (c) any reduction in supply, including a possible reduction in over-quota production by OPEC members.

The downsides of a SPR exchange outweigh the limited benefits.

- The current tight world oil market and the political problems that this is raising in a number of countries creates a situation in which Iraq might attempt to disrupt markets by withholding supplies. We need to be in a position to respond immediately and forcefully should Iraq do so. Using the SPR at this time diminishes its psychological value as a potential response to Iraqi mischief. More importantly, using the SPR to replace more than 2 million barrels per day in lost Iraqi production *in addition to* the proposed 1 million barrels per day exchange would place the SPR under unprecedented operational stress.

- Using the SPR at this time would be seen as a radical departure from past practice and as an attempt to manipulate prices. The SPR was created to respond to supply disruptions and has never been used simply to respond to high prices or a tight market. Given the substantial size of the proposed sale, and its proximity to both the OPEC meeting and the November election, it will be impossible to argue credibly that the proposed exchange is simply a technical SPR management policy.
- Despite the diplomatic efforts with the Saudis, there is a substantial risk that others will adjust their supplies in response. It will be impossible to exchange 60 million barrels without attracting considerable attention. Oil producers make ongoing adjustments. We cannot predict how this change in the equation will impact their judgements on balance. When combined with the diplomatic pressure that has been placed on OPEC by a number of consuming nations, producing nations are likely to believe that they will be perceived as bowing to U.S. pressure if they fail to respond adversely to this use of the SPR. Furthermore, using the SPR would expose us to valid charges of naiveté because we would be using changes in crude supply as a very blunt tool for dealing with the prospect of high heating oil prices.
- Engaging in a large SPR exchange would increase the sense of Administration ownership of oil prices. It would set a dangerous precedent that would put pressure on all future Presidents and call into question our commitment to the free operation of these markets.

I understand the salience of the oil price issue. There are alternatives available involving the SPR that are focused and targeted on the home heating oil issue. These would be less threatening to the Saudis because they are smaller and better targeted, and they would not jeopardize our capacity to respond to Iraqi mischief and set a much less dangerous precedent.

9-14-00

Preventive Medicine Research Institute

A non-profit public benefit institute dedicated to research, education, and service

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September 12, 2000

TO: President Bill Clinton

FROM: Dean Ornish, M.D. *Deu*

Rep. Charles Rangel has introduced a bill, H.R. 4107 (enclosed) that would authorize Medicare to pay for a limited number of patients who want to make comprehensive lifestyle changes as a direct alternative to bypass surgery or angioplasty. Over ~~\$30~~ billion were spent last year on bypass surgery and angioplasty in Americans over age 65, so the potential cost savings are enormous as confirmed by Guy King (who was HCFA's chief actuary 1978-1994) and, separately, by David Eddy, M.D., who is considered the leading cost-benefit analyst.

1 In our earlier demonstration project in eight different hospitals throughout the United States, we found that almost 80% of people were able to avoid bypass surgery or angioplasty for at least three years. Mutual of Omaha calculated saving almost \$30,000/patient. More recently, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield has been both covering and offering the program. Of the first 300 participants, 299 of them avoided surgery, saving over \$16,000/patient.

After six years of discussions with HCFA, I am frustrated that our Medicare demonstration project has run into a series of roadblocks that I discussed recently with Chris Jennings. I believe that the legislative route is the best way to proceed. We have bipartisan support for this lifestyle program from a disparate group of legislators ranging from Reps. Rangel, Archer, Hastings, and Burton to Senators Frist, Feinstein, Boxer, Gephardt, Rockefeller, Harkin, Mikulski, Robb, and others. As an indication of the bipartisan support, Rep. Burton (I know...) even held Congressional hearings last year to encourage HCFA to move forward. As far as I know, no one in Congress opposes this bill.

Earlier today was a meeting with Steve Lieberman, Joe Antos, and Jennifer Bullard of the Congressional Budget Office in Rep. Rangel's office. The CBO agreed that even if our lifestyle program had no benefit whatsoever, the total cost would not exceed \$7 million in each of the first two years and \$14 million in the next three years. They should be giving us a formal estimate in the next week or two.

I hesitate to ask you for anything, but I would be deeply grateful if you would make this legislation a priority in your year-end negotiation with Congress. We have an opportunity to do something that can benefit all Americans. Please call me if you have any questions or would like any additional information. Thank you so much, as always.

CHARLES B. RANGEL
15TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
NEW YORK
DEPUTY WHIP
COMMITTEE
WAYS AND MEANS
RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE
JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

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PLEASE RESPOND TO
OFFICE CHECKED

September 12, 2000

To The Congressional Budget Office:

Unfortunately I was just called to the House floor to manage a bill. I will make every attempt to return before this meeting is over.

Thank you for making the time to participate in this meeting. I appreciate your coming here at such a busy time, and especially appreciate all the time and effort you have put into this bill thus far. It is important to me that it is passed this year, so I want to work with you today to revise the language in the bill. Representative Archer, President Clinton and many others support this bill.

Almost \$20 billion were spent in 1997 on bypass surgery and angioplasty in Americans over 65, so there is a great potential for saving money. This legislation helps the American people by giving them an alternative to surgery. We understand that you are concerned about the lack of clarity and specificity in the language. We want to better understand your concerns so that we can draft language that addresses these and better reflects my original intent.

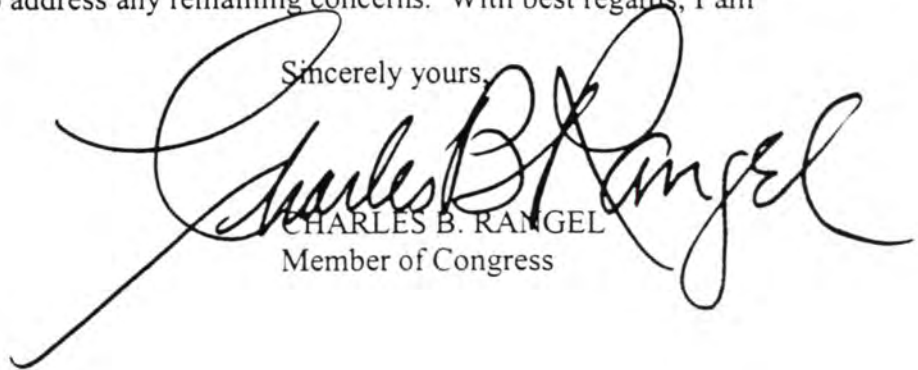
First, the details of the patient selection criteria were omitted from the original version of the bill that you reviewed. These have now been included. Because of this, the benefit will be limited to a much smaller number of eligible people and it will provide a much greater level of protection against the possibility of fraud and abuse.

Second, I have added language that will limit the number of participants who can be reimbursed for this benefit to no more than 1,000 patients in the first year, no more than 1,000 in the second year, no more than 2,000 patients in the third year, no more than 2,000 in the fourth year and no more than 2,000 in the fifth year. After three years, the benefit will end if the Secretary of Health and Human Services has determined that there has been a net cost compared to the current treatments.

CBO, page 2

Attached is a draft of the revised bill. I would welcome your input so we can now make appropriate revisions to address any remaining concerns. With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Charles B. Rangel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress

CBR:ak



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bob Crytzer
412.544.4221
rcrytzer@highmark.com

Latest results of Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield's Dr. Dean Ornish Program for Reversing Heart Disease demonstrates outstanding lifestyle improvements by the men and women who took bold step in quest for longer, better, happier lives

The first health insurer in the United States to provide and pay for the Ornish program targets saving more than \$16,000 in health care costs per participant while sparing people untold pain and suffering

Of 300 participants to date, none have died, suffered a heart attack or stroke or required bypass surgery or a heart transplant since entering the program

PITTSBURGH, Pa. (March 28, 2000) – Many of the 300 participants in Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield's two-year-old Dr. Dean Ornish Program for Reversing Heart Disease couldn't walk across a room without experiencing shortness of breath or chest pain when they first entered the program. Moreover, many had already suffered heart attacks or undergone bypass surgery or angioplasty and were well on their way to another life-threatening cardiac event.

Today, the exercise and oxygen capacities of those same participants are up significantly. They're walking or running miles at a clip without gasping for breath or

suffering chest pain. (One participant recently climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, which at 19,565 feet, is the highest mountain in Africa.)

The participants have lost weight and dropped overall body fat. Their cholesterol levels have fallen precipitously. Their blood pressure is down. Chest pain (angina) has decreased by 54%. None of them has suffered a heart attack or stroke. No participants have needed bypass surgery. Only one has had an angioplasty. One participant has avoided a heart transplant and a lifetime of anti-rejection drug therapy. No participants have died. These outcomes are remarkable given the baseline risk profile of the participants. (Please see attached chart on outcomes.)

What's more, their attitudes toward life in general have improved markedly. They're happier, less hostile and have learned how to cope with stress.

In short, they've resumed normal, everyday activities that most people take for granted, but ones they thought were lost forever.

"Highmark's Dr. Dean Ornish Program for Reversing Heart Disease has given me a new lease on life," said program participant Gerry Blair, a 55-year-old executive director of a Western Pennsylvania transit authority whose lifestyle was severely altered after suffering two heart attacks, repeated and painful chest pain, and undergoing bypass surgery and three angioplasties. "I haven't felt this good in years," Blair said. "I feel like I'm in my 20s."

"The Dr. Dean Ornish program is action that substantiates our mission: to help our members live longer and better," said Anna L. Silberman, a vice president at Highmark, and the person who brought the program to the company. "The success of the program is borne out in the avoidance of painful and expensive cardiac events. It's the right thing to do and it's the cost-effective thing to do. Health care dollars are being saved that

historically has been spent on by-pass surgery (average cost: \$46,000 per person) and angioplasty (average cost: \$31,000 per person).

Highmark estimates up to 80 percent of its Ornish participants would have needed heart surgery in the next five years if they hadn't joined the program.

Highmark's estimated cost savings per participant is \$16,186.

"Highmark is to be congratulated for the outstanding results it is demonstrating in Western Pennsylvania," said Dean Ornish, M.D., creator of the only system scientifically proven to reverse heart disease without surgery or drugs.

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield is the first health insurer in the United States to provide the Dr. Dean Ornish Program for Reversing Heart Disease, which is for men and women who are searching for an option that may reduce the need for bypass surgery or angioplasty. The program is free to medically qualified members of all Highmark health insurance products, including SecurityBlue, Highmark's Medicare HMO. Scholarships are available to assist medically qualified nonmembers who want to participate in the program but do not have the financial resources.

Participants begin the program with an intensive 12-week regime (they meet twice a week for five hours) that includes aerobic exercise, stress management, a low-fat vegetarian meal plan (participants are allowed only 10 percent of their total calories from fat) and group support. Throughout the program, participants are carefully monitored by the program team, which includes a medical director, nurse case manager, behavioral health clinician, stress management instructor, exercise physiologist and registered dietitian.

Following the initial three months, participants progress to varying levels of program attendance based on individual risk factors. After one year, follow-up and ongoing support are always available.

The program is also conducted in the form of week-long retreats called Camp HealthPLACE for medically eligible individuals who cannot participate in the year-long treatment.

Candidates for the program include:

- Men and women who are contemplating bypass surgery or angioplasty but are seeking an option that may reduce the need for these procedures;
- Patients who have previously experienced one or more heart procedures and want to minimize the chances of repeating the process; and
- People with significant risk factors for cardiovascular disease, such as a strong family history, high serum cholesterol levels, high blood pressure or diabetes.

The objectives of the program are:

- ◆ Reduction of blockages in coronary arteries;
- ◆ Improvement of blood flow to the heart;
- ◆ Reduction in chest pain (angina);
- ◆ Reduction in serum cholesterol levels; and
- ◆ Improvement in exercise capacity, sense of well-being and satisfaction with life.

The program is the result of several scientific studies conducted over two decades by Dr. Ornish, president and director of the nonprofit Preventive Medicine Research Institute in Sausalito, Calif. Dr. Ornish and his colleagues have demonstrated that

comprehensive lifestyle improvements involving diet, exercise, stress management and group support can improve blood flow to the heart.

Highmark's Dr. Dean Ornish Program for Reversing Heart Disease is delivered through its HealthPLACE division. HealthPLACE is a network of community-based wellness centers located throughout Western Pennsylvania. HealthPLACE provides health promotion programs, disease prevention services and the support individuals need to integrate positive behavior changes permanently into their lives. The centers offer a variety of health resources to the community including healthy cooking classes, cholesterol and cancer screenings, flu shots, seminars on relaxation techniques and a library of print and video materials.

With \$7.4 billion in revenues and nearly 20 million customers nationwide, Highmark Inc. ranks among the country's top 10 health insurers. The company was created in 1996 through the consolidation of Blue Cross of Western Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Blue Shield. Highmark's product portfolio includes traditional health insurance coverage, managed care health plans, life and casualty insurance and dental and vision programs. In Western Pennsylvania, the company does business as Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. In central and eastern Pennsylvania, Highmark operates as Pennsylvania Blue Shield.

Press releases and other information about Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield and its products and services, including the Dr. Dean Ornish Program for Reversing Heart Disease, are available at <http://www.highmark.com> on the Internet.

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106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4107

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of a program of coordinated lifestyle changes to reverse individuals at significant clinical risk for a heart attack under part B of the medicare program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 28, 2000

Mr. RANGEL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of a program of coordinated lifestyle changes to reverse individuals at significant clinical risk for a heart attack under part B of the Medicare Program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. COVERAGE OF LIFESTYLE CHANGES FOR INDIVIDUALS AT SIGNIFICANT RISK OF HEART**
2
3 **ATTACKS.**

4 (a) **COVERAGE.**—Section 1861(s)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(2)) is amended—

6 (1) in subparagraph (S), by striking “and” at
7 the end;

8 (2) in subparagraph (T), by inserting “and” at
9 the end; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:
11

12 “(U) services furnished under a coordinated
13 lifestyle change program (as defined in subsection
14 (uu)(1)) for certain individuals (described in subsection (uu)(2)) who are at a significant risk of a
15 heart attack;”.

17 (b) **SERVICES DESCRIBED.**—Section 1861 of such
18 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x) is amended by adding at the end
19 the following new subsection:

20 “Coordinated Lifestyle Change Program

21 “(uu)(1) The term ‘coordinated lifestyle change
22 program’ means a program of 1 year’s duration that—

23 “(A) is designed for individuals described in
24 paragraph (2);

25 “(B) consists of lifestyle changes, including a
26 very low-fat, low-cholesterol diet, stress management

1 techniques, moderate exercise,
 2 and psychosocial support, without the use of chole-
 3 terol-lowering drugs;

4 “(C) has been validated to reverse disease in
 5 the majority of patients, as measured by quan-
 6 titative coronary arteriography in a scientific study
 7 that is at least 5 years in duration and that used
 8 randomly-assigned control and experimental groups;
 9 and

10 “(D) is conducted by a medical facility that is
 11 experienced in conducting such a scientifically vali-
 12 dated program, or whose staff has been trained by
 13 such a facility.

14 “(2) An individual described in this paragraph is an
 15 individual—

“(A) whose physician has recommended revascularization (in the form of angioplasty or coronary artery bypass graft surgery) in the near future (within 3 weeks) and certifies that the individual has met the conditions of subparagraph (B) and (C); and is referring the patient to this program as a direct alternative to bypass surgery or angioplasty;

“(B) who has angina and has undergone at least one diagnostic study which demonstrates clinically significant ventricular myocardium at risk for infarction -such study shall include one of the following:

(1) a coronary angiogram (with estimated ejection fraction) demonstrating clinically significant lesions in coronary arteries;

(2) a nuclear imaging study showing a reversible perfusion defect;

(3) a stress echo study showing an inducible wall motion abnormality;

(4) a cardiac positron emission tomography scan with demonstrating a perfusion defect, or

(5) such other tests and test results as the Secretary may determine are appropriate.

“(C) The individual is not disqualified from the program under this subsection because of unstable angina, heart attack, dementia, unrelated life-threatening co-morbidities, or resides outside the service area of the program (generally defined as ninety minutes of commute).”

23 (c) PAYMENT.—Section 1833(a)(1) of such Act ~~(42~~

24 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)) is amended—

25 (A) by striking “and” before “(S)”; and

1 (B) by inserting before the semicolon at
2 the end the following: “, and (T) with respect
3 to services furnished under a coordinated life-
4 style change program (as defined in subsection
5 (uu)(1)), the amount paid shall be 80 percent
6 of the lesser of the actual charge for the serv-
7 ices or the amount determined to be reasonable
8 and related to the costs of furnishing such serv-
9 ices (taking into account the period of time dur-
10 ing which the services are furnished).”

Except that, no payment shall be made for more than

1,000 individuals in calendar years 2001 and 2002;

2,000 individuals in calendar years 2003, 2004, and 2005.

The limitation shall be waived in 2004 and 2005 if the following conditions are met:

(i) The Secretary shall conduct a study to be provided to Congress by July 1, 2003 of the individuals served in the program under this subsection during 2001;

(ii) The study determines that the total costs of services to such individuals under this title are either lower or the same as expected costs to such individuals if their heart condition had been treated by methods other than by a coordinated lifestyle change program. [To be amplified.]

(iii) The United States General Accounting Office shall review the study to assure that a full accounting of costs and savings from reduced surgery, hospitalization, pharmaceuticals, rehabilitation, and other savings are reported.

11 (d) PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS.—Section 1866(e)

12 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395cc(e)) is amended—

13 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph

14 (1);

15 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
16 graph (2) and inserting “; and”; and

17 (3) by adding at the end the following new
18 paragraph:

19 “(3) a medical facility described in section
20 1861(uu)(1)(D), but only with respect to the fur-
21 nishing of services under a coordinated lifestyle
22 change program (as defined in subsection (uu)(1)).”.

1 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section apply to services furnished on or after Janu-
3 ary 1, 2001.

○

MBE

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTREPRENEUR

THE PRESIDENT'S

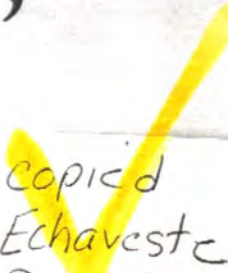
9.14-00

Pres Clinton

Main - P/S review - see
what more we can (showed)
do — Bz

Continued Vigilance and Leadership Make a Difference, But . . .

It's time for the president to reenergize
the federal government's support
of minority business.


Copied
Echaveste
Podesta

By Weldon H. Latham

Weldon H. Latham is a senior partner in the Washington, D.C. offices of Holland and Knight, a law firm with more than 1,000 attorneys nationwide. An authority on federal procurement, small business law and government relations, Latham represents numerous minority and small businesses, and counsels several Fortune 100 CEOs concerning their corporate diversity disputes and programs. He is also an informal advisor to the President of the United States and the Congressional Black and Hispanic Caucuses on minority business and diversity issues, a member of the SBA administrator's National Advisory Council, and first vice chair of the SBA Commerce Department MED Week 2000. He is also general counsel of the National Coalition of Minority Businesses.

Continued Vigilance and Leadership Make a Difference, But...

It's time for the president to reenergize the federal government's support of minority business.

By Weldon H. Latham

While the Clinton/Gore Administration was slow to get started (see MBE *January/February 1993*, "Great Expectations" and *May/June 1994*, "Slow Dancing"), the record of President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore in support of federal minority business programs, private sector procurement diversity programs under the "One America" Initiative, and employment equality under the Labor Department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs' (OFCCP) cooperative initiatives, has surpassed the record of all previous administrations.

These so-called "affirmative action" programs came under vicious, unjustified attack during the Republican Contract On America [certain aspects of the "Contract With America" sought to end "preference" programs] and the brief heyday of former House Speaker Newt Gingrich.¹ Minorities and women were fortunate during this turbulent period to have strong advocates of "inclusionary diversity pro-

grams" in the White House. Over the last 7-plus years of the Clinton/Gore Administration, the minority business community, led by such organizations as the National Coalition of Minority Businesses (NCMB), the Minority Business Enterprise Legal Defense and Education Fund (MBELDEF), and the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC), *et al.*, has faced a number of challenges to the very existence of federal and private sector minority business efforts, including: (1) the negative effects of federal contract bundling and private sector enterprise agreements, (2) a right-wing dominated Congress often attacking and openly hostile to "inclusion," and (3) the legal and policy challenges of the Supreme Court's *Adarand* decision. In the face of these obstacles, Clinton has supported minority business from one crisis to the next and has helped preserve and, in certain respects, improve the climate for minority business participation in the federal, other public, and private sector markets.

¹ During right-wing attacks, opponents unfairly sought to re-define the term "affirmative action" suggesting that these programs, which sought to redress the legitimate grievances of African Americans, Hispanics, other minorities and women in employment, education, and business, were unnecessary and unfair "preferences." In order to more clearly communicate the meaning and purpose of these programs, they are hereinafter referred to as "inclusionary diversity programs".

Many current-day Republicans either never knew or have forgotten that many of today's inclusionary minority business programs were created by **President Nixon**, who recognized that the future economic success of this nation required an end to discriminatory exclusion of minority citizens—particularly African Americans—who were banned from the American free enterprise system, by law or in fact. President Nixon supported legislation to foster such inclusion and supplemented those laws with Executive Orders that created the Office of Minority Business Enterprise (OMBE), predecessor to the current Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) (Exec. Orders 11458 and 11625), the 8(a) Program (Exec. Order 11518), and the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP)² (Exec. Order 11246, as amended).

As President Clinton nears the end of his highly successful second term, his performance in the areas of minority business development and empowerment demonstrates the

impact that a president can have on the nation's attitude about racial fairness and inclusion, in both federal procurement and private sector supplier diversity programs. President Clinton needs to take actions similar to those taken by Nixon in order to preserve and protect current minority business enterprise programs. We are confident that before

cans that the longest period of economic growth and expansion could only have been achieved under a president committed to the economic success and well-being of *all* Americans. Moreover, the critical role that this administration has played in the nation's economic resurgence sends another clear signal that the continuation of this

commitment, through the election this November of Vice President Gore as the next President of the United States, is clearly the best means to continue the success of the business community in general, the minority business community in particular, and, for that matter, every American. We have all benefited as a result of the economic turnaround since the record high unemploy-



Jon Conrad

ment figures, high interest rates and deficits of the previous administration.

But for the Clinton/Gore efforts to aid the minority business community (detailed below), these businesses may well have been left behind and therefore missed the economic resurgence of the last several years.

he leaves office, the president will, again, skillfully utilize his power to institutionalize and preserve the minority business development achievements of his administration.

We trust it is clear to most Ameri-

² OFCCP was originally created by President Johnson's Executive Order No. 11246 and amended by President Nixon and others.

Continued Vigilance

Clinton/Gore Track Record of Minority Business Support

Challenge #1: Acquisition Reform.

On August 21, 1994, Congress ushered in a new era of acquisition reform with the passage of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994 (FASA), Pub. L. No. 103-355. FASA, along with the subsequent Clinger-Cohen Act, Pub. L. No. 104-106, and the downsizing of the federal workforce, all of which were intended to benefit taxpayers and contractors. A by-product of that reform, *bundling*, has often resulted in agencies' awarding mega-contracts (which tend to be outside the reach of the *usually* smaller minority businesses) to large companies (that have themselves been consolidating to more effectively perform these large federal contracts) and underutilizing or totally excluding minority owned businesses.³

The Little Known Executive Order. One of the responses to the anticipated harsh impact of acquisition reform was President Clinton's Executive Order 12928, which addresses minority business policy, as well as a number of program reforms. The purpose of this Executive Order, "Promoting Procurement with Small Businesses Owned and Controlled by Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Individuals...", which was issued September 16, 1994, was to rigorously enforce the letter and spirit of public laws that promote increased participation in federal procurement by minority businesses. This Order states, "It is the policy of the United States Government that *all* department and agency heads and *all* federal employees involved in the procurement of any and all goods and services shall assist small disadvantaged businesses (SDB)...to develop viable, self-sustaining businesses capable of competing on an equal basis in the mainstream of the American

economy...., [emphasis added]" and enumerates the actions that agencies *must* take, including contract awards and other procurement mechanisms to assist SDBs, achieving SDB goals, subcontracting plan enforcement, direct reporting by the Offices of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization to each agency head, and performance/result reporting to the president. Clearly, the purpose, message, and intent of the 1994 Order was positive, but its implementation has left a lot to be desired.

Anti-Bundling Rules. On December 2, 1997, as part of the administration's effort to ameliorate the adverse impact of contract bundling on small businesses, President Clinton signed into law the Anti-Bundling Act of 1997, Pub. L. No. 105-135. The anti-bundling law, which had been championed by Congressman Albert R. Wynn (D-Md.) (see MBE, *January/February 1998* "Mr. Fix-it") and Senate Small Business Committee Chairman Christopher "Kit" Bond (R-Mo.), requires agencies to justify and notify the Small Business Administration (SBA) Procurement Center Representative (PCR), and the small businesses affected, of any planned consolidation of two or more require-

ments previously satisfied under smaller contracts, if award to a small business would be unlikely. The SBA's regulations implement the law, generally requiring agencies to quantify cost benefits equivalent to 10 percent, if the contract value is \$75 million or less, or 5 percent, if the value is over \$75 million, to justify a planned consolidation. For bundled procurements, the PCR is required to work with the agency to maximize small business prime and subcontracting participation, including the participation of small business teams.

To increase small business participation as prime contractors, the SBA "affiliation" rule has been liberalized to encourage small businesses to team with one another to pursue certain contracts, (*e.g.*, bundled contracts and other contracts whose value exceeds one-half the size standard that corresponds to the SIC code assigned to the contract). For such procurements, a small business may joint-venture or team with another small business and qualify as "small" for the procurement, provided that each concern individually qualifies as "small." Further, for bundled procurements, the agency must evaluate (1) the rate of small business participation under the proposed subcontracting plan; and (2) as part of past performance, the extent of attainment of small business goals under prior contracts. Thus, these rules are likely to positively affect the scope and size of many procurements for "small" businesses, the composition of the teams that pursue these procurements, and the evaluation of proposals. While 8(a) firms and SDB concerns are by definition "small" and are eligible for all these benefits, the results have mainly benefited non-minority small businesses and greater attention must be paid to small minority owned businesses.

³ Classic examples of large government contractors that have been consolidated through merger/acquisition are (1) Boeing (which now includes the former Boeing, McDonnell Douglas, and Rockwell International) and (2) Lockheed Martin (formerly two companies Lockheed and Martin Marietta).

Clinton/Gore Track Record of Minority Business Support

Challenge #2: Right Wing Challenges, *Adarand* and Strict Scrutiny.

Perhaps the greatest test of President Clinton's commitment to federal inclusionary programs and to minority business, culminated on June 12, 1995, when the Supreme Court issued its decision in *Adarand Constructors Inc. v. Peña*. The 5-4 Supreme Court ruling instituted a new "strict scrutiny" standard of review under the Fifth Amendment for federal "affirmative action" programs, and then remanded the case to the lower courts for further consideration (see MBE July/August 1995, "Line in the Sand").

The President's Response. The president responded to *Adarand* the very next day, first noting Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's statement that "[t]he unhappy persistence of both the practice and the lingering effects of racial discrimination against minority groups in this country is an unfortunate reality, and government is not disqualified from acting in response to it, [emphasis added]."

He then said, "The Supreme Court's decision sets a new legal standard for judging affirmative action, but it must not set us back in our fight to end discrimination and create equal opportunity for all... The constitutional test is now tougher than it was, but I am confident that the test can be met in many cases."

One month later, on July 19, 1999, the president delivered his now well-known "Mend it, don't end it" speech, and declared that his administration would continue to strenuously enforce "inclusionary

programs—obviously, subject to the Supreme Court's mandate.

The president also issued a Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies, directing all to review their

programs for *Adarand* compliance while continuing to support measures that promote opportunities in employment, education, and government contracting for Americans subject to discrimination or its continuing effects.



Meaningful Affirmative Action Reforms. There have been certain casualties of the *Adarand* decision, most notably the Defense Department's SDB set-aside program that utilized the "Rule of Two"⁴ to set aside contracts for small disadvantaged participants. The Department of Justice has since attempted to implement the president's policy by ensuring that programs comply with *Adarand*. Between 1996 and 1998, the administration revised the SBA 8(a) program [a federal set aside program administered by the SBA] and developed a reformed SDB program. The new SDB program requires agencies to increase the price of non-SDB offers, for evaluation purposes, by 10 percent and to evaluate proposals in excess of \$500,000 (\$1 million for construction) on the basis of their proposed SDB contract participation. It also permits contracting officers to include a monetary incentive for prime contractors who exceed their SDB subcontracting target. While well-intentioned, these incentives are seldom utilized and are only available in the industries where the administration's "benchmarking" study has determined that there is quantitative evidence of continuing discrimination. In addition, contrary to the old SDB Program, all SDBs *now* must be certified by the SBA. The most notable and laudable change to the SBA 8(a) regulations is the institution of an 8(a) Mentor-Protégé Program in an effort to enhance its "developmental" aspects.

⁴Under DoD's Rule of Two, DoD prime contracts were to be set aside for small disadvantaged business (SDB) competitive procurements whenever two or more SDBs were available and qualified to present bids of no more than 10 percent above the government's estimated fair market value of the goods or services.

Continued Vigilance

Clinton/Gore Track Record of Minority Business Support

Challenge #3: A Hostile Congress.

The *Adarand* decision failed to accomplish the stated goal of minority business enterprise program opponents in the Congress—that of abolishing federal inclusionary diversity programs. Senators **Dole**, **Gramm**, and **Santorum** and Congressmen **Canady**, **Cox**, and **Meyers** each led efforts to abolish or curtail these programs, seeking to utilize authorizations or appropriations legislation. Only one of these efforts was successful, the Santorum amendment, which prohibits the Defense Department from using the price evaluation adjustment to assist SDBs if the Department achieved its 5 percent SDB goal during the prior fiscal year.

Legislative Success. Perhaps the administration's most significant legislative victory, in addition to stopping several negative bills and amendments of the opponents noted



above, was the reauthorization of the Department of Transportation (DoT) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program for all federally-assisted highway and transit programs. In both the House and the Senate, opponents sponsored anti-minority and female-inclusive

amendments that would have ended the program. Those efforts were defeated with the leadership of DoT Secretary **Rodney Slater** and the threat of a presidential veto. The reauthorization act, known as the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century ("TEA-21"), was signed into law by the president on June 9, 1998, and, among other things, reinstituted the DBE program.

New Markets Initiative. The president's New Markets Initiative encourages public-private partnerships to enhance business opportunities for small businesses owned by minorities, women, veterans and the handicapped (all of whom are underrepresented in the population of business owners) as well as businesses located in low and moderate income areas. These "new markets" are eligible for tax credits, loan guarantee incentives, access to a network of private venture capital companies, technical assistance, and mentoring under the BusinessLINC program of the vice president, the Treasury Department and the SBA.

National Coalition of Minority Businesses (NCMB) Membership Drive

We Need You!

NCMB, a nonpartisan, national trade association and advocacy group of minority business CEOs, is looking for new members to bolster its efforts to protect the rights of minority businesses. NCMB is a multiethnic, multiracial trade association of talented men and women representing every American minority group. We aggressively promote the interests of our members before the Federal Government—the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches—to secure favorable policies, legislation, and other actions that affect minority businesses. We urgently need your support —JOIN US TODAY.

Reasons to Join NCMB

Become part of the united front of minority leaders that protects the interests of all minority businesses. Keep up with current legislative, regulatory, and policy issues and how they affect your business. Stand up to attacks on Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, 8(a) and other federal contracting programs. Network with other minority business leaders. Have your own Washington representative.

Want to Join NCMB?

Contact Ms. Amy Nee
at NCMB

(202) 663-8111

Vice President Gore Has Demonstrated Support for Minority Business

In addition to his leadership on the BusinessLINC initiative, the vice president has demonstrated his support for the minority business community through his chairmanship of the Community Empowerment Board (CEB), which is led by CEB Executive Director Alvin Brown. CEB leads the administration's overall



NCMB Vice Chairman **Melvin E. Clark** (left), president and CEO, **Metroplex Communications**, Washington, D.C., looks on as **Weldon Latham, Esq.**, general counsel of the NCMB (center), presents the Legacy Award to **President William Jefferson Clinton**. The event was the First Annual Awards Dinner of the National Coalition of Minority Businesses (NCMB).

community empowerment initiatives, with special emphasis on the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community program. In February 2000, the CEB held a highly successful Contracting and Procurement Fair in Washington, D.C., as part of its effort to strengthen continuous partnerships with the minority business community and provide real contracting opportunities. Contracts amounting to nearly \$8 million were awarded "on the spot" at the CEB Fair. The vice president stated, "Through the CEB, I have led the effort to increase investment in areas that have been left behind from the unprecedented economic boom the country as a whole is enjoying. This has provided small businesses, particularly those that are minority owned, with extraordinary opportunities to access capital, expand their markets, and partner with larger companies.... This conference is another step in that direction."

Continued Vigilance Is Essential — Too Many Bureaucrats Obstruct Inclusionary Diversity Programs

The president's appointment of an unprecedented diverse team of committed department and agency heads, and subcabinet appointees, all of whom support minority business inclusion, has set the tone for the entire administration and serves as a powerful example to the private sector. "This is absolutely essential," the

president said in our exclusive interview (see September/October 1996, "Measure for Measure"). There still remains, however, a certain element within the bureaucracy that continues to be hostile to minority business interests and programs. Notwithstanding the leadership of Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater, Labor Secretary Alexis Herman, Defense Secretary William Cohen, Air Force Secretary Whitten Peters, HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo, Education Secretary Richard Riley, VA Secretary Togo West, SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez, NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin, Army Secretary Louis Caldera, and many others, there remain many government officials who directly or subtly oppose inclusionary programs. My experiences in representing minority contractors for nearly 25 years suggests that successful programs require both committed government support from the

top and constant advocacy from external organizations to help the leaders police their own bureaucracies. The following are actual experiences that NCMB member companies have encountered just over the past year.

- A civilian agency with an historically abysmal record of utilizing SDB concerns as prime contractors continued to exclude SDBs from program management and architectural/engineering support services by refusing to even consider placing these opportunities in the 8(a) program. Notwithstanding significant unjustified opposition, NCMB was ultimately successful in convincing the agency leaders that a major portion of the work should be set aside for 8(a) competition. The lesson is that it took the top leadership of the agency and the SBA to recognize that this historical exclusion was a problem and that aggressive steps were necessary in order to overcome the longstanding bias of certain bureaucrats against

Continued Vigilance

inclusion of minority businesses as primes.

• In another civilian agency with numerous significant contracts for debt collection, no minority business had ever been awarded a collection contract and, to date, the 8(a) program has still never been utilized. In 1998, a minority woman owned small business competitively won the "first ever" such contract in the life of the collections requirement, notwithstanding the agency's award of several such lucrative contracts to large majority owned firms. This particular situation identifies yet another pocket of federal procurements where 8(a) firms, minority owned businesses, and SDBs are still systematically excluded. This is one reason that 8(a), SDB and minority business utilization was so low at many agencies in FY99: Energy 1.40 percent; FERC 1.90 percent; EEOC 1.96 percent; OPM 3.71 percent; SEC 4.54 percent; and Education

4.76 percent. Many other departments and agencies that met or exceeded the minimally respectable goal of 5 percent still maintain pockets of federal procurements that completely exclude minority businesses from participation.

Only a few agencies operate independently of traditional statutory mandates, such as the Small Business Act, and they have a special responsibility to minority businesses that comes with Congress' trust in conferring such independent authority. In a recent situation, one such agency unjustifiably bundled all its telecommunications support contracts under one large contractor, thereby eliminating all support historically provided by both 8(a) and small contractors, contrary to the spirit the 1997 Anti-Bundling Act. Only the personal intervention by the head of the agency, following aggressive legal advocacy, stopped the bureaucracy from com-

pletely eliminating minority contracts.

Certain defense activities in particular have an enviable record of SDB utilization, but they too have pockets of exclusion where certain agency officials consistently reject the legitimate attempts of minority businesses, and even the SBA, to appropriately set aside procurements for the 8(a) program. And, SBA's PCRs often forget that their duties include representing the interests of minority small businesses, as well.

In light of these real-life examples, reductions in federal spending, and continuing pockets of exclusion of minorities from federal procurements (where the rule, even in the year 2000, is that minorities need not apply!), it is not surprising that in FY99, government-wide 8(a), SDB and minority owned business contracting fell, for the first time since the inception of the Clinton/Gore administration, below prior year levels.

Recommendations

To combat these well-established exclusionary patterns, President Clinton should issue a new Executive Order, (followed by OMB and SBA implementing Memoranda), which specifically supplements and strengthens his stated minority business policy, Executive Order 12928, and the underlying statutory authorities. This step would seek to institutionalize minority business enterprise achievements and preserve the president's well-established policy of support for the development of a business sector that includes and involves *all* Americans, thereby enhancing the nation's economic success. It would also help institutionalize federal support for minority business programs throughout the ranks of federal agencies. The new Order would update and expand on his previous efforts and require agencies to systematically identify programs where 8(a), SDB, and minority prime contractors have been heretofore excluded or underutilized.

The recommendation that the president issue a new Executive Order is supported by the Congress-

sional Black Caucus (CBC), under the leadership of Congressman **James Clyburn** (D-S.C.), and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) chaired by Congresswoman **Lucille Roybal-Allard**. In addition, individual CBC and CHC members, such as CBC member Congressman **Wynn**, discussed above, and CHC member Congresswoman **Nydia Velazquez** (D-N.Y.) (in line to be the next Chair of the Small Business Committee), have fought aggressively to preserve and strengthen the 8(a) and other minority business programs.

This Administration and the next must work with the CBC and the CHC, as well as minority business organizations such as NCMB, MBELDEF and others to ensure the continuation and enhancement of policies of inclusion, and that all federal officials, appointed and career, comply with the intent as well as the letter of federal inclusionary policies.

A strong Executive Order at this time would help preserve the Clinton administration's legacy of support for minority businesses. ♦

Daryle A. Jordan contributed to this article.

Foundry United Methodist Church

J. Philip Wogaman
Senior Minister

September 13, 2000

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Dear Mr. President:

As we approach the "home stretch" of your administration, there are two things Foundry Church would like you to consider:

- We'd be honored to have you preach (or bring a briefer message, if you prefer) to the congregation some Sunday before the conclusion of your time with us. That could be almost any Sunday of your choosing, with the possible exceptions of December 17 and 24.
- If it is possible to anticipate a bit in advance when your and Hillary's last Sunday at Foundry might be, the congregation would like to recognize that moment in a special way.

Of course, we are not assuming that the end of your term will necessarily mean you won't be at Foundry any more! You will always be more than welcome here!

Grace and peace,

Phil

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Trade Bill For China Clears Hurdle

By DAVID ROGERS

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON—The China trade bill cleared a last major hurdle as the Senate rejected a move by Beijing's critics to threaten U.S. sanctions if China continues to sell other countries sophisticated weapons technology.

Both the White House and the business community had lobbied strongly against the provision, and the 65-32 vote to table the measure greatly enhances the chances for final passage of the bill to grant Beijing its long-sought goal of permanent normal trade relations with the U.S.

The House approved the measure in May; by avoiding changes now, supporters hope to be quickly able to send the legislation to President Clinton, possibly next week. "This was the last stand of opponents to PNTR," said Sen. Robert Torricelli (D., N.J.).

China trade is a top priority for Mr. Clinton, who sees it as part of his political legacy. After intense lobbying, only nine Senate Democrats opposed the administration on the tabling motion, and the healthy margin of victory capped an eight-year campaign by Mr. Clinton to push Congress and his party toward a greater openness to global trade agreements.

Business groups seemed mostly relieved to have escaped what would have been an embarrassing setback. "It would have been a major, major loss," said Cal Cohen, president of the Emergency Committee for American Trade. The Business Roundtable described yesterday's vote as a "green light to the Senate to move quickly to pass PNTR."

For Republicans, the choice wasn't easy. The GOP appeared torn between its distrust of the president's China policy and its desire to please its own corporate backers. While many would have been delighted to have imposed a regime of new sanctions and reporting requirements on Mr. Clinton, the burden would have fallen more on the next president, when Republicans hope to be back in the White House.

The amendment's chief sponsor, Sen. Fred Thompson, is a party star and the man who led the Senate investigation of China's role in alleged campaign-finance abuses during Mr. Clinton's 1996 presidential campaign. As chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, the Tennessee Republican also has criticized the White House on how it controls the export of U.S. technology to Beijing, often by companies that were generous political contributors.

Mr. Thompson was scathing in his criticism of business leaders for pressuring lawmakers to play down the proliferation issue. "They resent it when we who have been elected by the entire population—people who are not corporate leaders—address ... matters of national security," Mr. Thompson said. "These little people who strut around here making implied threats ... need to be taken down a notch or two."

Joining him on the floor, Sen. Robert Byrd (D., W.Va.) said "our lips quiver" at the threats from the business lobby. "What weak dishwater is the excuse that we cannot add anything to the House-passed bill?" asked Mr. Byrd. "What a sorry spectacle is a Senate completely cowed by the possibility that we might upset the Chinese."

Mr. Thompson conceded that substantial authority already exists to impose sanctions for weapons proliferation, but he said a more extensive reporting requirement needs to be imposed that "makes it a little more difficult to game the system."

A senior administration official argued the result would have been counterproductive, however. The proposed standard of evidence of a violation—"credible information"—is too low and would trigger needless action, the official said. While Mr. Clinton or a future president could waive imposing sanctions, that by itself also removed any threat to China. "Sanctions are most effective when there is the threat of sanctions," the official said.

Sens. McCain, Schumer to Unveil Bill To Ease Generic Drugs' Entry to Market

By LAURIE MCGINLEY

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON—In a new bid to reduce prescription-drug costs, Sens. John McCain and Charles Schumer will unveil legislation today designed to make it easier for generic drugs to enter the market.

The measure would discourage or end several practices that makers of brand-name drugs use to stave off competition from generic rivals, according to Sen. Schumer (D., N.Y.). In an interview, he said ending these "patent abuses" was a fresh approach to reducing drug prices—one that didn't require price controls or government regulation but instead ensured quicker access to cheaper generic drugs. "Everyone agrees that innovation should be rewarded, but that after that, there should be competition," he said.

The legislation has little chance of being adopted in the time remaining to Congress this year, Sen. Schumer and aides to Sen. McCain (R., Ariz.) acknowledged, and there was no House sponsor lined up yesterday. But the bill is fresh evidence of continued efforts to rein in drug costs in ways opposed by drug companies, and Sen. Schumer predicted it would be a major priority next year.

The bill had early support from a wide range of political interests. It has been

endorsed by the Health Insurance Association of America, which represents health insurers; the Consumer Federation of America, and Consumers Union. HIAA President Chip Kahn said the bill would reduce insurers' drug costs and thus the premiums paid by consumers.

The legislation would bar makers of brand-name drugs from filing "frivolous" patents on nonessential items, such as dosage or tablet size, in order to block the approval of a rival drug by the Food and Drug Administration. It would prevent citizens' petitions, which are used by consumers and drug makers to raise questions about a drug, from delaying the approval of a generic version unless there was proof that health and safety issues were involved. "These petitions," said the bill summary, "often take up to two years to answer and create a logjam in the generic approval process."

In addition, the legislation would make it more difficult for makers of brand-name drugs to pay generic-drug competitors to delay their entry into the market—a practice currently being investigated by the Federal Trade Commission.

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, the brand-name-drug industry's main trade group, wouldn't comment; a spokesman said the group hadn't yet seen the bill.

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Bush Attacks Gore on Environment

Against Picturesque Backdrop, Republican Cites White House 'Neglect' of Parks

By EDWARD WALSH
Washington Post Staff Writer

MONROE, Wash., Sept. 13—Against the backdrop of a picturesque river where salmon thrive, Texas Gov. George W. Bush challenged Vice President Gore's environmental record today and promised to commit \$5 billion over the next five years to restore what he described as the nation's crumbling national park system.

The Republican presidential nominee spoke to a small group of invited guests on a cattle ranch along the banks of the Skykomish River, where local landowners, with the help of state and federal funds, have redeveloped a natural offshoot of the river that serves as a habitat for juvenile salmon on their journey to the Pacific Ocean.

Bush chided Gore for failing to take a firm stand on one of the most emotional environmental issues in the Pacific Northwest—whether dams on the Snake and other rivers in eastern Washington and adjoining states should be breached to assure that enough salmon reach their upriver spawning grounds. Bush argues that breaching the dams is not necessary for the species' survival, while Gore has promised to convene a meeting of landowners, local officials and others to find a "balanced approach" to the problem.

Gore "refuses to say whether he would breach the dams or not before the good people of this state vote," Bush said. "I think you deserve to know where he stands on this important environmental issue."

Invoking the legacy of Repub-

lican President Theodore Roosevelt, Bush charged that because of the the Clinton administration's neglect, the national parks "are in worse shape than ever before."

"A Clinton-Gore administration has chosen to expand the public ownership of land instead of tending to our parks," he said. "Their failure to make maintenance a priority has left our parks at risk and at the breaking point. For eight years, this administration has talked about environmentalism while our national parks are crumbling."

Specifically, Bush charged that the administration's \$180 million budget request for national park maintenance during the current fiscal year was a 22 percent cut from the year before. He promised to spend \$5 billion on maintenance over five years "to renew these national treasures and reverse the neglect of the last eight years."

Bush is midway through a week in which he planned to highlight his proposals on health care, the environment and education. The event here, about 20 miles northeast of Seattle, was meant to enhance Bush's conservation credentials in an environmentally sensitive state where the presidential campaign is considered up for grabs.

But the environment is widely seen as one of Gore's strongest issues, and his campaign fired back at Bush. Kym Spell, a Gore campaign spokeswoman, said that in 1996 the administration began using the fees paid by visitors to national parks to fund park maintenance rather than putting the money in the general treasury. She said that when money from the fees

is included, spending for maintenance has not declined.

Spell also charged that Texas ranks 49th among the states in spending on state parks and has not added any new state parkland since Bush has been governor. "It's laughable that Bush would attempt to reinvent himself as an environmentalist," she said.

Bush spoke in a small meadow along the river, where a thick cloud of fog shrouded the scene early this morning. Bush delayed his arrival for an hour as the fog began to lift, revealing a backdrop of shallow running water and a rocky riverbed.

The Texas governor spoke from a prepared text and sounded a more reflective tone than he usually does in the rush of campaigning. "To me and others, nature offers a place to relax and a place to think," he said. "In nature, we learn a proper perspective. We are reminded that we occupy a very small corner of a grand creation. Nature has much to teach us, including the need for responsibility."

The site of the event, where local landowners took the initiative to create the salmon habitat, was chosen to underscore Bush's emphasis on local control. In shaping environmental policy, he said, "Instead of regulation alone, we'll provide incentives for progress. Instead of ignoring local efforts, we'll encourage them."

In contrast to Bush's reflective tone, his running mate, Richard B. Cheney, expressed what he called "some frustration" at a 24-hour multimedia machine that trivializes important issues and attacks the candidates from the safety of the

"bleachers."

In response to a question during a lunch at The Economic Club of Grand Rapids in Mich., Cheney said that in part because of the demands of the Internet and cable news, "absolutely trivial issues" that had "nothing to do with the election or the fate of America" have dominated media coverage of the campaign.

"It's much easier, frankly, to cover some of the trivial stuff that from time to time seems to dominate, and we get one of these feeding frenzies," Cheney said. "But it is unfortunate because what happens is, it does not lead to informed debate and dialogue. . . . It's a source of some frustration."

In recent days, Cheney has had to respond to reports that he failed to vote in 14 of 16 elections in Dallas, over news that Halliburton Co., the energy services giant that he headed, maintained separate bathrooms for Americans and foreign employees at its overseas facilities. He has also heard continuing questions about his financial package from the energy company.

"It's always fascinating for me to watch and see those of us who get in the arena, put our names on the ballot, go out and slug it out every day for something we believe in, spend all of our time being critiqued by people who have never been in the arena, who never will get in the arena, [who] sit in the bleachers and do well second-guessing what we're all about," he said.

Staff writer Cathy Newman, with Cheney, contributed to this report.

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12 Agencies Overpaid \$20.7 Billion, GAO Reports

By BEN WHITE
Washington Post Staff Writer

In what is fast becoming an annual report card on federal mismanagement, the General Accounting Office reported yesterday that 12 federal agencies made \$20.7 billion in improper payments in fiscal 1999, up from \$19.1 billion in overpayments for fiscal 1998.

The \$20.7 billion figure may represent only a small amount of what the government actually overpays, the GAO said, because several agencies, including the Internal Revenue Service, did not submit any data but are suspected of making large overpayments.

"It's astounding that more than \$20 billion in taxpayer money was wasted in just a handful of federal programs," said Sen. Fred D. Thompson (R-Tenn.), chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, who requested the report and discussed its findings at a news conference yesterday.

"And that's just a drop in the bucket," he said. "The total figure would be much, much higher. Federal agencies need to do a better job of managing their programs, first in terms of detecting improper payments, and then in stopping them."

Thompson attributed the overpayments to a mixture of simple accounting mistakes and people deliberately defrauding the government.

The bulk of the \$20.7 billion figure calculated by the GAO, Congress's watchdog agency, came from Medicare's fee-for-service program that overpaid claims by \$13.5 billion, up from \$12.6 billion in 1998.

The second-largest overpayment, \$1.6 billion, came from the Social Security Administration's Supplemental Security Income program (SSI). That figure actually represented a slight decrease from fiscal 1998, when the SSI program reported \$1.7 billion in overpayments. The Department of Agriculture also reported a decrease in overpayments in its food stamps program, from \$1.4 billion in 1998 to \$1.3

billion in 1999. Overall however, most of the agencies that supplied figures to the GAO reported slight increases.

The departments of State, Defense, Justice and Energy, acknowledged making overpayments but did not specify any amounts. Also, a draft audit of the IRS for fiscal 1999 indicates that overpayments by the agency "could be billions of dollars," the GAO report says.

Thompson suggested that earned income tax credit overpayments by the IRS "could total more than \$9 billion annually."

Thomas A. Schatz, president of the activist group Citizens Against Government Waste, blamed inaction on the part of the administration for the increase in overpayments.

"It is clearly an executive branch responsibility," he said.

When the GAO issued its overpayment report last year, the Office of Management and Budget included a letter saying it would expand its focus on the problem. OMB officials said at the time that they would consider issu-

ing guidelines for uniform reporting and disclosure of improper payments. OMB declined to add comments to the report this year and the GAO concluded the government "does not have a reasonable basis for gauging the extent of its improper payments."

Joshua Gothaum, acting deputy director for management at OMB, said the administration plans to form an interagency task force to help different departments determine how best to keep track of overpayments. But he said a "one size fits all" approach for reporting would not work.

"No one is satisfied with any level of government waste or fraud or error," Gothaum said. "But there are literally thousands of people in the federal government who are working to reduce it, to track folks down where they have defrauded the government and to reduce errors by improving systems."

Thompson said he will introduce legislation requiring agencies to use a management technique called "recovery auditing" to identify overpayments.

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Reauthorization of Domestic Violence Act Is at Risk

By JULIET EILPERIN
Washington Post Staff Writer

The congressional gridlock that has stalled such high-profile issues as gun control and prescription drug coverage is poised to claim a more unlikely target: the Violence Against Women Act.

The landmark legislation, enacted in 1994, has been widely praised as one of the most effective vehicles for combating domestic violence. But the bill reauthorizing the act has become

enmeshed in fierce turf battles on Capitol Hill, and the law will expire at the end of the month unless it comes to the House floor for a vote.

Although the act enjoys broad bipartisan support—the judiciary committees on both sides of the Capitol have approved it—House GOP leaders have shown little enthusiasm for pushing the bill when they're struggling to dispatch with more pressing legislative priorities before heading home to campaign for reelection.

Supporters of the bill remain optimistic it will make it into law this year but are anxious that the ongoing turmoil in Washington could scuttle it.

"Time's a wasting," said Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr. (D-Del.), the bill's original author. "The Republican leadership controls this whole thing. If the Republican leadership doesn't pull the trigger, this thing's done."

Democrats raised the issue yesterday in a meeting with GOP leaders and the president and sent

a letter to House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) demanding a vote. House Minority Leader Richard A. Gephardt (D-Mo.) said yesterday he had visited a recently opened battered women's shelter in his district Sunday that was partially funded by the act: It had 25 beds that were filled in one day.

"This is an epidemic problem in this country, and we need to put the federal government behind this effort," Gephardt said.

Some Republicans have ques-

tioned the cost of the revised bill—the House version would allocate \$3.8 billion over the next five years, while the Senate would provide \$3.2 billion—but most of their objections concern jurisdictional issues.

After the bill was put on a legislative fast track in the Senate, Budget Committee Chairman Pete V. Domenici (R-N.M.) put a hold on the measure, arguing that it infringed on his authority be-

tic violence programs. But women's advocates fear that many initiatives would fall through the cracks and that communities would have less of an opportunity to coordinate their efforts.

"The idea behind VAWA was to create a system that got everybody together to solve the problem of sexual assault and domestic violence in communities," said Judy Fulcher, public policy director of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. "It comes down to how many shelter beds do we have. How many attorneys do we have to take on these cases? How many police officers do we have on the street?"

cause it authorized spending over a five-year period. The House Education and the Workforce Committee, for its part, wants to weigh in on two of the bill's major programs that fall under its domain. And the House Commerce Committee reserves the right to sign off on public health programs.

Kevin Talley, chief of staff for the Education and the Workforce Committee, said his staff had tried to broker a compromise with

Rep. Constance A. Morella (R-Md.), who authored the House version of the bill. "She hasn't been willing to do that," Talley said.

But Morella is appealing directly to Hastert and is planning to hand-deliver a letter to him today from the roughly 50 Republican sponsors of the bill calling on him to bring it up for a vote. House Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry J. Hyde (R-Ill.) and crime subcommittee Chairman Bill McCollum (R-Fla.)—who has

been touting his work on behalf of domestic violence victims as part of his Senate bid—sent a letter to Hastert last week calling for a vote.

Over the past five years, the law has allocated \$1.6 billion to state and local programs, including a national toll-free hot line for victims of violence, funding for special police units focused on sex crimes, and civil and legal assistance grants so women can obtain restraining orders and other legal remedies.

Some of the law's measures are modest: Police officers in San Francisco now carry cards with the names of shelters that they can hand out when responding to a domestic violence call. Others are broader: The hot line has logged more than half a million calls since its inception and now averages 13,000 calls a month.

The new bill would expand the reach of the program, funding transitional housing for women and children and providing support for specific groups, including the elderly, the disabled and American Indians.

In May, the Supreme Court struck down a civil rights provision in the act that gave women the right to sue their attackers for monetary damages if they could show that the crimes had been motivated by gender bias. But supporters say that was only a small part of the overall law.

Even if authorization expires Sept. 30, Congress could still choose to appropriate federal funds annually for specific domes-

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Congress's Obligation to Nature

Before adjourning next month, Congress should approve two of the most important conservation bills in many years. One bill, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act, would guarantee \$45 billion over 15 years for a range of environmental purposes, including wilderness protection. The other could save the Everglades.

Both bills have made it through most of the hazardous committee process. Some fear they will not survive a floor vote because the Republicans may not want to give President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore two big election-year victories on the environmental front. In truth, these would be big victories for everyone, Republicans included, not least because several powerful Republican committee chairmen have been crucial to their progress so far. The biggest enemy now is inertia on the part of the Republican leadership.

Conservation and reinvestment: The Conservation and Reinvestment Act passed the House in May by a resounding margin. It would authorize nearly \$3 billion a year for 15 years to acquire wilderness, restore damaged coastlines and estuaries and protect endangered species. The bill will not impose new taxes. It relies on the same mechanism that has long underwritten the government's main land acquisition program, the Land and Water Conservation Fund — royalties from offshore oil production.

The House bill was drafted largely by two members who rarely agree on anything — California's George Miller, a Democrat and staunch conservationist, and Alaska's Don Young, a Republican who has been fighting environmentalists for most of his career but who, nearing retirement, has done a surprising about-face. Similarly, in the Senate the conservative Frank Murkowski of Alaska and the liberal Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico steered the bill past property rights advocates on Mr. Murkowski's

Natural Resources Committee. They also improved it along the way, earmarking more money for coastal restoration.

The Everglades: In early July, a Senate committee approved a blueprint for the most ambitious restoration project ever attempted in this country. The heart of the project is a vast new system of canals, levees and reservoirs designed to store and deliver Florida's copious rainwater to the Everglades, which is slowly dying for lack of fresh water. This undertaking will cost an estimated \$8 billion over 20 years, shared by the federal government and Florida, and will also include land acquisition to provide buffer zones between the Everglades and Florida's expanding coastal cities.

The bill before Congress authorizes \$1 billion for the first wave of projects. Gov. Jeb Bush has already promised \$200 million, Florida's share of the first-year costs. The ball is now in Congress's court. The measure that emerged from committee in July, thanks largely to Senator Robert C. Smith, Republican of New Hampshire, is now ready for a floor vote in the Senate.

But a big push will be needed in the House, where no action has been taken. Fortunately for friends of the Everglades, the key house subcommittee is headed by Sherwood Boehlert, the upstate New Yorker who is one of his party's most committed environmentalists. But a surer route to success may be for the House to proceed directly to a floor vote on the Senate bill.

Before the end of the session, the appropriations committees in both houses must act so that the actual projects, especially those in the Everglades, can begin to move forward. But the crucial first step is to get the projects authorized. Years of work have gone into these measures. It would be a shame to waste this effort.

Subliminal Headache for Mr. Bush

Memo to the Bush campaign team: Can you spell backfire?

For the moment, at least, it is spelled RATS, and Gov. George W. Bush must be seething despite his labored attempt to shrug off "conspiracy theories" about his campaign's latest fiasco. That, of course, was the insertion of the word RATS in capital letters into a television ad attacking Vice President Al Gore over the issue of prescription drugs for Medicare.

News of the ad, coming after the governor's embarrassing problems with an open microphone 10 days ago, launched a new round of jokes and questions about his technologically challenged campaign. Even a studiously somber Vice President Al Gore expressed puzzlement over the strangeness of the episode. Other Democrats were predictably gleeful, and Paul Begala, a party strategist, questioned whether an organization that cannot handle the rewind button can be entrusted with the nuclear button.

Smart Republicans know that, all kidding aside, this is a fraught moment for the Bush campaign. The governor's malapropisms are becoming standard comic fare. Yesterday he referred four times to "subliminal" techniques. Meanwhile a conservative publication, *The Weekly Standard*, features on its cover a worried-looking Mr. Bush beside the

slightly panicky-sounding headline "How Bush Can Win." Being an object of doubt and ridicule can quickly become a serious problem for a presidential candidate. Just ask Michael Dukakis.

Forceful damage control would be Mr. Bush's smartest move. He has already pulled the ad. But since subliminal messages are regarded as unethical by the ad industry and unfairly deceptive by the Federal Communications Commission, Mr. Bush should go further. He needs to find out how it got on the air in the first place, especially since Alex Castellanos, who produced the commercial for the Republican National Committee, has not kept his story straight.

Mr. Castellanos originally told Richard Berke of *The Times* that the use of the word was "purely accidental." Yesterday he said he was using a "visual drumbeat designed to make you look at the word bureaucrats." That sounds to us like a declaration of intent to use subliminal techniques by Mr. Castellanos, who is known as a creator of attack ads. If Mr. Bush really means that such techniques are not acceptable to his campaign, perhaps he should sever his connection with Mr. Castellanos.

When a presidential campaign has the stumbles, such decisive action by the nominee can be a step toward getting back on message, a place Mr. Bush has hardly visited in the last two weeks.

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Lady Bird Johnson and Laurance S. Rockefeller

A New Conservation Century

The 20th century can rightly be called America's conservation century. From President Theodore Roosevelt forward, Americans began to embrace their land rather than just use it. This ethic of conservation has created, protected and preserved tens of millions of acres of open space in America, encompassing everything from national parks to neighborhood soccer fields.

But conservation is not something that concludes just because a century does. We are not done, nor will we ever be. While protecting our natural resources is often a quiet, steady exercise, sometimes moments of great opportunity arise. We are at such a moment now.

The U.S. Senate has before it legislation that would do more to protect America's heritage than anything in a generation. The Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) is in the true spirit of the early conservationists: It plans for the future while solving the immediate; it provides for recreation as well as preservation; it ensures significant state and local input and control; and it has bipartisan support. The House has passed the bill and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has approved it. With the administration supporting the legislation, all that is needed is Senate action in the remaining days of this Congress.

CARA's origins stretch back to 1958, when President Eisenhower created the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission to conduct a three-year inquiry into America's growing outdoor needs. Its findings suggested a new approach: Not only should the federal government step up its lagging land acquisition program to round out our national park system, but it should also embark on a new venture to provide matching funds that state and local governments could use to meet a broader set of outdoor needs.

In 1964 President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law a bill creating the Land and Water Conserva-

tion Fund (LWCF), which not only affirmed these commitments but set American conservation on a course it still follows.

The foresight embedded in LWCF—an emphasis on federal/state/local partnerships, long-term planning, permanent acquisitions and urban recreation—was strengthened later in the 1960s by tapping money from offshore oil and gas leases to fund LWCF projects. The wisdom of doing so was strikingly simple: Utilize the exploitation of one public natural resource in order to protect and conserve another.

Congress had made a promise and found a way to keep it. And for

A vital measure for protecting our natural resources.

years, the LWCF worked wonders. More than 37,000 projects have been sparked by the initiative, helping states and localities acquire some 2.3 million acres of parkland and adding 3.4 million acres of new federal lands to our national bounty. The LWCF has funded open space in literally every county in America, and is responsible for everything from helping preserve Civil War battlefields to purchasing land for Rocky Mountain National Park to building the baseball field down the street from your house.

After 15 years of generally faithful adherence to LWCF's unique bargain, presidential administrations and Congress began to redirect large chunks of fund revenues from their intended purposes to other budget items. Since 1980 more than \$11 billion has been diverted from LWCF projects, creating a staggering backlog of federal, state and local land protection needs.

We urgently need to restore the promise. That's what CARA will do. CARA represents the first good op-

portunity in 20 years to set our conservation path back on track. It not only fully funds the LWCF but also addresses critical needs in wildlife management, urban parks, coastal protection and historic preservation.

Most important, it establishes a dependable source of funding for these programs. The prescience of those who created the fund was that conservation especially could not be a haphazard thing; population growth, the inexorable march of development and simple wear-and-tear on resources require a permanent commitment. CARA returns us to that premise, providing approximately \$3 billion a year and a firm precedent for future funding.

CARA returns us to another important ideal: bipartisanship. Republican Don Young of Alaska and Democrat George Miller of California did a masterful job of steering CARA through the House, winning a 315 to 102 vote. In the Senate, Republican Frank Murkowski of Alaska and Democrat Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico brought the bill out of committee with support from senators of both parties. In these gridlocked times, CARA's bipartisan treatment is a reminder that policy can sometimes overcome politics. We hope the full Senate will heed that reminder and act on CARA now.

We have worked as partners on conservation issues in that bipartisan spirit for almost four decades. Our hope has always been that American leaders could look forward so that their children—all children—could have something to look forward to. By reviving the Land and Water Conservation Fund before it goes home this year, Congress can provide just that.

Lady Bird Johnson, the widow of President Lyndon B. Johnson, was instrumental in bringing about the Highway Beautification Act of 1965. Laurance S. Rockefeller is a conservationist and philanthropist.



9-14-00

Send to Cohen ✓

Yes

No

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Staff
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THE EVERGLADES TRUST, INC.

gore

00 SEP 14 AM 10:04

September 11, 2000

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The restoration of America's Everglades can become a reality under your stewardship within a few short weeks. Your Administration has created a national focus on the need to restore and revive this national treasure. The results of your efforts and those of Vice President Gore will afford future generations the natural and economic benefits of this unique ecosystem, home to two national parks, a national marine sanctuary and four national wildlife refuges.

The legislation to implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan is nearing action on the Senate floor. The Council on Environmental Quality, the Department of the Interior, the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency stand to be commended for their diligence in putting together this landmark legislation. Senate bill 2797, The Restoration of the Everglades An American Legacy Act, has gained broad bipartisan support in the Senate, including Senators Bob Graham, Connie Mack, Bob Smith, Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, and Max Baucus, Ranking Democrat on that Committee. The State of Florida, agricultural, homebuilders, and utility interests in Florida, and environmental organizations have all endorsed S.2797 as well. Never in the history of Everglades restoration has such consensus existed.

As the 106th Congress nears its conclusion, we again rely on your leadership to assure that this legislation is enacted into law this year. The legacy of Everglades revitalization will forever be a landmark victory in the history of our great country.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Your leadership and your vision are imperative in making successful Everglades restoration a reality.

Sincerely,

Mary Barley
Mary Barley
The Everglades Trust

Attachment: Environmental organizations' statement supporting S.2797

**AUDUBON OF FLORIDA
CENTER FOR MARINE CONSERVATION
DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE
THE EVERGLADES FOUNDATION
THE EVERGLADES TRUST
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION
1000 FRIENDS OF FLORIDA
WORLD WILDLIFE FUND**

September 8, 2000

Our organizations fully support the enactment of S.2797 with the Manager's Amendment, as modified by language agreed upon at the August 31 meeting among the State of Florida, the Administration, the Stakeholder Coalition, and environmental organizations. We believe these negotiations have produced a bill worthy of enactment.

When these discussions began on August 21, all participants were advised that further amendments to S.2797 would be agreed to only as a package and only under the condition that all parties would support S.2797 in the Senate and the House. We are greatly encouraged that an agreement was reached on this basis.

There is an unprecedented level of support for Everglades restoration legislation. The greatest threat to achieving it is the lack of time left in this Congressional session. We urge the Senate to expeditiously pass S.2797, The Restoration of the Everglades An American Legacy Act, and the Florida Congressional delegation to unite with the State, the Administration, the Stakeholder Coalition and environmental organizations in support of the bill in the House of Representatives.

9-14-00

Betty

Recommend sending

to NSC

yes

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9-14-00

Send to the NSC?

Yes

No



Carol

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KIDNAP UPDATE

STOCKS

HOME

Church desecrated in north Karnataka

HTC
(Bangalore)

A CATHOLIC church in Bidar town in northern Karnataka was desecrated in the wee hours of Thursday. According to the police in the state capital, vandals broke the glass-panes encasing a statue of Mother Mary at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. They even sprinkled kumkum on the statue.

The identities of the vandals are unclear. No arrests have been, the police said. Bidar is represented in the Lok Sabha by Ramachandra Veerappa of the BJP. The town is the headquarters of Bidar district that borders Andhra Pradesh. The district has been relatively free of the attacks on minorities that have pockmarked other districts of Karnataka such as Gulburga, Mysore, and even the state capital.

Over the last fortnight, tension in Bidar town has been palpable. At the core of the friction is a family with the surname Thukaram. The Thukaram family is said to have converted to Christianity some 15 years ago. The Hindu Jagran Manch had recently raked up the issue of the conversion of the Thukaram family.

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Hs. Curry.

Kindly submit to President before the
meets Prime Minister of India. Thanks &
God Bless you.

James Masik
New York.

JAMES MASIE
25-41, 3016 Rd #5-J
ASTORIA NY 1102



To,
Ms. Betty Curry
Executive Secretary to President
White House - Oval Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
WASHINGTON D.C. 20500

20500-0003



Diane Lander-Simon

Scheduling

September 13, 2000

00 SEP 14 PM 4:52

via facsimile

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
c/o Betty Currie
Personal Secretary to the President
Business Office
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20502

9-14-00
Send to Scheduling
Yes ☒
No ☐
Cur

Dear Mr. President:

I just wanted to drop you a personal note regarding the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL) event in Los Angeles on Monday, October 2, 2000, at 6:30 p.m.

As co-chair of this event, I will be hosting a reception at my home and it would be a tremendous boost to have you as our Guest of Honor. Not that you haven't lent valiant support on this vital issue but if you could come through this one last time, I would be most grateful.

Please feel free to bring Ms. Currie with you and of course, Hillary and Chelsea are welcome as well. You may reach me by phone at (310) 276-2556 or by fax at (310) 276-2551. I look forward to your reply.

Hope to see you on October 2nd.

Regards,

Diane Lander-Simon

Diane Lander-Simon

DLS:rh

623 North Oakhurst Drive, Beverly Hills, California 90210

DIANE LANDER-SIMON
623 No. Oakhurst Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
Tel: (310) 276-2556/Fax: (310) 276-2551

TO: Betty Currie
Personal Secretary to the President

FAX NO.: (202) 456-1210

FROM: Rain Heron
Personal Assistant to Diane Lander-Simon

DATE: 9/13/00

Number of pages sent including transmittal sheet 2.

Please advise immediately by calling (310) 276-3017 if you do not receive all of the pages:

Remarks:

Dear Ms. Currie,

Please see the attached.

Thank you.

VERVE

August 11, 2000

Dear Mr. President,

9-14-00
To Mr. & Mrs. Clinton
- Jacqueline M.
- bin

The Indian woman has come a long way. Today, she has formed her own networks, is raising her voice, demanding, at home and abroad the recognition that social and economic issues, such as healthcare and education, are just as important. Until today, women have always taken the hardest hits. Always concealed behind the shadow of society, the preceding years have sensed a dramatic revolution. Today, the contemporary Indian woman has discovered her own distinctive voice, rubs shoulders with the world with confidence and elan, is a high profile achiever and strives to make a difference.

Verve is India's very first lifestyle magazine that addresses that change in the Indian woman. Embodying the essence of today's woman, **Verve** celebrates a woman's uniqueness of spirit and personality. The women who make it to the impeccable trend-setting pages of our magazine are high profile achievers - intelligent and glamorous path-breakers.

Always at the forefront of matters that concern society, **Verve** is also the only Indian magazine with a regular, dedicated section to community service titled, 'Verve Salute'. Here we profile those unsung heroines who toil endlessly to help the underprivileged.

We, at **Verve**, believe that the media is the single most powerful tool that has the capability to mould opinions and effect changes. Today, in a society shaped by the compelling influences of the media, women need to be portrayed as positive protagonists who have achieved a 'sense of self'. Which is exactly what **Verve** has always strived to do. With so much 'might' packed between its pages, **Verve** is nothing short of a collector's item.

In the latest issue, Jacqueline Lundquist, wife of the American Ambassador to India, profiles your sojourn to our country earlier this year. This makes the issue an especially cherished memento for all of us at **Verve**. We are honoured to have you on our pages. We would be delighted to have your views on the contemporary Indian woman, from all that you have seen during your recent visit.

As of now, we take this opportunity to extend **Verve's** keepsake issue to you, so that you may preserve it as an album of many happy and warm memories of your visit.

Warm Regards,

Anuradha Mahindra

Anuradha Mahindra

(Editor and Publisher)

Send to Cohen

Yes _____

No _____

9-14-00



“I FEEL INTENSELY AMERICAN”

Born in London, raised in the US, with origins in India, Jhumpa Lahiri's observations from the outside, find themselves in stories, richly peppered with fragile identities, cultural displacement and an acute sense of exile. *Verve* interviewed the bubbly, young author of *Interpreter of Maladies*, just before she won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction

Text by Salil Tripathi
Photographs by Samantha Nundy

At first sight, what's striking about Jhumpa Lahiri (33) is her fragile innocence. It is apparent in the way she walks into the hotel lobby, wearing a short skirt, looking around for her appointment, stopping businessmen mid-sentence, awakening the drowsy, pot-bellied American tourist idling hours in the sunken sofa. It is in the hesitant way

she talks, groping for and then grasping elusive words, not tossing bons mots like a jaded and cynical writer who has done it all many times over. It is in the bewildered look about her, as she giggles with excitement when told that her first collection of short stories, *Interpreter of Maladies*, has got a favourable mention in yet another magazine – this time in *The Economist*.

She has that air of enthusiasm of a debutante; you can

imagine her making neat cuttings of the reviews and pasting them clinically in an album. "All this attention – this is not me," she says and laughs.

The attention has been lavish. For most critics, she has arrived. *The New Yorker* has published three of her stories and named her among the 20 writers to watch out for this century. Some have detected traces of Ernest Hemingway in her, given her proclivity to let dialogue and inanimate objects convey, through a brushstroke, what others would devote paragraphs to; others liken her to Raymond Carver, given her preference for sparseness and simplicity. Some detect a benign Bharati Mukherjee, in that her work deals with the trials and tribulations of middle class Indians in American academia. And some see a resemblance to a gentler Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, because, while representing a woman's point of view, all men in her stories aren't Neanderthals. Nor all women, overachievers. Somewhat astutely, the critic at the *San Francisco Chronicle* sees traces of Philip Roth in her work: just as Roth gave voice to a generation of born-in-America Jewish Americans, Lahiri has done the same for US-born Indians, better known as ABCDs – American-born, confused *desis*.

Lahiri was born in London and moved to America at two. And, she is not confused about her identity. So, make that America-bred, creative *desi*. She is very clear about the kind of stories she writes. There are no sudden twists but there are sharp observations and poignant turns; there is no gratuitous sex but there is no shirking away from adult relationships either: instead of titillating readers with details of the act, she amuses them with its aftermath, like the lingerie lying on a carpet which a grumbling husband must pick up and take to the laundry bag.

Such writing cannot come naturally to one with cultivated innocence. And, there is something spontaneous and natural about Lahiri's innocence. Take a look at her talking to her mother in Bengali, animatedly. Or, describing Finsbury Park from previous visits in an English summer, when light plays tricks with leaves, brightening them one moment, casting shadows the next. Or as she squints her eyes, without realising the presence of a photographer. You sense the same, almost lazy innocence in her name, Jhumpa, which is not a real name with a meaning but a Bengali *dak-nam*: it is as

Munnu never grows into being Mrinmoyee and Chhondita is always called Chhutki.

And finally, look at her at work. When she reads from her book on the stage, she is erect and stiff, as if at a school elocution contest, her eyes not looking up from the page, her shocking blue dress ending way above her knees, her tone dulcet, yet monotonous, straight out of New England, reminding you of the cool, snowy crispness of those wintry mornings – of the little campus town where she grew up.

Lahiri was born in 1968, near London's Finsbury Park, where her father was a librarian at the British Library. The family relocated to Providence, where he moved to another job at the University of Rhode Island. In 1970, transcontinental migration was rare and he had done it twice. His experience – of moving from Calcutta, first to London and then to a small campus town in New England – must have been important enough to marvel at, since he recounted the story often to his daughters and Lahiri derives from it in her most transparently autobiographical story, *The Third and Last Continent*. "There are invented details in the story," she says.

In that story, a Bengali librarian develops a poignant relationship with his nonagenarian landlady, Mrs Croft. He lives for only a few weeks with her and then visits her once after he has married the girl his family has found for him in Calcutta. But, Mrs Croft leaves a deep impression on him and many months later, reading her obituary becomes a rite of passage for him. Towards the end of the story, referring to his son, he says: "If I can survive on three continents, there is no obstacle that he cannot conquer... I know that my achievement is quite ordinary... still there are times when I am bewildered by each mile I have travelled, each meal I have eaten, each person I have known, each room in which I have slept."

Such achievements might appear ordinary but the soundness of that upbringing, the stability that families bring about, combined to give Lahiri the right environment to grow up in and to dream that it was possible to write. "Our house was full of books," she recalls. "Pursuing writing seemed like a natural thing to do."

In a sense, it is easy to compare her with Divakaruni and Mukherjee – they are all women, all Bengali, all write fiction and all live in America. But, Lahiri feels the comparison ends there. She says: "One, they are older than I am and they grew

“

Mukherjee and Divakaruni are older than I am and they grew up in a different life experience than I have.”

”

“I have never felt the need to search for my roots. I understood that my parents came from far away but I never felt alienated in America.”

up in India. I did not. Chitra came to America in her 20s, Bharati, in her teens. It is a different life experience that they have.” Like, they haven’t gone trick or treating, which Lahiri has. “Their experience is similar to that of my parents,” she says. “That’s a fundamental difference.” More generally, she says: “I have never felt the need to search for my roots. I understood that my parents came from far away and I’ve felt aware of India but I never felt alienated in America. I defend the US to my parents, I feel intensely American. I assert ‘Americanness’ in India but, in the US, I don’t feel I have that right.” In India, when she defends America vigorously, she acknowledges, she may come across as the cousin in blue jeans who thinks too much of herself.

Lahiri belongs to that generation which didn’t read *Midnight’s Children* when it was first published. Her points of reference in Indian writing are Vikram Seth and Arundhati Roy, not Salman Rushdie. “I was too young in 1981,” she says, as if defending herself. “I wasn’t aware of the Indian literary scene.”

That she will be – for Indians populate her stories. It is the westerner who is the onlooker or intruder. And, in a comic, postmodernist touch, it is an Indian-American couple which discovers Christian kitsch in their home and the wife goes ‘Wow!’ over it, decorating the house with bits and pieces, like an expatriate *memsahib* going gaga over wood panels and doorknobs found in old attics or at Chor Bazaar. She says: “It was inevitable that I’d write about Indians. When we got to the US in early 1970, there weren’t many Indians and in a small town, when you saw another Indian family, before long, you invited them and they invited you.”

As a child, Lahiri painted and wrote. “To create words and images were the most pleasurable things to do. As an adolescent, I thought I’d become a journalist. I dipped my feet in writing, wasn’t serious and for a while shied away from it.” But, it was her stay in New York, at Barnard College, that opened her eyes. She studied English literature and a myriad possibilities emerged before her. The energy and vitality of the world’s premier metropolis began to rub off on her. “I loved the idea of being in the big city,” she says.

An instructor, Leslie Epstein, at a creative writing course in Boston, encouraged her – told her she could do it. But, her middle class upbringing interrupted. Her parents felt, like all good-natured Indian parents, that ‘authoring-shauthoring’ is all very well but one must have something stable to fall back

on. And so, Lahiri found herself getting a Ph.D. in Renaissance Studies. “I was committed to it, yet distant. I wrote my thesis quickly to get it over with. This was not my passion.” She returned to writing with a vengeance, through a fellowship at Provincetown, Massachusetts. Stories flowed smoothly and the accolades followed.

Lahiri is now busy at work on a novel, based on an Indian-American, set in north-eastern United States. It will be about the world she knows: “My American world,” she says. “Of middle class, of good upbringing and the north-east. Why set my work in California when I know New York and Boston so well?”

In between, are the book tours, the readings, the interviews. She says: “I take this fame with a grain of salt. It is good that *The New Yorker* thinks well of me, as it makes selling the next story easier. But, if they like you, it doesn’t mean you are always going to write great stuff!”



Jhumpa Lahiri: “I take this fame with a grain of salt.”



Global Peace Walk

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Hand Delivery, Matthew Pflantzbaum of AmeriCorps

Mr. William Jefferson Clinton, President
THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, DC
Tuesday, September 12, 2000

9-14-00
To Cohen for Reply
coordinate w/
Mona Beth Cohen
Scheduling
OPL
NSC

Pls evaluate
Do reply -
BZ

Dear Mr. President:

Our Global Peace Walk project was immeasurably inspired by its grateful reception of your United Nations 50th anniversary message, which your office faxed to us per our request, on October 25, 1995, after our spiritual walk across America that year for the UN 50th anniversary, and to help inaugurate the UN Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples. Your office's timely response enabled us to include your message in the compilation of messages in support of "The Great Cry to The Heavens," i.e. our prayer for "Global Peace Now!" as a universal human resolve – the compilation which we were able to hand deliver to the President of the United Nations General Assembly on October 26, 1995, and that we have been circulating since then to help spread your message of peace.

Your UN 50th message, directing all human beings to pay closer attention to the original purpose of the United Nations Charter, has inspired us to conduct Global Peace Walk 2000 this year, from its San Francisco beginning on the January 15th birthday anniversary of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., now on its way walking to Washington, DC (October 5-12), carrying your message and the others added to it since 1995 – for delivery in Washington and to the United Nations for its 55th anniversary October 24th to help inaugurate the UN Year and Decade of "Creating a Culture of Peace for the 21st Century" and to mark the midpoint of the UN Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples.

We believe that "the first realistic step to solving all of the world's problems is for all of humanity to accept the prayer for 'Global Peace Now!' as a universal human resolve." If you understand and accept this message as we pray you will, we invite you, from your position as President of the United States of America, to help us propagate this understanding of global peace and consciousness for all of humankind by including this quoted line, "Global Peace Now!" in your next appropriate public address to The People of America.

In addition, we ask you to grant us the blessing of your joining with our spiritual leadership representatives for a few minutes while the walk is in Washington, when your schedule permits. We will be in touch with you regarding our detailed schedule in Washington, DC. Following this brief meditation together, we beseech you to accept the written compilation of global peace and survival issue messages that we have been carrying and accumulating to bring to you and to the United Nations this year in response to your 1995 UN 50th message of peace.

These global peace and survival issue messages are from ordinary citizens, activist groups, religious and community leaders, indigenous leaders, city mayors, and state governors from all across America. We ask that you receive them in the name of The People of America and The Globe to help the inauguration of this "Decade of Creating a Culture of Peace for the 21st Century" by their serious consideration.

We plan to deliver copies of these global peace and survival issue messages to other government departments and leaders on October 10th and 11th after our main ceremonies to bring out The Message of Peace on Sunday, October 9th at noon. These Millennial Peace Ceremonies are to rededicate each of these monuments as Symbols for Global Peace Zones, following such traditional spiritual precedents as the Iroquois Tree of Peace, the Sacred Pipe of Peace, and the Peace Poles, Pillars, and Stupas of the ancient cultures of the East.

Our "main event" public prayer ceremony for "Global Peace Now!" is the rededication of the Washington Monument as a Symbol for a Global Peace Zone for the 21st century. This will be taking place on a very auspicious day, October 9th, which this year is not only the Columbus Day Holiday but also, according to the Smithsonian Institute, the observed 1000 year anniversary of the Vikings coming to America. In addition, it is the special annual Holy Day of both the Jewish (Yom Kippur) and Islamic (Yom Kabir) faiths (in each case meaning "Big Day").

We also pray you, Mr. President, to consider personally participating in this or any other of our events during our 8 days in Washington, as your schedule allows. We also eagerly invite other interested members of your administration and the Congress to participate in these important events for the cause of global peace and the survival of life on Earth into the future generations.

As an example to the rest of the Global community, we must claim the United States as a Global Peace Zone.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to bring this, our appeal to spiritual responsibility, to your attention.

Sincerely, for Global Peace Now!


Rev. Yusen Yamato, Global Peace Walk Initiator



David Crockett Williams, CLU
Co-Coordinator, Global Peace Walk 2000

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 Matthew Pflantzbaum
Runner # 0607

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VERVE

August 11, 2000

Dear Mr. President,

9-14-00
- Do min letter
- to be to
- Jacqueline M
- Verma
- for

The Indian woman has come a long way. Today, she has formed her own networks, is raising her voice, demanding at home and abroad the recognition that social and economic issues, such as healthcare and education, are just as important. Until today, women have always taken the hardest hits. Always concealed behind the shadow of society, the preceding years have sensed a dramatic revolution. Today, the contemporary Indian woman has discovered her own distinctive voice, rubs shoulders with the world with confidence and elan, is a high profile achiever and strives to make a difference.

Verve is India's very first lifestyle magazine that addresses that change in the Indian woman. Embodying the essence of today's woman, **Verve** celebrates a woman's uniqueness of spirit and personality. The women who make it to the impeccable trend-setting pages of our magazine are high profile achievers - intelligent and glamorous path-breakers.

Always at the forefront of matters that concern society, **Verve** is also the only Indian magazine with a regular, dedicated section to community service titled, 'Verve Salute'. Here we profile those unsung heroines who toil endlessly to help the underprivileged.

We, at **Verve**, believe that the media is the single most powerful tool that has the capability to mould opinions and effect changes. Today, in a society shaped by the compelling influences of the media, women need to be portrayed as positive protagonists who have achieved a 'sense of self'. Which is exactly what **Verve** has always strived to do. With so much 'might' packed between its pages, **Verve** is nothing short of a collector's item.

In the latest issue, Jacqueline Lundquist, wife of the American Ambassador to India, profiles your sojourn to our country earlier this year. This makes the issue an especially cherished memento for all of us at **Verve**. We are honoured to have you on our pages. We would be delighted to have your views on the contemporary Indian woman, from all that you have seen during your recent visit.

As of now, we take this opportunity to extend **Verve's** keepsake issue to you, so that you may preserve it as an album of many happy and warm memories of your visit.

Warm Regards,

Anuradha Mahindra

Anuradha Mahindra

(Editor and Publisher)

9-14-00
Send to Cohen

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VERVE

ANURADHA MAHINDRA
Editor & Publisher

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The SPIRIT of Today's Woman

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ON A PRESIDENT'S TRAIL

The press covered it extensively. Television dissected and analysed every public utterance. The President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton's India visit was a podium-thumping success. Eminent member of the Prez's select inner circle, JACQUELINE LUNDQUIST, wife of American Ambassador, Richard Celeste, shares, with Verve, an exclusive diary of events



The President is coming! We had heard the battle cry before – twice actually. The first time the trip was postponed due to the fall of the Gujral government. The second time it was cancelled due to the nuclear testing. But the third time, it seems, was a charm! President William Jefferson Clinton came, he saw and, by all reports, conquered the hearts of Indians everywhere.

It had been 22 years since a US President visited India. Moving the President of the United States 10,000 miles away from home, is no small feat. There are literally thousands of people involved in making a trip like this happen. In addition to the several hundred Americans that work at the mission, there are a thousand Indian employees mobilised to ensure that every detail is looked after. In the weeks leading up to the President's arrival, every corner of the embassy was scrubbed, buffed, scoured, dusted and given a facelift. We urged people not to sit still for too long, because if you did, you ran

the risk of being covered by a new coat of paint!

In addition to work being done inside the embassy walls, the Delhi government deployed large numbers of workers to attend to the streets surrounding the mission, the Maurya Sheraton and the route to the airport. A couple of weeks before the President arrived, I had friends thanking us in advance, because their beloved Delhi had never looked better. The city was truly shining – as were the other four cities we visited. It just goes to show that it can be done!

Now, while Delhi was busy at work making preparations, so was the United States. There were pre-pre-advance teams (10-20 people) who came first to survey the possible sites to be visited. Then came the pre-advance team (30-40 people) who started to coordinate the logistics of accommodation, transportation, protocol, security and a thousand other small details. Then came the advance team (several hundred people) who coordinated every single minute of the President's visit. Doctors scouted out the location of the nearest hospital

y town, got to know the doctors and brought a blood for the President. Food specialists checked over menus re that the President would have no allergic reactions. House Communications people, installed new phone nections in every location the President visited, in case as an emergency in Washington that he needed to . There were Protocol people who ensured that the nt was introduced to, and seated next to, the appo- individuals. Members of the press, had for weeks, been esearch on the villages, the environment, the history, gion and the social and economic situation in India. After months of planning and years of anticipation, the finally arrived.

ONE: Sunday, March 19. I woke up that morning with ot in my stomach. I felt exactly the way I did the day rried. The President's plane wasn't scheduled to arrive 0 p.m. When we saw Air Force One coming in for its roach, it was one of those moments in your life that never forget. I am hugely patriotic and always get a my throat when the National Anthem is played any- to see this plane taxi down the runway and then pull its familiar colouring and the American flag on its tail, tears to my eyes. I could tell it was having the same on on Dick (husband, American Ambassador, Rich- ste).

e young man supplied this nugget: that he and his girlfriend were on eir way to see the Taj Mahal, but alas, because the President was g to be there, it was closed to the public. He confessed that they had cursing the President!

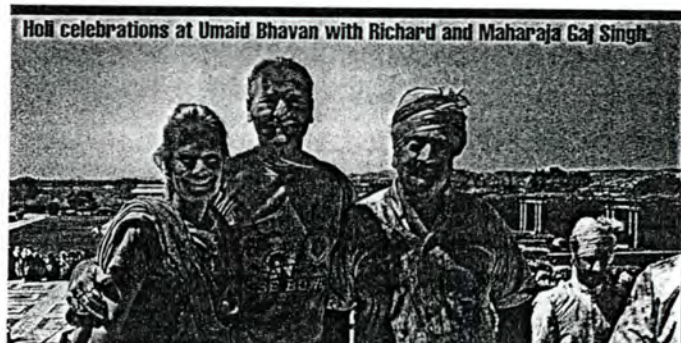
e stairs were pushed into place and the red carpet olled out. The staff, press and secret service agents n board, exited via the rear. The front was reserved official delegation (a group of Congressmen and he Secretary of Commerce, several heads of US and senior members of the State Department) all of ted first. Then, Dick climbed the stairs and went on otocol dictates that it is the US Ambassador who s the President and then makes the introductions to i government officials.

resident and Dick have been friends for many years. ed together as Governors and spent many New ther, at an event organised by the now ambassador , called Renaissance Weekend. I had met the Presi- dozen occasions but had never spent enough time

with him to get over the 'Oh my god! This is the President of the United States' feeling. So when the time came for me to welcome the President and his daughter, Chelsea, to India, I felt hugely overwhelmed and remarkably nervous. Finally, the President, Chelsea and her grandmother, Mrs Rodham, got into their limousine, all of us got into ours and we sped to the Maurya Sheraton in a motorcade that, I am sure, was at least a kilometre long.

At the hotel, Dick and I were hosting a reception for the 100 or so non-resident Indians and Indian American businessmen who came back to India to take part in the excitement. The President, after being received by the hotel staff, arrived at our reception. As it ended, we were invited to join the President for dinner at Bukhara. After a delicious dinner (although the President told me he likes slightly spicier food), we spent about an hour shopping. The President got a brief lesson on knots per square inch in carpets by expert Kashmiri carpetwallahs. He even picked up a piece or two for the new house in New York. We looked at silver jewellery, pashmina shawls and books.

PS: After visiting the kitchen at Bukhara, the President stopped at one of the tables where a young French couple was dining. The President struck up a conversation and had his photo taken. The young man supplied this nugget: that he and his girlfriend were on their way to see the Taj



Holi celebrations at Umaid Bhavan with Richard and Maharaja Gaj Singh



Mrs Rodham and Mrs Rodham at Jodhpur

Welcoming the President and Chelsea to Roosevelt House.



Mahal, but alas, because the President was going to be there, it was closed to the public. He confessed that they had been cursing the President. But now that they had dined next to him, met him AND had their photo taken, they could forgive him!

DAY TWO: Monday, March

20. Holi. The President left in the morning for Bangladesh and our two-year-old son, Sam, went with Dick to the airport to see him off. Then, late morning, as the guests of the Foreign Minister, Jaswant Singh and his wife, Hemlata, Dick and I and my mother, accompanied Chelsea, Mrs Rodham, Strobe Talbott and several other White House staff to Jodhpur for the annual celebration of Holi at Umaid Bhavan. The road from the airport was lined with thousands of people whose exuberant 'colour playing' that morning had transformed them into various shades of pink, purple, yellow, green and blue.

PS: After Air Force One took off for Bangladesh, someone realised that the dress suit the President was going to change into for the dinner party in his honour that night, was mistakenly left in one of the cars. This was actually the first time that something like this had happened. Several people were responsible for getting it on board, but alas, each thought the other had done it. What to do? Finally, the suit was put on board a commercial airline bound for Dhaka and a potentially embarrassing situation was thwarted.

DAY THREE: Tuesday, March 21. The President awoke to a full day of activities. First, a stop at Rashtrapati Bhavan for

Presidentspeak. At Roosevelt House.



the formal 'arrival ceremony' and President K.R. Narayanan welcome. Next, a wreath-laying ceremony at Raj Ghat. Dick accompanied the President for the day and I volunteered to take Mrs Rodham shopping at some of my favourite haunts. We picked out great *kurtas*, rugs and *dupattas*. I rushed home to get dressed for the state dinner at Rashtrapati Bhavan. A little 'up-do', a little beaded, black dress, some diamonds and I was ready to go.

First, Dick introduced the President to the widow and family of the young man killed on the hijacked Indian Airlines flight in December. The President spent twenty minutes talking with them, conveying his great sadness

about the tragedy and his commitment to help bring the killers to justice. Then off we sped to dinner. As we arrived, raindrops began to fall and I was left standing in the rain. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright was waiting under an umbrella, so I made a mad dash for hers. She offered to share it with me as we climbed the stairs. Only one problem: with my high heels and my 'big' hair, I was a good 12 inches taller than her. So, despite all my efforts to look fabulous, I made an entrance at my first state dinner looking quite like the Hunchback of Notre Dame!

Dinner was a fabulous affair with a single large table set for 106! The guest list included politicians, military leaders, businessmen, artists, film stars, musicians and senior staff. After dinner, dancer Mallika Sarabhai, rendered a brief but beautiful Kuchipudi recital.

PS: The shopkeepers at Santushti had been very eager to receive Chelsea and Mrs Rodham since the secret service had advanced the site. A large crowd had assembled since morning. As a student and lover of history, Chelsea decided to forego the shopping and spend her afternoon at the National Museum. Mrs Rodham arrived in a very plain vehicle and made her way in without any notice. She had an undisturbed lunch at Basil and Thyme, shopped in relative peace and left without causing a stir at all!

DAY FOUR: Wednesday, March 22. Sam, my mother and I awakened early to go to the airport with several house guests, for a special tour of Air Force One. The plane is a Boeing 747, which has been reconfigured to seat about 80 people. The Chief Steward led us on a tour of the President's bedroom, flying Oval Office, medical facility (they can perform minor surgery on board), the conference room, study and, most

When we saw Air Force One coming in for its final approach, it was one of those moments in your life that you just never forget.

Dick and I take a breather before boarding Marine Two.



roads, garbage and general disrepair that everything seems to have fallen into. Well, hats off to the citizens of Agra. When we landed and drove in from the airport, I was sure the pilot had made a wrong turn somewhere. The city looked splendid; green and very clean. The Taj and the gardens looked exquisite. For the next two hours we quietly and reverently took in Shah Jahan's magnificent monument to love. It was one of the most relaxing experiences I've ever had. It was extraordinary to be able to be alone in experiencing

The beauty of the Taj Mahal is almost overwhelmed by the dirt, bad roads, garbage and general disrepair that everything seems to have fallen into. Well, hats off to the citizens of Agra. When we landed and drove in from the airport, I was sure the pilot had made a wrong turn somewhere!

pressively (to the kids), the cockpit. The President told himself that the plane will be one of the things he will miss most when he leaves office. I certainly can't blame him.

We headed back to Roosevelt House to welcome the guests that were starting to arrive for our reception. The secret service had been in the house since the morning and had secured the premises using dogs to sniff out any potential threat. Guests were shuttled in a special parking area and we had asked them to come a couple of hours early, since they had to go through metal detectors. The list of people we had assembled was, by many counts, extraordinary. We had achieved just the right mix of businessmen, scientists, journalists, social entrepreneurs, athletes, VIPs – young, old and middle-aged.

The President arrived straight from Parliament, where he gave an extremely thoughtful and very well-received speech at a special joint session. We broadcast the speech at the reception and even had some television monitors, so people could watch it. At 12.30 p.m. we proceeded outside, where the President spoke briefly, followed by the President. His speech made each person in attendance feel like he understood and cared for their country and was committed to forging a new and lasting friendship. After thunderous applause, he proceeded to shake hands with many of the hundreds who were assembled around a specially-erected rope line. Finally, he was back in the motorcade and off we went to the airport. Next destination – Agra.

After almost three years in India and extensive travelling to various states, Agra has to be my least favourite city. The beauty of the Taj Mahal is almost overwhelmed by the dirt, bad



Walking the rope line at Roosevelt House.

something so wonderful. The usual throngs make that a rare treat, indeed.

From the Taj, we moved to a small environmental event where the Secretary of State, Madeline Albright and

Foreign Minister, Jaswant Singh, signed an agreement on energy and the environment and the President spoke about protecting our environment. For the flight to Jaipur, we transferred onto helicopters and landed at Rajvillas, our home for the next two nights. It was a terribly blustery and stormy night and the flight was quite an adventure.

PS: Any plane on board which the President flies is considered Air Force One. Traditionally, he takes the 747 but at airports where the runway is too short, a smaller Gulfstream jet gets the honour. Marine One and Two are the twin helicopters, seating 10-12 people, that take the President to and from airports directly to his destination. Dick and I flew on board Air Force One from Hyderabad to Mumbai. The rest of the time, we flew on board a huge cargo plane where take-off and landing take an entirely new meaning!

DAY FIVE: Thursday, March 23. Taking over a hotel exclusively for official guests, with the secret service guarding the perimeter, the entire feeling of being with the President changes. Suddenly, he is able to roam about freely. Dick and I chat with him alone over a delicious breakfast. The President shared with

Striking poses for the camera.



A taste of Indigo. Chelsea with Malini and Rahul Akerkar.



us his amusement about a *Times of India* cartoon, the beauty of the surroundings and his pleasure about the success of his visit. His only regret was that he had hardly seen any people due to the intense security. He joked that if he didn't start to see some people soon, he was

going to call the Prime Minister.

The day's programme included a visit to the nearby village of Nayla, where the President met with a group of women activists, then with the *panchayat*. After the well-documented dance with the village women and a quick stop to shake hands with the masses (who were finally allowed closer range), we helicoptered to the Amber Fort. Then, off again, to Ranthambore. Three hours in the park yielded two fabulous tigers. Finally, a dusty ride back to the helipad (which was specially created for the visit in four sites) for the ride to Rajvilas.

DAY SIX: Friday, March 24. After an early morning three holes of golf at the tiny course behind the hotel, a quick flight to Hyderabad. Dick introduced the President to the Governor, the Chief Minister and other assembled dignitaries. A motorcade took us to the first event at a local hospital where the President administered polio vaccine to a small child. Another short ride and we were at Hi Tech City for a quick tour of hi-tech displays, followed by remarks by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and President Clinton. After a well-received speech and a short stop on the motorcade route to shake hands with the masses, we headed for the airport and boarded Air Force One. After a very comfortable (but far too short) flight, we arrived at our final destination, Mumbai.

The drive into town went quickly (it's amazing how fast you can go when all the roads are closed to the public) even with a quick stop on the road to shake hands with some blind

students. We arrived at Cafe Royal, where the President conferred with seven, young (under 45) business and NGO leaders, to discuss the future of India. After a quick stop at a Phillips antique store, next door, we headed for the Stock Exchange. There, the President spoke to the business community and taped his weekly radio address for the United States. When he finished, we were whisked off to the Oberoi Hotel. The President, exhausted from his day and gearing up for his visit to Pakistan the next day, retired to his room. Dick took Secretary of Commerce, Bill Daley, to dinner at Indigo in Chelsea and several friends decided to try Mumbai's trendy new restaurant too. We toasted a wonderfully successful day.

PS: Dick and I estimate that between Hyderabad and Mumbai, the President actually saw and waved to over 10 million people who were lining the streets from the ports. Children held up American and Indian flags, as well as signs welcoming the President and Chelsea.

DAY SEVEN: Saturday, March 25. I woke up feeling a bit what sad. We drove to the airport in one final motorcade lined up on the red carpet that was laid out in front of a cargo plane. The President bid his farewells. His eyes were filled with tears as he said goodbye. Then, instead of boarding the cargo plane, he walked in front of it and boarded one of two smaller Gulfstream jets that were literally hidden behind the larger plane. One was marked with the US flag and the familiar blue and white design and the other was completely unmarked. The cargo plane took off first, then the two smaller jets followed. Even I was not sure, which one was actually carrying the President of the United States. I suppose security concerns in Pakistan made this type of operation necessary. It certainly added to the drama of his departure.

As the planes flew off, I could not hold back the tears. I had not only witnessed but also taken part in history. I had been in the presence of, and felt I truly got to know, a remarkable man. Dick and I will never forget how special it was for us to share our India and our friends with him.