

THE TRIP
of
THE PRESIDENT
to
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

December 3, 1998

Staff Copy

Table of Contents

Thursday, December 3, 1998

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

Tour of Newport Water Treatment Plant

- Event Memo Tab A

Remarks on the Environment

- Event Memo Tab B

- Remarks Tab C

Rhode Island Background

- Political Background (including hot issues) Tab D

- CEQ Hot Issues Tab E

- Cabinet Affairs Hot Issues Tab F

- Accomplishments Tab G

Thursday, December 3, 1998

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1998

Final Schedule

SCHEDULING DIRECTOR:

STEPHANIE STREETT

HOME: 202-332-5651

OFFICE: 202-456-2823

WHCA PAGER: 4824

PRESS DESK:

DORI SALCIDO

HOME: 703-548-6466

OFFICE: 202-456-5771

WHCA PAGER: 4844

TRIP COORDINATOR:

LAURA GRAHAM

HOME: 703-212-7642

OFFICE: 202-456-2349

WHCA PAGER: 4809

WEATHER:

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mostly sunny. Winds variable to west at 5 to 10 knots. Low 37 to 42. High 62 to 67.

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Partly to mostly cloudy. Winds west at 8 to 12 knots. Low 37 to 42. High 53 to 58.

December 2, 1998 (9:04pm)

Thursday, December 3, 1998

**Schedule of the President
for
Thursday, December 3, 1998
*Final Schedule***

8:00	am	THE PRESIDENT departs The White House via Marine One en route Andrews Air Force Base [flight time: 10 minutes]
8:10	am	THE PRESIDENT arrives Andrews Air Force Base
8:25	am	THE PRESIDENT departs Andrews Air Force Base via Air Force One en route T. F. Green Airport, Providence, Rhode Island [flight time: 1 hour, 5 minutes]
9:30	am	THE PRESIDENT arrives T. F. Green Airport Greeter: Governor Lincoln Almond
9:45	am	THE PRESIDENT departs T. F. Green Airport via Marine One en route Eastons Beach Landing Zone, Newport [flight time: 20 minutes]
10:05	am	THE PRESIDENT arrives Eastons Beach Landing Zone Greeters: Lt. Governor Bernard A. Jackvony (T) Secretary of State James Langevin (T) Attorney General Jeffrey B. Pine (T) Mayor David S. Gordon Vice Mayor Warren S. Gray City Council Member Richard Sardella City Council Member George C. Perry City Council Member James Baccari City Council Member Kathryn Leonard State Representative Senator J. Clement Cicilline State Representative Paul W. Crowley City Manager Michael Mallinoff

December 2, 1998 (9:04pm)

Thursday, December 3, 1998

10:15 am **THE PRESIDENT** departs Eastons Beach Landing Zone via motorcade en route Bliss Mine Road Water Treatment Facility
[drive time: 10 minutes]

10:25 am **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Bliss Mine Road Water Treatment Facility

Greeters: Roy Anderson, Director of Utilities, City of Newport
Teri Sullivan, Worker, Bliss Mine Water Treatment Facility
Alan Lama, President, Newport AFSCME
Worker TBD

10:30 am- **TOUR OF BLISS MINE ROAD WATER TREATMENT FACILITY**
10:55 am **BLISS MINE ROAD WATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

Staff Contact: George Frampton
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
POOL PRESS (2 STOPS)

-- **The President**, accompanied by Roy Anderson, Director of Utilities, City of Newport, and Teri Sullivan, Worker, Bliss Mine Road Water Treatment Facility, Alan Lama, President, Newport AFSCME, and Worker TBD, proceeds to area to view vials of chemicals from reservoirs.
POOL PRESS

-- **The President** proceeds across hallway to filters and is joined by Governor Lincoln Almond, Senator John Chafee, Senator Jack Reed, Representative Patrick Kennedy, Representative Robert Weygand, Mayor David S. Gordon, Michael Malinoff, City Manager, and Chuck Fox, Environmental Protection Agency.
CLOSED PRESS

-- **The President** proceeds with elected officials to basement pumping area.
CLOSED PRESS

-- **The President** proceeds with elected officials to computer control center.
CLOSED PRESS

-- **The President** proceeds upstairs and outside with elected officials to view reservoir area.
POOL PRESS

-- **The President** departs.

11:00 am- **POLICE AND DRIVER PHOTOGRAPHS**
11:05 am **HALLWAY**
Bliss Mine Road Water Treatment Facility

Note: The President will pause to greet two guests prior to departure.

December 2, 1998 (9:04pm)

Thursday, December 3, 1998

11:10 am **THE PRESIDENT** departs Bliss Mine Water Treatment Facility via motorcade en route Fort Adams State Park
[drive time: 10 minutes]

11:20 am **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Fort Adams State Park

Greeters: Former Senator Claiborne Pell
 Nuella Pell

11:25 am- **REMARKS ON THE ENVIRONMENT**
12:25 pm **FIELD - FORT ADAMS STATE PARK**

Remarks: Lowell Weiss
Staff Contact: George Frampton
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
OPEN PRESS

Note: Approximately 1000 guests in attendance.

- Off-stage announcement of Former Senator Claiborne Pell, Mayor David Gordon, Representative Robert Weygand, Representative Patrick Kennedy, Senator Jack Reed, Senator John Chafee, Governor Lincoln Almond.
- Off-stage announcement of **the President**, accompanied by Teri Sullivan, to "Ruffles and Flourishes " and "Hail to the Chief."
- Mayor David Gordon makes brief welcoming remarks and introduces Governor Lincoln Almond.
- Governor Lincoln Almond makes brief remarks and introduces Representative Robert Weygand.
- Representative Robert Weygand makes brief remarks and introduces Representative Patrick Kennedy.
- Representative Patrick Kennedy makes brief remarks and introduces Senator Jack Reed.
- Senator Jack Reed makes brief remarks and introduces Senator John Chafee.
- Senator John Chafee makes brief remarks and introduces Teri Sullivan.
- Terri Sullivan, Worker, Bliss Mine Water Treatment Facility makes brief remarks and introduces **the President**.
- **The President** makes remarks, works a ropeline, and departs.

December 2, 1998 (9:04pm)

Thursday, December 3, 1998

12:30 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Fort Adams State Park via motorcade en route
Fort Adams State Park Landing Zone
[drive time: 5 minutes]

12:35 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Fort Adams State Park Landing Zone

Greeters: Governor Lincoln Almond
 Mayor David Gordon
 Michael Malinoff, City Manager

12:45 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Fort Adams State Park Landing Zone via
Marine One en route T. F. Green Airport
[flight time: 20 minutes]

1:05 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives T. F. Green Airport

1:20 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs T. F. Green Airport via Air Force One en route
Andrews Air Force Base
[flight time: 1 hour, 10 minutes]

2:30 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Andrews Air Force Base

2:45 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs Andrews Air Force Base via Marine One en
route The White House
[flight time: 10 minutes]

2:55 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives The White House

3:00 pm **PHONE AND OFFICE TIME**
4:15 pm **OVAL OFFICE**

4:15 pm- **MEETING**
4:45 pm **OVAL OFFICE**
 Staff Contact: Stephanie Streett

OPTION BETWEEN:

4:30 pm- **DROP-BY SAMUEL BERGER'S MEETING WITH GREEK**
5:00 pm **AMERICAN LEADERS (5-10 MINUTES)**
 ROOSEVELT ROOM
 Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
 WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY

December 2, 1998 (9:04pm)

Thursday, December 3, 1998

5:00 pm-
6:00 pm **BUDGET REVIEW MEETING**
CABINET ROOM
Staff Contact: Gene Sperling

6:00 pm-
6:30 pm **MEETING**
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: John Podesta

EVENING OFF

BC RON THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, DC

HRC RON NEW YORK CITY
NEW YORK

December 2, 1998 (9:04pm)

A



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

December 2, 1998

98 DEC 2 PM 6:56

TOUR OF NEWPORT WATER TREATMENT PLANT

DATE: December 3, 1998
LOCATION: Newport Water Treatment Plant
TIME: 10:30am - 10:55am
FROM: George T. Frampton, Jr. *ATC*

I. PURPOSE

You will take a brief tour of the Newport Water Treatment Plant to view firsthand the drinking water treatment process.

II. BACKGROUND

The Newport Water Treatment Plant is one of two filtration plants serving Aquidneck Island (about 60,000 people). The plant, operated by the City of Newport Water Department since 1991, treats approximately 3 to 6 million gallons of water per day. The primary source of the water is surface runoff from Aquidneck Island.

Water treated at the plant is collected at seven reservoirs located throughout Aquidneck Island and is pumped to the facility where it undergoes a complete treatment process. The process includes clarification, filtration, chlorination, and fluoridation. Your tour will highlight in sequence the four major areas of the water treatment plant -- the computer control center, the clarifier area, the filtration area and the pipe gallery.

Roy Anderson, Director of Utilities for the City of Newport, will lead the tour. Mr. Anderson has served as Utilities Director since 1987 and is responsible for managing the City's water and wastewater utility and solid waste services.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Event participants

Roy Anderson, Director of Utilities, City of Newport
Teri Sullivan, Microbiologist, City of Newport Water Department
Alan Lama, President, AFCMEA
Governor Lincoln Almond
Senator John Chafee
Senator Jack Reed
Representative Patrick Kennedy
Representative Robert Weygand

Mayor David Gordon
City Manager Michael Mallinoff

IV. PRESS PLAN
Pool Press

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- **YOU**, accompanied by Roy Anderson, Director of Utilities, City of Newport; Teri Sullivan, Microbiologist, City of Newport Water Department; and Alan Lama, President, AFCMEA, proceed to the first stop on the tour.

CLOSED PRESS

- **YOU**, accompanied by Roy Anderson, Teri Sullivan and Alan Lama, proceed to area to view vials of chemicals from reservoirs.

POOL PRESS

- **YOU**, accompanied by Roy Anderson, Teri Sullivan and Alan Lama, proceed across hallway to filter area and are joined by Governor Lincoln Almond, Senator John Chafee, Senator Jack Reed, Representative Patrick Kennedy, Representative Robert Weygand, Mayor David Gordon, and City Manager Michael Mallinoff.

CLOSED PRESS

- **YOU** proceed with group to basement pumping area.

CLOSED PRESS

- **YOU** proceed with group to the computer center.

CLOSED PRESS

- **YOU** proceed upstairs with group to view outdoor reservoir area.

POOL PRESS

- **YOU** depart.

VI. REMARKS
N/A

B



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

December 2, 1998

'98 DEC 2 PM 7:44

REMARKS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

DATE: December 3, 1998
LOCATION: Fort Adams State Park
TIME: 11:25am - 12:25pm
FROM: George T. Frampton, Jr. *MT*

I. PURPOSE

You will announce new EPA regulations to strengthen drinking water protection and the release of \$775 million in grants to states to help upgrade local drinking water systems.

II. BACKGROUND

Safe Drinking Water

The standards and funding that you will announce typify your approach to public health and environmental protection: imposing tougher standards to protect communities while providing state and local governments with the resources they need to meet those standards. The announcement also reflects a major legislative achievement of this Administration in the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, which you signed into law at the conclusion of the 104th Congress. These amendments incorporated all of your major proposals to reform and to strengthen the Federal drinking water laws, and Congress enacted them at the conclusion of the 104th Congress by sweeping bipartisan majorities. Senator Chafee, along with Senator Max Baucus, was the principal author of the amendments.

The 1996 amendments include reforms of the statute to focus on contaminants of greatest risk, authorization of Safe Drinking Water Act State Revolving Funds (SRFs) to assist local water suppliers in upgrading their water supply systems, increased public right-to-know about drinking water quality, stronger protection of drinking water sources, and increased regulatory flexibility for small water systems. The Rhode Island announcement involves the second major set of regulations under the new law. The first, which you announced in San Francisco in August, requires public disclosure of information about contaminants found in drinking water through "consumer confidence reports" sent directly or available to households.

Two regulations will be announced as part of this event. The first (entitled "Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule") requires filtration for waterborne microbial

contaminants such as cryptosporidium. Cryptosporidium, a microscopic parasite found in animal and other organic wastes, is one of several potentially harmful microbes that can contaminate drinking water. A 1993 Cryptosporidium outbreak in Milwaukee sickened 400,000 people, hospitalized more than 4,000, and caused more than 50 deaths among people with weakened immune systems. Most major water systems already filter for microbes, but filtration upgrades are needed both in some major metropolitan areas (e.g. the Boston water system and the Croton reservoir in New York City) and in a number of smaller systems. By requiring improved filtration and monitoring in water systems serving 60 million people or more, the new standards will prevent up to 460,000 cases of waterborne illness a year.

The second rule ("Stage 1 Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products Rule") strengthens public health standards for trihalomethanes -- by-products of chemicals used to disinfect water supplies such as chlorine. While water disinfection and the resulting control of cholera, typhoid, and other disease have been among this century's greatest public health success stories, several byproducts of disinfection are known carcinogens. The principal by-product of concern, which was the cause of some last-minute discussion in the OMB clearance process, is Chloroform. The provisions of the regulation dealing with Chloroform set a maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 70 parts per million (ppm) for Chloroform, and a maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) of zero. This "goal" (not immediately enforceable, but a bellwether of where future regulation might lead) is a very protective standard, and resulted from a negotiated rulemaking convened by EPA under the auspices of a federal advisory committee.

In addition to the regulations, you will be announcing \$775 million in grants for states to capitalize Drinking Water SRFs, including more than \$8 million for Rhode Island. You first proposed that Congress fund these SRFs in your 1993 budget --three years before Congress finally authorized them in the 1996 amendments. These funds will be used to create local revolving funds, which states then use to provide low-interest loans to local water suppliers to meet EPA's stronger standards.

While the standards and funding you announce are important improvements in public health protection, Americans do enjoy the safest drinking water in the world. Eighty-five percent of this country's tapwater fully meets tough federal standards. Since 1993, 10 million more Americans are receiving water from utilities reporting no violations of federal health standards.

Fort Adams

Fort Adams sits on a narrow finger of land in Newport and is one of the largest seacoast fortifications on the east coast. The Fort was constructed in the 1820's and remained in active service until the late 1950's. The property was turned over to the state of Rhode Island and was opened to the public as Fort Adams State Park in 1974. In addition to the historic Fort, the 80 acre site is significant as the Civil War home of the U.S. Naval Academy.

As with many historic sites, Fort Adams is in need of repair and restoration. The National Park Service (NPS) has named the Fort a "Landmark at Risk" due to inadequate maintenance and protection. To improve the situation, NPS recommends restoration of important stone and wood structures in the Fort as well and the development of an overall management plan for its rehabilitation.

Teri Sullivan

You will be introduced by Teri Sullivan, a microbiologist for the Newport Utilities District. Teri is a married and a mother of two children, Sean (13) and Kelly (11). She has lived in the area her entire life and has worked for the Utility Company since 1989.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Event participants

Governor Lincoln Almond, Senator John Chafee, Senator Jack Reed, Representative Patrick Kennedy, Representative Robert Weygand, Mayor David Gordon, Former Senator Clayborne Pell, and Teri Sullivan, Microbiologist, City of Newport Water Department

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open Press

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Note: Approximately 1000 guests in attendance.

- Offstage announcement of Governor Lincoln Almond, Senator John Chafee, Senator Jack Reed, Representative Patrick Kennedy, Representative Robert Weygand, Mayor David Gordon, and Former Senator Clayborne Pell.
- Offstage announcement of **YOU**, accompanied by Teri Sullivan, Microbiologist, City of Newport Water Department.
- Mayor David Gordon makes brief remarks and introduces Governor Lincoln Almond.
- Governor Lincoln Almond makes brief remarks and introduces Representative Robert Weygand.
- Representative Robert Weygand makes brief remarks and introduces Representative Patrick Kennedy.
- Representative Patrick Kennedy makes brief remarks and introduces Senator Jack Reed.
- Senator Jack Reed makes brief remarks and introduces Senator John Chafee.

- Senator John Chafee makes brief remarks and introduces Teri Sullivan.
- Teri Sullivan makes brief remarks and introduces **YOU**.
- **YOU** make remarks.
- **YOU** work a ropeline and depart.

VI. REMARKS

To be provided by speechwriting

C

Draft 12/2/98 7:45pm
Lowell Weiss

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS ON CLEAN WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND
December 3, 1998

Acknowledge: Sen. Chafee, Sen. Reed, Sen. and Mrs. Pell, Rep. Kennedy, Rep. Weygand, Gov. Almond; Gov. Sundlun, Mayor Gordon, EPA regional admin. John DeVillars, Terri Sullivan [*worker from plant you will tour*].

I can't believe this is December. [*temp. is expected to be 59 °*] On a day like this, it's a good thing I didn't come here to give a speech on the great harm of global warming.

I remember when my family and I went to beautiful Block Island two summers ago, the Jazz Festival was going on right here in this park. Ever since, I've been hoping Newport might invite me to come here to play my sax.

It's great to be here in this gorgeous "City by the Sea" ... the once -- and future -- home of the America's Cup ... a vital center for the world's finest Navy. It's easy to see why Rep. Kennedy's uncle and aunt made Newport the home of the Summer White House.

And it's easy to see why you're working so hard to "Save the Bay." I just heard that there's a documentary on the original Star-Spangled Banner airing tonight -- and it was filmed right here at Ft. Adams, overlooking this majestic sweep of the Narragansett Bay. They could have filmed at Maryland's Ft. McHenry, where Francis Scott Key wrote our national anthem. But they came here instead -- because the Narragansett Bay looks almost the same today as it did two centuries ago. And you deserve great credit for that. Just as this fort and the U.S. Navy have protected these shores from foreign attack, this community has worked to protect these shores from environmental assaults. You have worked tirelessly to keep this bay a living legacy for all future residents of the great "Ocean State."

Today, I came here because I want everyone in America to know about your remarkable efforts to save the bay. Just as important, I want to talk about ways we can help this community, and communities across our nation, protect all of America's precious water resources -- from the tap water our children drink to the rivers where we fish and swim.

Last week, on Thanksgiving, I had a chance to give thanks for the good times in our country. The wind is at our backs, and our economy is sailing along. This month, our economy will achieve the longest peacetime boom in American history. We have almost 17 million new jobs and the lowest unemployment in 28 years. The federal deficit, that glaring symbol of Washington's gridlock, is gone. At long last, wages for all groups of Americans are on the rise.

Here in Rhode Island, you can see the optimism growing. Unemployment is down to 5%. With all the building of new homes and shopping malls, your construction industry hasn't seen such good times in many, many years. Here in Newport, the Navy is building the Strategic Maritime

Research Center, and high-tech industries are flourishing. You have reason to be very proud.

As we approach a new century, the question is: How can America best use this momentum? How can we best use all this good wind that's filling America's sails? Standing here, at one of the most scenic spots in America, I think one answer is plain: We must use this time of prosperity to protect the health of our environment, even as we continue to strengthen our economy.

Ever since Pres. Theodore Roosevelt launched our nation on the course of conservation at the dawn of this century, pessimists have claimed that protecting the environment and expanding the economy are incompatible goals. But time and again, we have proven the pessimists wrong. They said cutting pollution from cars would cause our economy to break down by the side of the road. We proved them wrong. They said banning deadly pesticides would cause American agriculture to wither and decline. We proved them wrong. They said curtailing acid rain would be the worst disaster since Noah's flood. We proved them wrong again. Today our economy is the strongest in a generation and our environment is the cleanest in a generation. Thanks to citizens like you, America has proven that economic growth and environmental stewardship truly do go hand in hand.

Just look at what we have accomplished together in the past six years. We're using this time of prosperity to protect our natural treasures. We're restoring the precious Florida Everglades... saving the endangered Sterling Forest... preserving the spectacular red-rock canyons of Utah... shielding our priceless Yellowstone National Park from the assaults of mining. The balanced budget I signed in October will allow us to protect dozens more natural and historic sites around the country, including the Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex, the last remaining undeveloped coastal habitat in southern New England. The Vice President and all the elected officials here today -- especially Sen. Chafee -- deserve great thanks for that.

We're using this time of prosperity to restore our waterways. With strong support from Sen. Chafee, Sen. Reed and Rep. Kennedy, we have launched an historic plan to help communities clean up America's rivers and streams -- because every river in America should be healthy enough for our children to fish and swim. And Congress can help us reach this goal even faster by strengthening the Clean Water Act.

Here in Rhode Island, we're helping you revitalize the Blackstone and Woonasquatucket [wuh-NAHS-kwa-tuck-et], because these historic rivers are now American Heritage Rivers -- an honor Rhode Island richly deserves. And we are working with you to solve the problems that led to beach closings and to restore critical habitats damaged by the North Cape oil spill. We must restore your valuable lobster fishery and preserve forever the health of your cherished coast.

We are also using this time of prosperity to enhance protection of our most vital natural resource -- the water we drink. Two years ago, with great help from Sen. Chafee, we strengthened the Safe Drinking Water Act, to zero in on the contaminants that pose the greatest threat and to help communities upgrade treatment plants like the one I just toured. This past summer, I announced a new rule requiring utilities across the country to provide their customers regular reports on the quality of their drinking water. You shouldn't have to guess whether your water is safe. You have the right to know.

When it comes to the water our children drink, we can never be too vigilant. So today, I am pleased to announce three strong actions I am taking to make our drinking water even safer.

First, we are escalating our attack on the invisible microbes that sometimes creep into our water supply. Many of you will recall the tragic episode five years ago in Milwaukee, when a parasite called *Cryptosporidium* [krip-toe-spoor-RID-ee-um] contaminated the city's drinking water, killing dozens and making more than 400,000 people sick. Today, we are putting in place new standards that will significantly reduce the risk from *Cryptosporidium* and other microbes. We must ensure that no community ever endures another outbreak like the one in Milwaukee.

Second, we are taking steps to ensure that when we treat our water, we do it as safely as possible. One of the great health advances of the 20th Century is the control of typhoid, cholera, and other diseases with disinfectants we add to our drinking water. But as with so many advances, there are tradeoffs. We now see that some disinfectants can combine with natural substances in our water to create potentially harmful compounds. So today I am announcing new standards to significantly reduce our exposure to these byproducts -- because we must give our families greater peace of mind when they turn on the tap.

The third step I am taking is to help communities meet these higher standards. Today, we are releasing almost \$800 million to help communities in all 50 states upgrade their drinking water systems. This includes more than \$7 million for communities right here in Rhode Island. With these higher standards and the resources to meet them, we will guarantee even safer drinking water for 140 million Americans.

In these and many other ways, we will use this time of prosperity wisely, to protect our families and our natural resources for the 21st Century. We will use this time to build on the bipartisan tradition that has always helped Americans to face down our difficult environmental challenges with uncommon resolve.

Thirty-six years ago, when John Glenn first strapped himself into a cramped Mercury capsule and blasted off into the heavens, humankind gained an entirely new perspective on our planet. As he circled the Earth, Glenn was awestruck by how beautiful but fragile our planet really is . . . protected from the harsh void of space by an atmosphere that looked as thin and delicate as the skin of an onion. When John Glenn returned to space a month ago, he had the same feeling all over again -- and once again it enhanced his religious faith. "To see the Earth from this vantage point," he said from the Shuttle Discovery, "only strengthens my beliefs."

To the best of my knowledge, none of us here has had the opportunity to venture out into space. [Although I understand Sen. Pell, who just turned 80 last week, is raring to go.] But I believe that everyone here today has the ability to rise to a vantage point high above the fray and help us look for common ground. As Sen. Chafee can well attest, the environment need not be a partisan issue. Our shorelines and parks do not have signs marked with the words "Republican" or "Democrat." Preserving our fragile Earth, and protecting our families, requires us to work together. Working together is the only way we can ensure that we will pass on this Earth, God's greatest gift, healthy and whole. Thank you and God bless you.

###

D

December 3, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Craig T. Smith and Craig Hughes

'98 DEC 1 PM 4:25

RE: Rhode Island Political Briefing

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS

1992		1996	
Clinton/Gore	47% 213,299	Clinton/Gore	60% 233,050
Bush/Quayle	29% 131,601	Dole/Kemp	27% 104,683
Perot/Stockdale	23% 105,045	Perot/Choate	11% 43,723

MOST RECENT PRINCIPAL TRAVEL

The **Vice President** was in Providence, Rhode Island, on July 1, 1998, for a fundraiser to assist Rep. Bob Weygand (D) and the State Democratic Party. **You** and the **First Lady** were on Block Island, Rhode Island, on August 17, 1997, for a vacation and a lighthouse dedication.

1998 ELECTION RESULTS

Incumbent Governor Lincoln Almond (R) was able to successfully hold on to his position as governor in this year's election. He received 51% of the vote to Democratic challenger Myrth York's 42% and Cool Moose Party Candidate Robert Healey's 7%. Almond's victory can be attributed to the strength of the state's economy, which has been humming along since Almond was first elected in 1994.

Despite Almond's ability to maintain his seat as Governor, the election fared well for the Democratic Party, which was able to secure all other statewide offices. In the race for Lieutenant Governor, Charles J. Fogarty (D) defeated Bernard Jackvony (R) 50% to 44%. Former US Attorney Sheldon Whitehouse (D) secured the Attorney General position over State Treasurer Nancy Mayer (R) 67% to 33%. Paul Tavares (D) defeated James S. Bennett (R) by a close margin of 47% to 45% to obtain the State Treasurer position, and incumbent James R. Langevin (D) defeated Ed Lopez (R) by a landslide margin of 82% to 18% in the Secretary of State race.

1998 CONGRESSIONAL RACES

First District

Democratic incumbent Patrick Kennedy easily held his position as House Representative of CD-01. He defeated Republican challenger Ron Santa 67% to 27%.

Second District

Popular incumbent Rep. Robert Weygand (D) was able to cruise to victory over carpenter John Matson (R), defeating him 72% to 25%.

1998 MAYORAL RACE

Providence Mayor Vincent "Buddy" A. Cianci, Jr. (I) was elected to his sixth term, becoming the longest running Mayor in Providence history. Cianci ran unopposed.

HOT ISSUES

Y2K Efforts

A report issued by the Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council, concluded that the state's Year 2000 efforts are good but could be better. According to the report, Rhode Island should put together a coordinated and comprehensive plan. As of now, the state is taking a more decentralized approach, allowing individual state agencies to propose and implement their own solution.

The RIPEC report concluded that Rhode Island made progress in some areas, including detecting potential problems and finding solutions in systems such as mainframe and desktop computers. But the state appears less prepared in its infrastructure systems, such as security, heating, and ventilation. The state also needs to focus on making sure that computer systems will be able to communicate with each other, such as local and federal government computers, as well as business vendors and partners. The State Budget Office expressed the need for at least \$2.65 million in supplemental appropriations during the 1999 fiscal year to address the problem.

Student Test Scores

Rhode Island has begun to implement new standardized tests in writing and math. Peter McWalters, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, stated that the 1998 test scores are higher than they were in 1997. The test results show that 42% of 10th graders who took the writing test in March met or exceeded the proficiency level set by the state Board of Regents -- up 33% from last year. Tenth graders also showed an increase in math scores, from 63% to 67%.

However, the results do show a decrease in the statewide proficiency of 10th graders' problem solving, from 25% to 17%. Commissioner McWalters acknowledged that the tests reveal that less than half of the state's 10th graders are proficient in a number of areas. The state began to implement the new tests in 1997, and this year began to use the test scores, plus the state writing and health tests to develop a new way of judging public schools. McWalters added that the state plans to implement more new tests and to administer tests more efficiently, which hopefully will result in even higher scores.

Lifespan Merger

A surprise announcement by Lifespan, which operates five hospitals, and Care New England, which operates three hospitals, marked a deal that is unprecedented in this small state. The merger would create a vast health network from Providence to Newport and bring in \$1.4 billion in yearly revenues from a combined 103,000 patients. These patients would be cared for by 20,000 health care workers. One concern that has been voiced by the United Nurses and Allied Professionals involves what the deal will mean for hospital workers. She has expressed concern that patient care at Rhode Island Hospital is already streamlined and needs more, not less, health care workers.

Lifespan chairman Bruce M. Selya explained that private and government attempts to direct health costs have resulted in dwindling revenues to hospitals. Selya furthers his point by contending that the hospitals survival is dependent on the formation of vast health care networks. Lifespan asserts that the two networks can save \$80 million by merging, according to early estimates. Lifespan and Care New England have acknowledged that some jobs will be lost.

Lifespan has proposed a possible linkage with Care New England. This would create a \$1.4 billion corporation controlling 64 percent of Rhode Island's health care market.

POLITICAL DATA

Governor: Lincoln Almond (R) 51% in 1998
U.S. Senate: John H. Chafee (R) 65% in 1994
Jack Reed (D) 63% in 1996
U.S. House: Patrick Kennedy (D-01) 67% in 1998
Bob Weygand (D-02) 72% in 1998
State Senate: 42D/8R
State House: 86D/13R/1I
Electoral Votes: 4

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP

Governor	Lincoln Almond (R)
Lt. Governor	Charles J. Fogarty (D)
Secretary of State	James Langevin (D)
Attorney General	Sheldon Whitehouse (D)
General Treasurer	Paul Tavares (D)

RHODE ISLAND AT A GLANCE

- 1996 estimated population was 990,000.
- 89% are white, 4.6% Hispanic American, 3.4% African American, and 1.8% Asian American.
- 16% of Rhode Island residents are age 65 or older.
- 53.5% of Rhode Island households are married couples, and 24% are married with children.
- Median household income is \$32,181.
- In 1996, 390,274 (52%) Rhode Island residents voted out of a Voting Age Population (VAP) of 751,000.

E



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

198 DEC 2 PM 6:55

December 2, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: GEORGE T. FRAMPTON, JR. *JWT for*

SUBJECT: RHODE ISLAND HOT ISSUES

Rhode Island's Department of Environment

Governor Almond has been subject to widespread criticism for his commitment to the environment and his support for his Department of Environmental Management (DEM). EPA's Regional Administrator, John DeVillars, has threatened to withdraw program delegations under the Federal hazardous waste laws and the Clean Water Act because of Governor Almond's cuts in staffing and enforcement, as well as long delays in committing EPA grant money. The Governor's DEM director, Andrew McLoud, recently resigned (Governor Almond contends that he fired him). The Governor was further embarrassed on the issue this fall when EPA Administrator Carol Browner came to Rhode Island and campaigned for his opponent.

DeVillars has been widely praised by environmental groups and the press for his visible leadership on these issues, and personally is on cordial terms with the Governor. If asked about this issue, you should say that the staffing of the DEM is a matter that should be left to the Governor, but that you appreciate the leadership that Regional Administrator DeVillars has provided in working with the State to ensure that Rhode Island's environment is protected.

Wastewater and Beach Closures

When heavy rains occur in this region, they can result in excessive stormwater runoff and periodically overwhelm the local sewer systems. These events can result in closures of beaches and commercial shellfish fisheries. There was a beach closure right at Fort Adams, where you will make your remarks, following heavy rains last August. Other beaches in the region were affected as well.

As part of your Clean Water Action Plan (announced in Baltimore on February 19, 1998) and your right-to-know initiative (announced in Kalamazoo on August 26, 1996), EPA responded to the beach closures by providing \$275,000 to increase monitoring of Narragansett Bay water quality, helping to solve the problems at Fort Adams and throughout Narragansett Bay. The funds were awarded to a partnership of state and local agencies and local environmental groups. These resources will help federal and state agencies pinpoint the cause of water quality problems while honoring the public's right-to-know about whether their waters are safe for fishing and swimming. EPA is also assisting

Rhode Island with funding for sewage plant upgrades. Environmental groups generally consider these EPA responses to be success stories.

In a further response, EPA and Rhode Island worked together to declare Naragansett Bay the first "no discharge zone" in the country, protecting local communities by prohibiting sewage discharges from boats.

Coastal Oil Spills

The most recent major oil spill incident was the North Cape spill (North Cape is the name of the barge/tug) off the Rhode Island coast on January 19, 1996, which involved about 3.9 million gallons of number 2 heating oil. The Coast Guard, EPA, and NOAA participated in the initial response, and NOAA is the lead for the long-term restoration plan under the natural resource damage (NRD) provisions of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. Senator Chafee was a principal author of the Act, in part to provide restoration of natural resources injured by the 1989 World Prodigy Spill.

NOAA recently released its draft restoration plan which has been generally well-received by the Rhode Island delegation, the state, environmental groups, and the public. The plan, which was the subject of a public hearing on October 28, includes projects for restoration for commercial lobster and shellfish fisheries, habitat restoration, and enhanced water quality and coastal protection. Senator Chafee is convening another hearing on December 10 to discuss remaining concerns about the pace of lobster restoration and funding. There also are a number of successful projects being implemented in the area to provide restoration of natural resources injured by the 1989 World Prodigy Spill.

The North Cape restoration plan also reflects this Administration's successful efforts to implement common-sense reforms to make our NRD programs "restoration based" rather than litigation-based tort actions based on economic damage cases. As a result of these reforms, the North Cape restoration plan was completed in one third of the time it took for the much smaller World Prodigy spill.

Katy Field

The Navy recently closed Katy field, a site at the Newport Naval Station that had been used as a playground, amid concerns about potential contamination from lead, dioxin, and other hazardous substances at the site. Both Senator Chafee and Congressman Kennedy faulted the Navy and EPA for moving too slowly in closing the site, although neither EPA nor Navy have conclusive information about any actual risks of exposure at the site. The site is now fenced off, EPA is doing extensive sampling and will be closely involved before the Navy makes any decisions about the future use of the site.

If asked about this issue, you should say that you understand that EPA and the Navy are working closely with concerned Members of the Rhode Island delegation to make sure that concerns about the safety of the site are investigated and addressed.

American Shipyard

Rhode Island's DEM has been particularly criticized for lax enforcement and possibly unlawful storage of hazardous wastes at the American Shipyard site in Newport. Local press and a DEM whistleblower have raised serious allegations of impropriety by the Rhode Island DEM which EPA has turned over to its inspector general.

If asked about this issue, you should say that you understand that very serious allegations have been referred to EPA's Inspector General, and that it would be inappropriate to comment before that investigation is complete.

Providence River Dredging

The Providence River and harbor are in need of dredging to preserve their navigability, raising the issue of disposal of dredged sediments. The Army Corps of Engineers is proposing to dispose of less-contaminated ('suitable') sediments in an open water site located in Narragansett Bay near Hog Island. There has been significant opposition to this site from Governor Almond, local residents and fisherman, and an environmental group (Save the Bay). EPA's comments on the draft Environmental Impact Statement maintains that the site will result in adverse impacts on fisheries and recommends reconsidering a different site in Rhode Island Sound, although more information on the alternate site is needed.

If asked about this issue, you should say that you have been made aware of the alternatives for this project and the environmental concerns regarding this project. EPA and the Corps of Engineers are reviewing the alternatives, and the Administration will make sure that any decision is protective of the environment.

MWRA Filtration (Boston)

The Massachusetts Water Resource Authority (MWRA) is fighting EPA's requirement to treat drinking water for Greater Boston with a new filtration plant. This does not affect any Rhode Island towns, but has been a high-profile and often heated regional dispute. The MWRA argues that filtration is too expensive, and that treating the water with chlorine, and adding a new treatment with ozone will be adequate. EPA replies that the cost is small (six cents a day for the average homeowner), that filtration is necessary to ensure public health, and that filtration is required by law for any water supply whose watershed is as heavily settled as Boston's. The MWRA board voted in October to build a new plant without filtration, and as expected, the state Department of Environmental Protection approved the action. EPA is pursuing a court case to force filtration; first arguments are scheduled for January, 1999.

If asked about this issue, you should say that in this case, as with the new regulations, the Administration is acting to ensure that Americans get the safe drinking water they deserve.

F

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 2, 1998

'98 DEC 2 PM 12:29

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: THURGOOD MARSHALL, JR. *JPM for TM*
JON P. JENNINGS *JPM*

SUBJECT: HOT ISSUES--NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

Welfare-to-Work Grant: On November 20, DOL awarded a \$3.86 million welfare-to-work grant to the Providence-Cranston Private Industry Council to launch its 'World of Work' program. The program targets 500 of the hardest to employ welfare recipients. (DOL)

Workers Compensation Act: RI small businesses will face major changes in the Workers Compensation Act that will take effect on January 1, 1999. All employers will be required to insure employees as of that date. (SBA)

Heritage Rivers: On July 30, you designated fourteen premier rivers as "American Heritage Rivers." Two rivers in RI, the Blackstone and Woonasquatucket Rivers received this honorable designation. (DOI)

G

**PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS: RHODE ISLAND**

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

- **Unemployment Down to 5.2%:** The unemployment rate in Rhode Island has declined from 8.2% to 5.2% since 1993.
- **27,500 New Jobs:** 27,500 new jobs have been created in Rhode Island since 1993 -- an average of 4,783 jobs per year. In contrast, an average of 9,225 private sector jobs were *lost* each year during the previous administration.
- **25,100 New Private Sector Jobs:** Since 1993, 25,100 new private sector jobs have been created -- an average of 4,365 jobs per year, compared to an average *loss* of 9,925 private sector jobs per year in the previous administration.
- **25,000 Have Received a Raise:** 25,000 Rhode Island workers benefited from an increase in the minimum wage -- from \$4.25 to \$4.75 -- on October 1, 1996.
- **A \$500 Child Tax Credit to Help Families Raising Children:** To help make it easier for families to raise their children, the balanced budget includes a \$500 per-child tax credit for children under 17. **Thanks to President Clinton, the Balanced Budget delivers a child tax credit to 94,000 families in Rhode Island.**
- **Home Ownership Has Increased in Rhode Island:** Home ownership in Rhode Island has increased from 56.3% to 59.2% since the first quarter of 1993.
- **Home Building Up 0.9%:** Home building has increased by an average of 0.9% per year since 1993, after falling over 19.1% per year during the previous four years.
- **Business Failures Down 18.7% Per Year:** Business failures have dropped 18.7% per year since 1993, after increasing 86.9% per year during the previous administration.
- **1.7% Growth in Personal Income:** Personal income in Rhode Island has risen at an annual rate of 1.7% since 1993, compared to an average decrease of 0.6% per year during the previous administration.
- **31.2% Growth in Total Bank Loans and Leases:** Rhode Island has seen a 31.2% average growth rate in total bank loans and leases per year since 1993, after falling over 6.1% per year during the previous administration.
- **29.7% Growth in Commercial and Industrial Loans and Leases:** Each year since 1993, Rhode Island has experienced a 29.7% growth in commercial and industrial loans and leases. In contrast, commercial and industrial loans and leases fell over 4% per year during the previous administration.
- **Over \$25,000 of Reduced Federal Debt for Every Family of Four:** The national debt will \$1.7 trillion lower in fiscal year 1999 than projected in 1993 -- that's \$25,000 less debt for each family of four in Rhode Island next year.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO EDUCATION

- **\$14.3 Million in Head Start Funding:** In FY97, Rhode Island received approximately \$13 million in Head Start funding benefitting nearly 2,700 children. In FY98, Rhode Island received over \$14 million, an increase of \$1.2 million over 1997.
- **More High-Quality Teachers With Smaller Classes for Rhode Island's Schools:** Thanks to President Clinton, the final FY99 budget provides for the first year of the President's new initiative to hire 100,000 new, well-prepared teachers, to reduce class sizes in the early grades to a national average of 18. Rhode Island will receive \$5.6 million in 1999 to hire about 145 new public school teachers.

- **\$1.9 Million in Goals 2000 Funding:** This year [FY99], Rhode Island receives \$1.9 million in Goals 2000 funding. This money is used to raise academic achievement by raising academic standards, increasing parental and community involvement in education, expanding the use of computers and technology in classrooms, and supporting high-quality teacher professional development.
- **\$2.1 Million for Technology Literacy:** This year [FY99], Rhode Island receives \$2.1 million for the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund, which helps communities and the private sector ensure that every student is equipped with the computer literacy skills needed for the 21st century.
- **\$27 Million for Students Most in Need:** Rhode Island receives \$27 million in Title I grants providing extra help in the basics for students most in need, particularly communities and schools with high concentrations of children in low-income families [FY99]. This is an increase of \$2.5 million over FY98 funding.
- **\$32.5 Million in Pell Grants:** This year [FY99], Rhode Island will receive \$32.5 million in Pell Grants for low-income students going to college, an additional \$1.5 million over last year. With this increase, a total of 17,800 Rhode Island students will benefit.
- **Expanded Work-Study To Help More Students Work Their Way Through College:** The FY99 budget includes a significant expansion of the Federal Work Study program. Rhode Island will receive \$7.1 million in Work-Study funding in 1999 to help Rhode Island students work their way through college.
- **Nearly 1,000 Have Served in Rhode Island through AmeriCorps:** Since the National Service program began in 1993, 991 AmeriCorps participants have earned money for college while working in Rhode Island's schools, hospitals, neighborhoods or parks. [through 11/98]
- **Tuition Tax Credits in Balanced Budget Open the Doors of College and Promote Lifelong Learning:** The balanced budget included both President Clinton's \$1,500 HOPE Scholarship to help make the first two years of college as universal as a high school diploma and a Lifetime Learning Tax Credit for college juniors, seniors, graduate students and working Americans pursuing lifelong learning to upgrade their skills. This 20% tax credit will be applied to the first \$5,000 of tuition and fees through 2002 and to the first \$10,000 thereafter. **31,000 students in Rhode Island will receive a HOPE Scholarship tax credit of up to \$1,500. 38,000 students in Rhode Island will receive the Lifetime Learning Tax Credit.**
- **Expanded Job Training to Rhode Island's Dislocated Workers:** Thanks to President Clinton, the FY99 budget includes a significant expansion in the dislocated worker program. Rhode Island will receive \$3.7 million in 1999 to help 2,210 of Rhode Island's dislocated workers get the training and reemployment services they need to return to work as quickly as possible.

FIGHTING CRIME AND VIOLENCE

- **Crime Falls 22% in Rhode Island:** Since 1992, Rhode Island's crime rate has fallen 22%. Violent crime and property crime have also declined 17% and 22% respectively. In Providence, between 1992 and 1997, serious crime, as indicated by the crime index, has declined 27%, with a 37% drop in murder and 32% drop in robbery. [1992 and 1997 Uniform Crime Report]
- **312 More Police:** The President's 1994 Crime Bill has funded 312 new police officers to date in communities across Rhode Island. [through 11/98]
- **Reducing Crime with Drug Courts:** Working to reduce drug-related crime in Rhode Island, the Clinton Administration has recently awarded a Drug Court grant to the community of Providence. Drug courts use the coercive power of the criminal justice system to combine drug testing, sanctions, supervision and treatment to push nonviolent, drug-abusing offenders to stop using drugs and committing crimes.
- **Over \$2 Million to Combat Domestic Violence:** Through the Violence Against Women Act, Rhode Island received \$2.2 million in federal funds in FY98 to establish more women's shelters and bolster law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services.

- **\$400,000 in Grants for Battered Women and Children:** In FY98, Rhode Island received \$400,000 in HHS's Family Violence Prevention Program grants to assist women and children fleeing domestic abuse.
- **\$2.2 Million to Keep Drugs & Violence Out of Rhode Island's Schools:** Rhode Island will receive \$2.2 million in FY99 for the Safe & Drug Free Schools Program, which invests in school security and drug prevention programs.

MOVING RHODE ISLANDERS FROM WELFARE TO WORK

- **7,404 Fewer People on Welfare:** There are 7,404 fewer people on welfare in Rhode Island now than there were at the beginning of 1993 -- a decrease of 12%. [through 6/98]
- **Child Support Collections Up 41%:** Child support collections have increased by over \$10 million -- or 41% -- in Rhode Island since FY92. [through FY96]
- **Breaking the Cycle of Dependency -- Preventing Teen Pregnancy in Rhode Island:** Since 1993, President Clinton has supported innovative and promising teen pregnancy prevention strategies, with significant components of his strategy becoming law in the 1996 Personal Responsibility Act. The law requires unmarried minor parents to stay in school and live at home or in a supervised setting; encourages "second chance homes" to provide teen parents with the skills and support they need; and provides \$50 million a year in new funding for state abstinence education activities. Efforts are making a difference, adolescent pregnancy rates for teens aged 15-19 decreased between 1992 and 1995 and fewer teenagers gave birth from 1991 to 1996. Teen abortion rates are also declining. **Notably, between 1992 and 1995, teen pregnancy rates declined 10.1 percent in Rhode Island.**
- **Rhode Island Received \$4.4 Million in Welfare-to-Work Grants:** In FY98, Rhode Island received \$4.4 million in welfare-to-work state formula grants, helping Rhode Island prepare welfare recipients for work and to place them in jobs. Part of the President's comprehensive efforts to move recipients from welfare to work, this funding is included in the \$3 billion Welfare-to-Work Jobs Challenge Fund signed into law in the 1997 balanced budget. In addition, organizations in Rhode Island have received \$3.9 million in welfare-to-work competitive grants to help move recipients into lasting jobs.

INVESTING IN RHODE ISLAND'S HEALTH

- **Health Care for Uninsured Children:** The balanced budget included the largest single investment in health care for children since the passage of Medicaid in 1965 -- an unprecedented \$24 billion over five years to cover as many as five million children throughout the nation. This investment guarantees the full range of benefits -- from checkups to surgery -- that children need to grow up strong and healthy. It ensures that prescription drugs, vision, hearing, and mental health coverage now offered at the state level are extended to millions of uninsured children. To expand health coverage to more uninsured children in Rhode Island the Balanced Budget provides \$11 million in 1998. This compares to the 1995 Republican plan vetoed by President Clinton that would have denied health care coverage to 33,600 children in Rhode Island.
- **Helping Rhode Island Women and Children with WIC:** The Clinton Administration is committed to full funding in the Special Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). In FY98, Rhode Island's WIC grant funding will help 22,600 women, infants and children in need receive health and food assistance, 2,400 more than in 1994.
- **More Toddlers Are Being Immunized:** As a result of the President's 1993 Childhood Immunization Initiative, childhood immunization rates have reached an historic high. According to the CDC, 90% or more of America's toddlers in 1996 received the most critical doses of each of the routinely recommended vaccines -- surpassing the President's 1993 goal. In Rhode Island in 1996, 100% of two-year olds received the vaccines for diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis; 96% received the vaccine for polio; 96% received the vaccine for measles, and 98% received the vaccine for *Haemophilus influenzae* B, the bacteria causing a form of meningitis.

- **Increased Funding for HIV/AIDS Programs by 229%:** In FY97, Rhode Island communities received \$2.2 million in Ryan White formula and other HIV/AIDS program funds, a 229% increase over FY93 levels. This funding provides people living with HIV and AIDS medical and support services, including the AIDS Drug Assistance Program which helps those without insurance obtain much needed prescription drugs. [HHS, Health Resources and Services Administration, 4/98]
- **President's Tobacco Plan Will Cut Smoking and Premature Deaths by 38% in Rhode Island:** If the Clinton Administration's tobacco proposal on youth smoking is enacted, by 2003, Rhode Island will see a 38% cut in youth smoking and resulting premature deaths. Over the next five years, 12,000 youth of Rhode Island will be kept from smoking and 4,000 will be spared a premature tobacco-related death. [Treasury Dept., 3/23/98]
- **460,000 Americans in Rhode Island Cannot Be Assured They Have Patient Protections.** Even if Rhode Island enacted all the protections in the Patients' Bill of Rights, 460,000 people in Rhode Island cannot be assured they have the comprehensive patient protections recommended by the President's Advisory Commission. This is because the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) may preempt state-enacted protections. That is why the President has called on Congress to pass a federally enforceable patients' bill of rights so that everyone enrolled in managed care may have a basic set of protections. Notably, 230,000 Rhode Island women are in ERISA health plans and are therefore not necessarily protected. Women are particularly vulnerable without these protections because they are greater users of health care services, they make three-quarters of the health care decisions for their families, and they have specific health care needs addressed by a patients' bill of rights.

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- **2 Toxic Waste Sites Cleaned Up:** Since 1993, the EPA has completed Superfund toxic waste clean-ups in Glocester and North Smithfield, Rhode Island [through 8/98].
- **Revitalizing Brownfields Project in Rhode Island:** As part of the Clinton-Gore Administration's efforts to clean up Brownfields, the EPA has awarded grants to the State of Rhode Island and the State of Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation to identify and prioritize Brownfields sites for environmental clean-up and economic revitalization. This project is intended to jump-start local clean-up efforts by providing funds to return unproductive, abandoned, contaminated urban properties to productive use.

SPEARHEADING URBAN RENEWAL EFFORTS

- **\$3 Million to Providence:** Providence was designated an Enterprise Community in 1994 and was awarded \$3 million to create more jobs, housing, and economic opportunity.

EXPANDING FUNDS FOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT

- **\$541 Million in Federal Highway Aid:** Since 1993, Rhode Island has received \$541 million in federal highway aid. These funds have helped generate nearly 23,000 jobs. [through FY97]
- **Over \$71.7 Million in Aviation Funds:** From FY93-FY97 Rhode Island received \$71,740,000 in AIP funds to help build and renovate airports, and, when necessary, to provide funds for noise abatement to improve the quality of life for residents who live near airports.
- **Nearly \$71 Million in Transit Funds:** Rhode Island has received a total of \$70.9 million in FTA funds since 1993.

THE TRIP
of
THE PRESIDENT
to
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

December 8, 1998

Staff Copy

Table of Contents

Tuesday, December 8, 1998

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Memorial Service for Former Senator Albert Gore, Sr.

Event Memo	Tab A
------------	-------

List of Attendees	Tab B
-------------------	-------

Tennessee Background

Political Background (including hot issues)	Tab C
---	-------

Tuesday, December 8, 1998

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1998

Final Schedule

SCHEDULING DIRECTOR:

STEPHANIE STREETT

HOME: 202-332-5651

OFFICE: 202-456-2823

WHCA PAGER: 4824

PRESS DESK:

DORI SALCIDO

HOME: 703-548-6466

OFFICE: 202-456-5771

WHCA PAGER: 4844

EVENT COORDINATOR:

CLYDE WILLIAMS

HOME: 202-722-6581

OFFICE: 202-456-5330

WHCA PAGER: 4367

EVENT COORDINATOR:

LAURA GRAHAM

HOME: 703-212-7642

OFFICE: 202-456-2349

WHCA PAGER: 4809

WEATHER:

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Cloudy with scattered rain showers, becoming mostly cloudy by late evening. Winds northeast at 8 to 12 knots. Low 49 to 54. High 56 to 61.

December 7, 1998 (7:46pm)

Tuesday, December 8, 1998

10:05 am **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart The White House via Marine One en route Andrews Air Force Base
[flight time: 10 minutes]

10:15 am **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Andrews Air Force Base

10:30 am **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart Andrews Air Force Base via Air Force One en route Nashville International Airport
[flight time: 1 hour, 40 minutes]
[time change: -1 hour]

11:10 am **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive Nashville International Airport

11:25 am **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady depart Nashville International Airport via motorcade en route War Memorial Auditorium
[drive time: 20 minutes]

11:45 am **THE PRESIDENT** and the First Lady arrive War Memorial Auditorium

11:50 am-
12:00 pm **VISIT WITH GORE FAMILY**
DRESSING ROOM B
War Memorial Auditorium
Staff Contact: Ron Klain
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
CLOSED PRESS

12:00 pm
1:15 pm **MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR FORMER SENATOR ALBERT GORE, SR.**
WAR MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
Staff Contact: Ron Klain
Event Coordinator: Laura Graham
POOL PRESS/OPEN PUBLIC

Note: There will be approximately 1700 guests in attendance.

— **The President** and the First Lady, accompanied by the Gore family, proceed to their seats.

— The program begins.

Note: The President will not make remarks during the service.

— Upon conclusion of the program, the **President** and the First Lady depart.

December 7, 1998 (7:46pm)

Tuesday, December 8, 1998

1:20	pm	THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady depart War Memorial Auditorium via motorcade en route Nashville International Airport [drive time: 20 minutes]
1:40	pm	THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady arrive Nashville International Airport
1:55	pm	THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady depart Nashville International Airport via Air Force One en route Andrews Air Force Base [flight time: 1 hour, 25 minutes] [time change: +1 hour]
4:20	pm	THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady arrive Andrews Air Force Base
4:35	pm	THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady depart Andrews Air Force Base via Marine One en route The White House [flight time: 10 minutes]
4:45	pm	THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady arrive The White House

A



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

December 8, 1998

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR FORMER SENATOR ALBERT GORE, SR.

DATE: December 8, 1998
LOCATION: War Memorial Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee
TIME: 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm
FROM: Ron Klain

I. PURPOSE

You are attending a memorial service for the Vice President's father, former Senator Albert Gore, Sr.

II. BACKGROUND

None Required.

III. PARTICIPANTS

List of attendees attached.

IV. PRESS PLAN

Pool Press/Open Public.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Note: **YOU** will not make remarks during the service.

Note: There will be approximately 1700 guests in attendance

- **YOU** and the First Lady, accompanied by the Gore family, proceed to your seats.
- The program begins:
 - Welcome and Prayer by Bishop Jane H. Dixon
 - Music
 - Reading of the Old Testament by Albert Gore, III
 - Reading of the New Testament by Sarah Gore
 - Music
 - Reading of a poem by Kristin Gore

- Reading of Senator Albert Gore, Sr.'s writings by Karenna Gore Schiff
- Music
- Reading of the Lord's Prayer by Reverend James Gibbs
- Remarks by Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks
- Music
- Remarks by Bishop Dixon
- Music
- Remarks by Vice President Al Gore, Jr.
- Recording of Senator Al Gore, Sr. playing the fiddle
- Music by Mark O'Connor, Phil Driscoll and Choir
- Reading of the Lord's Prayer and Benediction by Bishop Dixon
- Upon conclusion of the program, the Gore family follows the casket and the pawbearers and departs to hold.
- **YOU** and the First Lady follow the Gore family into hold.
- **YOU** and the First Lady bid farewell to the Gore family and then depart.

VI. REMARKS

None required.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

List of attendees.

B

LIST OF ATTENDEES

I. MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

A. MEMBERS TRAVELING ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE

Senator Bill Frist (R-TN)
Senator Tom Daschle (D-SD)
Rep. Dick Gephardt (D-MO)
Rep. Bob Clement (D-TN)
Rep. Harold Ford, Jr. (D-TN)
Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN)
Rep. John Tanner (D-TN)
Former Senator Howard Baker (R-TN)

B. OTHER MEMBERS

Senator Daniel Akaka (D-HI)
Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and Mrs. Kennedy
Senator Joe Lieberman (D-CT)
Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)
Senator Paul Sarbanes (D-MD)
Senator Fred Thompson (R-TN)
Former Senator Howell Heflin (D-AL)
Former Senator Claiborne Pell (D-RI) and Mrs. Pell
Rep. Peter Deutsch (D-FL)
Rep. Norm Dicks (D-WA)
Rep. John Dingell (D-MI) and Mrs. Debbie Dingell
Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)
Rep. Patrick Kennedy (D-RI)
Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-OH)
Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA) and Mrs. Lantos
Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)
Rep. Ed Markey (D-MA) and Ms. Susan Blumenthal
Rep. Bob Matsui (D-CA) and Mrs. Doris Matsui
Rep. Michael McNulty (D-NY)
Rep. Bart Stupak (D-MI)
Rep. Bob Weygand (D-RI) and Mrs. Frances Weygand
Former Rep. Marilyn Lloyd (D-TN)

II. CABINET MEMBERS

HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo
Labor Secretary Alexis Herman
Commerce Secretary William Daley

Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman
Education Secretary Richard Riley
Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater
EPA Administrator Carol Browner
NTSB Chairman Jim Hall
HCFA Administrator Nancy-Ann Min Deparle
UN Ambassador Designate Richard Holbrooke

III. WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBERS

Thurgood Marshall, Jr.
Ron Klain
Leon Fuerth
Audrey T. Haynes
Charles Burson
Lee Ann Brackett
Bill Mason
Mary Margaret Overbey

IV. SPECIAL GUESTS

Governor Roy Romer
Former Governor Ned McWherter
Former Governor and Mrs. Lamar Alexander
Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend
Nashville Mayor Phil Bredsen and wife Andrea Conte
New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver
Ambassador Alan and Melinda Blinken
Reverend Jesse Jackson
John Sweeney
Erskine Bowles
Frank Hunger
Alan Kessler
Dr. Elaine Kamarck
Reed Hundt
Jack Quinn
Roy Neel
Peter Knight and Gail Britton
Bob and Prudy Squier
Tom and Chris Downey
Bill Carville
Jim and Ann Free
Steve Grossman
Mitchell Berger
Bob Burkett

Sonny and Florence Cauthen
John Cooke
Beth Dozoretz
Dan Dutko
Tommy Hendrickson
Marty and Anne Peretz
Jon Tisch
Ark and Nancy Monroe
Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks
Bishop Jane Dixon

C

December 7, 1998

99 DEC 7 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Craig Smith, Karen Skelton, and Bridget Leininger

SUBJECT: Tennessee Political Briefing

PRESIDENTIAL RESULTS

1992			1996		
Clinton/Gore	933,521	47%	Clinton/Gore	906,448	48%
Bush /Quayle	841,300	42%	Dole/Kemp	860,778	46%
Perot/Stockdale	199,968	10%	Perot/Choate	104,549	6%

Electoral Votes: 11

POLITICAL DATA AND STATISTICS

Governor:	Don Sundquist (R)	Won with 69% in 1998
US Senate:	Fred Thompson (R)	Won with 61% in 1996
	Bill Frist (R)	Won with 56% in 1994
US House:	4D/5R	
State Senate:	18D/15R	
State House:	61D/38R	

TENNESSEE AT A GLANCE

- 83% of Tennesseans are White; 16% African-American; 1% Hispanic; and 1% Asian/ Pacific Islander.
- The population is 5,320,000. Just under two-thirds of the population is between the ages of 18-65. 39% of the population lives in rural areas.
- The unemployment rate has declined from 6% to 5.1% since 1993.
- 257,800 new jobs have been created since 1993--an average of 56,247 jobs per year, compared to an average of just 39,375 jobs per year during the previous administration.
- The poverty rate has fallen 3.7% since 1993.

PREVIOUS TRAVEL

- **YOU and the First Lady** were last in Tennessee on June 20, 1998, to attend the annual Family Re-Union Conference in Nashville with the **Vice President** and **Mrs. Gore**. **Mrs. Gore** was in Chattanooga for a PACE educational event and in Knoxville for a political dinner on June 18.
- **Mrs. Gore** was last in Tennessee on November 17-20, 1998. She attended a rural health event in Cocke County and an award presentation for Pauline Gore.

- **The Vice President and Mrs. Gore** were in Tennessee on November 3, 1998, to vote.
- **The Vice President** was in Tennessee on October 10-11, 1998, to attend fundraisers that benefitted Leadership '98 and Congressional candidate Jerry Cooper. **The Vice President** also attended the second annual Gore Family BBQ in Shelbyville.
- **The Vice President and Mrs. Gore** were in Nashville, Tennessee, on July 11-12, 1998, to attend fundraisers that benefitted Leadership '98 and Democratic candidates throughout the country.
- **The Vice President** was in Tennessee on April 17, 1998, where he toured areas devastated by tornadoes, attended an airport event in Memphis, and attended a fundraiser benefitting Rep. Harold Ford, Jr.

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Senator Fred Thompson (R)	Senator Bill Frist (R)
Representative William L. Jenkins (R-01)	Representative John J. Duncan (R-02)
Representative Zach Wamp (R-03)	Representative Van Hilleary (R-04)
Representative Bob Clement (D-05)	Representative Bart Gordon (D-06)
Representative Ed Bryant (R-07)	Representative John Tanner (D-08)
Representative Harold E. Ford, Jr. (D-09)	

1998 GUBERNATORIAL RACE

Governor Don Sundquist (R) easily won reelection against his challenger, Nashville attorney John Jay Hooker (D), 69%/30%. Governor Sundquist did not have any trouble defeating Hooker, who did not campaign outside of Nashville.

Hooker's candidacy was not considered serious because of his personal problems and questions about his stability. He returned his two dozen \$99 campaign contributions and paid for his campaign expenditures himself. He unsuccessfully tried to subpoena Governor Sundquist to testify about his use of the governor's mansion for fundraising and campaign-related events. Hooker also received a great deal of media attention because of his ongoing lawsuit contesting the constitutionality of the "Tennessee Plan" for selecting appellate and state Supreme Court judges, a hot issue in the August primary election (please see "Hot Issues"). Two days after losing the gubernatorial race, Hooker announced that he will challenge U.S. Senator Bill Frist (R) in 2000.

The centerpiece of Sundquist's second term may be improving the higher education system. A blue ribbon panel will make recommendations early next year. It may be 2000 before a legislative package is developed from the proposals. Sundquist may also be tempted to get behind a lottery proposal to fund higher education improvements - especially if Alabama joins Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Arkansas, and Missouri as border states offering gambling.

1998 CONGRESSIONAL RACES

Rep. Van Hilleary (R-04)

3rd term, 60% in 1998

Rep. Hilleary defeated state Senator Jerry Cooper (D) 60%/40%. Rep. Hilleary won this northeastern district in 1994 after Jim Cooper (D) left office to run unsuccessfully for the Senate. Hilleary won with 57% of the vote in 1994 and 58% of the vote in 1996.

Rep. Bob Clement (D-05)

7th term, 83% in 1998

Rep. Clement easily won reelection with no Republican opposition. Rep. Clement has held this Nashville-based district since he won the seat in a special election in 1988. He has a moderate-to-conservative voting record, which is favored by Tennessee's increasingly Republican voters. He won in 1996 with 72% of the vote after spending \$372,000.

Rep. Bart Gordon (D-06)

8th term, 55% in 1998

Rep. Gordon defeated former naval officer Walt Massey (R) 55%/45% to win reelection to his 8th term. Republicans have targeted Rep. Gordon's seat in recent years, noting his decreasing victory margins, which have shrunk from 77% in 1986 to 54% in 1996.

Rep. John Tanner (D-08)

6th term, 100% in 1998

Rep. Tanner was automatically reelected this year because he did not face any opposition. In 1996, he defeated Tom Watson (R) by 37 points, outspending him \$380,000 to \$10,000.

Rep. Harold Ford, Jr. (D-09)

2nd term, 79% in 1998

Rep. Ford defeated Claude Burdickoff (R), 79%/19%. Ford replaced his father, Harold Ford Sr., who represented this Memphis-based district for 22 years.

THE STATE LEGISLATURE

Three new senators and nine new representatives will take their seats in the Tennessee General Assembly in January. Charlotte Burks (D) of Monterey will succeed her late husband, Senator Tommy Burks (D), after winning 95% of the vote in a write-in campaign against his challenger and his accused murderer Byron Looper (R). Tim Burchett (R) of Knoxville moves from the House to the Senate, succeeding Senator Bud Gilbert (R). Former executive director of the state Film, Entertainment and Music Commission Marsha Blackburn (R) replaces Senator Keith Jordan (R).

In the state House, attorney Dewayne Bunch (R) defeated Rep. Don Bird (R) in the August primary and Lost Sea manager Joe McCord (R) defeated Mike Walker (R) in the August primary as well. Knoxville lawyer Jamie Hagood (R) won the seat vacated by Rep. Wayne Ritchie (D). William Baird (R) defeated Rep. Jerry Cross (D). Johnson City businessman David Davis (R) will replace Rep. Bobby Hicks (R), Steven Buttry (R) will replace Rep. Tim Burchette (R), jail administrator Curry Todd (R) will succeed Rep. Ed Haley (R), and Hospital Foundation director Diane Black (R) will

replace Rep. Randy Stamps (R). Nashville attorney Rob Briley (D) won the seat vacated by Rep. Bill Boner (D).

The state legislative elections didn't end on a harmonious note. The Democratic Party may challenge the legality of some Republican Party tactics. Democratic Party officials believe spending limits may have been exceeded in several instances. The \$210,000 independent expenditures made by the Republican Party to attack Senator Bob Rochelle and Senator Pete Springer on TV during the final week have sparked talk of a tougher disclosure law for campaign finances.

Voters approved two amendments for the Tennessee State Constitution. State Amendment #1, which removes the requirement that prisons be "comfortable" (instead of "safe and comfortable"), passed with 89% of the vote. State Amendment #2, which is a victims' bill of rights, also passed with 89% of the vote. Both amendments had strong legislative support from the late Senator Tommy Burks before his untimely death.

HOT ISSUES

Tennessee Democratic Party

Houston Gordon is the Chairman of the Tennessee Democratic Party. He will likely leave the post after the first of the year. Businessman Doug Horne (D) announced on December 3 that he will run for the chairmanship. State Rep. Mike Williams (D) and state Rep. Kevin Sharpe (D) previously announced their intentions to run for the post, have since pledged their support to Horne.

Franklin Haney

A federal grand jury indicted Chattanooga developer Franklin Haney, charging he funneled illegal campaign contributions to the 1992 and 1996 Clinton/Gore campaigns and the 1994 Senate campaigns of Jim Sasser and Jim Cooper. Haney, 58, who sought the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 1974, is accused of illegally reimbursing various individuals for making \$1,000 donations to the campaign.

Attorney General

Attorneys for convicted killer Richard Hale Austin, who is facing a death-penalty resentencing, say the Tennessee Supreme Court encouraged Attorney General John Knox Walkup to not seek another term and told Court of Criminal Appeals Judge Paul G. Summers the job will be his. Walkup abruptly announced his decision in August, but will remain in office until the court appoints a replacement. Austin's attorneys contend that the replacement plan - which they say they can prove - highlights an unfair interconnectedness between the Attorney General's Office and the Supreme Court. Austin was convicted in 1977 and sentenced to death in the killing of a police informant, but a federal appeals court last year awarded him a new sentencing trial. The trial is set for March. Austin is asking Special Judge C. Creed McGinley of Henry County to disqualify the Supreme Court, or the Attorney General's Office, or both, from hearing any future appeals. They believe there is an appearance of favoritism when the attorney general, as an appointee or employee of the Supreme Court, argues death penalty and other criminal cases on appeal before the court. Tennessee is the only state in which the attorney general, the state's top prosecutor, is appointed by the state Supreme Court.

Four persons met the deadline for applying to succeed Walkup as state attorney general. The Supreme Court accepted written comments on the matter until December 5. On December 10, the court will hear oral presentations from the applicants, followed by private interviews. Summers is generally viewed as the favorite, but George "Buck" Lewis, a former state Democratic chairman who is now a high-ranking attorney with the Baker, Donelson firm, could be a dark horse. Other applicants are Shelby County Attorney Donnie Wilson and Larry Parrish, a former assistant U.S. Attorney in Memphis known for his anti-pornography crusades.

"Tennessee Plan" and Supreme Court Elections

Questions over the August 6 election of members of the state appellate courts and the state Supreme Court have been the focus of spirited debate and controversy. Gubernatorial candidate John Jay Hooker (D) and Court of Appeals candidate Robert Delaney filed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the "Tennessee Plan" for the election of appellate judges. The Tennessee Plan, enacted in 1994, involves a merit screening process, appointment by the governor, evaluation by a special commission, and uncontested "retention" elections. The lawsuit focused primarily on retention elections, which require that sitting judges face an uncontested, yes-no vote for reelection. Under the Tennessee Plan, Delaney is prohibited from running for a Court of Appeals vacancy, which instead would be filled through an appointment by the Governor. Davidson County Chancellor Ellen Hobbs Lyle ruled that the Tennessee Plan is unconstitutional, requiring the August 6 elections be contested and thereby placing Delaney on the ballot. Lyle's decision, however, was stayed pending appeal in a ruling on June 16 by a specially appointed substitute Court of Appeals panel.

Supreme Court Justice Penny White failed the retention vote in 1996 due to heavy opposition from radical right Republicans who labeled her anti-death penalty because of her vote to overturn the death sentence in the Odom case, a particularly gruesome rape and murder case in Memphis. As a result of that election, Justice Lyle Reid decided to retire from the Supreme Court rather than face a retention vote. Riley Anderson, Frank Drowota, and Adolphus Birch remain as the three "Democratic" justices.

Tennessee Valley Authority

On September 24, the House of Representatives eliminated all federal funding for the Tennessee Valley Authority, including funding for TVA's non-power responsibilities such as navigation, land management, and flood control. This is the first time Congress has denied funding for the TVA in the federal utility's 65-year history. Senators Thompson and Frist succeeded in negotiations to insert a TVA bond finance provision onto a massive Senate appropriations bill. The Vice President and a bipartisan coalition of Tennessee Valley lawmakers succeeded with a last minute budget deal for TVA. Congress is set to grant TVA permission to refinance part of its debt, with estimated savings for TVA soaring up to \$1 billion over 10 years. The agreement provides \$50 million to help TVA pay for public responsibility programs that it has managed for most of its 65 years: public lands supervision, river channel maintenance for navigation, and flood control. The bill also intends to keep the 170,000 acre Land Between the Lakes national recreation area on the Tennessee-Kentucky border under TVA management.

Chip Mills

About a year ago, a few environmental groups asked the EPA to place a moratorium on chip mill

permits and to conduct a multi-agency study on the impacts of existing mills. The organizing environmental group, the Dogwood Alliance, is sending a letter to the Vice President signed by 180 organizations, seeking the Vice President's support on a chip mill licensing moratorium over the entire Southwest region until a study is completed. Currently, 149 mills are located in the Southwest and timber is cut throughout the Tennessee Valley to feed them. CEQ indicates that the request will get a close look.

There is growing concern in the Southeast that accelerated clearcutting in that region by the wood chip industry is affecting the environment. Although each chip mill operation needs to be judged on its own merits, there have been adverse environmental impacts associated with these types of operations. The forest management practices used by many chip mill operations are unsustainable and may negatively impact land, species, and water quality.

EPA is currently partnering with the state of North Carolina to study the environmental and economic impacts of chip mill operations in the state. In addition to the North Carolina partnership, EPA is reviewing potential regulatory and non-regulatory options under the Clean Water Act, and has begun a collaborative effort with federal agencies to discuss forest management in the southeast, including chip mill activity. (Source: CEQ)

Pigeon River Cleanup Agreement

On December 11, 1997, the Vice President announced an agreement among EPA, North Carolina, Tennessee, and the Champion Mill in Canton, North Carolina, to clean up and restore the Pigeon River. This agreement established the first enforceable schedule for cleaning up the river, holding the Canton Mill to the most stringent pollution standards in the nation. Pollution from the mill will be cut in half from previous requirements, and special protections will be in place during times of recreational use of the river.

The environmental groups who participated in negotiating the agreement are monitoring compliance through a new citizens' advisory committee at the Canton Mill and through a joint watershed council that the States of Tennessee and North Carolina established under the agreement. So far, implementation is proceeding according to plan. The June progress report was completed on time and showed better-than-expected color reductions, in terms of water clarity.

Throughout the controversy that preceded this agreement, the Vice President pushed for an approach that would bring the states, the communities, and concerned environmental groups together to develop a plan for the river that everyone could support. The agreement resulted from the Vice President's request to Carol Browner, in December 1996, that EPA assume a stronger role in resolving this decades-old controversy among the two states and the community. (Source: CEQ)

Tennessean Story on Illnesses Near Oak Ridge

Earlier this month, the *Tennessean* published an eight-page special report, the third installment of a 22-month investigation, detailing a pattern of illnesses afflicting workers and residents around the nation's nuclear weapons complexes, including Oak Ridge. The report identified 410 individuals at 13 weapons sites in 11 states suffering from health problems such as memory loss, tremors, debilitating fatigue, breathing difficulties, slurred speech and other symptoms related to respiratory,

neurological, and immune-system disorders. Those who are ill suspect, without proof, that their health problems stem from poisons used at the nuclear facilities.

In response to the story, ill workers and others in the Oak Ridge area sent a formal request to Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, inviting him to meet with them and discuss their situation. Secretary Richardson has pledged to "get to the bottom" of the health problems. He wrote HHS Secretary Shalala, whose department is responsible for investigating health concerns around DoE sites. (NOTE: DoE gives funds each year to ATSDR, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to conduct studies around nuclear weapons sites). Richardson said he would seek additional funding for such programs because "I believe we owe these people the best answers we can provide."

In addition, U.S. Representative Cynthia McKinney (D-Georgia) said she would ask President Clinton, Surgeon General David Satcher, EPA Administrator Carol Browner, and the head of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to investigate the illnesses.

David Michaels, whom President Clinton has nominated to take charge of health and safety matters for DoE, says that, if confirmed, he will bring together top experts from around the nation to address the concerns of those who are ill.

Economy

While the U.S. economy has been steadily improving over the last five years, Tennessee's economy has experienced downward trends in recent years. The Tennessee budget deficit has reached unprecedented highs totaling \$250 million. Tennessee job growth dropped to 44th in the nation in 1997, down from 8th in 1995. Tennessee was one of nine states in the nation to lose more than 10,000 manufacturing jobs, and consequently, unemployment has risen above the national average for the first time since before 1988. Personal income has also dropped to 38th in the nation from 4th in 1995. Over the summer, however, 25 companies committed \$1.2 billion in new investment for Tennessee, a package that Governor Sundquist hopes will stimulate economic growth and produce jobs in some of Tennessee's most devastated regions.

Nashville Mayoral Elections (1999)

On October 19, Nashville Mayor Phil Bredesen announced he would not seek reelection for a third term. Bredesen oversaw the resurgence of downtown Nashville, the construction of the Nashville Arena, a NFL stadium, and the end of school busing. Former House Majority Leader Bill Purcell (D) announced his intention to run for Mayor of Nashville in 1999. Purcell hired Al Cocke, formerly a deputy in Attorney General Knox Walkup's office, as his campaign manager. Former Mayor Dick Fulton (D) announced he hired a treasurer and formed a committee to run for Mayor, but stated that he has not made up his mind yet. Nashville Vice Mayor Jay West (D) has stated that he is interested in running in 1999, but has not made any formal announcement. He has a number of projects he would like to continue working on, including the public school system (he implemented a Core curriculum program last year and is encouraged by the results), building a new state of the art public library and museum for Nashville (he won funding for this project in March), and welcoming the Oilers to Nashville Stadium in 1999. Additionally, many believe he still wants to run for Governor, which would be difficult without an office from which to run, especially with three years before the

2002 gubernatorial election. As of the October 14 filing deadline, Fulton had raised \$400,000, West had raised more than \$100,000, and Purcell had raised \$100,000 in cash and pledges. The three candidates, and other potential newcomers, have until February 1999 to file detailed financial disclosures with the Metro Election Commission.

Nashville Crime

In September, Nashville accelerated its attack on criminals, pushing overall crime down 6.3% for the year when compared to the same nine-month period last year. The decrease marks the second month in a row in which crime has eased in the city. In August, a drop in homicides fueled a 3.8% fall. Figures released earlier this month included another drop in killings, along with a sizeable decrease in rapes, robberies, assaults, and property crimes.

Right after the worst year for homicides in Nashville history, the city started a series of programs designed to crack down on crime. Since early summer, police have focused on inner cities, drugs, guns, and repeat offenders. The department has also set up roadblocks in troubled arenas.

EPA Grant

In early October, Senator Frist announced grants of \$15.4 million for the Tennessee department of Environment and Conservation from the EPA, including \$9.6 million over 5½ years for the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Fund. A second grant is for \$5.85 million over 4½ years for the department's Hazardous Substances Response Trust Fund.

State Building for Legislators

A new \$40 million state building -- perhaps including a health spa and tunnels to neighboring offices -- is being planned for state legislators. Though one lawmaker is criticizing it as "a monument to big government" to be built with money better spent elsewhere, the Tennessee legislature has already approved \$1 million for planning the building. Legislative leaders, citing a study made three years ago, say lawmakers and their staffs need more room.

Jim Schulman, chief of staff for House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh, characterized the present Legislative Plaza, opened in 1975, as "starting to bust at the seams." A leaky roof and poor ventilation add to the crowding problem, he said. The proposed solution is a 180,000-square-foot, 10 story building half a block from the present Plaza. Tunnels would link it to the Plaza and another state office.

PARTIAL LIST OF ADMINISTRATION APPOINTEES FROM TENNESSEE

Office of the Vice President

Lee Ann Brackett	Senior Policy Advisor, National Partnership for Reinventing Government
Charles Burson	Legal Counsel to the Vice President
Vivian Jones	Tennessee Office of the Vice President
Bill Mason	Office of Correspondence
Callie Shell	Office of Communications

Departments/Agencies

Victor Ashe	Member, Board of Directors, Corp. For National & Community Service
-------------	--

Todd J. Campbell
Craven H. Crowell, Jr.
Martha Daughtrey
Nancy-Ann Min Deparle
Ron Gilman
Pauline Gore
Douglas K. Hall
Larry Harrington
Johnny H. Hayes
Douglas Horne
James Huhta
Frank Hunger
William Ivey
Clark Jones

Jacquie Lawing
Jim Sasser
Ned McWherter
David Satcher
Aleta Trauger

Judge, U.S. District Court Judges
Chair & Board Member, Tennessee Valley Authority
Judge, 06 Circuit, U.S. Circuit Court Judges
Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration
Judge, 06 Circuit, U.S. Circuit Court Judges
Member, Presidential Commission on White House Fellowships
Assistant Secretary, Department of Commerce
Alternate Director, Inter-American Development Bank
Board of Directors, Tennessee Valley Authority
Member, national Trust for Historic Preservation
Member, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice
Chair, National Endowment for the Arts
Commissioner, Small Business Commission, White House
Conference
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Ambassador to China, Department of State
Member, U.S. Postal Service
Surgeon General, Department of Health and Human Services
Judge, U.S. District Court Judge for Middle Tennessee