

- Thank performers: Little Joe and the B.K.'s; Choir from Trumpet & Zion Church. Congressmen Mike Ross, Vic Snyder and Beryl Anthony.

- I'm so proud of all the people from Arkansas who came to Washington with me and did a world-class job.

Secretary Slater, Secretary Gober, Administrator Witt.

Mack McLarty, Bruce Lindsey, Stephanie Streett, Bob

Nash, Marsha Scott, Janis Kearney, Gloria Cabe and

Meredith Cabe, Jim French, Craig Smith, Shannon

Butler and so many others. That's something every one of you – and everyone in this state -- should be proud of for the rest of your lives.

Final 01/14/01 4:00pm
Heather Hurlburt

1-15-01

01 JAN 14 PM 4:30

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS AT MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY
CELEBRATION
UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, DC
January 15, 2001

Before we begin, I have a little presentation of my own to make. This fall, we passed the Southeast Federal Center Bill, creating a public-private partnership to spur community development on Federal property. Because I wasn't able to do a formal signing ceremony then, **I'm proud to present Mayor Williams and Congresswoman Norton with a copy of the bill, and the pens I used to sign it, in thanksgiving for the hard work they did to get it passed.**

Acknowledgements: Mayor Williams, Eleanor Holmes Norton, DC Council Chair Linda Cropp, Kathy Patterson and other Council members.

Robie Beatty and Shirley Rivens Smith from the King
Holiday Commission. Jack Lew, Franklin Raines and
Alice Rivlin. ^{Slater} Harris Wofford, Eli Segal – the people who
brought AmeriCorps to life. All Americorps Award
winners and their families; Americorps members and
alumni. Nancy Rubin: **I am proud to announce, under
Nancy's leadership, the creation of a new Eli Segal
Americorps Award for entrepreneurial leadership.**
My congratulations to the members of the new DC
Commission on National and Community Service.

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

I want to thank Mayor Williams for this Living the Dream Award and for what he has said about our common effort to make this great city a great place to live and work. It's been an honor to be a citizen of Washington for the past eight years – to work with all of you, and to witness your dedication to the struggle for voting rights -- to get this city the vote it deserves in Congress. I will continue to be a voice for the District, for voting rights, and for statehood. And for at least a few more days, the Presidential limousine has the license plates to prove it.

I'm glad to have had the opportunity to work with Mayor Williams and many of you as you brought Washington from financial crisis to budget surplus in just five years. Together, we've used Federal resources to help spark economic growth, housing development and job creation all across the District; \$1.2 billion in new tax incentives for businesses and homeowners. \$25 million to build the New York Avenue Metro Station. \$110 million worth of new and better public housing in Anacostia. \$17 million for the DC College Access Act, helping DC's young people attend college all over the country at in-state rates. 3,000 young people are taking advantage of that program in its first year.

Now, Washington hasn't come so far because of what I did, or ~~because of what any one person did~~, but because of what all of you did. Because so many people who care about this city found a way to put aside their differences and come together to serve the common good. That is what Dr. King asked of us; and that was his dream that we are all seeking to live today.

Every year on this day, I remember that Dr. King said "Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve... You only need a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love."

In 1992, some people thought that spirit of service was dead and gone, especially among our young people. I never believed that. I thought Americans still had hearts full not of greed, but of grace. And I ran for President because I thought, if we gave Americans the tools they needed, they were ready to serve — to do the work of rebuilding America and moving us forward as a united nation.

for my 1993 speech, I called
~~I said then that we should call America to a season of service, and give every young person in America the~~
I proposed that we begin to give
~~chance to earn money for college by working to solve~~
at the grassroots
America's problems. And Americans seized on this beyond anything I ever dreamed.

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

In 1994, I signed the King Holiday and Service Act, sponsored by Harris Wofford and John Lewis, to make this holiday a day on, not a day off. Hundreds of thousands of Americans are serving their communities today – including more than 1000 volunteers in Washington. I've just come from helping repaint the Greenleaf Senior Center, with some very dedicated young people from AmeriCorps and City Year. City Year is a program that inspired us to create a national program of service for young people, and **I was proud today to swear the first members of the new City Year program here in Washington DC.**



We created AmeriCorps to give young people the chance to serve in communities all across the country and make a little money for college at the same time. Since the first class of volunteers in 1994, nearly 200,000 men and women have participated – more than have served in the Peace Corps since its creation. And their goal is to recruit a class of 50,000 this year.

677 DC residents have served in AmeriCorps so far, earning a total of \$2.5 million to help pay for college.

And since we are here at the University of the District of Columbia, I want to mention that they, along with seven other Washington colleges and universities, participate in AmeriCorps' Heads Up program.

AmeriCorps volunteers who are also students here work as reading and math tutors at Davis Elementary School in Benning Heights. They are gaining valuable teaching experience; the young children they tutor are gaining a head start on learning that will last a lifetime.

Citizen service changes us, and makes us better. I don't know how many times I've heard volunteers in the classroom say they've learned more than their students have. Every single AmeriCorps member is a winner. **But today I want to congratulate some very special winners – the recipients of this year's All AmeriCorps Awards.** These are ten men and women selected for their outstanding service in AmeriCorps programs.

The adult literacy programs, community learning centers and volunteer programs they created are still going strong – in some cases, years after their service ended. One young woman is a former migrant worker – she used the skills she learned in AmeriCorps to teach 2,400 farm workers about pesticide safety. One man has been elected mayor of the community where he served. And right here in Washington, Carey Hartin started a diversity club to help the many cultures at Roosevelt High School understand one another better. The kids in that club were so inspired that they went out and got a grant to expand Carey's program to other DC schools. Carey is now studying for her Masters in Education, and student teaching at Cardozo High School.

And she has with her today another DC success story – the young woman who was the first President of Roosevelt High School’s Diversity Club, and is now in college studying music education. I wish I could tell you the story of every award winner. Let’s thank them all for their service to our communities.

There’s a new spirit of citizen service in America that goes far beyond AmeriCorps. Studies have shown that every AmeriCorps volunteer generates, on average, a dozen more volunteers. Across the country, more than one million students are doing public service as part of their school curriculum.

The United Nations has named 2001 the International Year of Volunteers – and Americans have a great deal to be proud of. Our citizens are volunteering more, and giving more to charitable causes, than ever before. And let's not forget that the most generous donors, by percentage, are families with incomes of less than \$10,000 a year. That should be humbling and inspiring for the rest of us.

I came here, on this day, to talk about AmeriCorps and citizen service because it is the embodiment of my idea of One America – respecting our differences, but working together to solve the problems that affect us all.

Because part of Martin Luther King's dream was that we would learn to "work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together." Because, if I could wish just one thing for our nation, it would be that we learn better to work and pray and live together.

That is why today I am sending a message to Congress outlining the work we still have ahead of us to mend our divisions and build One America. Over the past eight years, I believe we have made some progress. But there is more to do.

I don't know if any of you saw the "Jazz" series on TV this week. But when they asked Washington native Duke Ellington what his favorite jazz tune was, he said, "The one coming up." I believe the best is still out there – for this city, and for our nation. And the harmony of our different voices will be sweet indeed.

Thank you very much.

REVISED

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 1-16-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP
Subject: Designation of Nat'l Monuments Remarks

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	SIEWERT	☐	☒
PODESTA	☒	☐	MARSHALL	☐	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	MOORE	☐	☐
RICCHETTI	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
LEW	☒	☐	NOLAN	☐	☐
BAILY	☐	☐	REED	☒	☐
BERGER	☐	☐	SPERLING	☒	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☐	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
BRAIN	☒	☐	TRAMONTANO	☒	☐
BURSON	☐	☐	UCELLI	☒	☐
CAHILL	☐	☐	VERVEER	☐	☐
EDMONDS	☒	☐	<u>E. Lovell</u>	☒	☐
FRAMPTON	☒	☐	_____	☐	☐
IBARRA	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
JOHNSON, B.	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
JOHNSON, J.	☒	☐	_____	☐	☐
LANE	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐

REMARKS: Comments to John Pollack

RESPONSE:

Office of the Staff Secretary

Draft 1/16/01 7:40 p.m.
John Pollack

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS ON DESIGNATION OF
NATIONAL MONUMENTS
THE WHITE HOUSE
January 17, 2001**

Good morning. Secretary Slater; Secretary Mineta; Senator Burns; Congressman Rehberg; descendants of Lewis and Clark; representatives of Sacagawea and York; Stephen Ambrose, Ken Burns, Dayton Duncan; members of the Millennium Council; honored guests – welcome to the White House.

I also want to thank our administration's environmental team, including Secretary Babbitt, George Frampton, Carol Browner and Bob Stanton – as well as the national environmental community. Thanks to your work, America's air and water are cleaner, our food is safer, and we've cleaned up twice as many toxic waste sites in the last 8 years than the last two administrations combined. We also overcame the false choice between environmental protection and economic growth, and I'm proud to say we have protected more land in the lower 48 states than any administration since that of Teddy Roosevelt, a century ago.

Like him, we recognize that our history and our land are one; that we must preserve not only America's historical treasures, but its natural treasures, too. But before I talk about the new National Monuments we are creating today, I want to say a few words about two more areas that will require our protection in years to come.

First, the Owyhee (o-WHY-hee) Canyonlands in Idaho. This fractured maze of ancient canyons is a rugged paradise, one boasting bighorn sheep and soaring birds of prey. If we all work together, we can protect both the land and its economic value to local people.

Second, we must continue to safeguard the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, which is one of the last truly wild places on earth, a Serengeti of the Americas. Some of you have urged that I declare it a National Monument. I have declined, because current law actually provides *more* protection for this refuge than monument status would.

But I want to be very clear: those who propose invading this wilderness in search of oil are wrong. In 1995, I used my veto to prevent oil drilling there, and we must continue to work together to protect this environmental Eden.

Today's ceremony is the last I will host as President here in the East Room, whose walls have witnessed a remarkable sweep of history. It was here in this room that First Lady Abigail Adams used to hang up the Presidential laundry to dry. It was here in this room that union soldiers slept during the Civil War, as battle raged in Virginia. It was also here that a young idealist named Meriwether Lewis – summoned by President Jefferson to serve as his personal secretary – first unpacked his traveler's trunk, and set up quarters in 1801.

The history books tell us this room looked quite different back then: no chandeliers, no parquet floors, no silk drapes – just the rough slatting of walls awaiting plaster, and two stone hearths to ward off the winter chill. But if this empty hall lacked grandeur, the ideas that filled it made up for all of that. For it was here that Jefferson and Lewis – down on their hands and knees – first unfurled an unfinished map of a great continent, and planned a bold expedition of discovery.

Given all that followed, it is entirely fitting that we meet once more in this room to celebrate that early vision, and to protect that historic legacy for generations to come.

Of course, most of the wild landscape Meriwether Lewis and William Clark traversed nearly two centuries ago has changed beyond recognition – forests have been cut; prairies plowed; rivers dammed; cities built. That is the march of time. But there are still a few wild places left, rugged reminders of our nation's rich history, and nature's enduring majesty. At the dawn of the 21st century, they are more important to America than ever, and so – after careful review and extensive public input – we protect them today by establishing them as National Monuments.

The first of these Monuments covers a remote stretch of the Missouri River in central Montana, known as the Upper Missouri River Breaks. If you canoe these magical waters or hike their weathered bluffs, you may still see elk, bear, wolves, mountain lions or even bighorn sheep – just as Lewis and Clark did in 1805.

The second monument we designate today is also in Montana. It is Pompey's Pillar, the sandstone outcrop named after the newborn son of Sacagawea, the expedition's Shoshone (Sho-SHO-nee) guide. A religious site and natural lookout for nearly 12,000 years, this monolith bears the markings of many ancient travelers. Clark carved his own name into that rock and it's still there today.

Some years ago, the novelist Wallace Stegner observed that America has a fundamental interest in preserving wilderness, because it was the challenge of such wilderness that forged our character as a people. He wrote that such wild places give us a "geography of hope" that sustains us in our busy lives, even here in the city.

We need to protect this American "geography of hope" – not just along the Lewis and Clark trail, but all across the country. That's why I'm proud to establish six other National Monuments today, which Secretary Babbitt will talk about shortly.

Apart from establishing these monuments, we have another purpose here today: righting some wrongs that have lingered about the Lewis and Clark legacy for nearly 200 years.

The first of these concerns William Clark. Although promised the rank of Captain when he agreed to help Lewis lead the Corps of Discovery, issues of budget and bureaucracy intervened, and he never got that commission. A natural leader and remarkable frontiersman, Lt. Clark risked his life across a continent and back, all for the good of his country. Today I am

proud to present his great, great, great grandsons – Bud and John Clark – with the late William Clark's certificate of appointment to the rank of Captain in the United States Army.

We also have descendants of Meriwether Lewis here today, too: Jane Henley and Elizabeth Henley Label (low-BELL), please stand up.

History tells us that the expedition's success also hinged on the courage and commitment of Sacagawea, an extraordinary fifteen-year-old Shoshone guide who made most of the trip with a baby on her back. Time and again her language skills, geographic knowledge and tribal connections saved Lewis and Clark from certain disaster, even death.

Despite her quiet heroics, Sacagawea received no formal recognition after the expedition ended. Last year, we put her likeness on the new dollar coin. Today, I am proud to announce her honorary promotion to the rank of Sergeant in the United States Army, so that all Americans might recognize her critical role in Lewis and Clark's journey to the sea. Accepting Sacagawea's citation is Amy Mossett (MAH-set), a leader of the Mandan Hidatsa Arikara (MAN-dan Hid-AHT- za AH-rihk-uh-RAH) nation; and Rose Anne Abrahamson, a leader of the Shoshone nation.

Finally, I want to recognize York, the slave who accompanied Lewis and Clark to the Pacific and back. Like Sacagawea, York shared all the risk but none of the reward. And while the rigors of the wilderness fostered a certain equality, camaraderie and respect among York and his fellow explorers, that did not translate into freedom upon his return. Only years later did York finally gain his liberty, before fading into history.

Today, in recognition of York's selfless contributions to the Corps of Discovery and his service to our country, I proudly announce his honorary promotion to the rank of Sergeant in the United States Army. Accepting the citation on York's behalf are York scholar Jim Holmberg and York sculptor Ed Hamilton.

Even as we finally right these wrongs, and even as we celebrate the legacy of Lewis and Clark, we recognize the irony inherent in their expedition. Theirs was an historic journey of discovery that opened up the American West, a mythic frontier that even today endures in the American mind as a symbol of freedom.

But York, a slave, was anything but free. And Sacagawea's people – like their neighbors – would eventually be swept away by a flood of American settlers, determined to claim the Great Plains and the land beyond. These are hard truths. They do not fit comfortably within the narrow moral boundaries of Manifest Destiny, or square with modern American notions of democracy and diversity.

But just as our nation has grown physically through the course of its history, so too have we grown as a people. It has been precisely our capacity for growth – an expanding awareness of our common humanity and shared destiny – that makes our democracy resilient and strong.

Nearly two centuries ago, Lewis and Clark used the compass on this table to navigate a continent of possibility. Now, America is setting out to navigate a new *century* of possibility. If we can protect our nation's natural and historic heritage – if we recognize that our fate is inextricably linked to that of the land we love – we will surely leave this world a little better than we found it, and this nation a little closer to that more perfect union of our Founders' dreams.

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Draft 1/16/01 7:40 p.m.
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Finally, I want to recognize York, the slave who accompanied Lewis and Clark to the Pacific and back. Like Sacagawea, York shared all the risk but none of the reward. And while the rigors of the wilderness fostered a certain equality, camaraderie and respect among York and his fellow explorers, that did not translate into freedom upon his return. Only years later did York finally gain his liberty, before fading into history.

Today, in recognition of York's selfless contributions to the Corps of Discovery and his service to our country, I proudly announce his honorary promotion to the rank of Sergeant in the United States Army. Accepting the citation on York's behalf are York scholar Jim Holmberg and York sculptor Ed Hamilton.

Even as we finally right these wrongs, and even as we celebrate the legacy of Lewis and Clark, we recognize the irony inherent in their expedition. Theirs was an historic journey of discovery that opened up the American West, a mythic frontier that even today endures in the American mind as a symbol of freedom.

But York, a slave, was anything but free. And Sacagawea's people – like their neighbors – would eventually be swept away by a flood of American settlers, determined to claim the Great Plains and the land beyond. These are hard truths. They do not fit comfortably within the narrow moral boundaries of Manifest Destiny, or square with modern American notions of democracy and diversity.

But just as our nation has grown physically through the course of its history, so too have we grown as a people. It has been precisely our capacity for growth – an expanding awareness of our common humanity and shared destiny – that makes our democracy resilient and strong.

Nearly two centuries ago, Lewis and Clark used the compass on this table to navigate a continent of possibility. Now, America is setting out to navigate a new *century* of possibility. If we can protect our nation's natural and historic heritage – if we recognize that our fate is inextricably linked to that of the land we love – we will surely leave this world a little better than we found it, and this nation a little closer to that more perfect union of our Founders' dreams.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 1-16-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP
Subject: Designation of Nat'l Monuments Remarks

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RICCHETTI	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
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JOHNSON, B.	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
JOHNSON, J.	☒	☐	_____	☐	☐
LANE	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐

REMARKS: Comments to John Pollack

RESPONSE:

Office of the Staff Secretary

REVISED

Draft 1/16/01 7:40 p.m.
John Pollack

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS ON DESIGNATION OF
NATIONAL MONUMENTS
THE WHITE HOUSE
January 17, 2001**

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I also want to thank our administration's environmental team, including Secretary Babbitt, George Frampton, Carol Browner and Bob Stanton – as well as the national environmental community. Thanks to your work, America's air and water are cleaner, our food is safer, and we've cleaned up twice as many toxic waste sites in the last 8 years than the last two administrations combined. We also overcame the false choice between environmental protection and economic growth, and I'm proud to say we have protected more land in the lower 48 states than any administration since that of Teddy Roosevelt, a century ago.

Like him, we recognize that our history and our land are one; that we must preserve not only America's historical treasures, but its natural treasures, too. But before I talk about the new National Monuments we are creating today, I want to say a few words about two more areas that will require our protection in years to come.

First, the Owyhee (o-WHY-hee) Canyonlands in Idaho. This fractured maze of ancient canyons is a rugged paradise, one boasting bighorn sheep and soaring birds of prey. If we all work together, we can protect both the land and its economic value to local people.

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But I want to be very clear: those who propose invading this wilderness in search of oil are wrong. In 1995, I used my veto to prevent oil drilling there, and we must continue to work together to protect this environmental Eden.

Today's ceremony is the last I will host as President here in the East Room, whose walls have witnessed a remarkable sweep of history. It was here in this room that First Lady Abigail Adams used to hang up the Presidential laundry to dry. It was here in this room that union soldiers slept during the Civil War, as battle raged in Virginia. It was also here that a young idealist named Meriwether Lewis – summoned by President Jefferson to serve as his personal secretary – first unpacked his traveler's trunk, and set up quarters in 1801.

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Given all that followed, it is entirely fitting that we meet once more in this room to celebrate that early vision, and to protect that historic legacy for generations to come.

Of course, most of the wild landscape Meriwether Lewis and William Clark traversed nearly two centuries ago has changed beyond recognition – forests have been cut; prairies plowed; rivers dammed; cities built. That is the march of time. But there are still a few wild places left, rugged reminders of our nation's rich history, and nature's enduring majesty. At the dawn of the 21st century, they are more important to America than ever, and so – after careful review and extensive public input – we protect them today by establishing them as National Monuments.

The first of these Monuments covers a remote stretch of the Missouri River in central Montana, known as the Upper Missouri River Breaks. If you canoe these magical waters or hike their weathered bluffs, you may still see elk, bear, wolves, mountain lions or even bighorn sheep – just as Lewis and Clark did in 1805.

The second monument we designate today is also in Montana. It is Pompey's Pillar, the sandstone outcrop named after the newborn son of Sacagawea, the expedition's Shoshone (Sho-SHO-nee) guide. A religious site and natural lookout for nearly 12,000 years, this monolith bears the markings of many ancient travelers. Clark carved his own name into that rock and it's still there today.

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RESPONSE:

Office of the Staff Secretary

REVISED

Draft 1/16/01 7:40 p.m.
John Pollack

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RESPONSE:

Office of the Staff Secretary

REVISED

Draft 1/16/01 7:40 p.m.
John Pollack

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Nearly two centuries ago, Lewis and Clark used the compass on this table to navigate a continent of possibility. Now, America is setting out to navigate a new *century* of possibility. If we can protect our nation's natural and historic heritage – if we recognize that our fate is inextricably linked to that of the land we love – we will surely leave this world a little better than we found it, and this nation a little closer to that more perfect union of our Founders' dreams.

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 *** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	2524	
CONNECTION TEL		57376
CONNECTION ID	MILLENNIUM COUNC	
ST. TIME	01/16 21:40	
USAGE T	01'45	
PGS. SENT	5	
RESULT	OK	

REVISED

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 1-16-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP
 Subject: Designation of Nat'l Monuments Remarks

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	SIEWERT	☐	☒
PODESTA	☒	☐	MARSHALL	☐	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	MOORE	☐	☐
RICCHETTI	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
LEW	☒	☐	NOLAN	☐	☐
BAILY	☐	☐	REED	☒	☐
BERGER	☐	☐	SPERLING	☒	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☐	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
BRAIN	☒	☐	TRAMONTANO	☒	☐
BURSON	☐	☐	UCELLI	☒	☐
CAHILL	☐	☐	VERVEER	☐	☐
EDMONDS	☒	☐	<u>E. Lovell</u>	☒	☐
FRAMPTON	☒	☐	_____	☐	☐
IBARRA	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
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 *** ERROR TX REPORT ***

TX FUNCTION WAS NOT COMPLETED

TX/RX NO 2520
 CONNECTION TEL 62505
 CONNECTION ID
 ST. TIME 01/16 21:23
 USAGE T 00'00
 PGS. SENT 0
 RESULT NG #018

REVISED

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 1-16-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP
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	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	SIEWERT	☐	☒
PODESTA	☒	☐	MARSHALL	☐	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	MOORE	☐	☐
RICCHETTI	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
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BAILY	☐	☐	REED	☒	☐
BERGER	☐	☐	SPERLING	☒	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☐	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
BRAIN	☒	☐	TRAMONTANO	☒	☐
BURSON	☐	☐	UCELLI	☒	☐
CAHILL	☐	☐	VERVEER	☐	☐
EDMONDS	☒	☐	<u>E. Lovell</u>	☒	☐
FRAMPTON	☒	☐		☐	☐
IBARRA	☐	☐		☐	☐
JOHNSON, B.	☐	☐		☐	☐

 *** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 2522
 CONNECTION TEL 62710
 CONNECTION ID
 ST. TIME 01/16 21:35
 USAGE T 01'44
 PGS. SENT 5
 RESULT OK

REVISED

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 1-16-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP
 Subject: Designation of Nat'l Monuments Remarks

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	SIEWERT	☐	☒
PODESTA	☒	☐	MARSHALL	☐	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	MOORE	☐	☐
RICCHETTI	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
LEW	☒	☐	NOLAN	☐	☐
BAILY	☐	☐	REED	☒	☐
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BLUMENTHAL	☐	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
BRAIN	☒	☐	TRAMONTANO	☒	☐
BURSON	☐	☐	UCELLI	☒	☐
CAHILL	☐	☐	VERVEER	☐	☐
EDMONDS	☒	☐	<u>E. Lovell</u>	☒	☐
FRAMPTON →	☒	☐		☐	☐
IBARRA	☐	☐		☐	☐
JOHNSON B	☐	☐		☐	☐

 *** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	2523	
CONNECTION TEL		57376
CONNECTION ID	MILLENNIUM COUNC	
ST. TIME	01/16 21:38	
USAGE T	01'44	
PGS. SENT	5	
RESULT	OK	

REVISED

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 1-16-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP
 Subject: Designation of Nat'l Monuments Remarks

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VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	SEWERT	☐	☒
PODESTA	☒	☐	MARSHALL	☐	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	MOORE	☐	☐
RICCHETTI	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
LEW	☒	☐	NOLAN	☐	☐
BAILY	☐	☐	REED	☒	☐
BERGER	☐	☐	SPERLING	☒	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☐	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
BRAIN	☒	☐	TRAMONTANO	☒	☐
BURSON	☐	☐	UCELLI	☒	☐
CAHILL	☐	☐	VERVEER	☐	☐
EDMONDS	☒	☐	<u>E. Lovell</u> →	☒	☐
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IBARRA	☐	☐		☐	☐
JOHNSON	☐	☐		☐	☐

1-16-01

TIME OF TRANSMISSION:

TIME OF RECEIPT:

**WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM**

PRECEDENCE

CLASSIFICATION:

RELEASER:

IMMEDIATE

Unclass

DATE/TIME: 11 JAN 01 1708

MESSAGE #: SR 055

FROM: Terry Edwards PHONE: G-2272 ROOM: WW-6FL
SUBJECT: NY Times Op-Ed PAGES: 3

PLEASE DELIVER TO:

LOCATION	DELIVER TO	ROOM	PHONE
	Doug Band		
	Jake Stewart		
	Karen Tramontano		
	Bruce Reed		

1-16-01

Should we send to
Terry?

SPECIAL DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS:

Orin

Yes _____
No X _____
a

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

Draft 1/10/01 11:30pm
Terry Edmonds

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
OP-Ed -- Special to the New York Times
MESSAGE TO CONGRESS
THE UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF BUILDING ONE AMERICA
January 14, 2000

At the beginning of the last century, the great African American scholar and civil rights leader, W.E.B. Dubois said that "The problem of the 20th century will be the problem of the color line. He was right. But, because of the lessons and sacrifice of people like Dr. King Martin Luther King, whose birthday we celebrate tomorrow, we can write a new preamble to the 21st century. *in a different way*

changing dramatically
America is ~~demographically~~ undergoing one of the great transformations in our history. We are a changing people. According to the latest census figures, nearly one in ten people in the United States were born in another country. Today there is no majority race in Hawaii or California or Houston or New York City. In nine of our ten largest public school systems, over 75 percent of the students are minorities. In a little more than 50 years there will be no majority race in America.

~~The truth is,~~ as our nation grows ever more diverse and the world grows ever more interdependent, our diversity will either be the great problem or the great promise of this century. While we have moved out of the epicenter of racial conflict that rocked our nation from the time of the Indian conquest, slavery and Japanese internment, until the great breakthroughs of the civil rights era, we are still experiencing the aftershocks. Though people of color have more opportunity than ever today, we still see evidence of unequal treatment in the litany of disparities in jobs and wealth, in education, in criminal justice, in health that still so often break down along the color line. The next step in our long march to racial reconciliation is closing these intolerable opportunity gaps.

Tomorrow, I am sending a Message to Congress which issues a concrete set of challenges and recommendations that I hope will be helpful, not only to the 107th Congress and the new Administration, but to all of us as we continue that important work. These recommendations fall into seven broad categories: economic and social progress, education, civil rights enforcement, criminal justice reform, eliminating health disparities, election reform, and civic responsibility. Let me review a few of them.

There is perhaps no area today in which perceptions of fairness differ so greatly based on race than in the administration of criminal justice. If you are white, you most likely believe the system is on your side. If you are a minority, you most likely feel the opposite. This is true at all levels of justice -- from what happens on the beat to what happens in our courts. The reasons for these wide differences in the perception of

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

criminal justice include disturbing racial disparities in incarceration rates, sentencing and the existence of racial profiling.

We know racial profiling exists. We know it is wrong. And it should be illegal, everywhere. We should continue efforts to document the extent of the problem and we should pass a national law banning the practice of racial profiling.

We should also re-examine our national sentencing policies, focusing particularly on mandatory minimum sentences for non-violent offenders. We should immediately shrink the disparity between crack and powder cocaine sentencing. And we should pass legislation to provide greater access to DNA testing and competent counsel for defendants in capital cases.

In many ways, the struggle for equal justice and racial reconciliation in America is analogous to the struggle for voting rights. In the presidential election of 2000, too many people felt that the votes they cast were not counted, and some felt that there were organized efforts to keep them from the polls.

We must do more to ensure that more people vote and that every vote is counted. To that end, I am recommending the appointment of a non-partisan presidential commission on electoral reform. The commission should gather the facts and determine the causes of voting disparities in every state, including disparities of race, class, ethnicity and geography. It should make recommendations to Congress about how to achieve a fair, inclusive, and uniform system of voting standards, prevent voter suppression and intimidation and increase voter participation. This could include making election day a national holiday and giving ex-offenders who have paid their debt to society, the chance to earn back the right to vote.

My message to Congress also makes recommendations to help us close other racial and ethnic gaps, including achievement and resource disparities in education, and racial disparities in the health of our people. But government cannot do this work alone. Building One America is the work of every American. Whether you are able to give guidance to a single child or lead a national movement for justice, it all begins with a personal commitment. As Dr. King once said, "No social movement rolls on the wheels of inevitability. Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals."

I have tried to honor those words every day of my presidency and I pledge to continue the important work of building One America as I return to the most important job of all -- citizen.

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REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
ON MEDICAL PRIVACY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C.
DECEMBER 20, 2000

Thank you. Well, first, I want to thank Jan Lori Goldman for her wonderful remarks and for her ongoing work in the area of health privacy. I thank the representatives of the doctors, nurses, consumers and privacy community who are here today and who had input into this effort.

I would like to thank my great friend, Senator Pat Leahy, for being here and for his strong support of privacy issues in the United States Congress. As others have said, I want to thank the entire team of people who worked on this. They worked on this issue for months and months and months. They worked hard. Some of them worked, I might add, at great personal sacrifice to themselves, because of developments unrelated to this issue, to get this out, because they believe so strongly in what they were doing.

I also would like to thank my Chief of Staff, John Podesta, who has been a fanatic on this issue in the best sense. Now, I want to thank all the folks at HHS -- Donna Shalala went over just some of the things that we have done in this administration over the last eight years, thanks to all of you at HHS. And she said you were beginning to feel like Nebraska. But, look, there's a big difference.

You know, they say that because of the 24-hour news cycle, we're all in a permanent campaign. And when you're in a permanent campaign, it's hard to take the time to go to someplace you have no chance of winning -- Nebraska -- or someplace you have no chance of losing, the HHS building. Right?

I might say, just parenthetically, I had a wonderful time in Kearney, Nebraska and Omaha, and you would be amazed at all the letters I've gotten. I have already received more letters than I thought there were Democrats in the state of Nebraska. It was quite wonderful. So I'm grateful.

I want to thank all of you, and especially Donna Shalala, for these last eight years. I believe that Donna Shalala is a superb leader, a great administrator, always full of energy. You will be happy to know, and not surprised, that she has steadfastly defended the people who work at the Department of Health and Human Services in pitched battles at the White House over various issues.

You guys have so much responsibility over so many things, every day you get a new chance to wreck an administration. The fact that you somehow managed to avoid doing so, and along the way to get us up to record levels of childhood immunization, to get the number of people without health insurance going down for the first time in a dozen years, to involve women and seniors in clinical trials to an unprecedented extent, to add 24, 25 years to the Medicare Trust Fund, and 2.5 million kids to the ranks of insured, and do so many other things, to be a positive force in the welfare reform movement, is a real tribute to you, but I think, also, to Donna Shalala and her remarkable tenure as a leader of this department.

And she makes it fun, you know? Now she's going to become President of the University of Miami. We're just sort of a way station on her move south. She was at Wisconsin, and then here, and then going to Miami. I think you can confidently predict two or three things that will flow out of her tenure there. She will improve the academic quality of the institution. The football team will get even better. And they will do whatever is necessary to clarify the voting procedures in Dade County.

Look, we're having a good time today, but I want to take a moment to be very, very serious. We say that we are a free nation in a world growing increasingly free. And in so many ways, that is literally true. During the period in which I was President, I was fortunate enough to serve here at a time when, for the first time in all of human history, more than half the people on the globe live under governments of their own choosing.

Now, that's a wonderful thing. That's one manifestation of freedom. Then, there's free speech, the freedom of the press, the right to travel. And also, I might add, minority rights of all kinds, restrictions on the ability of government to compromise the fundamental interests and rights of those who may not agree with the majority.

But we must never forget, in this age of increasing interdependence, fueled by an explosion in information technology that is completely changing the way we work, live and relate to each other, that increasingly, we will have to ask ourselves: Does our freedom include privacy? Because there are new and different ways for that privacy to be restricted.

In 1928, Justice Brandeis wrote his famous words saying that privacy was "the right most valued by civilized people," and he defined it simply as the right to be left alone.

Nothing is more private than someone's medical or psychiatric records. And, therefore, if we are to make freedom fully meaningful in the Information Age, when most of our stuff is on some computer somewhere, we have to protect the privacy of individual health records.

The new rules we release today protect the medical records of virtually every American, they represent the most sweeping privacy protections ever written, and they are built on the foundation of the bipartisan Kennedy-Kassebaum legislation I signed four years ago.

This action is required by the great tides of technological and economic change that have swept through the medical profession over the last few years. In the past, medical records were kept on paper by doctors and stored in file cabinets by doctors and nurses, by and large known to their patients. Seldom were those records shared with anyone outside the doctor's office.

Today, physicians increasingly store them electronically, and they are now obliged to share those records in paper or electronic form with insurance companies and other reviewers. To be sure, storing and transmitting medical records electronically is a remarkable application of information technology. They're cost-effective, they can save lives by helping doctors to make quicker and better-informed decisions.

But it is quite a problem that, with a click of a mouse, your personal health information can be accessed without your consent by people you don't know who aren't physicians, for reasons that have nothing to do with your health care. It doesn't take a doctor to understand that is a prescription for abuse.

So, the rules that we release today have been carefully crafted for this new era, to make medical records easier to see for those who should see them, and much harder to see for those who shouldn't. Employers, for instance, shouldn't see medical records, except for limited reasons, such as to process insurance claims. Yet, too often they do, as you just heard.

A recent survey showed that more than a third of all Fortune 500 companies check medical records before they hire or promote. One large employer in Pennsylvania had no trouble obtaining detailed information on the prescription drugs taken by its workers, easily discovering that one employee was HIV positive. That is wrong. Under the rules we released today, it will now be illegal.

There's something else that's really bothered me too, for years, and that is that private companies should not be able to get hold of the most sensitive medical information for marketing purposes. Yet, too often, that happens as well. Recently, expectant mothers who haven't even told their friends the good news are finding sales letters for baby products in their mailboxes. That's also wrong. And under these new rules, it will also be illegal.

Health insurance companies should not be able to share medical records with mortgage companies who might be able to use them to deny you a loan. That actually happens today, but under these rules, it will be illegal. Health insurance companies shouldn't be able to keep you from seeing your own medical records; up to now, they could. Under these rules, they won't be able to do that anymore.

Under the rules being issued today, health plans and providers will have to tell you up front who will and won't be allowed to see your records. And under an executive order I am issuing today, the federal government will no longer have free reign to launch criminal prosecutions based on information gleaned from routine audits of medical records.

With these actions today, I have done everything I can to protect the sanctity of individual medical records. But there are further protections our families need that only Congress can provide. For example, only new legislation from Congress can make these new protections fully enforceable, and cover every entity which holds medical records. So I urge the new Congress to quickly act to provide these additional protections.

For eight years now, I have worked to marry our enduring values to the stunning possibilities of the Information Age. In many ways, these new medical privacy rules exemplify what we have tried to do in this administration and how we have tried to do it. We can best meet the future if we take advantage of all these marvelous possibilities, but we don't permit them to overwhelm our most fundamental values.

I hope that these privacy rules achieve that goal. And again, let me say, for this and so much more, I am profoundly grateful to the people who work here at HHS, the people who work with them at OMB and in the White House. In this action, you have done an enormous amount to reassure and improve the lives of your fellow Americans.

Thank you very much.

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Ready for
first edit

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ON MEDICAL PRIVACY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C.
DECEMBER 20, 2000

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Thank you very much.

Final 12/15/00 7:15 pm
Sam Afridi

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12-16-00

00 DEC 15 PM 7:39

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CHARLES RUFF

NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

December 16, 2000

To Sue, Christy, Carin, to Chuck's mother, Margaret, and all the other members of your family; to all of us who were friends of Chuck.

Chuck Ruff was one of the bravest, wisest, strongest souls I have ever known. He had a ferocious ability to be a legal advocate, and he had an even deeper devotion to the Constitution and the rule of law. I knew I could always count on him to give me sound advice, whether I wanted to hear it or not.

Chuck was known in his West Wing office for watching football on the weekends with the sound turned down and opera playing. That captures so much of how I remember him—a competitor with compassion--equal parts guts and grace.

He was always there for us—with that brilliant mind, that calming presence. In the midst of frenzied times, he helped all of us stop...breathe a little slower...listen a little longer...think a little harder. He did it his own way—being forceful without fanfare, pushing without ever being pushy. He proved what some may have thought was impossible in this town--you can be civil and effective at the same time. He was a gentleman.

I owe Chuck a huge debt of gratitude for all of that. But, the truth is, he owed me a little, too. After all, his White House job turned him into something of a TV star. Chuck never sought the spotlight, but when the moment came, he shined. Millions of Americans saw his razor-sharp intellect and his principled character at work. They also saw that the counselor for the President of the United States just happened to be in a wheelchair. What a powerful message.

Of course, he had no time for pity. He had no time for fanfare. What did Chuck Ruff care about? He cared about justice--teaching it, sharing it, living it. Chuck had a guiding principle in life.

He didn't care if a task was difficult. He didn't care if it was unpopular. He just wanted to know one thing: Is it right? And if it was right, Chuck Ruff was there. Always.

Chuck cared about community. He not only made his living in the District of Columbia, he loved this city with all his heart. He left a lucrative law practice in the mid-80's to be DC's chief lawyer. And who can forget how he began his closing statement last year in the well of the Senate. "My name is Charles Ruff," he said. "I'm from the District of Columbia and we don't have a vote in the Congress of the United States."

Chuck also cared about our national community.

There was no stronger advocate in the White House for legal assistance to the poor, for protecting individual liberties, for safeguarding the rights of women.

His vision and his fight against injustice went even further. I was so pleased that he recently agreed to lead the Fair Labor Association, to find a way to shut down sweatshops and improve the lives of women, children, and the poorest of the poor. If anyone could do it, it was Chuck.

In the end, Chuck Ruff was not a “Power Lawyer” for those with connections and clout, he was a powerful lawyer for those without a voice. He was the people’s advocate. No matter what he was called on to do—whether in private practice or in the public trust—he did it as if he were born to it...as if that alone was what God put him on this earth to do.

But if you wanted to know what Chuck cared about the most, all you needed to do was listen whenever he talked with--or about—his beloved Sue. His most cherished titles were husband, father, and perhaps, above all, Grandpa. His White House office wall wasn’t covered with the typical trappings. No honorary degrees.

No official portraits. Instead, he had a single photo. His granddaughter, Samantha, in the arms of Tommy Lasorda. It meant the world to him. And so did the birth of his new grandson just a few months ago.

Chuck loved Shakespeare. His favorite passage came from Henry IV, Part 1. Chuck's daughters will tell you how much they dreaded going to that play with him because he was bound to recite those lines in his booming voice for all to hear.

"I can call spirits from the vasty deep!" declares one character. "Why so can I," comes the reply, "or so can any man. But will they come when you do call for them?"

Whenever justice or community or family called, Chuck Ruff always answered. He left us far too soon, but that generous, determined spirit lives on in the lives he touched—calling on us to right the wrongs, care for our neighbors, and make the most of all we have with all we have been given.

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Revised Final 12/15/00 10:00 a.m.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
1-16-01

John Pollack

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON

RADIO ADDRESS ON

WELFARE CASELOAD REDUCTIONS

AND BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS

THE WHITE HOUSE

December 16, 2000

Good morning. This week, as I worked to conclude the last budget negotiations of my Presidency, I was reminded how far we have come these past eight years. We now live in a time of unprecedented peace and prosperity, but we didn't get here by accident. We made tough choices based on our core values of opportunity for all, responsibility from all, and a community of all Americans.

Today I want to talk about two elements critical to our continued success. First, our progress in moving people from welfare to work; and second, our commitment to fiscal discipline and a budget that puts people first.

Vice President Gore and I took office in 1993 with a pledge to “end welfare as we know it.” Thanks to comprehensive welfare reform, a renewed sense of responsibility, and the strongest economy in a generation, millions of former welfare recipients now know the dignity of work.

Today, I am pleased to announce that – over the past eight years – we have cut welfare caseloads by more than 8 million people. Last year alone, 1.2 million parents on welfare went to work, determined to build better lives. Nationwide, welfare rolls have dropped nearly 60 percent, and are now the lowest in more than three decades.

We have been able to sustain this progress year after year because government, the private sector, and welfare recipients themselves have all done their part. Together, we are finally breaking the cycle of dependence that has long crippled the hopes of too many families.

When we enacted landmark welfare reform in 1996, I insisted that Congress provide incentives to reward states for helping people find and keep jobs. Today, I am pleased to announce that 28 states will receive a total of \$200 million in bonuses for doing just that. These grants will enable states to help even more parents go to work and succeed on the job.

I urge states to use these resources to provide necessary supports – from child care to transportation to training – that can make the critical difference between a welfare check and a paycheck.

We've also worked hard to help families leaving welfare meet the challenge of affordable health care. In the bipartisan budget package I will soon sign, we will extend Medicaid coverage so that thousands of parents who leave welfare can keep the health coverage protecting them and their children.

This budget also includes funding to help cover more uninsured children, speed coverage for patients with Lou Gehrig's disease, and increase payments to hospitals, teaching facilities, home health agencies and nursing homes, in order to ensure quality health care.

We have also secured an extra \$817 million to help working families afford child care and meet their responsibilities at home and at work. These and other child care resources will serve over 2.2 million children next year.

With this budget, we are also passing our historic New Markets and Renewal Communities Initiative, the most significant effort ever to help hard-pressed communities lift themselves up through entrepreneurship and access to new capital. With the help of our New Markets tax credit, 40 strengthened empowerment zones, and 40 renewal communities, this initiative will spur billions in private investment in communities that have not yet shared in our great economic revival.

From the streets of our central cities, to the hills of Appalachia, to the rugged vistas of our Native American reservations, we are giving people the tools of opportunity, so they can make the most of their potential.

This budget also includes vital investments in our children and their education. With over \$900 million dedicated to school renovation, thousands of local school districts will finally be able to give our children the classrooms they deserve.

We've increased funding by 25 percent to stay on track to hire 100,000 new teachers, to reduce class size.

We've nearly doubled funding for after-school programs to help more than 1.3 million students, while increasing support for teacher training, and for turning around failing schools.

And to open the doors of college even wider – so that more of our young people can walk through them – we have increased the maximum Pell Grant to an all-time high of \$3,750 – up nearly \$1,500 since 1993.

If we keep investing in our people and creating opportunities, if we continue to honor and reward work, America's possibilities are truly without limit.

By reaching out and working together, I am confident that America's best days still lie ahead.

Thanks for listening.

Final 12/10/00 10:00 pm
Sam Afridi

'00 DEC 11 AM 7:19

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12-11-00

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS ON CHILD IMMUNIZATION
THE WHITE HOUSE
December 11, 2000

Acknowledge: Rosalynn (“Rose-a-lynn”) Carter,
Betty Bumpers—the first person to open my eyes to the
fact that even though we develop and produce the
majority of vaccines, too few of our children were being
vaccinated. Rosalyn and Betty have become so
recognized as leaders on immunization that people joke
every time they show up, kids start to cry because they
know someone is going to get a shot. I also want to thank
Secretary Shalala, Secretary Glickman, and the many
leaders from health organizations here today for their
leadership. Also, Hillary, who wanted to be here and has
helped lead our efforts to improve and expand health care
for our children.

Dr. Walter Orenstein of CDC and
Shirley Watkins of the Department of Agriculture
(They will run the program)

We meet in this historic room named, in part, for a leader who spent most of his life enduring and overcoming the effects of polio. I was part of the first generation of Americans to receive the polio vaccine and I remember the pictures of children who were crippled by that disease. ~~I remember being conscious that~~ an enormous burden was being lifted from me and I was being given a chance that people just a little older than me never had.

~~Through the miracle of modern medicine, we have seen the triumph of vaccines over infectious, deadly~~
~~diseases.~~

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

Vaccines ~~have proven to be a safe and effective way~~

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12-11-00

~~to~~ save lives, save money and save children the agony and pain of diseases such as polio, mumps, rubella and measles.

When I took office, I was determined to do all we could ~~to expand opportunities and improve the quality of~~

~~life~~ for all our children. Boosting immunization rates was

~~certainly a key.~~ **After all, if we want our children to**

have the best shot in life, we need to make sure they get their shots.

Back in 1993, the challenge was clear.

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

Almost two out of five children under the age of three had not been fully vaccinated. So with the leadership of Hillary and Secretary Shalala, we launched the Childhood Immunization Initiative to improve immunization services, make existing vaccines safer and more affordable, and increase immunization rates across our nation. We enacted the Vaccines for Children program to provide free vaccines to uninsured and under-insured children.

Thanks to the work of everyone in this room, childhood immunization rates are now at an all-time high—and the incidence of diseases such as measles, mumps and rubella are at an all-time low.

12-11-00

In recent years, we have been able to say for the first time in history, 90 percent of America's toddlers have been immunized against serious childhood diseases. Just as important, vaccination levels are nearly the same for preschool children across racial and ethnic lines.

America's children are safer and healthier. But our work is far from done. Despite our progress, at least one million infants and toddlers are not fully immunized and too many children continue to fall victim to diseases that a simple immunization could have prevented. There is no excuse for that.

PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

Low-income children, in particular, are far less likely to be immunized. In some urban areas, immunization rates are 20 percent below the national average. In Houston, for example, only 63 percent of low-income children are fully vaccinated. In Detroit and Newark, it's 66%. And we know areas with below average immunization rates are at greater risk of potentially deadly disease outbreaks such as what we saw with the measles epidemic in the late 80s.

Today, I am announcing three new steps to build on our record and meet this challenge. First, if we want to increase immunization rates among children at risk, we need to go where they do.

Over 45 percent of infants and toddlers nationwide are being served by the Women, Infants and Children program. It is the single largest point of access to health care services for low-income preschool children who are at highest risk for low vaccination coverage. In fact, immunization rates for children in WIC is in some cases 20 percent lower than the rates for other children. When it comes to making sure all of our children are immunized, WIC is the place to start.

Today, I am directing WIC to conduct an immunization assessment of each and every child participating in the program—all five million of them.

Each time a child comes in, their immunization status will be evaluated. Children who are behind schedule or who don't have immunization records will be referred to a local health care provider. I am calling on the CDC to provide WIC staff with the information they need to conduct immunization assessments accurately and efficiently. We know this works. WIC centers that have experimented with this type of approach have seen vaccination coverage increase by up to 40 percent in just a year.

Second, I am directing Secretary Shalala and Secretary Glickman to develop a national strategic plan to further improve immunization rates for children at risk.

This would include steps to utilize new technology, share best practices, and examine how we can enlist other federal programs serving children in the effort to help improve immunization rates.

But this is not a job for government alone. We need to work in partnership with other caring organizations if we're going to succeed. So third and finally, I am announcing that the American Academy of Pediatrics is launching a new campaign urging all 55,000 of its members to remind WIC eligible patients to bring their immunization records with them when they visit WIC sites. I want to thank the members of the AAP for this initiative.

We need to keep working together until every child,
in every community is safe from vaccine-preventable
disease. We have come a long way. ~~But remember the~~
~~words of~~ Dr. Jonas Salk, the father of polio vaccine. ~~He~~
once said, "the greatest reward for doing is the
opportunity to do more." We've done so much together.
Now let's do more.

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PHOTOCOPY
WJC HANDWRITING

Final 01/08/01 9:30pm
Heather Hurlburt

01 JAN 8 PM 10:02

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-9-01

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON

REMARKS TO CHICAGO RALLY

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

January 9, 2001

Acknowledgements: Mayor Daley, Secretary Herman; Secretary Riley, Senator Durbin; Congressman Rush.

In November 1991, I came to this hotel in the fight of my political life – to convince state Democratic Party leaders that I was the best choice to be our party's candidate for President. Chicago got behind me then, and I've never forgotten it. I was at this hotel again when we won the Super Tuesday primaries in 1992. I came back tonight to say thank you to the people of Chicago for your support for me and Hillary, and Al and Tipper Gore over the last 8 years.

When I came here eight years ago, our economy was in trouble and our society was divided. College students I talked to thought they might never find a job. Too many union workers thought they might never work again.

Industrial production had actually declined that year – for the first time in American history. Average family

income had fallen by \$1600 in two years. The federal deficit was \$290 billion and rising, and the national debt

had quadrupled in the previous 12 years. Interest rates were high, growth was low and the confidence of the

American people was shaken.

I said then that I wanted go to Washington to give the American people the tools they need to make the most of their abilities – and to make the most of America’s future. Thanks in no small part to your early support, Al Gore and I got the chance to spend eight years in Washington, putting people first, getting the economy going again and moving our society in the right direction, to make us a stronger, better, more united nation.

I may not have been right about everything, but I was right that all the American people needed was for Washington to give them the tools, so they could get back to work.

● We brought fiscal discipline back to Washington, invested in our people, and expanded markets for our products and services overseas. And American workers and entrepreneurs did the rest.

● We said we would get our economy going again, and we did. We are still experiencing the longest economic expansion in our nation's history. And even with growth rates slowing a bit, our economy is 50 percent bigger than it was eight years ago. When I took office, the unemployment rate was 7.3 percent nationally – and 7.1 percent in Illinois. No economist believed it could go below 5 percent. Now, it's been below 5 percent for more than three years. Here in Chicago, it's 4.4 percent.

● We've created 22 million new jobs, more than 744,000 in Illinois and half a million in Chicago. And those are good, well-paying jobs, that have helped lift the median family income in Cook County and cut the poverty rate here as well.

● We said we would get America out of debt, and we did. We turned decades of deficits into the largest back-to-back budget surpluses in American history. And we have put America on track to be debt-free by the end of this decade – for the first time since 1835. Now, why should you care about that? Because paying off the debt means lower interest rates when you buy a home or a car – or take out loans to pay for college.

And when we aren't paying off the debt anymore, that frees up 11 cents on every dollar of taxes you pay – money that can go back to you or be invested in our future.

We said we would invest in people, and we did. In 1991, I said here that we needed to give people incentives to start new businesses and create jobs in our cities, the same way we give incentives to invest overseas. I came back to Chicago in 1999 with Speaker Hastert to launch our New Markets initiative – and we worked across party lines to pass it last month, and leverage \$15 billion in new investment for hard-pressed urban and rural areas.

● And we made Chicago an Empowerment Zone in 1994 – and helped bring in more than \$100 million to create jobs and housing.

● We said we would invest in our future, and that means investing in education. Now I've gone all over the country bragging on Mayor Daley and what he has done for Chicago schools. But we did give him just a little help from Washington – we doubled Federal investment in education, helped pay for rebuilding schools, hiring new teachers, running after-school and summer school programs. We believed that every child can learn – and we want to give them the tools to do it.

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● Today I went to an elementary school on South Shields Street, and I saw the results. Test scores are up. Half the kids are in after-school programs. And they've built a community spirit that does Chicago proud.

● Our children need quality education all the way through college now, to live out their dreams in a high-tech world. We're helping 13 million Americans pay for college through HOPE Scholarship and Lifetime Learning tax credits, and our expanded Pell Grant and work-study programs are helping millions more. Overall, more high school graduates are going on to college, and more Americans are attending college than ever before.

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● We said we would cut crime, and we did – with tougher enforcement of existing laws, a ban on assault weapons, and more than 100,000 new police officers across the country. Crime across the nation is at its lowest in a quarter-century. Violent crime in Chicago is down 10 percent – and our COPS program has helped put more than 1600 new community police officers on the street here.

● We said we would stand strong for the rights of America's workers, and we did. In the last eight years, we have defeated attempts to repeal prevailing wage laws, to bring back company unions, and to weaken occupational safety standards.

● We cracked down on sweatshops. We fought to protect pension funds. We passed tough new worker safety rules. We raised the minimum wage.

● We said we would end welfare as we know it, and we did. Illinois has cut its welfare rolls in half, and gotten Federal support to help former welfare recipients get jobs and keep them.

● Now, all these statistics are great. But in the end, success isn't measured in numbers or charts, but in the lives of real people, and in the way we feel about our country.



Not only have we strengthened our economy, we've strengthened the bonds of our communities, and made progress toward creating the One America of our founders' dreams. At the dawn of a new century, we are doing our part to shape a future that is better for Americans and people all over the world.



When I hear that the number of Americans living in poverty is at its lowest level in 20 years, and that home ownership is at its highest level ever, I believe our nation is stronger for it. When I look at what Chicago has done to give all its children the education they need to realize their dreams, I know our nation is a better place for it.



And when I meet young people, and see them looking ahead confidently to their own futures, I know that the best is still ahead of us. For eight years, we've built a strong foundation for the future. Now it's up to you to build on it. And from what I've learned about Chicago over the last eight years, I'm confident that you will.

Thank you very much.

Final 1/8/01 10:25 a.m.
John Pollack/Speechwriters

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS ON PRESENTATION OF
THE PRESIDENTIAL CITIZEN'S MEDAL
THE WHITE HOUSE
January 8, 2001**

Good afternoon. Senator Cleland; Senator Harkin; Representatives Gilman, Holmes-Norton, and Sununu; honored guests, family and friends – welcome to the White House. One of the great privileges I've had as President has been the chance to recognize – on behalf of the American people – the rich and diverse accomplishments of some of our greatest fellow citizens. This ceremony marks the last time I will honor such a remarkable group at the White House, and I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity.

More than two centuries ago, the founders of our nation staked their fortunes and their lives on a revolutionary proposition: that people of competing ideas, yet common ideals, could form a more perfect union – a democracy built solely on the strength of its citizens.

They felt it essential that America honor both the individual *and* the idea that a free people can accomplish their greatest deeds only by working together, for a common good. Today we honor citizens whose individual contributions to the common good embody this ideal in its purest essence, and we present them with the Presidential Citizens Medal.

This medal is among our nation's highest civilian honors, a symbol of our gratitude – as a people – to those who have performed exemplary deeds of service. Now, let me say a few words about each of the people we honor.

Hank Aaron

Every baseball fan knows that Hank Aaron holds more records than any other single ballplayer. But just as baseball symbolizes something greater than itself, so too does Hank Aaron, whose courage and dignity have left a lasting mark on far more than his sport.

We honor him today not only for the power of his swing, but for the power of his spirit; for breaking down barriers not just on the field or in the front office, but within America's heart. In the spotlight and under pressure, he always answered bigotry and brutality with poise and purpose. And in chasing his dream, Hank Aaron gave others the inspiration to chase their own. Hank Aaron, you are an American hero, and we salute you for your leadership.

Muhammad Ali

In the boxing world, he is known simply as "the greatest." And in the ring, he proved it time and again. And we loved him for it. Ever able to "float like a butterfly and sting like a bee," Muhammad Ali became the first boxer in history to capture the heavyweight title three

separate times. But more than that, he captured the world's imagination – and its heart. Outside the ring, Muhammad Ali has dedicated his life to working for children, feeding the hungry, supporting his faith and standing up for racial equality. He has always fought for a just and more humane world, breaking down barriers here in America and around the world. Today we honor Muhammad Ali, once and always “the greatest.”

Juan Andrade (Ahn-DRAH-day)

As a civics teacher fresh out of college, Juan Andrade showed up for the first day of class eager to teach his students the fundamentals of American democracy. Two days later, he was under arrest. His crime? Teaching in his students' native tongue, Spanish – which was, at that time, a violation of Texas law.

That early injustice helped spark Juan's lifelong crusade for Hispanic-American civil rights – including the founding of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, and nearly a thousand registration drives that have enfranchised over one million new voters. Today we honor Juan Andrade for his courage, his commitment to both diversity and democracy, and for giving so many Americans a voice in their own destiny.

Ruby Bridges

Ruby Bridges was born in 1954, the year the Supreme Court decided *Brown v. Board of Education*. But six years later, when she entered the first grade, the schools in her hometown of New Orleans were still separate and unequal. Ruby was chosen to integrate William Frantz Public School – single-handedly. When mobs gathered and shouted, Ruby knelt and prayed. She had two U.S. marshals ahead of her and two behind; but “prayer,” she said later, “was my protection.”

Today, in lectures and books, Ruby is telling younger generations her story of strength and faith. And through the Ruby Bridges Foundation, she is helping schools to establish diversity programs – to achieve, without the struggle and pain, what she did four decades ago. Today, we pay tribute to that lifelong commitment.

Ron Brown

One of Ron Brown's favorite Bible passages came from the Book of Isaiah: “They who wait upon the Lord shall have their strength renewed. They shall mount up with wings as eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and faint not.”

Ron Brown walked, ran, and soared through life, and he never grew weary. As party chairman, he inspired people to believe in our democratic system, and to get involved. As Secretary of Commerce, he opened up new markets at home and abroad, so that all people might make a better life for their families.

Ron's legacy burns brightly, not only in the hearts of those who knew him, but also in the living testimony of all the young people who – even now – walk through the doors he opened

and cross the bridges he built. We honor his memory today; Alma, I'm glad you could be with us to share this moment.

Don Cameron

For almost two decades, Don Cameron has served as Executive Director of the National Education Association. But his career began long before, as a Michigan junior high school teacher in the early '60s.

His starting salary was \$5100 a year – hardly enough to support a family. So he worked odd jobs – pumping gas, selling hardware, driving a truck, even digging graves – all for the love of teaching. (Let no one say this man was not deadly serious about his job.)

Don Cameron's enthusiasm has never wavered. During his tenure, the NEA grew by more than a million members – nearly doubling in size. He has fought for quality schools, smaller classes, and making sure that we treat teachers as the professionals that they are. Our schools are stronger and our children's future brighter because of his leadership. Thank-you, Don Cameron.

Sister Carol Coston

When Pope John the 23rd urged Catholics to engage in the world and address the needs of the poor, Sister Carol Coston, an Adrian Dominican nun, answered the call. She left the security of her convent to live and work in a public housing project. Then she helped create NETWORK, a national Catholic lobby that has mobilized thousands of nuns and lay people to fight for social progress in South Africa, for women's rights, and for economic justice.

She helped win passage of the Community Reinvestment Act, which has led to billions in investment in America's inner cities. And she has founded Partners for the Common Good, a fund that invests in housing and entrepreneurship in low-income neighborhoods. For your work as an agent of change, rooted the values of your faith, Sister Carol, I award you this medal.

Archibald Cox

As a young government lawyer during World War II, Archibald Cox helped get labor unions and corporations to stop fighting each other, and to start working together for an allied victory. That same steely resolve and sense of high purpose have marked his entire career. Fighting for labor rights in the 50s, civil rights in the 60s, and – during Watergate – rising that fateful Saturday night to defend our Constitution, Archibald Cox has come to embody the highest ideals of integrity and courage in public life. For a career of service to your country, we offer you our profound thanks.

Charles DeLisi

Just as Lewis and Clark set forth to explore a continent shrouded in mysterious possibility, Charles DeLisi pioneered the exploration of a modern-day frontier – the human genome. As an administrator and researcher in the Department of Energy in the mid-1980s, he

worked with key Congressional leaders like Senator Pete Domenici, enlisting their support to marshal federal resources and secure funding for this groundbreaking research. Charles DeLisi's imagination and determination helped ignite the revolution in sequencing that would, ultimately, unravel the code of human life itself. Thanks to Charles DeLisi's vision and leadership, researchers are now closer than ever to finding therapies and cures for ailments once thought untreatable.

At once a scientist, entrepreneur and teacher, Charles DeLisi is also – in the truest sense – a humanitarian, a man whose life's work has been life itself. We honor you today.

Jack Greenberg

The spread of civil and human rights, throughout America and across the globe, has been one of the triumphant dramas of the last half-century. Jack Greenberg has been at the center of the action. As a young lawyer, he helped Thurgood Marshall argue *Brown vs. Board of Education* before the Supreme Court. As head of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund for 23 years, he himself argued dozens of key racial discrimination cases before the Supreme Court. Through his early involvement with organizations such as Asia Watch, he has aided the expansion of human rights around the world. Oliver Wendell Holmes once said that to truly live, one must “share the action and passion of one's time.” By that standard, Jack Greenberg has truly lived.

Dr. David Ho

When David Ho was a boy, he used puppets to act out stories about heroes who used supernatural powers to defend the weak. Everyone knew that young David was uncommonly bright, but few could have imagined that he would one day harness the unimagined powers of science to defend patients whose immune systems were fatally weakened by AIDS.

By demonstrating the ways HIV attacks the human body, he fundamentally changed the way we understand and treat that devastating disease. His groundbreaking work using protease inhibitors in combination with standard therapies has offered a longer life to countless people living with AIDS. Thank you, Dr. Ho, for giving us new hope that AIDS can be treated – and one day cured.

I. King Jordan

In 1988, the students at Gallaudet University rose up to demand a university President who was, like them, deaf or hard of hearing. Gallaudet, the only university in the world designed entirely for students who are deaf or hard of hearing, had never had a deaf president. Not until I. King Jordan. His appointment was not only a triumph for the students of Gallaudet, but an historic breakthrough for all people with disabilities.

It was also a powerful reminder for the rest of our nation – that deaf people like I. King Jordan can excel, and lead, just as well as any American. Moved by his example and the efforts of the entire disability community, Congress soon passed the Americans with Disabilities Act – the most important civil rights legislation in the past quarter century.

I. King Jordan has been a great teacher, a great university president, and a great inspiration to millions of people around the world. Thank you, President Jordan, for your leadership.

Anthony Lewis

Franklin Roosevelt once said: "We must scrupulously guard the civil rights and civil liberties of all our citizens, whatever their background." In the decades since, America has known few guardians of liberty more scrupulous – or staunch – than Anthony Lewis.

As a reporter, columnist, professor and author, Tony Lewis has been a clear, courageous voice for the values at the core of our Constitution. In books like "Gideon's Trumpet," he has deepened our understanding of our freedom of speech and our continuing battle for civil rights. Twice, his reporting has won the Pulitzer Prize. More important, his life's work has shown that a civil tone and careful, thoughtful, legal reasoning are far more powerful than the forces of injustice. Thank-you, Tony Lewis.

Irene Morgan

It was 1944 – wartime – and African-American soldiers were fighting and dying to protect freedom around the world. Unfortunately, African-Americans were also battling an insidious enemy right here at home – Jim Crow. A young mother named Irene Morgan took up that fight, and did it with dignity and determination. On her way to a doctor's appointment, she refused to give up her seat on a segregated Greyhound Bus, and appealed her subsequent arrest all the way to the Supreme Court. The Court's 1946 ruling – banning segregation on interstate transportation – was an early victory in the struggle for civil rights and signaled the beginning of the end of Jim Crow.

Irene Morgan has never asked for accolades. But today we honor her, and acknowledge our eternal debt to her quiet – yet brave – fight for freedom.

Constance Baker Motley

When Constance Baker Motley joined the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, she set out to do nothing less than re-make American law. Along the way, she made history. A key strategist in the civil right movement, she argued nine winning cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

She went on to become the first African-American woman elected to the New York State Senate; the first woman and the first African-American to be Borough President of Manhattan; and the first African-American woman to be named a Federal Court judge.

She once said she sought to prove "in everything I do that blacks and women are as capable as anyone." As an advocate, lawyer, public servant and judge, she has been not only capable, but superb. Constance Baker Motley, we are all in your debt.

Dr. Helen Rodriguez-Trias

In the 1960s, Dr. Helen Rodriguez-Trias grew outraged at the poor quality of pediatric health care in her native Puerto Rico. So she created the island's first center for newborn babies at the University of Puerto Rico Medical Center, and cut the hospital's infant death rate in half. Ever since, in New York, California, and across America, Dr. Rodriguez-Trias has been working for better patient care, for better treatment and prevention of AIDS, and for women's health rights. For fighting the good fight, and saving countless lives, I present this medal to Dr. Helen Rodriguez-Trias.

Edward Roybal

When Edward Roybal joined the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934, he didn't know he was embarking on a lifetime of service to his country, but he was. In World War II, he served in the Army; in the 1950s, on the Los Angeles City Council; and in 1962 he became the first Hispanic elected to Congress from California in almost a century – paving the way for a whole generation of Latino lawmakers. During his 30 years in Congress, Roybal championed veterans, the elderly, the mentally ill, education, health care, and minority rights. For a life's work that has improved the lives of millions, we honor Edward Roybal. He was unable to join us today, but his daughter, Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard, will accept the medal on his behalf.

Robert Rubin

Eight years ago, in troubled times for the American economy, I picked Robert Rubin to lead my economic team. Not just because Bob knows an awful lot about economics, but because he understands the very real impact that our decisions here in Washington have on the lives, and livelihoods, of working Americans.

As my National Economic Adviser and later as Secretary of the Treasury, Bob knew that fiscal prudence and social progress could go hand in hand, and made sure that they did. He helped to balance our nation's books and invest more in our people. The result has been the longest economic expansion in history, a rising tide that has truly lifted all boats.

Bob, you once called Washington your "road not taken." I speak for so many Americans when I say we're glad you ultimately did take that road; and we are proud to have walked it with you.

Warren Rudman

As a combat platoon leader in the Korean War, Warren Rudman never worried about the race or background of the men he fought with. As a U.S. Senator, Rudman never let his party affiliation keep him from speaking his mind or building alliances to fight great legislative battles – to strengthen national defense and put our fiscal house in order. As a private citizen, he has continued to champion those causes with bipartisan zeal, as a co-founder of the Concord

Coalition, and vice chairman of my Foreign Intelligence Advisory Commission. For his wise counsel and service to his country, I am deeply grateful.

Chuck Ruff

Soon after graduating from law school, Charles Ruff volunteered to go to Liberia to teach law. There, he contracted an illness that left him in a wheelchair. But no obstacle – not this, not any other – could ever keep Chuck from doing good.

He went on to serve in the Justice Department, as U.S. Attorney, and the chief lawyer for the District of Columbia – this town he loved so much. I chose him as my White House Counsel because of his unmatched ability as a legal advocate, and his even deeper devotion to the Constitution and the rule of law. Not long ago, he agreed to lead the Fair Labor Association, to help end sweatshops and improve the lives of the world's poorest.

Chuck left us far too soon, but his determined spirit will keep inspiring and calling us on – to do more, to do right, to do good. His secretary of 21 years, Ora Theard (Thay-erd) will accept this medal in his memory.

Rabbi Arthur Schneier

As a young man, Arthur Schneier (SHNI-er) fled his homeland and survived the Holocaust as a refugee. He knows firsthand the effects of intolerance and hatred – and he has devoted his life to fighting them.

As founder and President of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, he has encouraged interfaith dialogue, intercultural understanding, and promoted the cause of religious freedom around the world. He has served as an international envoy for four Administrations, including my own; as Chairman of the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad; and as the longtime rabbi of Park East Synagogue in New York City. Rabbi Schneier, thank you for your courage and spiritual leadership.

Eli Segal

Before he was 40 years old, Eli Segal had already built a string of successful businesses. In 1992, I asked my old friend Eli to join my administration, where he has built – from scratch – two of our most successful programs. He began AmeriCorps, which has given more than 150,000 young people a chance to earn money for college by serving our communities. And he built our Welfare-to-Work Partnership, which has enlisted over 20,000 businesses in hiring more than one million people from the welfare rolls. These efforts have widened the circle of opportunity in America, and strengthened the tradition of service to our country. For this, we owe Eli Segal a debt of gratitude.

John Seiberling (SEE-ber-ling)

John Seiberling has worn many hats and won many accolades: as a soldier in World War II, as a lawyer for the New York Legal Aid Society, as a community planner in his beloved city of Akron, and as a Congressman from Ohio fighting for civil rights and arms control. In all these arenas, he has contributed to his community and his country.

But his greatest achievement was crafting and winning passage of the Alaska Lands Act in 1980, which doubled the size of America's inventory of national parks and wildlife refuges, and tripled the area of federally designated wilderness. With that legislation, John Seiberling single-handedly saved more of our wilderness than any previous American, a legacy that will last generations. Unfortunately, this environmental hero is unable to join us today, but his son John will accept the medal on his behalf.

John Sengstacke (Seng-stack)

Few newspaper publishers in American history have been more effective crusaders for justice than the late John Sengstacke. As owner and editor of the legendary *Chicago Defender* for almost 60 years, he provided a national forum for African-American issues – and for voices that would otherwise go unheard.

Sengstacke nurtured the talents of countless black journalists, and as a confidant of presidents, played a key role in integrating the armed forces, the U.S. Postal Service, major league baseball, and the White House press corps. On behalf of a grateful nation, I offer this posthumous medal to his son Bobby.

Fred Shuttlesworth

When bigots blew up his house with dynamite, the Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth stood in front of the smoking rubble and renewed his call for an integrated Birmingham. When the city fathers had him arrested for civil disobedience, he filled the jails with so many sympathetic protesters there was no room to hold them all. And when angry authorities blasted him with a fire hose, he told them they could knock him down, but they could never extinguish the torch of justice.

Fred Shuttlesworth risked his life so that every American – no matter what the color of his or her skin – might live in a nation of dignity, opportunity and equal protection under law. Thank you, Reverend Shuttlesworth for your courageous life of leadership.

Mary

(301)

627 - 5674

Elizabeth Taylor

She was born in England, but is thoroughly American royalty – our own Elizabeth. For more than a generation, she has reigned over the silver screen stirring hearts and capturing our imagination. With her unique blend of glamour and grace, she has earned two Oscars and countless other honors.

But perhaps Elizabeth Taylor's greatest role has been off the screen, as a relentless and early crusader for AIDS research and care. She has not only raised millions of dollars in the fight, she has also raised awareness about the human impact of this dreaded disease. Elizabeth Taylor has brought life to unforgettable characters on film and hope to millions around the world. We thank her for sharing the most beautiful gift of all – her heart. Ladies and Gentlemen, Elizabeth Taylor.

Marion Wiesel

When the Nazis marched on Vienna, a six-year-old girl fled with her mother across Europe – only to wind up in an internment camp rife with starvation, disease, and death. Out of that searing experience, Marion Wiesel summoned the courage to commit her life to teaching others – especially children – about the human cost of hatred, intolerance and racism. She has written a documentary about the 1.3 million children murdered in the Holocaust, and has translated the books of her husband, Elie Wiesel, so that countless more people can read and learn their lessons. With the money from his Nobel Prize, she and Elie established the Wiesel Foundation – to educate children against indifference to the suffering of others. Marion Wiesel, for your mission of hope against hate, of life against death, of good over evil, I award you this Citizen's Medal.

Patrishia Wright

Patrishia Wright was training to be an orthopedic surgeon when a degenerative muscle disease left her with double vision. Instead of fixing broken bones, she set about to fix what was broken in our system – and dedicated her life to ending discrimination against people with disabilities. As a founder of the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, she joined forces with the wider civil rights community. Her strategic brilliance and no-nonsense approach during passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act earned her the title of "The General." Now she is working to empower people and families with disabilities throughout the world.

Ever since a visual impairment changed the path of her career, her dedication to civil rights has helped many more to see. Today we salute "The General" – Patrishia Wright.

Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for joining us here to honor these remarkable people. They remind us, once again, that the greatest title any one of us can ever hold is that of "citizen." May their accomplishments inspire us all, and generations to come.

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