

Presidential Trip Books

**SEPTEMBER 1998-
OCTOBER 1998**

Presidential Trip Books
SEPTEMBER 1998-OCTOBER 1998

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

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This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

September 1998

Divider Title: _____

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

12:45 PM	Remarks to White House Briefing for National Farmers Union	Tab A
	- Remarks	Tab B
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2:15 PM	Military Readiness Conference	Tab D
	- Opening Remarks	Tab E To Be Forwarded
	- Conference Talking Points	Tab F
	- Background	Distributed Separately
5:05 PM	Photo Opportunity	No Paper
5:15 PM	Foreign Policy Meeting	Distributed Separately
6:15 PM	Military Departure Photographs	Tab G
6:30 PM	Photo Opportunity with Boys and Girls Club 1988 Youth of the Year	Tab H
6:45 PM	Drop-By Meeting with General Zhang Wannian, Vice Chairman, Chinese Central Military Commission	Distributed Separately
7:00 PM	Meeting	Distributed Separately
8:15 PM	Bill Bristow for Governor Mix and Mingle	Tab I To Be Forwarded
	- Talking Points	Tab J To Be Forwarded

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1998

Final Schedule

SCHEDULING DIRECTOR:

STEPHANIE STREETT

HOME: 202-332-5651

OFFICE: 202-456-2823

WHCA PAGER: 4824

PRESS DESK:

DORI SALCIDO

HOME: 703-548-6466

OFFICE: 202-456-5771

WHCA PAGER: 4844

EVENT COORDINATOR:

CLYDE WILLIAMS

HOME: 202-722-6581

OFFICE: 202-456-5330

WHCA PAGER: 4367

EVENT COORDINATOR:

CECILY WILLIAMS

HOME: 202-726-0009

OFFICE: 202-456-5039

WHCA PAGER: 4063

EVENT COORDINATOR:

KARIN KULLMAN

HOME: 202-483-7366

OFFICE: 202-456-2823

WHCA PAGER: 4060

WEATHER:

WASHINGTON, DC

Partly cloudy, becoming mostly cloudy in the evening. Winds southwest at 8 to 15 knots. Low 68 to 73. High 87 to 92.

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

**Schedule of the President
for
Tuesday, September 15, 1998
*Final Schedule***

DOWN UNTIL 12:00PM

12:00 pm-	MEETING
12:15 pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Erskine Bowles

12:15 pm-	BRIEFING
12:40 pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Minyon Moore, Gene Sperling

12:40 pm	THE PRESIDENT proceeds to Room 450, Old Executive Office Building
Greeter:	Lee Swenson, National President, National Farmers Union Jim Miller, President, Arkansas National Farmers Union Dennis Weiss, President, South Dakota National Farmers Union John Whitaker, President, Iowa National Farmers Union Robert Carlson, President, North Dakota National Farmers Union Dave Frederickson, President, Minnesota National Farmers Union

September 14, 1998 (7:20pm)

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

12:45 pm-
1:15 pm

**REMARKS TO WHITE HOUSE BRIEFING FOR NATIONAL
FARMERS UNION**

ROOM 450

Old Executive Office Building

Remarks: Jordan Tamagni

Staff Contact: Minyon Moore, Gene Sperling

Event Coordinator: Clyde Williams

OPEN PRESS

- Secretary Glickman makes brief remarks and introduces Lee Swenson.
- Lee Swenson, President, National Farmers Union, makes brief remarks and introduces **the President**.
- Lee Swenson presents **the President** with the National Farmers Union 1998 Gold Triangle Award for leadership in Agricultural Issues.
- **The President** makes remarks and departs.

Note: Secretary Rodney Slater will be in attendance.

1:20 pm

THE PRESIDENT proceeds to the Oval Office

1:30 pm-
2:00 pm

BRIEFING FOR MILITARY READINESS CONFERENCE

OVAL OFFICE

Staff Contact: Samuel Berger

2:05 pm

THE PRESIDENT departs The White House via motorcade en route Fort McNair

[drive time: 10 minutes]

2:15 pm

THE PRESIDENT arrives Fort McNair

Greeters: Secretary William Cohen
General Hugh Shelton, Chairman, Joint Chief of Staff

September 14, 1998 (7:20pm)

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

2:15	pm-	MILITARY READINESS CONFERENCE
3:45	pm	FORT MCNAIR Remarks: Antony Blinken Staff Contact: Samuel Berger Event Coordinator: Clyde Williams POOL PRESS (OPENING REMARKS ONLY)
		-- The President makes an opening statement. (PRESS DEPARTS)
		-- Meeting begins.
		-- Upon conclusion of meeting, the President departs.
3:50	pm	THE PRESIDENT departs Fort McNair via motorcade en route The White House [drive time: 10 minutes]
4:00	pm	THE PRESIDENT arrives The White House
4:00	pm-	PHONE AND OFFICE TIME
5:00	pm	OVAL OFFICE
5:00	pm-	MEETING
5:05	pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Stephanie Streett
5:05	pm-	PHOTO OPPORTUNITY
5:10	pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Bruce Lindsey WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY
5:15	pm-	FOREIGN POLICY MEETING
6:15	pm	CABINET ROOM Staff Contact: Samuel Berger CLOSED PRESS
6:15	pm-	MILITARY DEPARTURE PHOTOGRAPHS
6:30	pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Timothy Milbrath Event Coordinator: Karin Kullman WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY

September 14, 1998 (7:20pm)

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

6:30	pm-	PHOTO OPPORTUNITY WITH BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB
6:40	pm	1998 YOUTHS OF THE YEAR
		OVAL OFFICE
		Staff Contact: Minyon Moore
		Event Coordinator: Karin Kullman
		WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY
6:45	pm-	BRIEFING AND DROP-BY MEETING WITH GENERAL ZHANG
6:55	pm	WANNIAN VICE CHAIRMAN, CHINESE CENTRAL MILITARY
		COMMISSION
		OFFICE OF SAMUEL BERGER
		Staff Contact: Samuel Berger
		OFFICIAL PHOTO ONLY
7:00	pm-	MEETING
7:50	pm	OVAL OFFICE
		Staff Contact: Maria Echaveste
8:00	pm	THE PRESIDENT departs The White House via motorcade en route National Democratic Club [drive time: 10 minutes]
8:10	pm	THE PRESIDENT arrives National Democratic Club
8:15	pm-	BILL BRISTOW FOR GOVERNOR MIX AND MINGLE
8:45	pm	SECOND FLOOR
		National Democratic Club
		Remarks: Laura Capps
		Staff Contact: Craig Smith
		Event Coordinator: Cecily Williams
		CLOSED PRESS
8:50	pm	THE PRESIDENT departs National Democratic Club via motorcade en route The White House [drive time: 10 minutes]
9:00	pm	THE PRESIDENT arrives The White House
TBD		PHONE TIME
		LOCATION TBD
		Staff Contact: Craig Smith
BC/HRC RON		THE WHITE HOUSE
		WASHINGTON, DC

September 14, 1998 (7:20pm)

A

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 14, 1998

DROP BY WITH THE NATIONAL FARMERS UNION

DATE: September 15, 1998
TIME: 12:45 - 1:15 PM
LOCATION: Room 450, OEOB
FROM: Minyon Moore
Barbara Woolley

I. PURPOSE

To thank a group that has been a strong supporter within the agriculture community and to discuss the agriculture economy.

II. BACKGROUND

You will be dropping by a White House briefing with 150 Members of the National Farmers Union who are in Washington, DC, for their annual "fly-in." The purpose of their visit is to meet with their Members of Congress and Administration officials to discuss issues affecting farmers, ranchers and rural Americans. They will also urge Congress to repair the safety net in the farm bill by removing the caps on marketing loan rates. NFU represents 290,000 farm families and rural groups throughout the United States. It has remained the strongest agricultural/rural supporter of this Administration since 1992.

Leland "Lee" Swenson was elected President of the NFU in 1988. Lee has been very active with the Administration and continues to be a friend to both Secretary Glickman and the White House. You appointed Lee to the President's 21st Century Agriculture Commission.

Last week, Lee Swenson and a small group of NFU leaders met with Gene Sperling to make their case for removing the cap for market loan rates. Gene expressed that the Administration had made a policy change to remove the cap on marketing loans for one year. This is their number one priority so they are very pleased with the Administration. Today, they will release a new poll that shows that 73% of farmers and ranchers say the 1996 Farm Bill should be changed. The poll also finds that 73% of farmers and ranchers think the cap on marketing loans should be removed.

NFU has consistently supported Administration policies since 1992. For example.

- NFU applauds the Administration for introducing the Clean Water Action Plan.
- NFU strongly supports the development of solar, geothermal, wind, hydrogen, methane, gasohol (at least 10 percent ethanol), ethanol, ethyl tertiary butyl ether (ETBE), biodiesel, compressed natural gas and other non-polluting renewable energy sources.
- NFU supported the President in his decision to veto the supplemental disaster assistance appropriation legislation.
- In 1996, the NFU supported the Food Quality Protection Act and brought several rural youths to Washington to take part in the bill signing ceremony with the President.
- In 1995, the NFU advised and stood with the President when he vetoed the budget.
- In April 1994, the NFU supported the President's action to stem the flow of Canadian wheat into the U.S..
- In 1993 and 1994, the NFU supported the President's health care reform initiative.
- In 1993, NFU worked closely with the Administration to quantify the flood damage in the Missouri River and Mississippi River valleys and helped the President initiate federal programs to manage the situation.

You met with the Executive Board in May 1994.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Pre Brief Participants:

Minyon Moore
Gene Sperling
Sally Katzen
Secretary Glickman
Barbara Woolley

Event Participants:

The President
Secretary Glickman
Lee Swenson, President, NFU

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- **YOU** will proceed to Hall way outside Room 450 where you will be met by Lee Swenson, National President, National Farmers Union, Dennis Weiss, President, South Dakota NFU, **Jim Miller, President, Arkansas NFU**, John Whitaker, President, Iowa NFU, Robert Carlson, President, North Dakota NFU, and Dave

Frederickson, President, Minnesota NFU.

- **YOU**, Secretary Glickman, and Lee Swenson will proceed into hold room. **YOU** will be announced onto the stage and proceed to chair.
- Secretary Glickman will introduce Lee Swenson.
- Lee Swenson will introduce **YOU** and present you with the National Farmers Union 1998 Golden Triangle Award.
- **YOU** make brief remarks and exit.

VI. REMARKS

Speech writers.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

Press Release on New Polling Data on Agriculture.



**NATIONAL
FARMERS
UNION**

**NEWS
RELEASE**

400 Virginia Avenue, S.W. • Suite 710 • Washington, D.C. 20024 • Phone (202) 554-1600

**For Immediate Release
September 14, 1998**

For more information--

Denver office: Marilyn Wentz
303-338-2535
Washington office: Erika Hovland
202-554-1600

NFU, National Farm Groups Call on Congress to Lift the Caps on Marketing Loan Rates

--New Study Shows 73 Percent of the Nation's Producers Support the Measure--

WASHINGTON--National Farmers Union (NFU) President Leland Swenson today joined several of the nation's farm leaders at a news conference to urge Congress to take swift action to stem the growing disaster in farm country.

To address the crisis, the group called for the adoption of legislation to uncap the marketing loan rates, which were frozen under the 1996 farm law at 1995 levels. NFU has been a leading advocate of the legislation because it would give farmers better protection from sharp drops in commodity prices and more flexibility to market crops.

The group also cited the results of a new study, conducted by Rockwood Research, a subsidiary of Farm Journal, Inc., which show a strong majority of the nation's producers--73 percent--support lifting the caps on the loan rates.

"This study confirms the overwhelming support in the countryside for removing the caps on loan rates," said NFU President Leland Swenson. "With many farmers facing stressful market conditions and commodity prices exceeding 20-year lows, Congress must give producers the tools they need to survive the low-price years. Uncapping the loan rates is the best way to do that."

The study also revealed the following:

- Nearly three-quarters of the respondents -- 73 percent -- do not feel the farm bill provides enough income to protect farmers during years of low commodity prices;
- Seventy-seven percent of the respondents feel that Congress should modify the current farm program. Only 18 percent are satisfied with the current farm bill;
- At today's low prices, only a third of wheat growers plan to be in farming in five years, and only 26 percent would encourage their children to farm; and
- A strong majority of the nation's farmers, 85 percent, indicate the U.S. should stop importing surplus grains into the U.S. market.

OVER

The release of the study comes on the heels of growing bipartisan support for the marketing loan cap legislation on Capitol Hill. Last week, Congressman Wes Watkins, a Republican from Oklahoma, introduced a bill to remove the caps on the loan rates. Senator Tom Daschle and Congressman Gephardt have also offered similar legislation.

Swenson was joined at the news conference by:

- John Hanson, President, Nebraska Farmers Union;
- Keith Dittich, President, American Corn Growers Association;
- Gene Paul, President, National Farmers Organization;
- Bill Christison, President, National Family Farm Coalition; and
- Betty Puckett, Board Member, National Catholic Rural Life Conference.

National Farmers Union is a general farm organization representing nearly 300,000 family farmers and ranchers nationwide. NFU serves its membership by assisting with education, by providing stimulus and know-how for farmer-owned cooperatives, and by presenting the organization's policies to lawmakers at the local, state and national levels.

-30-

NFU on the Internet: <http://www.nfu.org>

B

Draft 9/14/98 7:30pm

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS FOR NATIONAL FARMERS UNION MEETING
THE WHITE HOUSE
September 15, 1998

Acknowledgments: Sec. Glickman; National Farmer's Union President Lee Swenson; USDA Deputy Secretary Richard Rominger; Carl Whillock (Special Assistant to the President, USDA); I also want to acknowledge the NFU members who work for USDA: Mike Dunn, Larry Mitchell and John Stencil.

I want to thank all of you for this Golden Triangle award, and for your consistent support over the years. From working to expand health care, to making our nation's food supply safe, to balancing the budget for the first time since 1969, you have been with me every step of the way on the issues that matter most to America's families and our future.

We are living in a remarkable time of great prosperity and even greater promise for our future. Our economy is the strongest in a generation, with 16.7 million new jobs, family incomes rising, the lowest unemployment in nearly 30 years, the lowest inflation in more than 30 years, and the highest home ownership rate in history.

America's farmers have helped to build this new prosperity -- but too many of our farming communities are not reaping its benefits.

As many of you know, I come from a state that depends heavily on agriculture. I know that the farming life has never been easy. But the events of the past year have strained our nation's farming communities to the breaking point. Flood and drought and crop disease have wiped out entire harvests. Plummeting prices here at home and collapsing markets in Asia have threatened the livelihood of entire communities. Many farmers will see their net income this year drop by more than 40 percent below a five year average.

The results are plain to see and painful to watch: in community after community, foreclosures and farm auctions are the order of the day. As more farmers see their credit cut off, the situation may only be getting worse.

I believe that every American has a stake in the strength of rural America. Our farms do more than feed the world -- they also nourish the values that have kept our nation strong for over 220 years -- hard work, and faith, and family, devotion to community and to the land. We cannot afford to let them fail.

When I signed the Farm Bill in 1996, at a time when crop prices were strong, I made it clear that we had to do more to provide farmers with a safety net for hard times. Those hard times are upon us now -- and we must act.

In July, I announced the purchase of 80 million bushels of wheat worth \$250 million to help starving people around the world and to help our farmers here at home. I strongly supported Senators Conrad and Dorgan's proposal to provide farmers with \$500 million in additional emergency assistance. Just last month I was proud to sign into law new legislation to speed up farm program payments to help farmers in need.

But with crop and livestock prices still in danger of dropping, with foreign markets still in danger of collapse, we know we must do more to help farmers weather this time of crisis.

The first and most important thing we must do is help farmers in the greatest need -- those who have suffered significant losses of crops and livestock. I will shortly send to Congress a request for emergency assistance to do exactly that.

Next, we must reinforce the safety net for farmers. That is why I support Senators Harkin and Daschle's proposal to lift the cap on marketing loan rates for one year. This will guarantee farmers a higher price for their crops -- putting more cash in their pockets and improving their ability to get credit next spring.

Finally, we must revive the rural economy through exports. I know I don't have to tell you that farm products from one of every three acres planted in America are sold abroad. That is why we must continue to open new foreign markets and enforce our existing trade agreements. And that is why we must give the International Monetary Fund the resources it needs to strengthen and reform the Asian economies so that they will have the money to buy our farm products.

In my State of the Union address, I called on the Congress to do this -- and I have renewed my call many times since then. Nearly nine months later, they have not acted. American farmers cannot afford to wait; they need help now. So once again, I urge the Congress to pay our dues to the International Monetary Fund so that our people can sell their products abroad.

Those are the steps I believe we must take to keep America's farms growing strong.

President Franklin Roosevelt once said that American farmers "are the source from which the reservoirs of [our] nation's strength are constantly renewed." I look forward to working with Congress to building a stronger America for the 21st Century.

###

C

<u>First Name</u>	<u>MI</u>	<u>Last Name</u>
Ivan		Anderson
Tiffany		Anderson
Richard		Babb
Harold		Bateson
Andrew		Beltich
Susan		Beltich
Joel		Benson
Scott	M.	Bkubaugh
Robert		Borchard
Robert		Breckenridge
Larry		Breech
William		Brey
Blaine		Bruner
Kim		Bruner
Thomas		Buis
Kent		Bushman
Robert		Carlson
David		Carter
William	M.	Cassidy
Roland		Chicoine
Mike		Clemens
Vince nt		Colley
Linda		Cole
Larry		Coomer
Rebecca		Coomer
Roger		Crossgrove
Frank		Daniels
Delores		De Backer
Frank		De Backer
Terry		Detrick
Donald		Dickerson
Herbert		Dillman
John		Ditrich
Arthur		Douglas
Jan		Douglas
Antoinette	F.	Duarte
Annette		Dubas
Ron		Dubas
Frank		Faria

<u>First Name</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Last Name</u>
Denise		Fjerstad
Doug		Fjerstad
Billie	H.	Flora
Brian		Fogarty
Paula		Fogarty
David		Frederickson
Charles	R.	Freeman
Roger		Fridall
Teri		Fridall
Thomas	G.	Giesel
James		Graham
Lynn	R.	Hagan
John	K.	Hansen
Christina		Haugen
Jeffrey		Haugen
Kenneth		Haugen
Laurie	Jean	Haugen
Erland		Herfindahl
Grant		Herfindahl
Jerry		Hergenreder
Tricia		Hergenreder
Tanse		Hermann
Joe		Hertel
Linda	S.	Hessman
Clair		Holmgren
Linda		Holmgren
Richard		Holmgren
Sue		Holmgren
Dennis	V.	Howard
Douglas		Hunter
Vern		Jantzen
Douglas	J.	Johnson
Robert		Junk
Louis		Kehn
Janet		Kelley
Max		Kelley
Gerri		Kipley
John		Kipley
Linda		Kleinschmit
Josephine		Kutts
Phillip		Kutts

<u>First Name</u>	<u>MI</u>	<u>Last Name</u>
Larry		Krause
Brenda		Kuylen
Robert		Kuylen
Raleigh		Leesman
Richard		Leighton
Shirlee		Leighton
Mildred		Lochthowe
Linda		Lopes
Loren		Lopes
Nikki		Lovel
Richard		Lovel
Dianne		Ludwig
Donald		Ludwig
Blaine		Lundgren
Deborah		Lundgren
Scott		Magneson
Verner		Magnusson
Kenneth	L.	Maki
Daniel	T.	McGuire
Carl		McIvaln
Sharon		McNish
Rachel		Mehlhaf
Kathy		Mickel
James		Miller
Nancy		Miller
Roy		Miller
Virginia		Miller
Kenneth		Miner
Laurie		Munns
Tim		Munns
Charlie		Nash
Judith		Ness
Lorie		Nicholas
Richard		Nicholas
James		Nichols
Geraldine		Novak
Michael	L.	Oldham
Steve		Owen
Billy		Perrin
James		Perryman
Clark		Peters

<u>First Name</u>	<u>MI</u>	<u>Last Name</u>
Robert		Pore
Craig		Powell
Bart		Randall
Joe		Rankin
Brock		Reese
Bryan		Reese
D'on		Reese
Wayne		Reese
Shane		Reis
Ann		Reno
David		Retzlaff
Dawn		Retzlaff
Lura		Robison
Darla		Rogers
Dallas		Sams
Nathan		Sanderson
Richard		Schlusser
Ryan		Schlusser
Michelle	M.	Schumecher
Mark		Seeger
Rickey	A.	Shelby
Mark		Sitz
Curtis		Smedhammer
Phyllis		Smedhammer
Harlan		Smith
Louis		Smith
Robert		Speri Sr.
George		Stone
Maggie		Stratford
Ron		Stratford
Judy		Stratman
Michael		Stroschein
Richard		Stults
Robert		Sullivan
John		Sumption
Leland		Swenson
George		Terry
Margaret	J.	Terry
Victor		Thomka
Houston		Thompson
Gary	L.	Turner

<u>First Name</u>	<u>MI</u>	<u>Last Name</u>
Mark		Uckert
Cheryl		Vanco
Chris		Vanco
David		Velde
Edward	J.	Werth
James	B.	West
Gabriel		Whitaker
John		Whitaker
Dennis		Wiese
Raymond		Wulf
Maurice	F.	Wyatt, Jr.
James		Ziebarth
Jane		Ziebarth
James		Zumbrink

D

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
September 14, 1998

MEETING WITH
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF AND CINCS

DATE: September 15, 1998
LOCATION: National Defense University
TIME: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER 

I. PURPOSE

To meet with Secretary Cohen, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the senior operational commanders (CINCS) to discuss military readiness and other defense issues.

II. BACKGROUND

You last met with the CINCS on January 29th of this year at the same location. Then, as now, readiness was one of your key concerns. At that meeting, the Navy and Air Force Chiefs, as well as General Kross (the former CINC of U.S. Transportation Command) focused on how deployments, exercises and pilot retention affect current and future readiness. Much of the CINC discussion, however, focused on their key regional security concerns.

Since you last met with the CINCS and Service Chiefs, there have been four changes. General Richard **Myers** now heads Space Command, Admiral Richard **Mies** (pronounced MEESE) heads Strategic Command, General Charles **Robertson** heads Transportation Command, and Admiral Jim **Loy** has become the new Commandant of the Coast Guard.

The CINCS, who are generally the recipients of front-line deployable units, should be the last to feel the impact of any reduction in military readiness. Their observations of any decline should be given considerable weight. In fact, as stated in your recent letter to Senator Lott on military readiness, a key premise of the QDR was that, "we could design the force so that 'first-to-fight' forces would be maintained at high readiness levels..." That remains our goal, and readiness is Bill Cohen's number one priority.

At this meeting, readiness will be discussed from two perspectives:

- That of the Service Chiefs as the force providers responsible for recruiting, training and sustaining the readiness of our first-to-fight and follow-on forces; and
- That of the regional CINCs responsible for carrying out the shape and respond elements of our national military strategy, to include an extensive exercise program involving both forward-deployed and CONUS-based forces, long-term operational commitments in Bosnia and the Persian Gulf, protection missions as they occur, and readiness for two major theaters of war.

The general perspective on readiness has evolved since January from relative comfort to open concern, with obvious implications for tempo, commitments, QDR goals and the DOD budget. As Bill noted to you in his July 13th Special Defense Report, the Chiefs believe that "we have an increasingly serious readiness problem that will require significant resources to fix." In his latest report (Tab B) he notes that, "...frankly, we are on the edge of losing the readiness and vitality of this force, and I believe we must forcefully address these issues as we build [the FY2000] budget."

From what you already know and from what you will hear during this meeting, it is clear that the readiness of our forces is a matter of real concern. What we must do next is to clearly identify the scope of the problems, assess their impact on our national military strategy, and lay the foundation for the resolution of current and future readiness problems as they occur. Although no specific amount has been forwarded, Bill clearly believes that a part of the solution will be an increase in DOD's FY2000 topline. Though the issue will be raised at this meeting, it will certainly require more in-depth consideration within the broader budgetary context.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The President
 Erskine Bowles
 Samuel Berger
 James Steinberg
 Major General Donald Kerrick
 Leon Fuerth
 Robert Bell
 Robert Kyle

William Cohen, Secretary of Defense
 John Hamre, Deputy Secretary of Defense

General Hugh Shelton, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
 General Joseph Ralston, Vice Chairman of the JCS
 General Dennis Reimer, Chief of Staff of the Army
 General Charles Krulak, Commandant of the Marine Corps
 Admiral Jay Johnson, Chief of Naval Operations
 General Michael Ryan, Chief of Staff of the Air Force
 Admiral James Loy, Commandant of the Coast Guard

General John Tilelli, USA, U.S. Forces Korea
 Admiral Joseph Prueher, USN, Pacific Command
 General Wesley Clark, USA, European Command
 Admiral Harold Gehman, USN, Atlantic Command
 General Anthony Zinni, USMC, Central Command
 General Richard Myers, USAF, Space Command
 General Charles Wilhelm, USMC, Southern Command
 General Peter Schoomaker, USA, Special Operations Command
 Admiral Richard Mies, USN, Strategic Command
 General Charles Robertson, USAF, Transportation Command
 Admiral Charles Abbot, USN, Deputy CINC Europe
 Lieutenant General Mike Byron, USMC, U.S. NATO Military Rep
 Lieutenant General Robert Foglesong, Assistant to the
 Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

IV. PRESS PLAN

Pool spray at the top of meeting.

V. SEQUENCE

After your brief introductory remarks and photographs with the CINCs and Service Chiefs, General Shelton will open the meeting with a 20-minute readiness presentation that will lead into a free-flowing discussion of readiness-related concerns and issues with the individual CINCs and Service Chiefs. Due to the nature of readiness issues, the CINCs' comments will focus on our ability to execute the National Military Strategy, while the Service Chiefs and Chairman's comments will focus more directly on the ability to recruit, train and sustain a ready force for the future. Bill Cohen will wrap-up the session and coordinate any follow-up requests.

Attachments

Suggested Talking Points/Questions
 Secretary of Defense Readiness Report

E

THE OPENING REMARKS
FOR THE MILITARY READINESS CONFERENCE
WILL BE FORWARDED

F

SUMMARY POINTS FOR MEETING WITH
CINCS AND SERVICE CHIEFS

- Welcome General **Myers**, Admiral **Mies** (MEESE), General **Robertson** and Admiral **Loy**.
- High op temp year for military; know that makes it hard to tackle the various readiness problems.
- Pleased Congress approved \$1B FY98 readiness reprogramming. Determined to get \$1.9B for Bosnia in FY99 as emergency non-offset.
- Clearly more work to do. Be candid about the challenge.
- What risk is associated with our current force levels and readiness?
- What is impact on readiness of emergency and contingency ops?
- Know engagement is important and must train with allies. But is our exercise program an area where we can "bank" a few resources?
- Know that personnel benefit and retirement issues are hurting efforts to recruit/retain high-quality force.
- Need further discussion of FY 2000 budget challenges in the broader fiscal context. Keep me informed.
- My goal is to round the corner by the time we next meet.

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS/QUESTIONS

INTRODUCTION

- Appreciate you changing your travel plans so that I had the opportunity to sit down with all of you here in Washington specifically to discuss readiness.
- Welcome to the "new" CINCs and Service Chief, General **Myers**, Admiral **Mies** (MEESE), General **Robertson**, and Admiral **Loy**.
- Know that this has been a very high tempo year for all of you and that that has put a real stress on readiness.
 - Some of these operations were expected; for example, continued engagement in Bosnia, Southwest Asia, and Haiti.
 - We've had some unexpected deployments, too, like our build-up in the Persian Gulf last Spring, several NEOs and the Department's tremendous response to the terrible acts of terrorism in Nairobi and Dar Es Salaam.
- We are all working hard to address the various readiness problems.
 - Pleased Congress approved our \$1 billion readiness reprogramming request last month, as I urged them to do at the USS TRUMAN commissioning.
 - To help avoid readiness setbacks, we're determined to ensure the defense appropriations conference gives us the \$1.9 billion we need for Bosnia next year as emergency non-offset funding.
 - We clearly have more work to do.
- So, I want you to be candid with me, about the readiness challenge and want you to continue to keep me informed as we look for ways to keep the faith with our men and women in uniform. We need to make sure that they know we are hearing what they are saying.

QUESTIONS FOR SPECIFIC CINCS AND SERVICE CHIEFS

- General Tilelli, how do you assess the current level of risk associated with our current force levels and readiness in Korea?

- What can we do now to reduce the level of risk in our strategy?
- Admiral Prueher, I know you're concerned by the large number of Navy billets unfilled in the Pacific. How do you assess the shortfall and how does that affect your capability to carry out your mission?
- Admiral Gehman, how has this affected your command and your mission in the Atlantic?
- General Clark, what is the impact on readiness of unplanned emergency or contingency operations like our response to the terrorist incidents in Nairobi and Dar Es Salaam?
- General Zinni, we often hear our pilots grow bored "drilling holes in the sky" in their No-Fly Zone racetrack orbits over Iraq. Is there any way to get better training value out of these deployments?
- General Schoomaker, your Special Operations forces have been essential to our crisis response efforts in the wake of terrorist threats against Americans overseas--as well as the backbone of much of our engagement effort in many of the world's crisis-prone regions. Is there any area in which you feel the special operations resources have been spread too thin?
- General Robertson, how do you assess the current trade-off between dollars spent to improve near-term readiness and dollars spent on the future modernization needed to avoid long-term readiness problems?
- General Wilhelm, we all recognize the importance of engagement, and know that all the Chiefs and CINCs have strong interests in training with our allies and partners around the world. But is our exercise program one of the areas where we can "bank" a few resources now to ensure that they are available when we need them later?
- General Reimer, the Army Times has been pretty tough on the readiness reporting system -- have you found that the picture you're getting from formal readiness briefings in the Pentagon differs from what you're getting directly from your commanders in the field?

- To what extent are facility, infrastructure and quality of life issues affecting your overall readiness?
- General Krulak, what tradeoffs has the Marine Corps been forced to make to maintain its high readiness level and can those tradeoffs be sustained indefinitely?
- Admiral Johnson, I am aware of the budgetary challenge the Navy faces maintaining the fleet at the QDR-recommended level over the long term.
 - What impact does this have on near term and long term readiness?
 - I know that you have had a tough time with recruiting and have redoubled your efforts. Have you bottomed out or are there still some tough months ahead?
- General Ryan, can you give me an update on the pilot retention picture you presented to me in January? Have you been able to increase the bonus take-rates or find other ways to address the pilot shortages you've projected?
- Admiral Loy, can you sustain the high tempo of current Coast Guard operations?
- General Shelton, we've been emphasizing the homeland defense aspect of their contribution to our national defense.
 - What is the net effect of Reserve and Guard force participation in the CINC exercise program and our engagement efforts overseas, especially those that do not use deployed forces from rotational units already in the theater?
 - Has greater use of the Guard and Reserve had an impact on their readiness, recruiting and retention?
- Secretary Cohen, I know that we also need to find ways to get across the message that Congress needs to approve another two rounds of BRAC. Perhaps next year we can break through on this issue, and I appreciate your efforts to make this case with Congress, with the Rotary Clubs, and with our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and their families.

CLOSING COMMENTS

- Thank you all for your comments. Need to continue to find ways to get the word to our men and women in uniform that their leadership is engaged on these issues and that some of the problems we face are related to their perceptions of "better days" at the height of the Cold War and deficit spending.
- Know that there are some personnel benefit and retirement program issues that are also hurting your efforts to recruit and retain a high-quality force. I'd like you to continue to wrestle with that problem and suggest ways to make service in uniform more attractive to the talented men and women we need in your Services.
- Thank you again, General Shelton, for the detailed brief and for the opportunity to meet with you, the Chiefs and my CINCs.
- Regret that I didn't have more time to engage with each of you in more depth on your personal readiness challenges, but feel we've covered a lot of ground today.
- Secretary Cohen, please continue to keep me informed of your progress on these readiness challenges through your monthly special defense report.
- I will look forward to continued discussions on how you plan to address many of these issues in the context of your FY2000 budget proposal, but hope that we can identify specific measures that will bolster readiness in the coming fiscal year.
- My goal is that we'll be able to say that we've rounded the corner and are getting ahead of these issues when we meet again early next year.

G

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 14, 1998

FAREWELL PHOTOS WITH MEMBERS OF
THE WHITE HOUSE MILITARY OFFICE STAFF

DATE: Tuesday, September 15, 1998
LOCATION: Oval Office
TIME: 6:15 p.m.
FROM: Colonel Timothy O. Milbrath, USAF

T.O. Milbrath

I. PURPOSE

To thank members of the Military Office staff for their services while assigned to the White House.

II. BACKGROUND

These servicemen and women will either be departing for new assignments or retiring from active duty within the next few weeks.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The President
Colonel Timothy O. Milbrath, USAF
Major Duffy W. White, USMC Duty Military Aide
Departing Military Office personnel (see attached list)

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House Photographer and White House Communications Agency Camera Crew

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- Service members are held outside the Oval Office
- Each service member will introduce himself/herself to the POTUS who is positioned in front of the Resolute Desk, and a photo will be taken
- Service members will leave the Oval Office as the next member introduces himself/herself

VI. REMARKS

None Required

Attachment

PARTICIPANTS

DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL CONTINGENCY PROGRAMS FAMILY

Mr. Paul Jackson
Barara Jackson (Wife)
Mark Jackson (Son)

WHITE HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY (16)

Maj Linda Medler, USAF
CW3 Keith Hastedt, USA
SFC Stewart Frelke, USA
SFC Emory Bey, USA
MSgt Charles DeVaughn, USAF
SSG William Snyder, USA
SSG Brett Hickman, USA
SSgt Thomas Smith, USAF
SGT Travis Bakken, USA
SGT Simonita Lozano, USA
SGT David Hamilton, USA
ET2 Ronald Damisch, USN
Cpl Michael Ulrich, USMC
Cpl William Phillips, USMC
LCpl Joshua Young, USMC
LCpl Jesus Castro, USMC

- AIR FORCE ONE (4)

Maj Walter Safafin, USAF
MSgt Sabrina Kittrell, USAF
TSgt Tomas Perez, USAF
TSgt DeAnn Denzer, USAF

PRESIDENTIAL CONTINGENCY PROGRAMS (6)

CDR Fred Call, USCG
DPC Calvin Lloyd, USN
EMC Curtis Bueno, USN
SFC Michael Brodeur, USA
MSgt Robert Morris, USAF
EM1 Peter Downhour, USN

MARINE HELICOPTER SQUADRON ONE (20)

MSgt Ralph Stark, USMC
SSgt William Turkoski, USMC
SSgt Peter Blum, USMC
SSgt Johnny Gebaide, USMC
SSgt Michael Schlick, USMC
SSgt Kevin Burman, USMC
SSgt Mark Simmons, USMC
Sgt Scott Snaith, USMC
Sgt Timothy Kingerski, USMC
Sgt Justin Branson, USMC

Sgt Ruben Garibay, USMC
Sgt Robert Rood, USMC
Sgt Anthony Pontarelli, USMC
Sgt Michael Kalabsa, USMC
Sgt Thomas Miles, USMC
Sgt Stacy Buchanan, USMC
Sgt Orbit Hosey, USMC
Cpl Jason Difrietus, USMC
Cpl Zachary Howlett, USMC
Cpl Carl Larroca, USMC

CAMP DAVID (17)

CEC Timothy Bennett, USN
BUC Neil Lottmann, USN
CE1 Robert Dinger, USN
TSgt Gregory Davenport, USAF
Sgt Carl Rains, USMC
CE2 Thurmond Oliver, USN
SK2 David Gleason, USN
ABH2 Shawn Fletcher, USN
UT3 Travis Lee, USN
UT3 Daniel Nesmith, USN
EO3 Darin Aldrich, USN
Cpl Jeremy Gladney, USMC
Cpl Scott Dougherty, USMC
Cpl David Phillips, USMC
Cpl Michael Terns, USMC
Cpl Brent Fogle, USMC
LCpl Leonard Charla, USMC

WHITE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY (3)

SFC John Henderson, USA
SFC Sinclair Dennerly, USA
SFC Pedro Centeno, USA

WHITE HOUSE MESS (2)

MS1 Jose Ugarte, USN
MS1 Scott Brody, USN

WHITE HOUSE SOCIAL AIDES (6)

Capt William Burke, USAF
Maj Shirley McVicker, USAF
LT Pat Williams, USN
LT Pete Holden, USN
LT Matthew Travis, USN
LT Erich Telfer, USCG

TOTAL 75

H

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 14, 1998

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA - YOUTH OF THE YEAR 1998

DATE:	September 15, 1998
LOCATION:	Oval Office
TIME:	6:30 pm
FROM:	Minyon Moore Ilia Velez

I. **PURPOSE**

To welcome the Boys and Girls Clubs of America (B&GCA), Youth of the Year finalists for 1998.

II. **BACKGROUND**

For over 50 years the President of the United States has met with five finalists of the National Youth of the Year Program sponsored by the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. You have met with the National Youth of the Year every year since taking office. First organized in 1906, B&GCA is a national, non-profit youth organization providing support services to each of more than 1,500 B&GCA facilities nationwide. These facilities assist over 2.6 million young people in connecting with opportunities for personal growth and achievement. It is the only major nationwide youth agency with a primary mission of service to girls and boys from disadvantaged circumstances. Its goal is to serve 3 million youth by the year 2000.

On May 4, 1993, you accepted an invitation to serve as the Honorary Chairman of the B&GCA.

On January 16, 1997, Major League Baseball selected the B&GCA as its national charity, with the goal of reaching out to youth while promoting the growth of baseball and softball in inner cities. This partnership includes a \$1.5 million contribution by MLB over 5 years to underwrite the costs of establishing youth baseball and softball leagues.

The National Youth of the Year winner will be announced Wednesday, September 16, during their Congressional Breakfast.

This is the 52nd year that this organization comes to the White House.

III. PARTICIPANTS

See attached list.

Please note that there is one participant from Arkansas. The adult representatives include three CEO's.

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House Photo Only.

V. SEQUENCE

- o You greet the finalists as they enter the Oval Office.
- o Eugene Freedman will present you with the Annual Boys & Girls Clubs of America Figurine (Please see attached).
- o You take a group photo with the finalists only.
- o You take a photo with the entire group.
- o The participants depart.

VI. REMARKS

None Required.

**Finalist for the National Youth of the Year Award
September 15, 1998**

Finalists

1. Liberty Franklin-Johnson Everett, Washington 17 yrs. old

Liberty has been raised by a single parent, living in a public housing community riddled by crime and violence. Liberty has been the foundation of her home. With her help and support, Liberty's mother has been able to stay sober for the last two years. Liberty also works three part-time jobs at an average of 52 hours a week to contribute to the household expenses and to save money for a college education. Even with all this, she managed to maintain a 3.95 GPA, was a member of the National Honor Society, and is ranked 7th in her high school class of 247 students. She is the first member of her family to graduate from high school.

2. Thomas Dickey Omaha, Nebraska 17 yrs. old

Thomas has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club of Omaha since his mother tragically died of brain cancer 10 years ago. During this time with the Club, he has been named "Citizen of the Month" three-times, twice named "Youth of the Year" and once named the "Optimist Outstanding Youth". In school Thomas maintained an A average, was a member of the National Honor Society, and a member of the Student Advisory Committee.

3. Larry Lambert Claymont, Delaware 18 yrs. old

At the age of 11 Larry was faced with the death of his mother and later with the death of his brother. Larry has distinguished himself as an artist, winning four National Fine Arts Awards, presented to him at the Boys & Girls Clubs National Conference. Larry is also very active in his community. He has videotaped dances for the local senior citizen's group and produced a TV show, expressing the views and opinions of local teens. He maintained a 3.4 GPA and was a member of the National Honor Society the National Arts Honor Society, and the Yearbook staff in high school.

4. Arissa Madden Biloxi, Mississippi 18 yrs. old

Arissa has taken a leadership role in her club by tutoring younger members, making gift baskets for the needy, and volunteering at the March of Dimes, the Salvation Army, and Walk America. She is a member of the National Honor Society and is President of both the Student Body and the Future Leaders of America Club at Biloxi Senior High.

5. Thomas James**Fort Smith, Arkansas****16 yrs. old**

At the Club in Fort Smith, Thomas has become an award-winning photographer, placing 1st in the 1996 Boys & Girls Clubs of America Photography Contest. He has also been a member of the Volunteer Aid Program, Keystone Club, and a host of sports teams. He is a founding member of the Sebastian County Chapter of Young Democrats and is the Executive Committee Representative for the Vice President of Minority Affairs in the 3rd Congressional District. Thomas worked for Senator Dale Bumpers' re-election campaign and was the recipient of the Optimist Club and Martin Luther King, Jr. awards for public speaking. And even with all of this, he has maintained an A average and scored in the top 5% of his class on the National Math Exam. In school he is a member of the National Honor Society, the German Honor Society, and STAT (Students Taking Aim at Tomorrow). Furthermore, Thomas has lettered in the band for three years and won six 1st place awards in the instrumental solos and ensembles.

Adult Representatives

1. **Everett Goings - Chairman, Boys & Girls Clubs of America Board of Governors, *President, Tupperware Corporation, Orlando, FL***
2. **Arnold Burns - Member, Vice Chairman Boys & Girls Clubs of America Board of Governors, *New York City, NY***
3. **Ronald Gidwitz- Member, Boys & Girls Clubs of America Board of Governors, *President & CEO, Helene Curtis, Inc., Chicago, IL***
4. **Eugene Freedmand- Member, Boys & Girls Clubs of America Board of Governors, *CEO, Enesco Corporation, Itasca, IL***
5. **Roxanne Spillett - President, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Atlanta, GA**
6. **Robbie Callaway- Senior Vice President, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Rockville, MD**
7. **Lee Kerley - staff member - Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast**
8. **Jerry Glidewell - staff member- Boys & Girls Clubs of Fort Smith**
9. **Bill Tsoukalis - staff member - Boys & Girls Clubs of Everett, WA**
10. **Sean Harrington - staff member - Boys & Girls Club of Delaware**
11. **Susan Whitfield - staff member - Boys & Girls Clubs of Omaha, NE**

THE BRIEFING MEMO
FOR THE BILL BRISTOW FOR GOVERNOR MIX AND MINGLE
WILL BE FORWARDED

J

THE TALKING POINTS
FOR THE BILL BRISTOW FOR GOVERNOR MIX AND MINGLE
WILL BE FORWARDED

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

	State Visit of President Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic	Distributed Separately
9:30 AM	Arrival Ceremony	
	- Welcoming Remarks	Tab A
10:35 AM	Restricted Meeting	
11:15 AM	Expanded Meeting	
3:00 PM	Joint Press Conference	
	- Opening Statement	Tab B
	- Briefing Materials	See Separate Notebook
7:15 PM	State Dinner	
	- Toast	Tab C To Be Forwarded

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1998

Revised Final Schedule

SCHEDULING DIRECTOR:

STEPHANIE STREETT

HOME: 202-332-5651

OFFICE: 202-456-2823

WHCA PAGER: 4824

PRESS DESK:

DORI SALCIDO

HOME: 703-548-6466

OFFICE: 202-456-5771

WHCA PAGER: 4844

EVENT COORDINATOR:

LAURA SCHWARTZ

HOME: 202-331-4339

OFFICE: 202-456-5655

WHCA PAGER: 4293

EVENT COORDINATOR:

CLYDE WILLIAMS

HOME: 202-722-6581

OFFICE: 202-456-5330

WHCA PAGER: 4367

WEATHER:

WASHINGTON, DC

Partly to mostly cloudy with a chance for isolated thunderstorms and rain showers. Winds west at 6 to 12 knots, becoming north at 5 to 10 knots by evening. Low 65 to 70. High 83 to 88.

September 15, 1998 (8:00pm)

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

**Schedule of the President
for
Wednesday, September 16, 1998
*Revised Final Schedule***

- | | | |
|-------|-----|--|
| 8:30 | am- | MEETING |
| 8:45 | am | MAP ROOM |
| | | Staff Contact: Erskine Bowles |
| | | |
| 8:45 | am- | BRIEFING FOR THE CZECH REPUBLIC STATE VISIT |
| 9:15 | am | MAP ROOM |
| | | Staff Contact: Samuel Berger |
| | | |
| 9:15 | am- | BRIEFING FOR THE CZECH REPUBLIC STATE VISIT |
| 9:25 | am | MAP ROOM |
| | | Staff Contact: Capricia Marshall |
| | | |
| 9:25 | am | THE PRESIDENT and the First Lady proceed to the Diplomatic Reception Room |
| | | |
| 9:30 | am- | STATE ARRIVAL CEREMONY FOR PRESIDENT VACLAV |
| 10:15 | am | HAVEL OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC |
| | | SOUTH LAWN |
| | | Remarks: Tony Blinken |
| | | Staff Contact: Sandy Berger, Capricia Marshall |
| | | Event Coordinator: Laura Schwartz |
| | | POOL PRESS |
- **The President** and the First Lady are announced to "Ruffles and Flourishes" and "Hail to the Chief."
 - President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova arrive and are introduced to **the President** and the First Lady by Chief of Protocol Mary Mel French.
 - **The President** and the First Lady introduce President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova to the Vice President, Mrs. Gore, Secretary of State Madeline Albright, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Hugh Shelton, and Mrs. Shelton.
 - **The President** escorts President Vaclav Havel onto the reviewing stand.
 - *The National Anthem of the Czech Republic* is performed, accompanied by a twenty-one-gun-salute.
 - *The National Anthem of the United States* is performed.

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

- The Commander of Troops steps forward and the President escorts President Vaclav Havel from the reviewing stand (via front steps) to join the Commander of Troops.
- President Vaclav Havel, accompanied by the President and the Commander of Troops, review the troops.
- Following the review, the President escorts President Vaclav Havel to the reviewing stand to view the Musical Troop in Review.
- The Commander of Troops concludes the Honors.
- The President makes remarks.
Interpretation: Consecutive
- President Vaclav Havel makes remarks.
Interpretation: Consecutive
- Upon conclusion of remarks, the President and President Vaclav Havel face the troops as the Commander of Troops indicates the conclusion of the arrival ceremony.
- The President and the First Lady escort President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova to the Diplomatic Reception Room.
- The President and the First Lady escort President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova to the Blue Room to sign the Official Guest Book.
- The President, the First Lady, President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova form a receiving line in front of the Grand Staircase in the Grand Foyer and receive guests.

Note: The receiving line will flow from North to South.

10:30 am

THE PRESIDENT escorts President Vaclav Havel to the West Wing

Note: The First Lady will escort Mrs. Havlova to the Yellow Oval Room for coffee.

September 15, 1998 (8:01pm)

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

10:35 am-
11:15 am

**RESTRICTED MEETING WITH PRESIDENT VACLAV HAVEL
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Sandy Berger
Interpretation: Consecutive
STILLS ONLY**

- The meeting begins.
- Upon conclusion of the meeting, the President escorts President Vaclav Havel to the Roosevelt Room.

11:15 am-
11:55 am

**EXPANDED MEETING WITH PRESIDENT VACLAV HAVEL
CABINET ROOM
Staff Contact: Sandy Berger
Interpretation: Simultaneous
CLOSED PRESS**

- The President and President Vaclav Havel enter Cabinet Room and proceed to their seats at the table.
- The meeting begins.
- Upon conclusion of meeting, the President proceeds to Oval Office. President Vaclav Havel proceeds to Blair House.

12:00 pm-
12:05 pm

**MEETING
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Stephanie Streett**

12:15 pm-
2:45 pm

**BRIEFING FOR PRESS CONFERENCE
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Sandy Berger, Mike McCurry**

2:50 pm

THE PRESIDENT departs The White House via motorcade en route State Department
[drive time: 5 minutes]

2:55 pm

THE PRESIDENT arrives State Department

Greeter: Secretary Madeleine Albright

- Upon arrival, the President proceeds to holding area to rejoin President Havel.

September 15, 1998 (8:01pm)

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

3:00 pm- **JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE WITH PRESIDENT VACLAV HAVEL**
3:45 pm **OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**
DEAN ACHESON AUDITORIUM
State Department
Remarks: Tony Blinken
Staff Contact: Sandy Berger
Interpretation: Simultaneous
OPEN PRESS

- 3:00 pm -- Off-stage announcement of the President and President Vaclav Havel into Dean Acheson Auditorium.
- The President and President Vaclav Havel proceed to their positions behind their respective podiums.
- The President makes a statement.
- President Vaclav Havel makes a statement.
- Questions are taken from the press.
- Upon conclusion of the press conference, the President escorts President Vaclav Havel backstage and bids him farewell.

Note: The President will hold for five minutes to allow President Havel to depart first.

- The President departs.

3:55 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs the State Department via motorcade en route The White House
[drive time: 5 minutes]

4:00 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives The White House

4:00 pm- **PHONE AND OFFICE TIME**
5:40 pm **OVAL OFFICE**

5:40 pm- **MEETING**
6:30 pm **OVAL OFFICE**
Staff Contact: Maria Echaveste

6:30 pm- **DOWN TIME**
7:15 pm

Note: State Dinner guests are scheduled to arrive by 7:00 pm.

September 15, 1998 (8:01pm)

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

7:15 pm-
10:30 pm

**STATE DINNER FOR PRESIDENT VACLAV HAVEL
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

STATE FLOOR

Remarks: Tony Blinken

Staff Contact: Sandy Berger, Capricia Marshall

Event Coordinator: Laura Schwartz

POOL PRESS (Photos, receiving line, remarks, entertainment)

OPEN PRESS (Arrival)

Note: This is a black tie affair.

- **The President** and the First Lady depart the living quarters via elevator and proceed to the North Portico.
- 7:15 pm -- President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova arrive the North Portico and pause for a photograph with **the President** and the First Lady.
OPEN PRESS
- **The President**, the First Lady, President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova proceed to the Yellow Oval Room via elevator.
- 7:45 pm -- The Color Guard proceeds to the Yellow Oval Room, requests permission from **the President** to secure the Colors and proceeds down the Grand Staircase.
- 7:50 pm -- **The President**, the First Lady, President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova are announced to Honors as they proceed to Cross Hall.
- **The President**, the First Lady, President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova pose for an official photograph (at the base of the stairs).
EXPANDED POOL PRESS
- **The President**, the First Lady, President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova receive guests in Cross Hall.
EXPANDED POOL PRESS

Note: The receiving line will move from west to east.

- Upon the conclusion of the receiving line, **the President**, the First Lady, President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova proceed to the Blue Room for a brief hold.
- **The President**, the First Lady, President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova are announced into the East Room and proceed to their head table.

September 15, 1998 (8:01pm)

Wednesday, September 16, 1998

- | | | |
|----------|---|--|
| 8:45 pm | — | The President proceeds to the Eagle Lectern and makes remarks.
Interpretation: Consecutive
EXPANDED POOL PRESS |
| | — | President Vaclav Havel makes remarks.
Interpretation: Consecutive
EXPANDED POOL PRESS |
| 8:55 pm | — | Dinner is served. |
| 10:15 pm | — | Entertainment begins.
EXPANDED POOL PRESS |
| | — | Upon conclusion of entertainment, the President thanks performers and makes brief remarks. |
| | — | President Vaclav Havel has the option of making brief remarks. |
| | — | The President and the First Lady escort President Vaclav Havel and Mrs. Havlova to the North Portico and bid farewell. |
| | — | The President and the First Lady proceed to the dance floor for the first dance. |
| TBD | — | The President and the First Lady depart Grand Foyer for Private Residence. |

BC/HRC RON

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, DC

September 15, 1998 (8:01pm)

A

9/15/98 8:25 pm
Ted Widmer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS WELCOMING PRESIDENT VACLAV HAVEL
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
THE WHITE HOUSE
SEPTEMBER 16, 1998**

[acknowledgments: President Havel (HAH-vul), Mrs. Havlova (HAH-vloe-vah)]

President Havel, it is a joy to welcome you to the United States and to the White House. Your remarkable life holds a precious lesson – that people who love their country can act to shape it, even against tremendous odds. You have reminded us that words are powerful instruments of change ... and that words and deeds together can be the mainstays of freedom.

Ten years ago, the world was a very different place. Like half of Europe, Czechoslovakia lay shrouded beneath a failed ideology. Aspirations were suppressed. Debate was stilled. You yourself spent years in jail for expressing beliefs in liberty and human rights most of us take for granted. For articulating an elemental belief in freedom of speech, you were denied that same freedom.

Today, we celebrate the dramatic progress from that very different world, not so long ago. We celebrate your freedom and the aspirations of all people who insist on the right of self-determination. We celebrate ideas, not ideologies. From South Africa to South Korea to South America, societies are redefining themselves, removing barriers to the imagination, struggling to find a new balance in a new world, cultivating the limitless resources of their people. That is a universal phenomenon – neither American nor European – but it owes a great deal to the inspiration provided by a single man, Vaclav Havel [VAHTS-loff HA-vul], who for years spoke up when it mattered – often at great personal cost.

We are now poised to build the world of the new century. More people than ever before are free to pursue their own destinies. We are grateful for the unprecedented achievement of the century we are leaving. But we are also aware that far too much of the 20th century saw division and dislocation ... nowhere more so than in the heart of Europe.

In the last decade, Europeans have gone far toward repairing the damage wrought by a century of war ... rebuilding old relationships and unifying the hopes and dreams of people who were arbitrarily separated for too long. No person has done better work toward this end than President Havel.

Since assuming office, you have provided a voice of dazzling eloquence to the debate over the Europe's future and the future of our world. A voice of humility and also of great power. You have addressed issues small and large, regional and global, material and spiritual ... but universally human. You have articulated a politics of hope. You have reminded us that all

nations, small and large, form a community. You have spoken forcefully about our collective obligation to the future. For our children's sake, we must do all we can to preserve our world and our community – backing up words with real deeds.

Since 1989, the Czech people have taken enormous strides to build a better world. You have made concrete contributions to the search for peace in Kosovo and Bosnia, where your soldiers stand watch with ours. You have strengthened cooperation with your neighbors, and taken steps to heal past wounds with Germany and Russia. You are providing humanitarian assistance to Chernobyl victims in Ukraine and sharing with other states the lessons you have learned in building a vibrant, free market democracy. You have stood with the community of nations against military aggression in the gulf, sent peacekeepers to Africa and the former Soviet Union, and promoted efforts to control the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. And soon you will be members of the most successful alliance in history – NATO.

Many challenges remain, of course. Economic and political reform is a bumpy road. It does not happen overnight. But together, we are building a stronger foundation for peace and prosperity.

At the end of your historic speech to Congress in 1990, you remembered that the people who founded America were bold in word and in deed. Mr. President, there is not a leader on earth whose words and deeds have meant more than your own. They will live on forever in the hearts and minds of all people who care about human dignity and the power of the imagination to shape our world. On behalf of all Americans, I am honored to welcome you to the White House.

###

B

9/15/98 5:00 pm
David Halperin

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS AT JOINT PRESS APPEARANCE WITH PRESIDENT HAVEL
WASHINGTON, DC
SEPTEMBER 16, 1998**

Good afternoon. President Havel [HAH-vul] and members of the Czech delegation:

Back in June, here in Washington, I spoke of a remarkable trio of leaders. Each had been a courageous champion of freedom in his nation. Each had been imprisoned by authoritarian rulers. None of these brave heroes ever gave up, and now, after decades of struggle, each is the President of his nation, leading the way to a future of greater democracy, justice, opportunity, and peace. There is President Kim Dae Jung of South Korea, whom I was privileged to host in June. President Nelson Mandela of South Africa, who will be here next week. And President Vaclav [VAHTS-loff] Havel of the Czech Republic, with whom I am very proud to stand today.

In the 1968 Prague Spring, a celebrated young playwright boldly called for an end to one-party rule before Soviet tanks crushed the people's hopes. Vaclav Havel's plays were banned, he lost his job, but he carried on. He was there in 1977 to spearhead the Charter 77 human rights movement, and for his activism he faced more than a decade of harassment, interrogation and incarceration. Still, he carried on and, in 1989, he was at the forefront of the Velvet Revolution that at last brought freedom to the Czech and Slovak peoples. There was exhilaration around the world when he spoke as President on the first day of January, 1990, and declared to his countrymen, "People, your government has returned to you."

President Havel's triumph is shared with his fellow citizens. I was proud to be among them when I visited the magnificent city of Prague in 1994. Once, the Czech people's great energy and creativity and joy were penned in by a repressive system. Now, freedom has unleashed the people's potential.

While we celebrate freedom, we know many challenges lie ahead. President Havel recently put it so well: "Something is being born," he wrote, "One age is succeeding another.... We live in a world where everything is possible and almost nothing is certain."

Our meetings today focused on seizing today's possibilities, so that the future will be more secure and prosperous for everyone. I am delighted that Foreign Minister Kavan [KAH-vahn] and Defense Minister Vetchy [VET-kee], representatives of the new government headed by Prime Minister Zeman [ZAY-mahn], as well as Mr. Tosovsky [TOH-shov-skee], Governor of the Czech National Bank, were able to be here to participate in these discussions.

President Havel's dreams of Central Europe's integration into the community of free nations are being realized faster than most people could ever have imagined. Our nations have become true security partners, working to build a world with greater tolerance and respect for human rights, to build a Europe that is a united, democratic and at peace for the first time in history. We

discussed plans for next year's NATO summit here and the Czech Republic's preparations for integration into the Alliance.

Already, Czech troops are working side-by-side with our own in Bosnia, where we have just seen further heartening evidence that the Bosnian people are on the path to lasting peace -- a free election with strong turnout. We have stood together against Saddam Hussein. And Czech soldiers serve as peacekeepers and military observers in Macedonia, Georgia, Angola, Mozambique, Liberia.

Today, we spoke about the urgent need to bring stability to Kosovo and prevent suffering there. We spoke of the current tensions in Albania. And we discussed ways to strengthen our cooperation against the terrible scourge of terrorism.

We talked about my recent trip to Moscow, Russia's economic crisis, and measures to stabilize and contain the situation there. I underscored America's support for continued economic reforms in the Czech Republic, including greater openness for economic institutions, so their nation can continue to attract investment in the increasingly-competitive global economy. I expressed our strong support for the Czech Republic's accession to the European Union, and for fair treatment of American businesses that will be affected.

The progress our nations are making as friends is possible only because of the courage of Vaclav Havel and the Czech people, who are fulfilling their dreams and inspiring the world. We will continue the hard work together, so everyone can reap the full benefits of our hard-fought freedoms.

Thank you.

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C

**THE TOAST
FOR THE STATE DINNER
WILL BE FORWARDED**

Thursday, September 17, 1998

9:40 AM

Remarks to the International
Brotherhood of Electrical
Workers Legislative Convention

Tab A

- Remarks

Tab B

Thursday, September 17, 1998

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1998

Final Schedule

SCHEDULING DIRECTOR:

STEPHANIE STREETT

HOME: 202-332-5651

OFFICE: 202-456-2823

WHCA PAGER: 4824

PRESS DESK:

DORI SALCIDO

HOME: 703-548-6466

OFFICE: 202-456-5771

WHCA PAGER: 4844

TRIP COORDINATOR:

AVIVA STEINBERG

HOME: 202-362-1813

OFFICE: 202-456-2920

WHCA PAGER: 4022

ADVANCE LEAD:
(CINCINNATI)

DAVID NESLEN

STAFF OFFICE: 44-220

CELL PHONE: 202-457-9217

WHCA PAGER: 4101

ADVANCE LEAD:
(BOSTON)

CHERI STOCKHAM

STAFF OFFICE: 44-220

CELL PHONE: 202-395-2101

WHCA PAGER: 4143

WEATHER:

WASHINGTON, DC

Variably cloudy and cooler with a chance of afternoon and evening showers. Winds west to northwest at 6 to 12 knots. Low 67 to 72. High 81 to 86.

CINCINNATI, OHIO

Mostly cloudy and cooler with a chance for showers and thunderstorms. Winds northeast at 5 to 10 knots. Low 55 to 60. High 75 to 80.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Partly cloudy and cooler. Winds northeast at 6 to 12 knots. Low 50 to 55. High 68 to 73.

**Schedule of the President
for
Thursday, September 17, 1998
*Final Schedule***

9:00 am- **BRIEFING**
9:20 am **OVAL OFFICE**
Staff Contact: Bruce Reed, Karen Tramontano

9:25 am **THE PRESIDENT** departs The White House via motorcade en route
Hyatt Regency Hotel
[drive time: 10 minutes]

9:35 am **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Hyatt Regency Hotel

Greeters: Jack Barry, International President, International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers
Ed Hill, Secretary-Treasurer, International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers
Rick Diegel, Legislative Director, International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers

9:40 am- **REMARKS TO THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF**
10:40 am **ELECTRICAL WORKERS LEGISLATIVE CONVENTION**
REGENCY BALLROOM
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Remarks: Paul Glastris
Staff Contact: Bruce Reed, Karen Tramontano
Event Coordinator: Aviva Steinberg
OPEN PRESS

Note: There will be a pre-program.

Note: There will be 400 people in the audience.

- Off-stage announcement the President, accompanied by John Sweeney, Carol Hooper, and Jack Berry.
- Jack Berry, International President, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, makes brief welcoming remarks and introduces John Sweeney.
- John Sweeney, President, AFL-CIO, makes brief remarks and introduces Carol Hooper.
- Carol Hooper makes brief remarks and introduces the President.
- The President makes brief remarks, works a ropeline, and departs.

Thursday, September 17, 1998

10:45 am **THE PRESIDENT** departs Hyatt Regency Hotel via motorcade en route
The White House
[drive time: 10 minutes]

10:55 am **THE PRESIDENT** arrives The White House, West Executive Avenue

**Note: The President will proceed directly to the South Lawn for
departure.**

A

1055-5624

IBEW POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

I. PURPOSE

II. BACKGROUND

The venue selected for this event is the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union (IBEW) Political and Legislative Conference. The IBEW supports the HMO Bill of Rights but because it has its own health care fund, IBEW has raised concerns about the enforcement provision. This has not stalled labor's support for the bill's passage, however. Last Thursday the AFL-CIO launched a 1.5 million dollar media campaign in 13 states in support of Daschle/Kennedy.

You will announce that the Department of Health and Human Services has finalized a new regulation that brings the Medicaid program into compliance with the patients' bill of rights. This new proposed regulation will provide critical patient protections to over 20 million Medicaid beneficiaries, including children, people with disabilities, and older Americans. It is part of your ongoing efforts to institute the patients' bill of rights for all federal health plans.

Specifically, you will make the following announcements:

A NEW REGULATION TO BRING MEDICAID INTO COMPLIANCE WITH THE PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS. You will announce that HHS has finalized a new regulation that will give the over 20 million Medicaid beneficiaries in managed care plans

the patient protections they need and deserve. This new regulation will require managed care plans in all fifty states to provide needed patient protections to Medicaid beneficiaries including:

- Access to the specialists they need;
- Anti-gag rules to ensure that health professionals can discuss all medical treatment options with their patients;
- Access to providers for women's health services;
- Access to emergency room services when and where the need arises;
- Disclosure of clear, up-to-date information about benefits, plan operations, and protections; and
- A timely internal appeals process as well as an independent external appeals process to assure patients can address grievances with their health plans.

HIGHLIGHT THAT WE HAVE TAKEN EXECUTIVE ACTION TO APPLY THE PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS TO TENS OF MILLIONS OF AMERICANS IN FEDERAL HEALTH PLANS. The Medicaid regulation is part of your longstanding effort to bring Federal health plans into compliance with the patients' bill of rights. In June, the Department of Health and Human Services extended the patients' bill of rights to Medicare beneficiaries. The Department of Defense, the Department of Veteran Affairs, and the Office of Personnel Management have issued directives extending similar patient protections to servicemen and women, veterans, and federal employees. Taken together, these executive actions are extending protections to tens of millions of Americans.

UNDERSCORE NEED FOR STRONG LEGISLATION AND URGE THE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP TO STOP STALLING AND PASS A BILL THIS YEAR. While you have acted to ensure that Federal health plans implement the patients' bill of rights, Congress must act to ensure that private health plans give their patients the protections they need and deserve. Just yesterday, the Republican Leadership again refused to allow an up or down vote on the patients' bill of rights. This is an opportunity to urge the Republican Leadership to stop stalling and pass a strong enforceable patients' bill of rights this year.

REITERATE WHY THE ADMINISTRATION CANNOT SUPPORT THE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS. You should reiterate your serious concerns about the shortcomings of the current Republican Leadership bills which:

- **Let HMOs, not informed health professionals, define medical necessity.** The Republican Leadership proposals provide for an external appeals process, but make this process meaningless by allowing the HMOs themselves, rather than informed health professionals, to define what services are medically necessary. This loophole will make it very difficult for patients to prevail on appeals to get the treatment their doctors believe they need.
- **Fail to guarantee direct access to specialists.** The Republican Leadership proposals fail to ensure that patients with serious health problems have direct access to the specialists they

doctors they need to treat their conditions.

- **Reverse course on emergency room protections.** The Republican Leadership proposals back away from the emergency room protections that Congress implemented in a bipartisan manner for Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. The bills include a watered-down provisions that do not ensure coverage for any treatment beyond an initial screening. These provisions put patients at risk for the huge costs associated with critical emergency treatment.
- **Fail to protect patients from abrupt health care changes.** The Republican Leadership bills fail to assure continuity of care when an employer changes health plans. These deficiencies mean that pregnant women or individuals undergoing care for a chronic illness may have their care suddenly altered mid course, potentially causing severe adverse health consequences.
- **Allow financial incentives to threaten critical patient care.** The Republican Leadership proposals fail to prohibit secret financial incentives to providers. This omission would leave patients vulnerable to financial incentives that limit patient care.
- **Undermine existing medical privacy protections.** The House Republican Leadership bill would preempt some existing medical privacy protections guaranteed by state law, without putting protections in their place. As a result, the Republican bill would increase the number of individuals who can review and give out health records without a patient's knowledge or consent.
- **Fail to compensate patients who have suffered harm as a result of a wrongful health plan action.** The proposed per-day penalties in the Republican Leadership plans fail to hold health plans accountable when patients suffer serious harm or even death because of a health plan's wrongful action. For example, if a health plan improperly denies a lifesaving cancer treatment to a child, it will incur a penalty only for the number of days it takes to reverse its decision; the plan will not have to pay the family for all the damages they will suffer as the result of having a child with a now untreatable disease. And because the plan will not have to pay for all the harm it causes, it will have insufficient incentive to change its health care practices in the future.
- **Do not cover all health plans.** Both Republican Leadership bills leave millions of Americans unprotected. The Senate Republican proposal, for example, covers only self-insured plans, thus leaving out more than 100 million Americans, including millions of Americans in small businesses. These Americans are left to hope that states will provide them with the set of patient protections that the Republicans in Congress will not.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Pre-brief participants

Secretary Shalala
Secretary Herman
John Podesta
Bruce Reed or Elena Kagan
Chris Jennings
Karen Tramontano

Event participants

Senators Daschle, Kennedy, Harkin
Representatives Palone, Barry, McDermott, Filner
Secretaries Shalala and Herman
AFL-CIO President John Sweeney
IBEW President Jack Barry
IBEW Secretary Ed Hill
IBEW Member Carol Hooper

The audience will be approximately 400 members of IBEW's utility, communications and manufacturing divisions.

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open Press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- YOU will be accompanied to the stage by Jack Barry, John Sweeney and Carol Hooper with an off-stage announcement;
- President Barry will introduce John Sweeney;
- John Sweeney will introduce Carol Hooper, an IBEW member and Business Agent;
- Carol Hooper will introduce YOU;
- YOU will make remarks;
- YOU will work a ropeline and depart.

VI. REMARKS

Remarks provided by Speechwriting.

VII. ATTACHMENT

Patients Bill of Rights Chart
(note chart will be on stage)

*



Americans Deserve a Real Patients' Bill of Rights

Patient Protection

Gingrich/Lott Republican Plan

President Clinton/BiPartisan Proposal

Assuring HMO Accountants
Don't Make Arbitrary
Medical Decisions

NO

YES

Guaranteeing
Direct Access
to Specialists

NO

YES

Providing Real
Emergency
Room Protections

NO

YES

Keeping Your
Doctor Through
Critical Treatments

NO

YES

Protecting Patients
From Secret
Financial Incentives

NO

YES

Protecting
Medical Privacy
Laws*

NO

YES

Holding Health Plans
Accountable For
Harming Patients

NO

YES

Covering
All
Health Plans

NO

YES

* As Drafted in the House of Representatives

B

Final Draft 09/16/98
Paul Glastris

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE IBEW
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL
September 17, 1998**

Acknowledgments: John Sweeney; Bob Georgine, pres. Building and Trades; Jack Barry, pres. IBEW; Ed Hill, Secretary IBEW; Rick Diegel, Leg Dir IBEW; Carol Hooper, member of IBEW.

I'm delighted to be addressing the men and women of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, many of whose leaders and members I've known well since my Arkansas days. The last time a president spoke to the IBEW was 1958, and the president was Harry S Truman, so this is a privilege for me.

I want to thank you for fighting by our side for these six years. I want to tell you what as a nation we must do to seize this time of opportunity. And I want to tell about an action I'm taking to strengthen families by providing millions of Americans with the peace of mind that comes from knowing they will not be denied access to high quality health care. This is a good time for America. We now have the lowest unemployment rate in 28 years, with 16.7 million new jobs; the lowest crime rate in 25 years; the smallest percentage of people on welfare in 29 years; the lowest inflation in 32 years; and we're about to have the first balanced budget and surplus since Neil Armstrong walked on the moon.

Six years ago, when you helped Al Gore and me get elected, wages for working people had been stagnant for a generation. But in the past year, wages rose at twice the level of inflation. That, my friends, is real progress--the product of the energy of the American people and of an economic strategy that mirrors our values. Together, we boosted the minimum wage, and I believe we should do so again. Together, we doubled the tax credit for low-income working families. Together, we made college loans more affordable so that young and old can invest in their economic futures by learning new skills. And together we fought efforts to undercut workers' rights.

I remember last May out in California helping John Sweeney get the message out that it's wrong to pass a ballot initiative that silences the voice of workers in the political process. The voters wound up agreeing with us. And this week the Senate agreed with us that it's wrong to pass a salting bill that would erode the rights of workers to organize.

Yes, these are good times for this country, and good times for America's working families. But this is not a time to rest. If we do not act, and act decisively on America's challenges, this moment of opportunity will be remembered as time of missed opportunity.

We in this country have real work to do, on the real issues facing our people. We must

put progress before partisanship and get the job done.

First, above all else, we should press forward with the economic strategy that has helped bring our country such strong prosperity.

We should preserve our fiscal discipline. On the day I took office, we had a budget deficit of \$290 billion; now we have budget surpluses as far as the eye can see. I believe we should use this time of plenty to honor our duty to our parents and our children. We should set aside every penny of any surplus until we save Social Security first.

Now, as you may have heard, some on Capitol Hill have different ideas. In just a few minutes, the House Ways and Means Committee will begin marking up an \$85 billion tax cut that will drain the surplus before that money even shows up in the Treasury's account. I'm not against any and all tax cuts; in fact I proposed some targeted tax cuts in my own budget, paid for by cuts elsewhere in the budget. What I am against is baby boomers like me bankrupting our children so our children can't raise our grandchildren. So I say, put aside the surplus--every penny of it--until we save Social Security first.

And I promise you this: If Congress sends me a bill that squanders the surplus on tax cuts before we save Social Security, I will veto that bill.

To keep our prosperity going, we must also strengthen a global economy buffeted by change. That means, above all else, that Congress must act by meeting our obligations to the International Monetary Fund. Failure by Congress to act will put our prosperity at risk.

To keep our prosperity going we also must continue to invest in the education of our people. We must have smaller classes, more teachers, modernized schools, all classrooms hooked up to the Internet, and higher standards.

We need more from Congress. We need Congress to help strengthen our families by giving them the peace of mind that comes from access to high-quality health care. With your help, we've made real progress. In 1996, you fought for and I signed the Kennedy-Kassebaum law so that Americans can keep their health coverage when they change jobs or when someone in their family gets sick.

Last year I signed a balanced budget bill that helps make sure that up to 5 million uninsured children will get the medical coverage they need and deserve, the biggest increase in medical coverage since 1965.

And this year you've fought for -- and I am determined to sign -- a patients bill of rights for all Americans. 160 million Americans are in managed care plans, and these plans can save money and improve care. But I have met too many people who have had medical procedures delayed or denied not by their physician but by a health care bureaucracy.

I have spoken to too many doctors and nurses who are not able to give the kind of care they are trained to deliver. I have heard too many stories about parents rushing kids to the emergency room and worried whether their health plans will cover them.

Here's our bottom line: our health care system should value patients, not just the bottom line. Medical decisions should be made by informed medical doctors, not insurance company accountants.

I asked a bipartisan panel to develop a comprehensive set of rights for patients, and I thank Bob Georgine of the Building and Trades council of the AFL-CIO for serving on that commission. And this year, I have acted, within my power as President, to extend these rights.

Since February, we've extended the Patients bill of rights to tens of millions of Americans in federal health plans. That includes federal workers, service men and women, veterans, and Americans covered by Medicare.

Today, we are taking another executive action. I am pleased to announce the completion of new regulations that will extend our patients bill of rights to over 20 million Americans in Medicaid managed care programs. These include vulnerable children, people with disabilities, and pregnant women. With this action, we have extended the patients bill of rights to health plans serving tens of millions of Americans. That's the right thing to do.

Now, Congress must do its part. In the remaining few weeks of the legislative session Congress must pass a strong, enforceable, bipartisan patients bill of rights for Americans in all health plans.

This is truly an issue where we should be able to advance progress over partisanship. Our bill is genuinely bipartisan. In fact, outside Washington, Republicans and Democrats have worked together to pass many of these protections in many states.

For nine months my administration worked in good faith with lawmakers of both parties to pass strong legislation. But for nine months the leadership of the majority party in Congress refused to act.

In July, under pressure from the public, the House did pass something that they call a patients' bill of rights. It's a hollow measure that can only give patients and their families a false sense of security.

But at least they passed a bill. The Senate hasn't even bothered to vote on a similarly hollow measure. And yesterday they stopped business entirely for four hours just to stop Senators Daschle and Kennedy from bringing this important issue up for a vote. We need more Sen. Daschles and Sen. Kennedys willing to fight like that for the people's business.

The difference between our patients' bill of rights and the Republican leadership's versions couldn't be more stark, as this chart shows.

Our patients bill of rights says that managed care accountants can't make arbitrary medical decisions. Theirs' don't.

Our bill says that you ought to have a right to see a specialist if you have a medical condition which requires a specialist. Theirs' don't.

Our bill says that in an emergency you ought to have the right to go to the nearest emergency room, without worrying if your health plan will cover it. Theirs' don't.

Our bill says that if your employer changes health plans, you shouldn't be forced to change doctors if you're, say, six months pregnant or in the middle of chemotherapy treatment. Theirs' don't.

Our bill makes sure health plans don't give doctors secret incentives to limit care. Theirs' don't.

Our bill respects laws that protect the confidentiality of your medical records. Theirs' actually makes it easier for others to look at your medical records.

Our bill says you ought to be able to hold your health plan accountable if it causes harm. Theirs' don't.

Our bill covers all health plans. Their bill leaves out as many as 100 million Americans.

Their plan isn't a real bill of rights -- it's a bill of goods. And if they send me a health care bill that is more loophole than law, I will veto it.

I want to thank the AFL-CIO for the grassroots and media campaign they've launched to get the message out about the patients bill of rights.

I want to thank the IBEW, for helping us build our prosperity. And I want to thank everyone in this room for being involved in the political process. You and I know that what matters is whether, every day, we're doing the people's business on health care, on education, the economy, the environment. That's what we're trying to do. But to do it, we need each and every one of you to vote in November. We need your members to vote in November. We need the American people to vote in November. And if they do we will chose progress over partisanship, and strengthen our nation for the century ahead.

Thank you and God bless you.

Friday, September 18, 1998

2:00 PM	Meeting with President's Initiative on Race Board; and Event	Tab A
	- Remarks	Tab B
	- Q's and A's	Tab C
	- Thomas/Oh/Harris Letters	Tab D
	- Advisory Board Report Summary	Tab E
	- CEA Report Summary	Tab F
	- Board Member Bios	Tab G
4:10 PM	Briefing for UNGA Session/ NYU Conference	Distributed Separately
7:15 PM	Millennium Lecture Series Event; Photo Opportunity; and Reception	Tab H
	- Remarks	Tab I To Be Forwarded
	- Performer Bios	Tab J

Friday, September 18, 1998

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1998

Final Schedule

SCHEDULING DIRECTOR:

STEPHANIE STREETT

HOME: 202-332-5651

OFFICE: 202-456-2823

WHCA PAGER: 4824

PRESS DESK:

DORI SALCIDO

HOME: 703-548-6466

OFFICE: 202-456-5771

WHCA PAGER: 4844

EVENT COORDINATOR:

CLYDE WILLIAMS

HOME: 202-722-6581

OFFICE: 202-456-5330

WHCA PAGER: 4367

EVENT COORDINATOR:

LAURA SCHWARTZ

HOME: 202-331-4339

OFFICE: 202-456-5655

WHCA PAGER: 4293

WEATHER:

WASHINGTON, DC

Partly cloudy. Winds southwest at 5 to 10 knots.

Low 62 to 67. High 80 to 85.

Friday, September 18, 1998

**Schedule of the President
for
Friday, September 18, 1998
*Final Schedule***

DOWN UNTIL 12:30PM

12:30 pm-	MEETING
12:45 pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Erskine Bowles

12:45 pm-	BRIEFING
1:00 pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Samuel Berger

1:00 pm-	BRIEFING
1:15 pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Samuel Berger

1:20 pm-	MEETING
1:25 pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Stephanie Streett

1:30 pm-	BRIEFING
2:00 pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Minyon Moore

2:00 pm-	MEETING WITH PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE ON RACE BOARD
2:45 pm	OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Minyon Moore Event Coordinator: Cecily Williams PRESS TBD

2:50 pm	THE PRESIDENT proceeds to Old Executive Office Building, Room 450
---------	--

Greeter: Ms. Rosa Parks

Note: Ms. Rosa Parks will be met in the holding room.

September 17, 1998 (7:15pm)

Friday, September 18, 1998

2:55 pm-
3:55 pm

PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE ON RACE BOARD EVENT

ROOM 450

Old Executive Office Building

Remarks: June Shih

Staff Contact: Minyon Moore

Event Coordinator: Clyde Williams

OPEN PRESS

- **The President**, accompanied by Judith Winston, Executive Director, The President's Initiative on Race and the President's Initiative on Race Board members, is announced onto stage.
- Dr. John Hope Franklin, Chairman, President's Initiative on Race Board, makes brief welcoming remarks and introduces **the President**.
- **The President** makes remarks and departs.

4:00 pm

THE PRESIDENT proceeds to the Oval Office

4:10 pm-
5:10 pm

BRIEFING FOR UNGA SESSION/NYU CONFERENCE

OVAL OFFICE OR CABINET ROOM

Staff Contact: Samuel Berger, Sidney Blumenthal

5:10 pm-
7:00 pm

PHONE AND OFFICE TIME

OVAL OFFICE

7:00 pm-
7:15 pm

BRIEFING

RED ROOM

Staff Contact: Capricia Marshall, Ellen Lovell

7:15 pm-
7:25 pm

MEET AND GREET WITH PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

BLUE ROOM

Staff Contact: Capricia Marshall, Ellen Lovell

Event Coordinator: Laura Schwartz

CLOSED PRESS

September 17, 1998 (7:15pm)

Friday, September 18, 1998

7:30 pm-
9:00 pm

MILLENNIUM LECTURE SERIES

EAST ROOM

Remarks: Jeff Shesol

Staff Contact: Capricia Marshall, Ellen Lovell

Event Coordinator: Laura Schwartz

POOL PRESS

-- The President and First Lady are announced into the East Room.

-- The First Lady makes remarks and introduces **the President**.

-- **The President** makes remarks and introduces performers.

-- Program begins.

-- Upon conclusion of the program, the President invites guests to proceed to the State Dining Room for a reception.

9:00pm -- **The President** and the First Lady remain on stage for a photograph with performers.

WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY

-- The President and First Lady, accompanied by President Havel and Mrs. Havlova, proceed to the Blue Room for a brief meet & greet.

9:10pm -- The President and First Lady have the option to mingle with the guests in the State Dining Room or depart.

BC/HRC RON

**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, DC**

September 17, 1998 (7:15pm)

A

**The Advisory Board to the President's Initiative on Race
Culminating Event with President Clinton**

Date: Friday, September 18, 1998

Location: Oval Office Meeting with the Advisory Board and
Event in OEOB, Room 450

Time 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

I. PURPOSE

To hold your final meeting with your Advisory Board on Race to thank them for their work over the last 15 months. The Advisory Board will discuss their report with you, share their experiences about what they have observed and learned over these 15 months, and recommend next steps that the nation can take towards racial reconciliation and institutionalizing the efforts toward building One America.

Following the Oval Office meeting, you and members of the Advisory Board will proceed to the OEOB, Room 450 where you will join 100 to 150 leaders from various sectors -- education, business, youth, government, religious-- representing diverse backgrounds and views who have supported positive race relations. The audience will also include leaders who have implemented promising practices that are making a real difference in improving race relations in their local communities.

In addition to the Board's report, you will release a fact book on race issues entitled, *Changing America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being by Race and Hispanic Origin*. This fact book was put together by your Council of Economic Advisers and the Federal statistical agencies in response to Race Initiative and Advisory Board recommendations.

We hope you will take away from the discussion a number of specific ideas on how to continue the work that has been done this year to improve race relations and eliminate racial disparities and discrimination.

II. BACKGROUND

Over the past year, Advisory Board members served as your "eyes and ears" on the issue of race, participating in nearly 300 meetings and reaching out to thousands of individuals from religious, civic, American Indian, youth, corporate and education communities. Throughout the year, they traveled around the country, listened to stories of thousands of

people, and formulated ideas about how to improve racial disparities and discrimination. More specifically, the board's efforts reached:

- 30,000 young people in 48 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia (10,000 through a Call to Action letter from the President);
- more than 1,000 corporate and religious leaders (through corporate and religious forums);
- 600 American Indian tribal leaders and tribal members;
- individuals participating in more than 300 promising practices -- community efforts across the country geared to bridging racial divides; and
- approximately 17,000 people in 39 states and 89 cities nationwide who participated in One America Conversations with board members, senior White House officials, Cabinet Secretaries or senior members of the Administration.

This is the Advisory Board's final opportunity to meet with you and your opportunity to thank them for the challenging year they have experienced in addressing these complex and often painful problems.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Oval Office Meeting with Advisory Board

(Individual bios follow)

You

Advisory Board Members:

Chairman John Hope Franklin

Ms. Linda Chavez-Thompson

Rev. Dr. Suzan Johnson Cook

Governor Thomas Kean

Ms. Angela Oh

Mr. Robert Thomas

Governor William Winter

Judith Winston, Executive Director

Laura Harris, Consultant to the Advisory Board

Chris Edley, Consultant to the Advisory Board

Maria Echaveste, Deputy Chief of Staff

Minyon Moore, Director of Public Liaison

Event in Room 450

Ms. Rosa Parks will greet you in the holding room.

This event will include 100-150 invited leaders from various sectors -- education, business, youth, government, religious-- representing diverse backgrounds and viewpoints who have supported positive race relations. Guests include, for example, Sandy Cloud (National Conference of Community and Justice,) John Echohawk

(Native American Rights Fund,) and representatives from the Urban League, the Japanese American Citizens League and others.

IV. FORMAT

Oval Office Meeting with the Advisory Board (2:00 - 2:45 p.m.)

Chairman Franklin would like to open the meeting by sharing his personal experiences about what he has learned and then present the report and its recommendations to you.

Each Board member will follow by sharing their experiences and connecting their experiences to recommendations in their report. Comments by the Board members will, in general, address the following issues:

Linda Chavez-Thompson will share her insights about economic opportunity.

Suzan Johnson Cook will focus on her role in reaching out to the faith community and provide examples about the ways in which the faith community is making a difference in bridging the gap.

Governor Kean will focus his conversation on education and in particular the importance of providing children with environment that supports teaching and learning and related promising practices.

Angela Oh will talk about promising practices and her vision of the White House producing a monograph, or set of volumes, containing work from a wide range of disciplines and building on social science research to invite a deeper examination of race relations. Ms. Oh sent you a letter where she discussed her idea of a White House Monograph on race. See attachment for letter from Ms. Oh.

Bob Thomas will talk about his experiences engaging the corporate sector in the dialogue on race and leadership outreach generally. Mr. Thomas sent you a personal letter in which he thanked you for the opportunity to serve on the Advisory Board and made recommendations based on his experience. He recommended a high profile, national education initiative, a report card and Presidential awards ceremony to motivate business leaders to support race efforts, and a continued focus on race rather than "need" as a proxy for race. See attachment for letter from Mr. Thomas.

Governor Winter will discuss the importance of dialogue and a public education campaign about race issues, and he will discuss the idea of a Council for One America which would help institutionalize the efforts of the Administration.

Laura Harris, senior consultant to the Advisory Board, will talk about Native American issues. Ms. Harris sent a letter to Judith Winston where she described the general lack of understanding among Americans about tribal sovereignty and the requisite need for education about Native Americans. See attachment for letter from Ms. Harris to Judith Winston.

At the conclusion of this discussion, you and the Board members will proceed to Room 450 of the OEOB.

Event in Room 450 (3:00 - 4:00 p.m.)

- At 3:00 p.m., you and the Board will be seated in Room 450 of the OEOB. You will sit with the Advisory Board members and Judith Winston on stage.
- At 3:05 p.m., Chairman Franklin will introduce himself and other Advisory Board members to the audience, give a very short summary of the key elements of the report, thank you for your support, hand you a copy of the report (pause for short photo op,) and introduce you.
- At 3:15 p.m., you will acknowledge the transmission of the Board report, thank the Board members publicly and make your remarks.
- Janet Yellen and Rebecca Blank of the CEA will be seated in the front row and should be acknowledged for their leadership on the fact book.
- You will conclude the meeting at approximately 3:55 p.m. and greet attendees if time permits.

V. PRESS

Oval Office Meeting: TBD

Event in Room 450: OPEN PRESS

B

Draft 9/17/98
June Shih

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY BOARD ON RACE
THE WHITE HOUSE
SEPTEMBER 18, 1998**

John Hope Franklin said recently, "The task of trying to reshape our society to bring about a climate of racial healing is so enormous, it strains the imagination." Let me begin by thanking Dr. Franklin, Judy Winston and each member of my advisory board for stretching their imaginations, for finding the energy to take on the tremendous task of building One America.

We all knew we wouldn't be able to solve the oldest and most painful challenge in the history of America in just a year's time. But I thank the Board for helping us take important steps forward, for engaging Americans in open dialogue about the issues that continue to divide our people. From nearby Fairfax County, where immigrant children from more than 150 nations learn side-by-side, to Silicon Valley, where so many of the opportunities of the new millennium are being created, you have helped map the course we must take toward One America.

For more than two centuries, America has been defined by our struggle to live up to our most cherished ideals of freedom and equality. Yet, with such clear and radiant ideals, why has this struggle been so difficult for our people? Just look at the history of the world. Much of that history can be seen as a struggle against a simple but sinful human tendency to fear, to hate and discriminate against those who are different -- people of different races, tribes or religions. The Catholics and the Protestants in Northern Ireland...the Hutus and Tutsis in Rwanda...the Arabs and the Jews in the Middle East. In America, progress has only come when we made a conscious effort to overcome this all-too-human tendency -- when we have sought not to dwell on our differences but to focus on our shared values and common humanity.

Today, on the eve of a new millennium, I believe that America is more just and more free than it has ever been. But too often, racial progress has only come on the heels of a great national emergency, when we have faced turmoil in our streets or a common enemy abroad. I believe now, at a time of unprecedented peace and prosperity, when our country is becoming increasingly diverse, now is the time to confront the still unfinished business of race in our hearts and in our society. That is why the work of this board has been so important.

Race is an issue with as many nuances as there are people in this country, and everyone has a deeply-felt opinion. But I believe there is some important common ground we must stake out. We all believe that everyone deserves a fair and equal shot to live in peace and safety, to get a world class education, to get a decent job, to make the most of our talents and build better lives for our children. The problem is, these basic opportunities still do not reach into every corner of every community in America. Gaps in opportunities for education, jobs, credit, health care, housing still exist between the races.

We must work to bridge these opportunity gaps, to build an America where the legacy of discrimination will only be found in our history books, not in our living patterns, our unemployment statistics or our politics. An America where we can celebrate being part of one rich and diverse community even as we cherish our own distinctive racial or ethnic or religious identities. How do we get there?

First, we must keep this conversation going. A very real gap in perceptions still exists between our people. Some believe that race is no longer an issue; that racism only occurs in outrageous and isolated incidents -- in Jasper, Texas, for instance. Others believe that it is still the only issue; that it is subtle and pervasive, that every time a police officer pulls over a black man in an affluent neighborhood, or a bright Hispanic child is mistakenly shunted into a remedial class, it is racism. We should not underestimate the power of dialogue -- of honest talk and careful listening -- to bring us together. And I have asked the faith community to take the lead in keeping our conversation alive. I am proud to announce that The National Conference of Community and Justice -- led by Sandy Cloud, who is here today, will soon convene a group of religious leaders to find ways they can foster racial reconciliation.

Second, we must have the facts about race in America. While we all have strong opinions on the subject, very few have the facts to back them up. That is why I am proud that the Council of Economic Advisers, under the leadership of Janet Yellen and Rebecca Blank, has produced a book -- *Changing America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being by Race and Hispanic Origin* -- that will help us understand how far we have come and how far we still need to go in our efforts to extend opportunity to all communities.

Finally, we must act. My administration has put forward a comprehensive agenda to expand opportunity for all Americans in education, health care, housing, crime, credit and civil rights enforcement.

I believe strengthening education -- the most powerful key to the American Dream -- must be central to our efforts. Here are the goals we must set for the nation: Raise accountability and standards for all children; eliminate the gaps in resources and achievement between the races; give all our children the opportunity to attend schools where the diversity of their classmates will prepare them to live and succeed in the diverse America of the 21st Century.

We know that too many schools -- especially those attended by poor minorities -- are not as good as they should be. Students are caught in a web of low expectations, low standards, poor teaching, and crowded classrooms -- conditions that would make it very difficult for even the hardiest of children to bloom. The budget I have sent to Congress proposes new Education Opportunity Zones to reward poor school districts that follow Chicago's lead and introduce sweeping reforms -- closing down failing schools, promoting public school choice, removing bad teachers, eliminating social promotions, and making sure children get the extra help they need to succeed. And I am committed to providing 35,000 new scholarships to teachers who agree to teach in our neediest public schools.

If America is going to succeed in the 21st century, we must recognize that every child can learn, that every child deserves a world class education. That is why I am very disappointed that the House of Representatives missed an important opportunity today to move our nation toward this goal. The House rejected a proposal -- sponsored by Rep. Clay -- to reduce class size in grades 1-3 to an average of 18. Instead, they passed a block grant proposal which eliminates accountability and rejects our national responsibility for helping communities raise standards, improve teaching, and bring the benefits of technology to our students. If this misguided legislation reaches my desk, I will veto it.

The work of this advisory board is over, but the mission of building One America, of lifting the heavy burden of race from our children's future, must continue. I look forward to studying your report and considering all of your recommendations.

It's not often that I get to welcome two great heroes of freedom to the White House in the same week. As you know, I met with Vaclav Havel the other day. And today, I was greeted before I came in by the mother of our civil rights movement -- Rosa Parks. It has been more than 40 years since Rosa Parks took her seat on that bus in Montgomery and set America on the long journey toward freedom, justice and racial reconciliation. Through these years, even at our darkest moments, Mother Parks has never stopped leading or prodding us toward that more perfect union she knows America can be. Let her abiding faith and courage be our inspiration for the journey that still lies ahead.

C

PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE ON RACE: Culminating Event Qs & As

1Q: What was accomplished this last year by the Race Initiative? What is in the Advisory Board's report?

1A: Since the Initiative started, we have developed and implemented national policies that can make a difference in closing the gap in economic opportunity, education, health care, housing, crime and the administration of justice. We have recruited leaders and encouraged community efforts working to bridge racial divides across the country. We have raised the issue of race on the national agenda.

Board members have been an integral part of this effort, which is why I want to take an opportunity to thank them for their invaluable contributions.

The report the Board presented to me will be an account of the Board's experiences and observations -- a reflection on their year's work. Remember, as individuals and as teams, board members met with thousands of people across the country. In its formal meetings, the Board explored the impact of race and racial disparities in several key areas -- education, employment, poverty, stereotyping, housing, the administration of justice, health care and immigration. The report summarizes key facts and background information that emerged from each of those meetings and the resulting recommendations to me.

The report also makes specific recommendations on how we might proceed in the quest for building one America in the 21st century and in the effort to continue the work of the Initiative on Race, including:

- a public education campaign to help keep the nation informed on the facts of race in America, to pay tribute to our differing racial and ethnic heritages and to emphasize the common values we all share;
- a call to action from the President to leaders in state and local government and the private sector to work together to bridge racial divides in their communities;
- a plan to involve young people in efforts to promote racial reconciliation; and
- a President's Council for One America to coordinate and monitor the implementation of policies designed to increase opportunity and eliminate racial disparities.

2Q: How would you rate the success of the Initiative? Were all the goals met?

2A: I think that we have made a very positive beginning. This is a very complex issue, and we never said we would solve the race problem in this country in one year. What the Initiative has tried to do is help Americans understand that diversity is one of our nation's greatest strengths. They also tried to energize people to make racial reconciliation a priority in their communities and to assess where we are as a nation.

3Q: Initially it was said that the Advisory Board would not produce a final report. Why is there a final report suddenly and when was the decision made to publish the report?

3A: The Advisory Board has been corresponding with me regularly throughout the past 15 months. After each of its formal meetings, the Board has sent letters to me outlining what was learned at these sessions and specific recommendations to eliminate racial disparities. I have responded to some of those letters.

It has always been the intention of the Advisory Board to provide me with its final observations and recommendations following the work accomplished during the Initiative year.

It is important to keep in mind that this report is not a definitive analysis of the state of race relations in America today. Rather, it is an account on the Advisory Board's experiences and impressions and contains recommendations on how this nation might proceed in the effort to build one America in the 21st century.

4Q: What message does the report convey?

4A: The report outlines the impact of this nation's changing demographics now and into the future. The primary theme of the report is: As we approach the 21st century, America's future rests, in part, on its ability to acknowledge its future as a multi-racial and multi-cultural democracy. As the symbol of opportunity and freedom, America must strive to give meaning to the fundamental principles of democracy --- justice, opportunity, equality and inclusion -- by embracing the racial diversity of its citizens as a strength.

The report also outlines concrete recommendations on how to continue the work begun by the Initiative to bridge racial divides. The report also makes recommendations for what every American can do to help build our vision for a more just and more unified America.

5Q: What impact will this report have on your report to the American people?

5A: The Advisory Boards report will serve as a resource as I prepare my report to the

American people. My report will outline a work plan for the nation that is designed to eliminate racial disparities and close the opportunity gaps in education, economic development, health and criminal justice.

6Q: What are some of the Advisory Board's recommendations to the nation about race in America?

6A: The Advisory Board report provides a series of recommendations on issues ranging from education to the administration of justice, racial stereotypes to a mechanism for continuing this effort. Below are examples of recommendations in each area considered:

- (Education) Develop education pipeline programs that draw upon tutoring, mentorship and other strategies designed to increase the opportunity for minority students to achieve academic excellence.
- (Economic) Improve racial data collection and commission a study to examine the persistent problem of income inequality.
- (Housing) Use testing to develop evidence of continuing discrimination and highlight housing integration efforts.
- (Crime) Reduce or eliminate drug sentencing disparities and consider restricting the use of racial profiling.
- (Health) Enhance financial and regulatory mechanisms to promote culturally competent health care and continue advocating for broad-based expansions in health insurance coverage.
- (Immigration) Support immigrant-inclusion initiatives and advocate for anti-discrimination measures that are strongly enforced on behalf of every racial and ethnic minority group.
- (Stereotypes) Institutionalize the Administration's promotion of racial dialogue and convene a high-level meeting on the problems of racial stereotypes with leaders from the media.

The **final recommendations** in the Advisory Board Report are to create *The President Council's for One America* to coordinate and monitor the implementation of policies designed to increase opportunity and eliminate racial disparity, to develop a public education campaign to educate the nation about race in America and promote a better understanding of racial diversity, and to continue to encourage leadership at all levels in advancing the commitment to better race relations in our nation.

7Q: What is the purpose of the Council of Economic Advisors Indicators of Well-Being book, and how should it be used?

7A: The "Indicators of Social and Economic Well-being by Race and Hispanic Origin" book was compiled by the Council of Economic Advisors with the help of six federal statistical agencies. The purpose of this fact book is provide a clear source for the most current and crucial data on racial disparities in seven key areas: Population, education, labor markets, economic status, health, crime and criminal justice, and neighborhoods and housing. These facts will help us identify further actions necessary to improve the quality of life for disadvantaged Americans in the 21st century.

8Q: When will your final report be published and what can we expect the report to say?

8A: We expect the report to the American people to be released late this winter or early spring and to offer a plan of action for how the country might move forward to bridge racial divides and become one America in the century ahead.

D



ONE AMERICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The President's Initiative on Race

August 21, 1998

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on your Advisory Board for "One America in the 21st Century"!

I have shared comments and opinions over a broad number of subject areas with the Advisory Board, the Initiative Director and staff and the White House staff, which will all be incorporated into one final report to you. In this, my personal report to you, however, I will be brief and focus only on a few areas where my view may be unique.

The Beginning

Many high profile politicians speak of the drive and allure of being "called by their nation" to serve. The same feeling is often felt by those of us who serve or have served in the military. Perhaps because of my Midwestern upbringing and my military schooling (USAF Academy) and service, I always aspired to continue to "serve my country" in some way. Additionally, my respect for and sense of duty for the Presidency of the United States is absolute.

So you can imagine my surprise and the burst of pride when Bob Nash from your staff called to advise me of this appointment. While catching me completely unaware, his call answered my latent but passionate desire to be of some continuing service.

Upon learning of this appointment and its related subject matter, some friends and associates couldn't relate to it; some were excited and very optimistic; and some even cautioned me against it, saying that the personal cost and exposure wouldn't be worth it! While the last observation was ultimately true to a certain extent, I went into this with my eyes wide open. I could not and cannot conceive of an American who could receive such an invitation and challenge from the President of the United States and not accept.

ROBERT J. THOMAS
Advisory Board Member

My personal feelings are of profound appreciation for the opportunity, Mr. President, and of a wish that I could have done more.

The Cause

Several years ago, as I rose to higher levels of corporate life in America, I began to assess my responsibility to those who were employed by our company, those who were not employed at all, and those in either category who felt discriminated against (based on race or gender).

As a Caucasian male in the executive ranks, I think it is fair to say that I was sympathetic at that time, but not truly empathetic. I would support and perhaps even sponsor initiatives to improve conditions, but they were more philanthropic and cosmetic in nature rather than involved and committed.

Three people – all African American – helped me understand the shortfall in my comprehension of the plight of racial minorities. They were Carl Rowan, John Mack of the Los Angeles Urban League, and a co-worker, Jerry Florence.

But to move from a philanthropic and cosmetic mentality to creating fundamental racial diversity change in a corporation without any crisis to overcome is a formidable task. It requires courage, commitment, Board of Directors support, and tremendous communication skills. My own challenges in this area have given me a good perspective of the difficulty you face in gaining a broad-based corporate commitment to your vision of One America.

Advisory Board Members

The seven of us are diverse in all ways –ethnicity, gender, vocation, geographic regionality, and personal characteristics. [As an aside, I'm certain that this matrix of diversity was purposeful, but often wondered what was the "first sort"? For my own conclusion to the question, I made the assumption that it was "vocation" (faith, legal, labor, education, politics, business, etc.)]

From the moment we all first met at the White House (prior to our trip to San Diego) we seemed to bond personally. Certainly the excitement of the assignment was part of it, but you should know that it was deeper than that. Speaking of the others, they are all immensely likable and respectable, and perhaps the compatibility is as simple as that.

Selecting the Chairmanship of this Advisory Board must have been a difficult chore for you, but one would never know that by the clarity of the wisdom in choosing Dr. John Hope Franklin. I am honored to have had the opportunity to know him and to learn from him. And the same goes for my other Board members (alphabetically): Reverend Susan Johnson Cook, Governor Thomas Kean, Angela Oh, Linda Chavez Thompson, and Governor William Winter.

I often felt my efforts were insignificant compared to theirs. For one thing, they had a combination of many constituencies (ethnicity, gender, political) that constantly pushed and pulled them – and they always seemed driven by a sense that they could never do enough. On the other hand, my natural constituencies generally conveyed the opposite sense: “Why stir something up that’s not a problem?”

Therefore, almost immediately, I decided that my approach - to the best of my ability - would be to approach my role from the mindset of the minority groups. I began by completely validating their causes and concerns, and then tried to apply that to my personal and professional experiences. I feel this approach helped me gain some insights of which I would otherwise not been capable, but I know I still fall short of the life-experiences in racial issues that provide the natural backdrop for the assessments of my fellow Board members.

In short, I am in awe of their commitment, perspective, patience and approachability related to this sensitive subject, and hope to remain friends with them for the rest of our lives.

The Staffs

Judy Winston, Executive Director, should be commended for her leadership of the Initiative Staff, and for the assemblage of intelligent, dedicated individuals who work behind the scenes with us and the White House staff. They were the ones who organized all the events, and kept the Initiative focused. I worked most closely with and appreciated the contributions of Michael Sorrell, Special Assistant to the Executive Director; Mike Wenger, Deputy Director for Outreach; Lin Liu, Deputy Director for Policy & Planning; and Michelle Cavataio, Sr. Advisor. However, that recognition is not meant to slight all the others on the staff who contributed just as much.

Our “consultant to the Initiative”, Christopher Edley, Jr., was always able to amaze us with his ability to sift through the maze and provide clarity to any issue before us.

Sylvia Mathews of your staff kept an impressive focus and commitment to this subject, despite obvious competing priorities. Maria Echaveste, Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff and Cheri Carter, Special Assistant to the President and Staff Director for Public Liaison were especially helpful and supportive for me.

And finally, some of your Cabinet members deserve special notice for their personal and public support: The Honorable Rodney Slater, Secretary, US Department of Transportation, The Honorable Alexis Herman, Secretary, US Department of Labor, and the Honorable William Daly, US Department of Commerce. They gave the Initiative credibility and leverage whenever we needed it.

The Process

In a word, it was tough.

To me, this was a subject matter that needed a lot of exploration, playing a controversial trial balloon "role", and providing rigorous examination of the most sensitive of issues.

However, given our public status, our requirement to conduct all business open to the public, and our obvious political effect upon you, our resultant ability to push very far from the center-let alone push the envelope-was severely restrained. We eventually became more comfortable with the process, but I daresay all of us remain frustrated to one degree or another. Given the sunshine laws, etc., I unfortunately have no suggestions for process improvement.

Personal (Possibly Unique) Observations

As mentioned earlier, I have selected a few areas to call out to your attention. Our official Initiative report will provide comprehensive and actionable subject matter for your consideration; my following report is limited to more simple, personal impressions I developed over the last year. One final caveat is that they are presented from the limited perception of my life experiences and I do not represent them as being as viable as those sourced from other, more worthy participants.

- Native Americans

Despite all the diversity already on the Board, and despite the impracticability of having all minorities represented, I think we would have benefited from having a Native American on the Board. We compensated as best we could by obtaining relevant representation on the Initiative staff, but for one thing, that was insufficient recognition in the opinion of the Indian Nation.

Politics aside, I believe this is a legitimate unique emphasis area in race relations. Their history is unique, their relationship with our state and federal governments is unique, and their current problems are unique. While not large in numbers, their situation tugs at the heart. I confess to being embarrassed this past year at my lack of knowledge of their overall situation. Embarrassed because I actually grew up and worked much of my life in geographic areas populated by Indian tribes, and I was oblivious to all but the common stereotypes. I suspect most Americans are as equally oblivious, and believe a focused "education" initiative for the American public is in order.

My last observation, admittedly dramatically limited in exposure, is in the form of a question. Recognizing that there are many cultural characteristics common to most tribes, such as the respect for and love of land, is there an effective way to extend and protect each tribe's unique culture by promoting the common needs of their aggregate culture?

- Education

With the risk of offending many states' rights advocates and probably many educators and private citizens, and even with the recognition that there are many complex trade-offs involved in this subject, this matter still seems simple to me.

Our public education system should be the primary answer to providing eventual equal access for all. Public education does not fulfill this goal now, and there is nothing I see in the future that will change it for the positive. It is thus the single biggest issue and problem identified by your Advisory Board.

I approach this the way we would in business. Some issues are best handled locally, some issues are best sponsored centrally – particularly if it requires consistency and pervasiveness to be successful. I believe education – whether federally sponsored or privately sponsored – is such a candidate to be a national initiative.

If we are to improve our nation's education results proportionate to our global standing; if we are to create the foundation for equality and the enlightenment necessary for healthy racial relations in the future; if we are to overcome the presently insurmountable barriers of poor facilities and poor financial and educational support for our educators; if we are to eliminate the quality of educational differences that can divide communities; then we must have a singular high profile national initiative. Period. End of subject.

- Race vs. Need

I believe that the current trend to move away from talking about fixing racial inequities in favor of fixing inequities characterized by need is a diversion.

It's not that "need" inequities are not important – they certainly are. And it's probably true that the greatest discrimination in America is against its poor.

My observation is, however, that race is a separate and dominant issue. Whether poor or prosperous (though minorities are disproportionately less well off than their counterparts), race plays a constant, discriminatory factor. Addressing issues of need will not correct issues of race.

I further discount comments such as "I made it, so other people of color can, too." While accurate and true in its specificity, it seems profoundly untrue to me overall. Further, my observation is that most minorities do not support that assessment, but that some have migrated to the "need" approach as a way to obtain at least some gains.

I simply think it's all a diversion, and would encourage keeping race as a separate focus.

- Black/White vs. Other Minority/White Emphasis

This early controversy attributed to the Board simply did not and does not exist. While the slavery issue of African American heritage is at the heart and soul of much of our racial tension history, even our resident noted historian, Dr. John Hope Franklin, recognized that this is a separate issue from the very legitimate concerns of other minority groups. Everyone on the Board has maintained a healthy balance in this regard.

- Gender Discrimination

While not an obvious component of our subject matter, my personal observation is that men, at least, often must be "gender" blind before they can ever hope to be "color" blind. I can't speak for women, but if a Caucasian man (or group of men) haven't yet realized that women are their equals, than that man is unlikely to accept someone of color as his equal.

Fortunately, for the sake of the potential health of racial relations, this gender blindness is becoming more prevalent. But, I still see it as a possible stepping stone approach to overall enlightenment, just to ensure that this gender sensitivity issue is addressed (or readdressed) first – clearing the way or setting the stage for racial sensitivity.

- The Media and The Entertainment Industry

I believe these two areas get a bum rap, in general, and are two areas with whom we probably wish we could have interacted more.

Certainly, the political press and civil rights press are cynical and provocative. But, that's normal, to be expected, and healthy. For one thing, they will be a great resource in continuing the exposure of this subject in the years ahead. In addition, there are many other areas of the "media" besides the political and civil rights beats that can be brought into the picture in order to expand the exposure.

As far as the entertainment industry goes, I think we'll find them very responsive to any Presidential outreach efforts to promote racial understanding and healing. We saw the potential for many such efforts, and regret we were unable to follow up or explore all of these opportunities.

My personal assessment is that the media and the entertainment industry will respond in a very supportive manner to any future effort you might make.

- Business Leaders

Business competition is relentless. Pressure from financial analysts to meet or exceed performance estimates (and thus protect market capitalization positions) is relentless. Rising consumer expectations of "more for less" is relentless.

It is in this environment, therefore, that the desire for business executive leadership on behalf of minority equality in the workplace and in the purchasing contract arena must compete for prioritization.

I point this out, because most business leaders do have a sense of responsibility for the greater good of their employees, vendors, and society, with regard to racial diversity. But no amount of courage and enlightenment can overcome a pervasive lack of support within the corporate boardrooms for successfully addressing this concern.

Your leadership, combined with the leadership of selected CEO's and Boards of Directors, is essential to creating a foundation of support for and evaluation of corporate racial equality initiatives. A national report card, a Presidential award ceremony, a Presidential-sponsored Wall Street awareness initiative (for example, have analysts agree to expose and grade this component along with financial components), are all possible ways to help our business leaders move forward in this area.

- Social Involvement

To extend the foregoing discussion beyond employee, purchasing contract and other financial investments, I would hope that once we create an environment that encourages appropriate racial diversity, we can move into an era where companies have a higher sense of responsibility for the social factors that affect their employees' lives.

During the day at work, there is generally a forced normalcy and sameness for all employees. But after work, there are dramatic differences in the neighborhoods to which the employees return.

Businesses go to great extents to provide good conditions at the workplace; someday, we should be just as interested as to the conditions of the neighborhoods where our employees live. This will not only improve the productivity of our employees, but will signal a greater sensitivity for the marketplace - which will likely be rewarded by consumers.

I must emphasize, however, that this will remain an idealistic concept until businesses are acknowledged and rewarded for investments in and attention to the core issue of true racial diversity in the workplace.

- Minority Communities/Everyday Heroes

One of the reasons that there is not a sense of racial crisis among predominately-white communities and environs is not because there isn't substantial tension, despair, and discrimination in predominately minority communities. It is because there are everyday heroes who step into the cracks and fill the gaps, eliminating the crisis mentality from external awareness.

Everywhere we went as an Advisory Board, we were privileged to see more and more examples of ordinary citizens of all colors assuming the burden of resolution rather than revolution. That there are so many who willingly accept that responsibility (generally without pay or recognition), is something for which we should all be immensely grateful.

We should consider ways to help those affected communities, support those individuals as needed, and expand their reach.

I also have high regard and respect for those great leaders of color, who either in leading civil rights groups, religious or labor rights groups, or simply by leading by example, become role models for minority youth. They devote their lives to improving conditions for all people of color. They do a great service for this country.

- Race Relations: An Issue or Not?

In my opinion, you have rightly identified an issue of national and immediate importance. The tensions are right beneath the surface. In the future, the numerical trends that will change the definition of majority/minority are certain to raise potentially volatile issues.

But there are plenty of tension-causing conditions present today, without having to wait for the future. Good and capable people are being held back from enjoying America's basic standard of living, standard of safety and standard of success – simply based on the color of their skin. That's wrong and I commend you for having the courage to stand up and attempt to correct that.

The good news is that my feeling of concern is more than matched by my feeling of optimism. For example, seeing the citizens of Oxford, Mississippi participate in self-led dialogues on race relations (and subsequent public dialogues) was unbelievably uplifting. All across our nation, we are a people of great capacity and resolve, blessed with a sense of fairness and of what's right and wrong. These are the people who elected you to lead us, and who will respond to your challenge to transform our fragile race relations into One America for the 21st Century!

Summary

Once again, thank you for this opportunity to serve my country. I'm sure that many who are familiar with Washington D.C., and offices of state can take it all for granted. In that regard, then, it might be rewarding for you to know there are people like me who can still burst with pride at being associated with the American Presidency and initiatives of his choosing.

I've also been amazed to witness the massive volunteer support that is available in each and every location where you (or even our group) go. It confirms my point, and punctuates my personal sense of reward. I only wish that I could have given as much as I have received.

In deep appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Thomas", written in a cursive style.

Robert J. Thomas
Advisory Board Member

MARK E. BECK
ANTHONY A. DE CORSO
BRYAN D. DALY
ANGELA E. OH
TERESA R. BARRERA
CHARLES L. KREINDLER
PETER J. DIEDRICH

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8/3/98

GODFREY ISAAC
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION
OF COUNSEL

July 18, 1998

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

Re: Race Initiative

Dear Mr. President:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you again for allowing me to serve on your Advisory Board. I am writing to follow up on the call I made to you on Thursday, July 16th, requesting an opportunity to speak with you, either by phone or in person when I return to the Capitol on July 29th. This past year with the Race Initiative has been intense and I am moved to make this request because I fear that you may not be receiving an accurate representation of how your Initiative has positively affected people across the country. The media reports have too often been critical of the work that has been done and my concern is that you receive deeper intelligence - information that goes beyond what you are able to cull from news accounts and political commentators.

As I have told you before, the people of this nation are appreciative of the leadership you are asserting and many continue to hold hope that you will be bold in your report at the conclusion of this process. You have acknowledged the complexity of the challenge we face in the next century as changes in our country and the world take place at an unprecedented rate. You have eloquently described the ways in which racial discrimination and bigotry have harmed all Americans, regardless of race or ethnicity. You have also demonstrated how one individual can alter the course of events for all of society.

The momentum you have created is real and holds the potential to be transformative. During the intervening months between the conclusion of the Advisory Board's charter and the presentation of your blueprint for the future, there must be a vehicle or process that permits the experiences of your Board to be part of your analysis and writing. The weekly and monthly reports have been broad summaries of what has occurred but the texture of our face-to-face dialogues with communities across the country have been difficult to capture. Moreover, the ways in which you can sustain the momentum you have created need to be explored as your report is written.

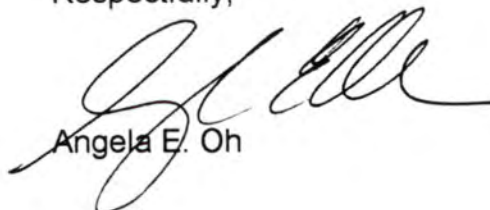
President William J. Clinton
July 21, 1998
Page 2

I would like the opportunity to be a part of the writing process. A year of my life has been dedicated to your mission. I agreed to participate in this process because I felt deeply committed to the issue of advancing race relations in America. It would be a continuing honor for me to assist you in the writing process.

In addition, I urge you to consider issuing, at the conclusion of your second term in office, a White House Monograph dedicated to the current and best thinking about the state of race relations in America at the beginning of the 21st Century. By making this commitment you will have the ability to present the American people with an enduring gift at the end of your Presidency. Moreover, this will allow you to focus your report upon the fact that the Race Initiative was only the beginning, and you can share with the nation a story that focuses on the details of that beginning and the evolution of a blueprint for the future. A series of volumes in the form of a White House Monograph will allow you to draw upon the expertise, creativity, and thought from a wide range of people (i.e., educators, health professionals, social workers, psychologists, religious leaders, labor, economists, community advocates, race scholars, women, artists, and more.) Much of the work has already been done and it would be a matter of coordinating and editing the contributions from the various fields. In the end, a hundred years from today, this White House Monograph could be the place where scholars, practitioners in many fields and policymakers can go to examine the state of race relations, as best as it is understood today.

I have a few other ideas I would like to share with you. I hope we have the opportunity to speak. Again, thank you for giving me the privilege of working on behalf of the American people in my capacity as one of your advisors. It has been deeply gratifying (if not at times, frustrating) and extraordinarily satisfying to work with the other six Americans you invited into this process. The leadership of Professor John Hope Franklin has taught me more about the principles of respect, dignity, grace, and elegance than I could ever have hoped to have learned in my lifetime. Again, thank you for your sharing your vision. I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,



Angela E. Oh

AEO:sb

**Americans for Indian Opportunity****OFFICERS****FAXED MEMORANDUM**

LaDonna Harris
Comanche
Founder and President

Eddie Tullis
Pawnee Creek
Vice President

Elma Patterson
Tuscarora
Secretary

Mary Jo Butterfield
Makah
Treasurer

TO: Judith Winston**FROM:** Laura Harris**DATE:** August 3, 1998**BOARD MEMBERS**

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Coco

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Grace McCullen-Ryan
Navajo

Jerry Muskrat
Cherokee

Faith Roessel
Navajo

Joe S. Sando
Jemez Pueblo

Attached is my "individual report" for your consideration. I will be attending the tribal economic conference in D.C. the 5th and 6th. If you have questions or need anything more at this time, let me know. Thanks!

cc: Lin Liu4 page(s), including cover.

681 Juniper Hill Road
Bernalillo, NM 87204
(505) 867-0273
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Report to the President's Initiative on Race

Laura Harris, Senior Consultant

Traveling around the country with the Race Initiative and through my work with Americans for Indian Opportunity, I have had the chance to visit with many people on the issues surrounding Race. I met with tribal leaders and Native activists in formal and informal settings to discuss how racism challenges Native American communities. Members of the President's Initiative on Race advisory board officially met with Indian leaders in Santa Fe, Phoenix and Denver, and Native Americans were represented in nearly all official meetings as expert panelists or as participating audience members. At these meetings and in my discussions throughout the United States, it was made clear that Native Americans, along with all people of color, suffer from the ill affects of racism. However, Native Americans face a unique challenge of racism and ignorance in the United States: tribal governments do not receive respect as governments because non-Indians do not understand the fundamental principle of tribal sovereignty and how tribal governments fit into the federal system.

For some, the concept of sovereignty is complex and hard to understand. However, at the President's Initiative on Race (PIR) Advisory Board meeting with tribal leaders in Phoenix, the Honorable Ivan Makii, President of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa, said it very simply:

"Sovereignty does not have to be complicated. It is like freedom. Freedom is not something tangible but we all know what it is. Sovereignty is very similar. We all know what it is. It's the responsibility ... of our individual nations to govern our people and to provide for our people like any other government would..."

Article 1, Section 3 of the U.S. Constitution clearly recognizes tribes as sovereign nations. Tribal self-government is recognized in hundreds of treaties, federal statutes, and Supreme Court decisions. Self-determination is a basic principle of federalism, tribes being part of a larger society while maintaining local control. Through the federal system, the United States is the only country in the world that allows its citizens to maintain local cultural and political autonomy at a state, county, city, and tribal level. This democratic framework cultivates the diversity of the U.S., and this in turn enriches *One America*.

However, for citizens of Indian Nations, sovereignty not only means the ability to maintain local control or political autonomy, but most importantly, sovereignty is a fundamental part of our self-identity. Recognition of the governmental status of tribes is crucial because it enables each of them to maintain itself as "the People." Tribal America does not seek self governance for the sake of power for power's sake, but, instead, to be able to maintain our cultures, religions, languages, and value systems. We have an emotional stake in retaining our inherent rights of sovereignty.

Being self-determining and functioning as governments are responsibilities that tribal leaders do not take lightly. Tribal governments are responsible for a broad range of governmental activities on tribal lands, including education, law enforcement, justice systems, environmental protection, and basic infrastructure like roads, bridges, sewers, solid waste and public buildings. Additionally, tribal governments are responsible for the well-being of their people and are duty bound to provide sustainable economies to combat the devastating poverty that still plagues most Native communities.

Report to the President's Initiative on RaceLaura Harris, Senior Consultant

As I have indicated tribal governments constitute a special aspect of federalism that is little known or poorly understood. The U.S. has created a system like no other in the world. Granted, it is a system that is not perfect, but it does present a model for other countries looking to be inclusive of people of different racial and ethnic groups who are demanding their place in the sun as politically and culturally autonomous peoples.

To reiterate, lack of knowledge by the average American citizen about people of color fosters racism. Native Americans are more adversely affected by a lack of knowledge than other people of color in the United States because tribes are governments. Because information about tribal governments is not taught in our education system, most Americans do not understand the unique sovereign status of tribal governments. This lack of knowledge causes confusion, misinformation and misunderstanding which lead to conflict and distrust. Many decision-makers at all levels of government create and implement policy without a full understanding of tribal sovereignty.

More than any other U.S. President, President Clinton has increased awareness about tribal governments within his Administration. Through Executive Orders and Memorandums, President Clinton has mandated that each federal department and agency work with tribes on a government-to-government basis. He also created the Tribal Government Task-force under the Domestic Policy Council to better coordinate tribal initiatives throughout his Administration.

Unfortunately, like most Americans, government officials often do not have a working knowledge of the rights and jurisdictions of tribal governments. Tribal representatives and Indian organizations spend a great deal of time and resources educating each new Administration. To further strengthen these important initiatives and Indian policy statements, I recommend that the President direct each department to develop guidelines for carrying out government-to-government relations. Departmental Indian policy statements and guidelines regarding intergovernmental interaction with tribes should be institutionalized throughout the Executive Branch to establish durability and consistency and to minimize the need for tribes to educate new federal officials every four years.

I also recommend that President Clinton make education about Native Americans a national priority. Through the good offices of the White House, the President could encourage teachers, schools, and universities to adopt appropriate curriculum, and textbook publishers to incorporate accurate information about modern tribal governments. In addition, the White House or the President's Initiative on Race could sponsor briefings for mainstream press and media on contemporary Tribal America. Also, the President could require his Cabinet, and challenge Members of Congress, to educate themselves about tribal governments' role in the federal system. In fact, it was suggested that Native American affairs could be incorporated into the standard orientation for all new Members of Congress and the Cabinet. Finally, President Clinton could establish a permanent, institutional mechanism that would continue after his Administration for government-to-government interaction between the tribal governments and federal agencies. One participant in a PIR discussion on race advocated using President Lyndon Johnson's Cabinet-wide Indian Opportunities Council as a model for intergovernmental interaction.

Tribal leaders further suggested that the PIR and the President hold regional meetings so that Native Americans could participate on a more grassroots level. I recommend that President Clinton participate in such a discussion in an Indian community.

There are many other issues that Tribal America faces due to the injustices of racism. I have focused on the main topic that Native Americans presented to me over and over again during the past year. Tribal governments are not respected as governments because of ignorance. I offer recommendations that address this problem. Most of these recommendations were contributed by participants at official PIR meetings.

My personal commitment to fight racism comes from the Comanche values my mother has instilled in our family. In traditional Comanche society, small family groups or bands traveled throughout the Southern Plains. Each member of the group was important to the overall well-being of the band. Comanches understand the fundamental truth that everybody has something to contribute to society. When people are not afforded the opportunity to contribute to their communities and participate in a meaningful way, both the individual and the entire society suffer.

I have found my participation on the Race Initiative very rewarding. I have learned a lot from the many people I have encountered during the year. I have come to realize that there is no "Indian Problem" or "Black Problem." Instead, there is an opportunity to learn from one another and to come together as *One America*. I recognize the need for all Americans to be part of creating solutions to racial discrimination. The President's Initiative on Race cannot provide "the answer," but, instead, must help communities articulate the challenges and work with all Americans to move toward a diverse but united country.

When all members of society find ways to participate and contribute to our society, we learn to accept others' points of view. This acceptance of people who are different from ourselves gets us past racism. The right and opportunity for Americans to be different is a great boon for democracy and federalism. It is only through the celebration of our diversity that we can truly become *One America*.

E

One America in the 21st Century: Forging a New Future
The President's Initiative on Race

The Advisory Board Report to the President

The Advisory Board's Report to the President has three objectives: 1) to describe how the Board carried out the mandate it was given by the President; 2) to outline the recommendations made to the President during the Initiative year; and 3) to advise the President on next steps for his Initiative -- how to move the effort forward. The report is not a conclusive analysis of the state of race relations in America today. Such a report would not be possible in a year's time in light of the broad mandate and multiple objectives of this effort. Rather this report is an account of the Advisory Board's experiences and impressions. It attempts to frame the challenges, identify the opportunities and recommend action.

I. The Mandate:

President Clinton asked the Advisory Board to spend the year advising and assisting him in accomplishing the following goals through the process of **study, dialogue and action**:

- raise the issue of **racial reconciliation** to the national agenda through **dialogue**;
 - **recruit leaders** and **encourage efforts** (promising practices) aimed at bridging racial divides in local communities across the country;
 - develop national **policy recommendations** aimed at bridging the opportunity gap in key areas including education, economic opportunity, the administration of justice, health, and housing;
 - **educate** the nation about race in America.
- On the issue of **racial reconciliation and dialogue**, the Board has learned and accomplished the following as a result of **hundreds of meetings involving thousands of people in every region** of the country:
- Dialogues on race are an important vehicle for breaking down barriers, finding common ground, and dispelling stereotypes;
 - Through dialogue, people of many races expressed their belief in common values, and their shared hopes and aspirations for themselves, their families and their communities;
 - Although many Americans want honest and constructive racial dialogue, it is difficult to achieve. Most people are uncomfortable talking about the emotionally charged issue of race, or are ill-equipped with the knowledge and understanding of the issue, or are tired of constantly talking about race without seeing concrete results that reduce disparities;
 - Constructive dialogue, facilitated by the Initiative's "One America Guide to Dialogue," was sparked in many communities across America including on college and university campuses, and with the help of state and local officials, and non-profit organizations. (Campus Week of Dialogue; One America Conversations; Statewide Days of Dialogue);
- The Board has successfully **recruited committed leaders** and **identified community efforts** (promising practices) to improve race relations and bridge the racial divide in the 21st century. Among them:
- Outreach to the religious community to 1) examine the changing demography of faith communities and the implications of change for racial healing within and among congregations; 2) explore the key elements for successful efforts to bridge racial divisions; and 3) strengthen efforts of the faith community to achieve racial reconciliation;
 - Outreach to corporate leadership to 1) discuss the economic benefits of having a racially

diverse workforce; 2) identify and share best practices; and 3) strengthen networking between majority-owned and minority-owned companies;

- Outreach to young leaders because the quality of youth leadership will determine the future of America;
- Outreach and support to community leaders -- "local heroes" of all ages in all sectors who are committed to identify promising practices designed to improve race relations and provide opportunities for people to come together across racial lines to solve problems of mutual concern; and the identification of 300 Promising Practices that are highlighted on the One America website.

In undertaking these activities the Advisory Board served as the "eyes and ears" of the President to understand the "course our nation is charting on the issues of race relations and racial diversity."

II. Policy Recommendations to Close the Opportunity Gap

- During the Initiative year, the Advisory Board made **policy and programmatic recommendations** to the President following each of its formal meetings that addressed specific issue areas. Academic experts, practitioners, and community leaders provided research findings, other relevant data, and their perspectives on **civil rights, education and employment opportunity, crime and the administration of justice, housing, health, race and poverty, racial stereotypes and the immigrant experience** in America.
- Priority was given to recommendations on strengthening the areas of civil rights enforcement, education and economic opportunity. In keeping with this emphasis, the Advisory Board recommended the following:
 - **a substantial increase in the civil rights enforcement budget** for FY 1999 because discrimination on the basis of race, color and ethnicity continues to be a fact of life in America and the budgets of federal civil rights enforcement agencies have not kept pace with their increasing responsibility;
 - to promote educational equity and excellence for all children, especially those living in "concentrated poverty" and poor children of color we should **enhance early childhood learning; strengthen teacher preparation and equity; promote school construction; strengthen the pipeline from K-12 to and through higher education; promote the benefits of diversity in K-12 and higher education; provide education and skills training to overcome increasing income inequality;**
 - to deal with the complex relationship that exists between race and poverty, the Board recommends the President explore ways **to reduce income disparities; support supplements for Small Business Administration programs; use the current economic boom to improve and provide necessary job training, and evaluate the effectiveness of federal anti-poverty programs;**

III. Educating the Nation about Race in America

- The most challenging part of the Board's mandate has been to advise the President on how to meet the goal of **educating the nation about race and increasing the nation's understanding of our recent history of race relations.** Among the lessons learned are the following:
 - educating the nation about our past and the impact of race is necessary to shaping solutions and policies that will guide the nation in the 21st century;

- fundamental to this historical understanding is an appreciation of the way slavery codified the system of racial hierarchy in which white privilege has been protected by custom and law;
 - understanding the many contributions of minorities in America is as important as educating the public about the history of suffering experienced by minorities;
 - throughout history there have always been Americans of all races who have demonstrated their commitment to working side-by-side to close the gap between the promise of our democratic principles and their realization. We must strongly acknowledge and appreciate their efforts;
 - the complexity of educating and increasing understanding about racial issues cannot be underestimated and underscores the substantial difficulties in conducting constructive dialogue and influencing public policy responses to eliminate racial disparities;
 - the changing face of America makes the “problem of the color line” and educating people about race in America even more complex as we struggle to create a language and vocabulary to discuss race, diversity and America’s future.
- Many tangible examples of racial progress exist but discriminatory treatment still persists. A key part of the education challenge surrounding race is helping people of all races to understand that racial attitudes may be exhibited in both conscious and unconscious ways. These attitudes persist because we are still affected by the myths, stereotypes and superstitions that have been associated with our long history of racial discrimination.

III. Next steps

- A year’s effort is not sufficient to ensure that we will realize the vision of one America in the 21st century. The effort of the Initiative this past year has laid the foundation to move in the right direction, the Initiative’s work **must be institutionalized**. The Advisory Board recommends that the President include the following elements in his “blueprint” for One America:
 - **A Council for One America:** a permanent structure to continue the work of the President’s Initiative on Race.
 - The Council would continue to coordinate racial reconciliation efforts, dialogue, education, recruitment of national and community leaders in every sector and identification of promising practices.
 - The Council would help to develop and coordinate public policy efforts to eliminate racial disparities in key areas of American life including education, employment, housing, the administration of justice, and health.
 - **A Multi-Media Public Education Campaign** to keep Americans informed about race and highlight the value of our nation’s racial diversity.
 - **A Call to Action** to national and community Leaders to guide state and local community efforts that aimed at bridging racial divides.
 - A continued **Focus on Youth** as America’s greatest hope for realizing the goal of one America where we value our diversity and embrace our common values.

F

Summary of Council of Economic Advisors Race Fact Book
Changing America:
Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being by Race and Hispanic Origin

This chart book documents current differences in well-being by race and Hispanic origin and describes how such differences have evolved over the past several decades. The book is designed to further one of the goals of the President's Initiative on Race: To educate Americans about the facts surrounding the issue of race in America.

The book includes key indicators of well-being in seven broad categories:

- Population • Labor markets • Health • Housing & neighborhoods
- Education • Economic status • Crime & criminal justice

Whenever the data are available, the charts compare trends in the U.S. population among whites, blacks, Hispanics, Asians and American Indians. Several themes occur across the charts:

- Race and ethnicity continue to be salient predictors of well-being in American society. Non-Hispanic whites and Asians tend to experience advantages in health, education, and economic status relative to blacks, Hispanics, and American Indians.
- Over the second half of the 20th century, black Americans have made substantial progress relative to whites in many areas. But this progress generally slowed, or even reversed between the mid-1970s and early 1990s. Data from the 1990s show renewed gains, but in many cases large disparities persist.
- The relative economic status of Hispanics has generally declined over the past 25 years. However, the Hispanic population has grown rapidly, more than doubling in size between 1980 and 1997, in large part because of immigration. These Hispanic immigrants have lower average levels of education and income, which has contributed to the decline in average Hispanic social and economic well-being. The evolution of well-being among the children and grandchildren of these immigrants will be important in determining the future social and economic status of Hispanics.
- Asian and Pacific Islanders are nearly as well-off as non-Hispanic whites, according to many indicators. There is great diversity within this population, however, and some subpopulations are quite disadvantaged. For instance, Asians have both a higher median income and a higher poverty rate than non-Hispanic whites, illustrating the economic diversity of the Asian population.
- American Indians are among the most disadvantaged Americans according to many available indicators, such as poverty rates and median income, although comparable data for this group are sparse due to their small representation in the population.

The book is divided into seven sections, one for each topical area. Each section begins with a brief introduction and an overview of the charts presented in that section. The appendix provides a list of other government publications and internet addresses where the reader can find more information on the topics covered in this book.

G

The Advisory Board to The President's Initiative on Race

JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN, of Durham, North Carolina, Chair of the Advisory Board, is the James B. Duke Professor of History Emeritus at Duke University. President Clinton awarded Dr. Franklin the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1995. Dr. Franklin's scholarly work has focused on the Civil War and Reconstruction era and includes the 1946 landmark study *From Slavery to Freedom*. Dr. Franklin received his A.B. degree from Fisk University in 1935, an M.A. from Harvard University in 1936, and a Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1941.

LINDA CHAVEZ-THOMPSON, of Washington, D.C., is Executive Vice President of the AFL-CIO. Ms. Chavez-Thompson has 29 years of experience in the labor movement. She joined the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees in 1971 and became the first person of color to be elected to one of the top officer positions at the AFL-CIO.

SUZAN D. JOHNSON COOK, of Bronx, New York, is Senior Pastor of the Bronx Christian Fellowship. She was also the first female chaplain of the New York City Police Department. In 1983, the Reverend Cook became the first African-American woman to serve as Senior Pastor at Mariner's Temple Baptist Church, the oldest American Baptist Church in New York City. From 1993 to 1994, Dr. Cook was a White House Fellow, working for the White House Domestic Policy Council. Dr. Cook received a B.S. from Emerson College in 1976, an M.A. from Columbia University Teachers College in 1978, an M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary in 1983, and a D.Min. from Union Theological Seminary in 1990.

THOMAS H. KEAN, of Madison, New Jersey, is the former Republican Governor of New Jersey. Governor Kean currently serves as President of Drew University in Madison, New Jersey. He is Chairman of President Clinton's Campaign to Reduce Teenage Pregnancy. He also served on the U.S. Delegation to the Women's Rights Conference in Beijing in 1995. Governor Kean received a B.A. from Princeton University and an M.A. from Columbia University Teachers College.

ANGELA E. OH, of Los Angeles, California, formerly a partner in the Los Angeles law firm of Beck, De Corso, Daly, Barrera and Oh, specializing in State and Federal criminal defense. Following the riots in Los Angeles, she served as Special Counsel to the Assembly Special Committee on the Los Angeles Crisis. She currently travels the country speaking on race and will soon be a lecturer at the University of California, Los Angeles. Ms. Oh received a B.A. and an M.P.H. in 1981 from the University of California and a J.D. in 1986 from the University of California.

BOB THOMAS, of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is Executive Vice President for Marketing for Republic Industries. He is the former President and CEO of Nissan Motor Corporation, U.S.A. In that capacity, Mr. Thomas created a partnership with the Los Angeles Urban League to increase opportunities for women and minorities in automobile manufacturing. Also in that capacity, Mr. Thomas was former director of the Nissan Foundation, which issued grants to support communities in South Central Los Angeles. Mr. Thomas holds a B.S. in Engineering Management from the U.S. Air Force Academy.

WILLIAM F. WINTER, of Jackson, Mississippi, is the former Democratic Governor of Mississippi and is currently in private law practice with the law firm of Watkins, Ludlam & Stennis. Governor Winter serves as chairman of the National Commission on State and Local Public Service and the National Issue Forum Institute. While governor, he fought for education reform, equal opportunity for all citizens, and better relations between the races. He received a B.A. in 1943 and an LL.B. in 1949 from the University of Mississippi.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

JUDITH A. WINSTON of Washington, D.C., is the Executive Director of the President's Race Initiative. Ms. Winston has worked for equal opportunity and civil rights under the law for more than two decades. She has served as the General Counsel and Acting Under Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, an Associate Professor of Law at American University, Deputy Director for Public Policy of the Women's Legal Defense Fund, and Deputy Director for the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law. Ms. Winston received a B.A. from Howard University and J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

H

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 18, 1998

MILLENNIUM EVENING AT THE WHITE HOUSE
JAZZ: AN EXPRESSION OF DEMOCRACY

DATE: September 18, 1998
LOCATION: East Room
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
FROM: Ellen McCulloch-Lovell

I. PURPOSE

You and the First Lady will host the fourth in a series of Millennium Evenings at the White House. The topic of this Millennium Evening is Jazz: An Expression of Democracy. Artists Wynton Marsalis and Marian McPartland will host a program of commentary and music to show how jazz has reflected and changed society. The evening will also celebrate a great American art form, and includes a 17-piece band. You will greet representatives from Sun Microsystems, Inc., the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Howard Gilman Foundation and the guest speakers in the Blue Room before proceeding to the East Room for the lecture.

II. BACKGROUND

Millennium Evenings at the White House celebrate creativity and innovation by highlighting the contributions of artists, scholars and scientists. The evening will be a mix of lecture and demonstration. The First Lady will introduce the evening and then the President will discuss the theme, "Jazz: An Expression of Democracy." Various presenters will provide commentary and musical demonstration of the points made. There will be segments on the roots of jazz, the expansion of jazz geographically, the elements and style of jazz, jazz and society, the development and style of Blues, Swing, and Be-bop. Each segment will draw a parallel to how our democracy works. The President will discuss the international influence of jazz and introduces President Vaclav Havel. (Provided in remarks.) Mrs. Clinton will read questions from the Internet. The band will play a finale and the President will conclude.

Wynton Marsalis has been described as next in the lineage of great horn players and is widely recognized as one of the world's top classical trumpeters. He has also earned a reputation as a big band leader in the tradition of Duke Ellington, as an accomplished composer and a devoted advocate for the arts and music education. In 1980 Marsalis studied under bandleader Art Blakey and his band, the Jazz Messengers. It was in this

band that Marsalis first observed the relationship between jazz and democracy. His achievements within academia have included receiving honorary degrees from twenty-three of America's leading academic institutions. Two recent extraordinary honors for Marsalis have included a 1997 Pulitzer Prize for music, and a citation from the United States House of Representatives for his outstanding contributions to the arts.

Marian McPartland is one of the world's most skilled practitioners of improvisational jazz piano. She has been a force on the jazz scene since the 1950's, having recorded over 50 albums and CD's. By 1970 McPartland began conducting music appreciation workshops for school children and conducted clinics at colleges and universities. That year she also founded her own jazz label, Halcyon. McPartland holds honorary doctorates from numerous academic institutions. In 1998 the Jazz Journalists Association awarded McPartland the Willis Conover Award for Excellence in Broadcasting, in recognition of her work as host of the series "Marian McPartland's Piano Jazz." Since its inception in April, 1979, this series has received the prestigious Duke Ellington Freedom Medal from Yale University, and is the longest running cultural program on NPR.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Pre-brief participants:

THE FIRST LADY

Ellen McCulloch-Lovell

Capricia Marshall

Laura Schiller

Jeff Shesol

Meet and Greet

Mr. Wynton Marsalis, jazz artist and guest speaker

Mrs. Marian McPartland, jazz artist and guest speaker

Dr. David Baker, guest commentator

Dr. Billy Taylor, guest commentator and musician

Mr. Loren Schoenberg, guest commentator

Mr. William Ivey, Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts

Mr. and Mrs. William Ferris, Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities

Mr. and Mrs. James Smith, Executive Director, The Howard Gilman Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. John Sykes, President, VH1

Mr. John Carol, Sun Microsystems

Mr. Timothy Dwyer, Sun Microsystems

Mr. John Leahy III, Group Manager Sun Microsystems

Mr. Robert MacRitchie, Sun Microsystems

Mr. John Marselle, Sun Microsystems

Mr. Douglas Morris, Sun Microsystems

Mr. Joseph Roebuck, Sun Microsystems

Event participants:

Guest list provided by Social Office

IV. PRESS PLAN

Pool Press

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- 7:00 p.m. PRESIDENT and FIRST LADY arrive at the Red Room for briefing
- 7:15 p.m. PRESIDENT and FIRST LADY proceed to the Blue Room to for meet and greet
- 7:25 p.m. Ellen Lovell is announced into the East Room and briefs audience
- 7:30 p.m. Program begins
- 7:30 p.m. PRESIDENT and First Lady announced into the East Room (2-3 minutes)
- First Lady introduces the evening
- PRESIDENT discusses the democracy theme (7 minutes)
- Guest speakers deliver lecture and band gives musical demonstration (45 minutes)
- Approx.
8:30 p.m. PRESIDENT thanks guest speakers and talks about the international influence of jazz
- Introduces President Vaclav Havel and President Havel gives remarks, band gives demonstration (11 minutes)
- FIRST LADY reads questions from the Internet; Ellen Lovell moderates (12 minutes)
- Wynton Marsalis thanks the band and introduces the finale
- PRESIDENT gives concluding remarks and invites guests into reception
- (Approximately)
8:55 p.m. PRESIDENT makes closing remarks, and invites guests into the

State Dining Room for a reception. PRESIDENT and FIRST LADY have the option to stay for the reception or depart

9:00 p.m. Greet musicians on stage before going to reception

VI. REMARKS

To be provided by Speechwriters

VII. ATTACHMENTS

Bios

I

THE REMARKS
FOR THE MILLENNIUM LECTURE SERIES EVENT
WILL BE FORWARDED

J

Wynton Marsalis

Wynton Marsalis has been described as next in the lineage of great horn players and is widely recognized as one of the world's top classical trumpeters. He has also earned the distinct reputation as a bigband leader in the tradition of Duke Ellington, as an accomplished composer and a devoted advocate for the arts and music education.

Marsalis was born in New Orleans, Louisiana on October 18, 1961 to Ellis and Dolores Marsalis. At age 14 he was invited to perform with the New Orleans Philharmonic and at age 17 he became the youngest musician ever to be admitted to Tanglewood's Berkshire Music Center. In 1980, Marsalis joined the Jazz Messengers to study under master drummer and bandleader, Art Blakey. It was in Art Blakey's band that he first observed the relationship between jazz and democracy. According to Marsalis, Art Blakey would always say "No America, no jazz!" In the years to follow, Marsalis was invited to perform with Sarah Vaughan, Dizzy Gillespie, Sweets Edison, Clarke Terry and countless other jazz trailblazers.

While striving to become an accomplished musician, Marsalis devoted equal time to becoming a skilled composer. The dance community embraced his work as he was commissioned to create major compositions for Garth Fagan Dance, Peter Martins at the New York City Ballet, Twyla Tharp for the American Ballet Theatre and for Alvin Ailey. Marsalis also collaborated with the Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society in 1995 to create "at the Octoroon Balls," his first composition for string quartet.

Marsalis has gone on to perform with leading orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Boston Pops, Cleveland Orchestra and London's Royal Philharmonic; and has collaborated with many preeminent conductors such as Leppard, Dutoit, Maazel, Slatkin and Tilson-Thomas. In 1987, Marsalis created a program at Lincoln Center which now includes performances, debates, film forums and educational activities. Under his leadership, the program developed an international agenda with over 150 annual events in fifteen countries. In 1995, Marsalis launched two major broadcast events, which included both television and radio. For his educational television shows on jazz and classical music and his National Public Radio series, *Making The Music*, Marsalis was awarded the most prestigious distinction in broadcast journalism, the *George Foster Peabody Award*.

To date, Marsalis has produced over 30 records, twenty-three jazz and nine classical. He has won eight Grammy Awards and is the only artist ever to win Grammy Awards for both jazz and classical records. Among his many awards, Marsalis also holds honorary degrees from twenty three of America's leading academic institutions. In 1996, *Time* magazine celebrated Marsalis as one of America's 25 Most Influential People. In 1997, Marsalis became the first jazz musician ever to win the Pulitzer Prize for music for his epic oratorio "Blood On The Fields". And he has also received a citation from the United States House of Representatives for his outstanding contributions to the arts.

Marian McPartland

Marian McPartland is widely acknowledged as one of the world's most skilled practitioners of improvisational jazz piano. She has been a force on the jazz scene since the 1950s and has recorded over 50 albums and CDs. In addition to touring, she regularly records programs for "Marian McPartland's Piano Jazz", a Peabody-award winning series in its nineteenth year on National Public Radio. In June 1998, the Jazz Journalists Association awarded McPartland the "Willis Conover Award for Excellence in Broadcasting", in recognition of her work as host of the series.

A native of England, McPartland began playing piano at age 3. She studied at the Guildhall School of Music in London, but left to pursue a growing passion for jazz. After touring England with a piano group, she began performing for Allied troops in France during World War II. There she met her future husband, the late Jimmy McPartland, then a coronet player in the U.S. Army's Special Service. She and Jimmy married in 1945 and moved to the United States after the war, where she soon founded her own jazz trio. By 1952, McPartland was leading her trio at the Hickory House on New York's legendary 52nd Street for a two-week gig that stretched into a decade. During this time, she began recording for Savoy, and later for Capitol Records.

During the 1960s, McPartland toured extensively and began writing tunes that were recorded by Tony Bennett, Sarah Vaughn, and Cleo Lane, among others. She collaborated with Johnny Mercer on "Twilight World" and Peggy Lee on "In the Days of Our Love." By 1970, she had founded Halcyon, her own jazz label. McPartland also began conducting music appreciation workshops for school children and clinics at colleges and universities. She also authored articles for *The New York Times* and *Esquire*, and published a book of essays, *All in Good Time*.

McPartland has been lauded not only for her talents as an artist, but also for her work as a jazz historian. She holds honorary doctorates from Bates College, Union College and Ithaca College, as well as the prestigious Duke Ellington Freedom Medal from Yale University. McPartland has also written soundtracks for two educational movies--*Mural* and *The Light Fantastic Picture Show*--both of which were prize winners at festivals in Chicago and Edinburgh.

McPartland has hosted "Marian McPartland's Piano Jazz" since its inception in April 1979. The series is the longest running cultural program on National Public Radio and has received the ASCAP-Deems Taylor Award and most recently, the New York Festivals Gold World Medal (1998). The series will celebrate its 20th Anniversary in 1999.

Saturday, September 19, 1998

10:06 AM	Live Radio Address	Tab A
	- Remarks	Tab B
11:30 AM	Meeting	No Paper
9:20 PM	Address to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Awards Dinner	Tab C
	- Remarks	Tab D

Saturday, September 19, 1998

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1998

Final Schedule

SCHEDULING DIRECTOR:

STEPHANIE STREETT

HOME: 202-332-5651

OFFICE: 202-456-2823

WHCA PAGER: 4824

PRESS DESK:

DORI SALCIDO

HOME: 703-548-6466

OFFICE: 202-456-5771

WHCA PAGER: 4844

EVENT COORDINATOR:

CECILY WILLIAMS

HOME: 202-726-0009

OFFICE: 202-456-5039

WHCA PAGER: 4063

WEATHER:

WASHINGTON, DC

Partly cloudy. Low 62 to 67. High 79 to 84.

Saturday, September 19, 1998

**Schedule of the President
for
Saturday, September 19, 1998
*Final Schedule***

9:45 am- **BRIEFING**
10:00 am OVAL OFFICE DINING ROOM
Staff Contact: Ann Lewis, Julianne Corbett

10:06 am- **LIVE RADIO ADDRESS**
10:30 am OVAL OFFICE
Remarks: Jordan Tamagni
Staff Contact: Ann Lewis, Julianne Corbett
STILLS ONLY

Note: There will be approximately 60 guests in attendance.

11:30 am- **MEETING**
12:00 pm OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Doug Sosnik

AFTERNOON OFF

9:05 pm **THE PRESIDENT** departs The White House via motorcade en route
Washington Convention Center
[drive time: 10 minutes]

9:15 pm **THE PRESIDENT** arrives Washington Convention Center and proceeds
to Lobby 5

Greeters: Representative Maxine Waters, Chair, Congressional Black
Caucus
Representative James Clyburn, Honorary Chair, 28th Annual
Legislative Conference
Representative Eva Clayton, Chair, Congressional Black Caucus
Foundation, Inc.

September 18, 1998 (7:34pm)

Saturday, September 19, 1998

9:20 pm-
10:55 pm

**ADDRESS TO THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS
FOUNDATION'S AWARDS DINNER
CONVENTION CENTER HALL D
Washington Convention Center
Remarks: Lowell Weiss
Staff Contact: Minyon Moore
Event Coordinator: Cecily Williams
OPEN PRESS**

Note: There will be approximately 3,500 guests in attendance.

- Off-stage announcement of the **President** and the Vice President.
- **The President** proceeds to his seat for the Annual Legislative Conference Awards Presentations.
- Upon conclusion of the awards presentation, the **President** proceeds backstage.
- Off-stage announcement of the **President** and the Vice President, accompanied by Representative Maxine Waters and Representative James Clyburn to "Ruffles and Flourishes" and "Hail to the Chief."
- Representative James Clyburn makes brief remarks and introduces the Vice President.
- The Vice President makes brief remarks and introduces Representative Maxine Waters.
- Representative Maxine Waters makes brief remarks and introduces the **President**.
- **The President** makes remarks, works a ropeline and departs.

11:00 pm

THE PRESIDENT departs Washington Convention Center via motorcade en route The White House
[drive time: 10 minutes]

11:10 pm

THE PRESIDENT arrives The White House

BC/HRC RON

**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, DC**

September 18, 1998 (7:30pm)

A

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 18, 1998

LIVE RADIO ADDRESS

DATE: September 19, 1998
LOCATION: Oval Office
TIME: 10:06 AM
FROM: Julianne Corbett
Deputy Director of Radio

I. PURPOSE

You will reiterate your commitment to reserving the budget surplus until we have saved Social Security. You will vow to veto a Republican plan that uses the surplus to fund tax cuts. The surplus should be set aside until we have decided how much of it we need to strengthen and protect Social Security over the long term.

In addition, you will announce that you have just signed the Military Construction Appropriations Bill. This is the first appropriations bill you have signed for fiscal year 1999.

II. BACKGROUND

You have held firm on your goal to have every penny of any budget surplus be put aside to save Social Security first. Any Social Security reform proposal must be comprehensive and address the solvency problem the system will face in the 21st Century. Fiscal responsibility gave us this strong economy, and you have called on leaders of both parties to join in this bipartisan call to save the Social Security system.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Briefing (9:45-10:00)

The President
Rahm Emanuel
Gene Sperling
Ann Lewis
Minyon Moore
Jordan Tamagni

Broadcast (10:06-10:10 AM)

The President
Julianne Corbett

Mary Morrison
White House Communications Agency (WHCA) staff
White House Television
White House Photographer
Approx. 50-60 guests (See attached for list.)

IV. PRESS PLAN

The ABC, AP, C-SPAN, CBS, NBC/ Mutual/Westwood One, NPR, UPI, USA, American Urban Radio Network, and Standard News radio networks will carry the address in its entirety broadcasting to their collective thousands of stations across the country on Saturday at 10:06 AM ET.

STILLS ONLY: Immediately following the conclusion of the radio address, still photographers will enter the Oval Office for a brief photo session with you and the guests who represent various civic organizations.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Briefing
Radio Address
Greet guests

VI. REMARKS

To be provided by the Office of Speechwriting

B

Revised Draft 9/17/98 8:00pm
Jordan Tamagni/Jake Siewert

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON SOCIAL SECURITY
THE WHITE HOUSE
September 19, 1998

Good morning. I want to talk to you this morning about what I believe we must do to continue building a stronger America for our children and grandchildren in the 21st Century.

We are living in a time of great prosperity and even greater promise. For nearly six years, I have done everything in my power to create the conditions for that prosperity, and to make sure that all Americans can share in it.

Today, we have nearly 17 million new jobs ... the lowest unemployment rate in 28 years ... the lowest inflation in 32 years ... the smallest percentage of our people on welfare in 29 years ... the lowest crime rate in 25 years ...and the highest home ownership rate in history.

All Americans have a right to be proud of what we have achieved. But we can't let these good times lull us into a dangerous complacency. The turmoil we are seeing in economies around the world reminds us that things are changing at a rapid rate, and we cannot afford to relax. Instead, we must use this new prosperity -- the resources it produces and the confidence it inspires -- to build a more prosperous future for all our people.

In only 12 days, we will have the first balanced budget -- and the first budget surplus -- since Neil Armstrong walked on the Moon. This remarkable achievement is the product of hard work by the American people, and by lawmakers of both parties, who put our nation's progress ahead of partisanship.

America has waited for this moment for 29 years -- now we must ask ourselves what we should make of it. Above all, I believe we must use this moment of prosperity to honor the duty across generations and strengthen Social Security for the 21st Century. With 75 million Baby Boomers retiring over the next two decades, we must act now, across party lines, to make sure Social Security is as strong for our children as it has been for our parents.

In my State of the Union address, I said that we should reserve every penny of that hard-won surplus until we had taken the steps to save Social Security first. At the same time, I proposed tax cuts for education, for the environment, and to help families pay for child care. Not one penny of these tax cuts comes out of the surplus -- every one of them is fully paid for in my balanced budget.

My plan provides tax relief to families, while preserving our ability to strengthen Social Security. That is the right approach. But Republicans in Congress have a different idea. The black ink in the budget hasn't even had a chance to dry, but they want to drain the surplus to

fund a tax plan before we have a chance to save Social Security.

I have already made clear that if Congress sends me a bill that squanders the surplus -- even a penny of it -- I will veto it. But Republicans in the House of Representatives are proceeding anyway, and will try to pass their tax bill next week. I believe this is the wrong way to give American families the tax relief they deserve, and it is the wrong way to prepare our nation for the challenges of the future.

So, today I say to the Republican leadership in Congress. Go back to the drawing board. Send me a plan that provides targeted tax relief while preserving all of the surplus until we have saved Social Security. Send me a plan that rebuilds our crumbling schools, that helps parents afford costs of child care --- and pay for it. Send me a tax cut that keeps us on the path of fiscal responsibility, and honors our obligations to our parents and our children. And if Congress sends me a tax cut plan like that, I will sign it.

This is a time of great hope for our nation -- but it is a time where continued global economic growth demands continued American economic leadership. Fiscal responsibility has created our prosperity -- and fiscal irresponsibility would put it at risk. Let's do the right thing, so we can provide security for our parents and opportunity for our children in the 21st Century.

Thanks for listening.

C

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 18, 1998

REMARKS TO THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS
FOUNDATION GALA

Date: September 19, 1998
Time: 8:50 p.m.
Location: Convention Center
Washington, D.C.
From: Minyon Moore
Ben Johnson

I. PURPOSE

To acknowledge the legislative work of the Congressional Black Caucus Members and to thank them for their support.

II. BACKGROUND

The CBC legislative weekend is the most publicly recognized African American event in the country. The dinner attracts prominent African American leaders from across the spectrum of politics, education, religion and business. You have attended the CBC Awards Dinner every year since 1992. You first addressed the CBC as a candidate in 1992.

The CBC Foundation Chair is Congresswoman Eva Clayton. Congressman James Clyburn is the Chair of the Annual Legislative Conference. The theme for the Legislative weekend is "Tools For 2000; Honoring Our Past; Preparing Our Future." The CBC is in its 28th year of bringing together key African Americans for strategizing and networking. This year also marks the end of Maxine Waters' tenure at the helm of the CBC. Under her leadership, the CBC has been instrumental in supporting many of your initiatives, including support for funding to fight drugs, strengthen education, and foster African Trade. The legislators also supported your call to sequester Social Security funds to insure there would be no loss of income to seniors of our nation.

The First Lady, along with several Cabinet members and political appointees, participated in a number of workshops during this year's conference. Attendance at Mrs. Clinton's event was so overwhelming that an overflow room had to be added.

This year, the Awards Ceremony will be held at the Convention Center instead of the Union Station. Prior to your arrival, dinner will have been served. You will arrive at the event in time for the awards ceremony. Among this year's awards recipients are two members of your Cabinet. Secretary Slater will receive the George W. Collins Award and Secretary Herman will receive The William A. Dawson Award. Former OMB Director, Frank Raines will receive the Conference Chair's Award. (See attached list of all Award Recipients).

Last year, both you and the Vice President addressed the CBC dinner. You and the Vice President will be seated at separate tables. Joining you at your table will be Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Ambassador Sidney Williams, Congressman James Clyburn and Mrs. Clyburn, Congresswoman Eva Clayton and Mr. Clayton, and Minyon Moore. Dorothy Height and Mr. Robert Hall will be seated with you as your guests.

There will be approximately 3,500 people attending the dinner.

III. PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

YOU, the Vice President, Congressman James Clyburn, and Congresswoman Maxine Waters

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open Press

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Pre-Program

- Daphne Maxwell Reid and James Avery deliver opening remarks and introduce Dr. John Cherry.
- Invocation by Dr. John Cherry.
- CBC Videos are shown.
- Congresswoman Waters delivers remarks.
- Dinner is served.
- Howard University Jazz Orchestra performs.

Program

- YOU will arrive at 8:50 pm.
- YOU will be greeted by Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Congressman James Clyburn and Congresswoman Eva Clayton.
- YOU and the Members of Congress will be announced to your table. The awards ceremony commences.
- After the awards presentation, YOU, the Vice President and Members of

- Congress are announced on stage.
- Congressman James Clyburn makes brief remarks and introduces the Vice President.
- The Vice President makes brief remarks and introduces Congresswoman Maxine Waters.
- Congresswoman Maxine Waters makes brief remarks and introduces YOU.
- You make remarks, work a ropeline and depart.

1998 CBCF AWARDS RECIPIENTS

THE GEORGE W. COLLINS AWARD
THE HONORABLE RODNEY SLATER

THE WILLIAM L. DAWSON AWARD
THE HONORABLE ALEXIS HERMAN

THE ADAM CLAYTON POWELL AWARD
THE HONORABLE CHARLES C. DIGGS

THE MICKEY LELAND AWARD
OSSIE DAVIS AND RUBY DEE

THE HAROLD WASHINGTON AWARD
THE HONORABLE BOBBY RUSH

CBCF CHAIR'S AWARD
DANIEL GODFREY

ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE CHAIR'S AWARD
FRANKLIN D. RAINES

THE CBCF CHAIR'S AWARD
ALICE BALANCE

CBCF CHAIR'S AWARD
ASIA CONEY
MILLION WOMAN MARCH

CBCF CHAIR'S AWARD
PHILE'CHIONESU
MILLION WOMEN MARCH

D

Revised draft 9/18/98 8pm
Lowell Weiss

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS TO CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION DINNER
WASHINGTON, DC
September 19, 1998

Acknowledgments: Chair of CBC Maxine Waters, Chair of the dinner Rep. James Clyburn, Chair of the CBC Foundation Eva Clayton, Dean of the CBC John Conyers, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Rosa Parks, my special guest Dr. Dorothy Height; retiring Members: Ron Dellums, Floyd Flake, Louis Stokes; Family of the late Rep. Charles Diggs, Jr. [*he passed away August 24*]; Award winners: Sec. Herman, Sec. Slater, Frank Raines, Rep. Bobby Rush, and other distinguished winners; Minyon Moore, Goody Marshall, Maria Echaveste, Bob Nash, Janis Kearney, Ben Johnson, Al Maldon, Tracey Thornton, Cheryl Mills, Judith Winston, Aida Alvarez, and many other members of my Administration here tonight.

Someone once said that unlike a shadow, a true friend is with you whether the sun is shining or not. The book of Proverbs tells us that a true friend "loves at all times." You have been the truest of friends. I am truly grateful for your support.

And I am grateful for what the Congressional Black Caucus has done for the past 28 years to expand and enhance the promise of America. With resonant voices and principled votes, the members of the CBC have helped lead this nation toward a single, shining ideal -- the ideal, in John Lewis's favorite phrase, of the Beloved Community. A Beloved Community that does not dwell on difference and yet gathers ever-increasing strength from its ever-expanding diversity. A Beloved Community rooted in humane laws and generous spirits. A Beloved Community in which all our children's talents are matched by their opportunities. A Beloved Community in which all Americans join hands and courageously "walk with the wind," just as John Lewis's family did when storms rocked their tiny wood-frame house so many years ago.

God knows, this journey has not been easy. Even within the marble walls of Congress, the winds have often blown bitter and cold. Ron Dellums, for just one example, has spoken movingly of "the pain of being a black elected official carrying progressive ideas, when [people] would render you invisible with the flick of the pen." But no measure of callousness could stop this caucus. It has never stopped a single member of this caucus on the long march toward that Beloved Community.

For the past 5 ½ years, we have marched together. Together, we have begun to draw America closer than ever before. Together, we have delivered new hope and new opportunity not just for the few, but for the many. Today, our economy -- and our communities -- are the strongest in a generation: 16.7 million new jobs. The lowest unemployment in a generation. The lowest African-American and Hispanic unemployment in a generation. The lowest African-American poverty rate on record. The fastest real wage growth in more than 20 years. A record number of new small businesses in each of the past 5 years. Violent crime down 6 years in a row, with overall crime rates down to their lowest levels in nearly 25 years.

Together, we said, Yes, balance the budget, but give 5 million poor children health insurance. Give a HOPE Scholarship to make the first two years of college free for virtually all Americans. Increase those Pell Grants, increase those work-study funds, expand Head Start to get our children off on the right foot, invest in inner-city entrepreneurs, cut taxes for 15 million hard-pressed working families, increase the minimum wage, give young people after-school opportunities and help them lead positive, constructive lives.

None of this progress has come easily. None of it could have come without the CBC's ideas, inspiration, friendship, and support. And I also want to give much-deserved credit to my staff as well. One good reason that things are looking so good for so much of America, is because my administration looks so much like America. One of my proudest accomplishments was assembling the most diverse administration in history. We are not successful in spite of our diversity -- we are successful because of it.

Thanks to their hard work, thanks to your hard work, and thanks to the hard work of the American people, these are good times for the country -- the best in many, many years. In fact, some people would say now's the time to kick back and relax. I look at it a little differently. I say, look at Joseph. Joseph did not see times of plenty as a cue to rest. He used times of plenty to stockpile rich bounties of grain "like sand of the sea." He knew that times of plenty had to be the busiest, most productive, most determined times of all. So I say, thank the good Lord for our nation's good fortune. But now is the time -- our time of plenty -- when we must work harder than ever before, in every community, to address the crucial challenges that remain.

I say we cannot rest until we take all the necessary measures to save Social Security for the 21st century. I say we cannot rest until we find new ways to expand our economy while safeguarding our earth, our water, and our air.

I say we cannot rest until all children in all communities have a world-class education. We must hire another 100,000 well-trained teachers. We must provide our children with smaller classes. We must help communities modernize or build 5,000 schools. We must reward school districts for undertaking the kind of sweeping reforms we've seen in cities like Chicago: closing down failing schools, removing bad teachers, ending social promotions, providing all the help students need to meet higher goals. We must say to every child: We will work with you. We will help you. Raise your sights and we will not let you down.

I say we cannot rest until we protect our families with a strong, enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights. Today, 160 million Americans are in managed care plans. These plans can help make health care more affordable for more families. But we must say to these plans: Don't turn people away from an emergency room. Don't turn people away from a specialist. Don't let an accountant make decisions only a doctor should make. Traditional care or managed care, every American deserves quality care.

I say we cannot rest while the HIV and AIDS crisis is escalating in the African-American community. That is why Sec. Shalala just announced a comprehensive initiative on prevention, education, and care -- with funding specifically for the African-American community. Working

with Maxine Waters, Louis Stokes, and other members of the CBC, we can and will do more. Working together, I know we can halt this deadly epidemic.

I say we cannot rest until we eliminate the unacceptable racial and ethnic disparities in health. We are not one nation when the rates of infant mortality, heart disease, and prostate cancer for African-Americans nearly doubles the rates for white Americans. That is why earlier this year I challenged the nation to eliminate these and other health disparities by 2010, and called on the Congress to pass my \$400 million initiative to achieve this vital goal.

I say we cannot rest until every community reaps the benefits of our nation's economic growth. We must fund new empowerment zones, provide housing assistance for those leaving welfare and entering the world of work, expand funding for community development banks, step up enforcement of fair-housing laws, revitalize more urban brownfields, restore summer jobs for our young people. We must do more to tap the unlimited potential of our cities.

I say we cannot rest while our communities are so thoroughly segregated by income and segregated by race. We must work to break down the walls that divide us and build communities that unite us. And the Federal Government should lead the way both in words and in deeds. So I have directed HUD Sec. Cuomo to seek changes in the admissions policies for public housing to deconcentrate poverty, mix incomes, and thereby mix races. The Congress is considering legislation to reform public housing. There is no more essential reform to public housing than ending segregation.

I say we cannot rest until we ensure a fair and accurate Census. Some in Congress would have us ignore the best scientific methods for ensuring the most accurate count. This is unacceptable. In 1990, 4.4 percent of all African Americans were not counted; nearly 40,000 African-American children in Los Angeles County alone were left out. In the year 2000, we can -- and must -- do better. This is a fundamental issue, a crucial civil rights issue. Every American counts. We must count every American.

I say we cannot rest until we contain the economic turmoil in Russia and Asia and help spur robust economic growth throughout the world. Growth at home depends upon growth abroad. We must try to build an adequate trade and financial system for the 21st century that will help our ailing partners as well as all Americans. We must help IMF put out these economic fires by paying our fair dues. And we must help emerging economies in Latin America, Asia, and Africa to thrive.

I saw Africa's renaissance with many of you this past spring. That trip changed my life forever. I will never forget the sight of a million arms extended in friendship in Ghana, the faces of women in Wanyange Village in Uganda now empowered with microcredit loans, the heroic lessons of Nelson Mandela as we stood in his former cell on Robben Island, the bold plans of entrepreneurs who gathered with me in Johannesburg to dedicate the Ron Brown Commercial Center. Across the continent, I saw hope rising, business growing, democracy gaining strength. I believe we must work together to see that Africa's children, like America's children, have a democratic, peaceful, and prosperous future. We must expand trade and partnership by passing our Africa trade bill. And we must ensure that Africa's hospitality is not used to perpetuate acts of terrorism.

On that note, I should mention that I have asked Dr. David Satcher, America's Surgeon General, to travel to East Africa this month with a team of U.S. medical experts. The people of Kenya and Tanzania are still ailing from the devastating bomb blasts at our embassies. We will do everything we can to share our expertise with those who have shared the terrible burden of this tragedy.

And with every fiber of my being, I say we cannot rest until we solve the oldest, most stubborn, most painful challenge we face as a nation -- the challenge of race. Yesterday, I met for the final time with my advisory board on race. I am very proud of their work. But we all know, in this year of honest dialogue, we have only just begun to peel away the outermost layers of fear and misunderstanding. We have only just begun to find ways to lift the burden of race and redeem the full promise of America.

More than two centuries ago, America committed itself to the ideals of freedom and equality, but in reality much of our history has been defined by our struggle to overcome our steadfast denial of those ideals. I believe the difficulty is rooted in the deeper impulses that trace their beginnings back to the dawn of human society: the mistrust, the fear, the hatred of those who are the other.

Our founders were pretty smart people. They knew we weren't perfect but we needed to strive for perfect ideals. And they built us a country based on a Constitution that was literally made for reconciliation -- for the honorable and principled resolution of differences, rooted in a simple proposition that God created us all equal. Because they believed deeply in freedom of religion, they couldn't write in the Constitution, "The first and most important commandment is this, to love your neighbor as yourself." But what they did write in that Constitution is, You are commanded to respect and treat your neighbor as yourself. That's still a pretty good guidepost today.

We must recognize that gaps still exist between the races, and we must work to bridge them. We must build an America where discrimination is something you have to look in the history books to find. And to do that, we must make a conscious effort to overcome the urge to dwell on our differences and focus instead on our shared values and common humanity. That is the conscious, courageous process we have begun with our dialogue on race. And that process will continue. There must be no end to our search for common ground. I promise you this: if it takes until my last day on this Earth, I will continue to work on guiding our people across all the lines that divide us, into one America, one Beloved Community.

My friends, this is not a time to rest. This is a time to work. It is for me, in part, a time for deeply personal work. For to borrow the wise and humble words of Rev. Jackson -- spoken some fourteen years ago -- "God is not finished with me yet."

And we are not finished with God's work. We are not finished seeking peace, and justice, and freedom, and equality, and human dignity. "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to rest his head."

There is no end to this work. But there is no end to your energy, your faith, your courage,

your conviction. And this is why, together, we are going to push on, pick up speed . . . to ensure we can say to every American, regardless of race or religion, origin or orientation: You have the right to grow up in peace, to go to school in safety, to build your talents and skills, to express those talents in gainful work, and to assure your family a share of America's bounty and blessings. This is God's work. This is your work. This is our work. God bless you for your efforts -- God bless you for your struggles -- God bless you for your commitment to the promise of America.

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