

Thursday, October 29, 1998

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 28, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: THURGOOD MARSHALL JR. TM
DAVID S. BEAUBAIRE dsb

SUBJECT: St. Kitts Update

Craig Smith recommended that we provide you with the attached information in light of a question regarding Hurricane Georges you received at the event last night. Of all eastern Caribbean islands that incurred damage as a result of Hurricane Georges, St. Kitts was the most affected. The preliminary damage assessment conducted by the St. Kitts National Emergency Management Agency concluded that total damage equaled \$445 million.

USAID began to provide support to the affected islands even before the hurricane's arrival. Following the declaration of an official disaster by Charge D'Affaires Phillip Jones, USAID immediately pursued relief efforts at a cost of \$500,300. USAID expects to continue its post-disaster assistance in the Eastern Caribbean through mitigation activities at a total cost of \$970,000. In addition, USAID will work in cooperation with the World Bank and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in hopes of arranging flexible technical assistance to leverage approximately \$50 million in World Bank funds to the CDB for rehabilitation activities.

cc: C. Smith

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U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

October 28, 1998

The Administrator

UNCLASSIFIED

**MEMORANDUM FOR THURGOOD MARSHALL, Jr., Assistant to the President
and Cabinet Secretary**

FROM: J. Brian Atwood *BA*

SUBJECT: Damage Assessment Summary and U.S. Government (USG)
Assistance for the Hurricane Georges Disaster in
St. Kitts and Nevis

The following information responds to your request for a summary of the extent of damage and level of USG assistance in St. Kitts and Nevis in the wake of Hurricane Georges. Please note that the funding figures are reported as eastern Caribbean contributions. These funds include assistance to St. Kitts, Nevis, and Antigua and Barbuda.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Of all eastern Caribbean islands that incurred damage as a result of Hurricane Georges, St. Kitts was the most affected. According to a preliminary damage assessment conducted by the St. Kitts National Emergency Management Agency, total damage equaled \$445 million. The northern and western areas of the island suffered the most damage, but the southern tip of the island (a major tourist site) also sustained damage. The tourist industry was affected by the destruction of the main pier and berthing platform in Basseterre and the damage of several major hotels. Because St. Kitts relies on its tourist industry for much of its national income, the economic effects of the hurricane will be more significant than initial damage assessments indicated. The loss of 50 percent of the 1999 sugar harvest also negatively impacted the economy in St. Kitts.

Hurricane Georges destroyed 25 percent of the homes on St. Kitts--temporarily displacing 2,500 people. Other infrastructure damage included roofing loss to 60 percent of the housing stock and to many schools, lifeline facilities, commercial businesses, and public buildings. The airport sustained 25 percent damage to its main terminal and control tower, thus hampering the immediate delivery of relief commodities. The storm also curtailed the supply of electricity and water and disrupted phone services.

Press sources reported a total of \$39 million worth of damage in Nevis as a result of Hurricane Georges. The National Disaster Coordinator in Nevis indicated \$1 million worth of damage to the electrical system and \$2.5 million worth of damage to the agricultural sector. Damage to dwellings was less severe in Nevis than in St. Kitts. No homes were destroyed, and only 30-40 (10-15 percent) received minor damage to roofing. Several schools and hotels in Nevis also sustained damage and many beaches were eroded. As in St. Kitts, the storm curtailed phone and water services and hampered the distribution of water.

IMMEDIATE POST-DISASTER USG ASSISTANCE: \$500,300

In anticipation of the need for USG assistance, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) deployed a regional advisor and three Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue personnel to Barbados prior to the hurricane's arrival. On September 22, USAID's advisor arrived in St. Kitts and the Miami-Dade personnel arrived in Nevis to assess damage and conduct a needs assessment. An official disaster declaration was issued by U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Philip Jones on September 23. Based upon recommendations from the USAID assessment team, USAID chartered an aircraft on September 25 for the delivery of relief supplies to the eastern Caribbean nations. St. Kitts received 302 rolls of plastic sheeting, four 3,000-gallon water bladders, and 1,150 five-gallon water jugs. Nevis received 100 rolls of plastic sheeting, two 3,000-gallon water bladders, and 200 five-gallon water jugs.

USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance assessment team in St. Kitts and Nevis assisted in the off-loading of relief supplies and carried out in-country training in the use of plastic sheeting. The team also coordinated the delivery of relief supplies with government authorities. Based upon specific recommendations from the assessment team, USAID contributed \$150,000 to PAHO's appeal for emergency assistance to the eastern Caribbean. These funds were used to respond to the health needs of hurricane victims in St. Kitts, Nevis, and Antigua and Barbuda. Total USG assistance to the eastern Caribbean immediately following the hurricane equals \$500,300.

LONG-TERM USG RECOVERY EFFORTS: \$970,000

USAID plans to continue its post-disaster assistance in the eastern Caribbean through mitigation activities at a total cost of \$970,000. In addition to work in rehabilitating and reconstructing schools, housing and infrastructure through the Caribbean Disaster Relief Agency (CADERA), USAID will work in cooperation with the World Bank and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). USAID envisions working through flexible technical assistance to leverage approximately \$50 million in World Bank

funds to the CDB for rehabilitation activities. The World Bank and the CDB plan to jointly focus on the design of starter homes, port facilities, and a vulnerability reduction study for electrical utilities.

Total USG assistance in the eastern Caribbean in response to the Hurricane Georges disaster is projected to increase to \$970,300.

Please do not hesitate to contact my Special Assistant Carla Koppell at (202) 712-0055 if you have any questions.

cc: David Beaubaire, Cabinet Affairs

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
200 Park Avenue, Suite 5700, New York, NY 10166-0144
Tel 212 953-1217

Harry P. Kamen

Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer (Retired)

10-28-98
MetLife

*Geer's - What about this?
Need reply to Harry -
Perhaps NEC on 11/2
Monday or Tuesday -
BZ*

October 27, 1998

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

Dear Mr. President

I just returned from a visit to Egypt during which time you personally advanced the cause of peace and security in the Middle East. By all accounts, this giant step would not have occurred but for your tenacity, commitment, knowledge and personal peacemaking abilities. Thank you. I am proud to have you as my president and honored to hold you as a friend. By the way, I was also quite pleased to see the very positive reaction by the Egyptian press and people to your very determined peace initiatives.

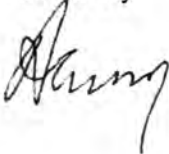
I am not able to join you for dinner this evening, but I do have a request of you involving your forthcoming meeting with President Jiang Zemin at the APEC meeting. I recognize that, generally, it is a U.S. policy not to favor one American company over another in such issues as requesting that another country open up its market to a foreign company. I support this policy and my request is on behalf of the American insurance industry generally.

My request is for you to encourage President Jiang to open China's market to the American life insurance industry. We in the industry believe that such large, economically powerful corporations as MetLife are an important source of investment to the Chinese, that we will be good corporate citizens, and that we can play a positive role in China's developing economy. However, China must open its markets to allow us to do such. Given China's need for foreign investment and the economic uncertainty in Asian markets, your meeting at APEC provides a timely opportunity to urge President Jiang to take this step.

Vince Reusing will be pleased to discuss the timeliness of this issue with you, or Vince could discuss with John Podesta further details concerning this request.

Best wishes to you and Mrs. Clinton. I look forward to our next visit together.

Sincerely



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pln

200 Park Ave., Ste. 5700, New York, NY 10166-0144

Harry P. Kamen

Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer (Retired)

MetLife

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

Vincent P. Reusing
Senior Vice-President



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vreusing@metlife.com

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: 10-29-98

NOTE FOR: The Honorable William Cohen 

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

Information ☒

Action ☐

Thank you.

Staff Secretary
(x6-2702)

cc:

Travail at Wye

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cap-ed
Podesta
Bergen
COS
Sec Cohen

LEADERS



The struggle to get Yasser Arafat and Binyamin Netanyahu to agree, cont'd

SUPPOSED to last a long weekend, by Thursday the Middle East summit at the Wye conference centre in Maryland had dragged on beyond a week. Bill Clinton has assiduously commuted each day from Washington, staying late and cancelling a two-day fund-raising trip to California. Jordan's King Hussein, who is being treated in America for cancer, was wheeled in for a day of persuasion: he had helped to broker the Hebron deal in 1997. The Israelis tried brinkmanship: Binyamin Netanyahu threatened to walk out on Wednesday night. But after so much American effort, which will continue long after a deal is signed, it was virtually impossible that the affair should end without some sort of agreement, however imperfect. Moreover, the current travails are over relatively minor arrangements. Far greater turbulence is yet to come.

The peculiarly American form of torture, sequestering old foes in isolated semi-luxury until they are forced to agree on something, does work rather well. Jimmy Carter, Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin were locked up for two weeks in 1978 at Camp David, a resort in another part of Maryland which, according to Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who was with the Egyptian delegation, came to seem "more and more like a prison camp". The Egyptians several times packed their bags to storm off home but, in the end, they and the Israelis made a deal. So did the Serbs, Croats and Bosnians after three weeks at Dayton, Ohio, in 1995. The Syrians and Israelis, who met at Wye in early 1996, came close to agreement but were let out without concluding one. This, as it has subsequently turned out, was a mistake: the two are now farther apart than ever.

The Israelis and Palestinians are unlikely to be allowed to go home until they have, at the very least, committed themselves to stick by the things that have already been largely agreed at Wye. America's compromise proposal—Israel's phased withdrawal from another 13% of the West Bank, giving the Palestinians civilian or military control over 40% of the territory, in return for a packet of rules about what the

Palestinians have to do to protect Israelis from terrorism—seems to have been accepted by Yasser Arafat. The Israelis, at mid-week, were still standing out for stricter and more comprehensive security instructions.

The grenade assault on Beersheba's bus station on Monday, which injured more than 60 Israelis, added immediacy to Israel's worries. A Palestinian from Hebron, a city cruelly divided between 400 Israelis and 120,000 Palestinians, confessed both to this atrocity and to the murder of a rabbi in Hebron in August. He was not, it seems, acting on his own: the military wing of Hamas, which has been quiet for some time, has claimed responsibility for the Beersheba incident.

The Israelis want Mr Arafat to go after Hamas, not only disarming it and hunting down militants but, much more controversially, attacking the Islamic movement's hold on mosques, schools and clinics. There would be no surer way of rallying support for the Islamists. The Palestinian Authority is already unpopular in the territories for its undemocratic and arbitrary ways. If it followed Israel's instructions, without any reciprocal action being taken against Palestinian-hating Israeli extremists, it would do itself in. And, for Israel, no alternative to Mr Arafat's government, bad though it may be, is likely to be an improvement.

No guarantee

Israelis want to get from Mr Arafat the same assurance that they once got from Sadat. The Egyptian told them in 1978 that there would be no more war; they want Mr Arafat to tell them there will be no more terrorism. But this is not a pledge that the Palestinian, or indeed any leader, can deliver. As in Northern Ireland, terrorism by the violently discontented cannot be eradicated. But, as in Northern Ireland, continuing terrorism should not deflect the search for peace: bombers must not be given the power of veto. A just peace is no guarantee against terrorism, but it is the very best there is.

New wars and old

John P. Sauer
Sec Cohen
Fgk BC



Yes, America should spend more on defence. But only where it is needed

IF THE Pentagon's masters were doing all the right things to adapt their forces for the 21st century, military spending would probably have to rise in the short term. Does that mean, then, that supporters of a strong America should be rejoicing over this week's news of an upwards blip in funding for the Pentagon? Not necessarily. As well as well-founded concern over new challenges—terrorism, cyber-warfare, rogue ballistic missiles—the ballooning defence budget reflects a reluctance to set priorities and grasp nettles.

In political terms, the unexpected \$9 billion boost to next

year's spending on defence and related areas (such as embassy security and intelligence) was made possible by a mixture of changing global circumstances and tactical expediency. The fact that Iran and North Korea are developing longer-range missiles, at a faster pace, than anyone expected has boosted the case for anti-missile defences. The stand-off in Kosovo makes it imperative that America's forces in nearby Bosnia are adequately funded. And armed-services chiefs have sounded a loud alarm bell over the bundle of issues which they lump under "readiness"—ranging from their abil-

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Date 10/29/98

To: DELIA COHEN

From: The Staff Secretary

CAN YOU ASK SOMEONE TO
WHIP UP OUR STANDARD LETTER
FOR A 90TH BIRTHDAY. PLEASE
NOTE ADDRESS OF RECIPIENT. CAN
I GET IT EARLY NEXT WEEK?
WE'LL DISPATCH FROM HERE.

THANKS. , SEAN

FAX COVER SHEET

Doris Toumarkine
720 Greenwich St., #4N
New York, N. Y. 10014
tel. 212/206-0559 (h); 212/254-8235 x 207 (o)
fax: 212/633-8452

P.O. Box 2798
East Hampton, N.Y. 11937
tel. 516/324-6212
e-mail: toumarkino@aol.com

TO: Sean Maloney

FROM: DORIS TOUMARKINE

DATE: 29 October 1998

RE: Presidential Greetings for Jeanette Toumarkine's 90th

NO. OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 2

Sean -- Thanks so much for helping me make my mother's 90th birthday on Sunday, November 8, as wonderful as possible. As her only offspring, I'm trying with all the help I can get to make this day a sensational one for her.

The celebration is taking place Nov. 8 in New York at the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Kristol, 15 W. 53rd St., apt. 12E, New York, NY 10019, so the communication from our wonderful President Bill Clinton should be sent to Jeanette Toumarkine, c/o Doris Toumarkine, at 720 Greenwich St., apt. 4N, New York, NY 10014.

SEND
LETTER TO

ADDRESS
LETTER TO

Mom's address is: Jeanette Toumarkine, 507 W. 38th St., Wilmington, DE 19802.

FYI, I attached a copy of my press credentials from the 1992 Democratic Convention which I was privileged to attend. It was all the more memorable because my mom's brother, my uncle Lester Smith, who was a veteran WOR radio newsman, was also there covering for WOR (they brought him out of retirement to do the "play-by-play") and I listened to him on my Walkman while watching the proceedings.

Again, Sean, thanks so very, very much.

Doris Toumarkine