

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. letter	To Jo Baer from Melanne Verveer re: real estate (1 page)	08/04/1999	Personal Misfile
001b. letter	To Harold Ickes, Melanne Verveer from Jo Baer re: real estate (2 pages)	07/29/1999	Personal Misfile

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 23247

FOLDER TITLE:

[Letters 1999-2000: Last Names Starting With "B"] [3]

2013-0534-S

rv1623

RESTRICTION CODES

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

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 26, 1999

Mimi Ballard
Executive Director
Family and Children's Services of Central New Jersey
120 John Street,
Princeton, NJ

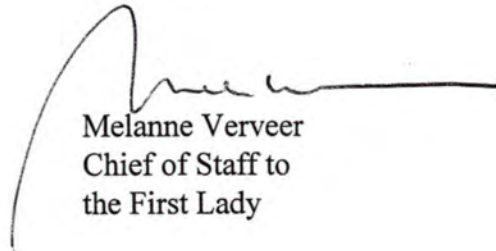
Dear Ms. Ballard:

Thank you for the information about Family and Children's Services of Central New Jersey, which Larry Butler forwarded to me. I have shared the information with my colleagues and we will keep your materials on file for future reference.

Helping families raise healthy children is so very important. The First Lady conveys her appreciation to FACS for your important work, along with her best wishes to you and your colleagues.

Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

Family and Children's Services of Central New Jersey

(P)
Eric, mels
to me
re: this

OFFICERS

Robert Garrett III
President

Joseph Bonanno
Vice President

Mary Ford
Vice President

Dr. John Hayward
Vice President

Louise Shaw
Vice President

David Christie
Treasurer

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Mimi Ballard, MBA
Executive Director

Bruce E. Reim,
LCSW, BCD, CGP
Associate Executive Director

September 1, 1998

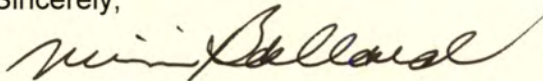
Mr. Larry Butler
2223 Cedar Cove Court
Reston VA 20191

Dear Mr. Butler,

Our Board member, Pat Giallella, asked me to send you information about Family and Children's Services of Central New Jersey. The agency has been serving this community for over one hundred years in matters relating to health, children and parenting issues, counseling and services to the elderly. Our therapists emphasize the importance of preserving the family unit and helping to strengthen each family as we build communities.

I have enclosed brochures which describe our many services. I hope information will help you understand our programs.

Sincerely,



Mimi Ballard
Executive Director

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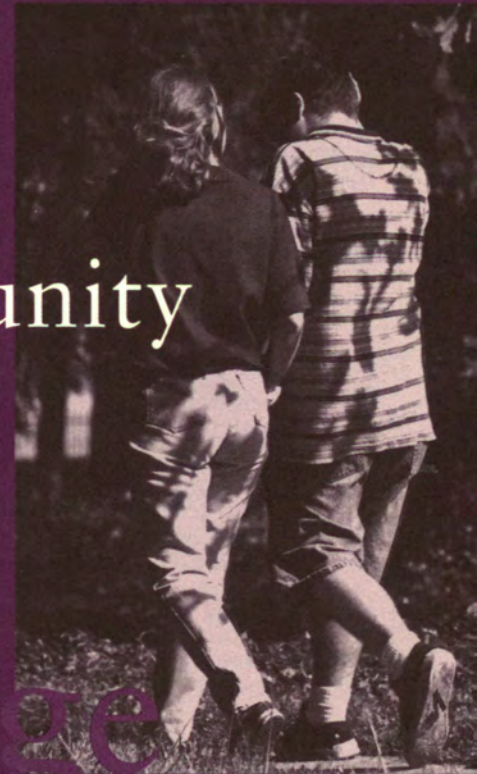
adjusting

communication

How we
strengthen
our community
family by family

insight

change



healing

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reassuring help;
inspiring hope.

communication
change

healing

insight

adjusting

understanding

strengthening our community family by family

Family & Children's Services
of Central New Jersey

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 5, 2000

Ms. Veronica Baraona Del Pedregal
Gabinete Señora del Presidente
Plazio de la Moneda
Santiago, Chile

Dear Veronica:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter. It is hard to believe your service to Mrs. Frei has come to a close. We will be in the same situation a year from now. However, I have no doubt your ongoing endeavors will continue to lead to many great accomplishments.

You should take great satisfaction in knowing your leadership and many contributions have meant so much to so many. It has been a joy to work with you, Vicki and your colleagues. We have loved all the times we have been together.

Very best wishes to you and your family for a happy New Year. Please stay in touch with us and if you come to Washington, please call me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melanne".

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady



Santiago, Chile, december 1999

Ms.
Melaine Verveer
Office of the First Lady
The White House
Washington DC
U.S.A.

Dear Melaine:

On the occasion of Christmas and in the coming of the year 2000, I want to send you a fond and fraternal greeting.

During this 6 years that I've worked in the staff of the First Lady of Chile, I've learned a lot, especially in the spiritual and professional aspect and is in that apprenticeship that you have been a very important influence.

The friendship, solidarity and knowledge that you have given me throughout the annual reunions, left an invaluable and esteemed memory that I'll never forget.

I think that we have joined a group of First American ladies, that are professional in their work and worried for the needed people, and that have made of this continent a bigger and more developed hemisphere.

Without undermining your qualities and strength, your technical assessors have made a tremendous contribution in which all of us are a part of it.

It feels great to think of all the experience that we have shared and planned with the help of the international organisms on the benefit of the most vulnerable sectors, which exalts us as human beings.



Now that I'm about to finish my management, I want to say goodbye and thank you for this splendid opportunity, wishing you all the luck in the world for the next century and inviting you to keep on working in these reunions that reinforce our daily tasks.

Best regards,

VERONICA BARAONA DEL PEDREGAL
Chief of the Staff of the First Lady of Chile

P.S.: Next year you can reach me at 56 – 2 – 342 4309, my fax number is 56 – 2 – 342 4308 and my e-mail: refuente@ctcreuna.cl

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 25, 1999

Ambassador Shirley Barnes
US Embassy, Antananarivo
DOS - Antananarivo
Washington, DC 20521-2040

Dear Shirley:

Thank you for your letter and holiday greetings. It is great to hear from you and learn about all your fantastic adventures in Madagascar!

Your work sounds rewarding. It is obvious that the mission is in good hands. Hope the new year is a very happy one for you.

Very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanne', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR

OFFICE OF THE AMBASSADOR

DEAR FAMILY AND FRIENDS,

HERE IS MY THANKSGIVING/ CHRISTMAS/ NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO YOU:

I'm sure many of you have thought I vanished into the ether after my swearing-in ceremony on June 16th. Well I didn't. I had to run around pack up, my household; get things out of storage, do all the things one does when one leaves the country for a long period of time.

I also took some time off and had a wonderful visit with friends Marilyn and Harold Jenkins in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, and Will and Betty Anthony in Charlotte, North Carolina. Then on to New York City to see my family and stay awhile with some of my "784" buddies and other friends. Time was my enemy. I'm so sorry I didn't have enough of it to get in a hug, kiss, chit-chat with all of you.

On Friday, 28 August, at 10:30 pm, I arrived in Antananarivo, Madagascar at 10:30pm. I hit the ground running—with a call on the President of Madagascar on Sunday, 30 August, to present my letter of credentials and a word from President Clinton. The next Monday evening, I had to deliver a speech to a group of American business people visiting Tana; and the next several days I had two more speeches to give. It hasn't stopped. Speeches, visits, meetings, dinners, receptions and a mountain of papers/documents to read. It's a busy US Mission with all types of bilateral issues as well as internal activities with the staff.

I have had a chance to travel to many parts of this Big Island: The extreme north to Diego Suarez, the extreme south to Fort Dauphin and Berenty. Berenty is a private reserve owned by a French family, the De Haulmes. They have been here since about 1927 and own a big sisal plantation—as well as many hotels and other businesses. Their private nature reserve is home to an impressive variety of lemurs. And I had the good fortune of visiting the reserve during a trip when world-renowned primatologist, Allison Jolly of Princeton University, was also there visiting her campsite. It was a real treat for me to go out with her and her guide for a night walk in the spiny forest (the extensive cactus forest) and look for lemurs. We also spotted several species during the day. It was truly an experience. I've also had a chance to visit USAID projects in Finaransoa – a town about 1 hour by plane from Tana. And to visit a park reserve near Diego, which is being assisted by USAID funding. The Malagasy government park reserve authorities are valiantly trying to stave off illegal miners who have found gem sapphires in the area of the park, and are intent on cutting

trees and despoiling the reserve while illegally mining the Sapphires. It is a relentless effort and a dichatomous one —since people, take the risk of being jailed, to illegally mine the sapphires, in order to make a livelihood. Meanwhile, they are destroying Madagascar's little remaining unique flora and fauna.

My cousin Tyrena Holley came to visit me from 9 November to 17 November. It was a delight to have her here. That young woman knows how to SHOP. I took her around Tana for a bit; but we also had a fun time in Nosy Be, a small tropical island up in the north east of Madagascar. It was beautiful and the FOOD! Fresh fish, lobster, squid, calamari, cammerons, shrimp, oysters were extraordinary. We just didn't have enough time.

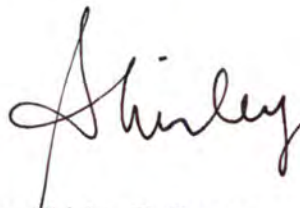
I'm off to Stuttgart, Germany for a conference for U.S. Chiefs of Missions (Ambassadors) serving in Africa—29 November to 4 December. I'll be back for about a week and hopefully will take off again for Christmas and New Year's with my friends the Amanys, in Abidjan, Cote D' Ivoire.

There is so much I still haven't had a chance to do: One was to again thank you for all your well-wishes and support. I wouldn't have made it without that love and energy force that you have so generously sent my way. I am unofficially scouting out and planning programs and agendas for your visit here. Although I'm still unpacking boxes, the Ambassador's Residence is shaping up and I look forward to seeing you.

Madagascar is a poor, poor country. The poverty in the streets of Antananarivo is overwhelming at times and the dreadful bottleneck traffic with its noxious fumes doesn't help the situation. But the place is fascinating and I'm sure you'll find lots to do in Tana and traveling to other places on the island. If you just want to sit around at the Residence—that's OK, too. There's a swimming pool and a tennis court. There's also a good golf club in town. And there's always me --- running my mouth!

My best wishes and love go out to all of you, at this time of year.

Warm, warm regards,



Mailing Address:
from USA

Ambassador Shirley E. Barnes
DOS- Antananarivo
Washington D C 20521-2040
(Use First Class US Postage)



Mailing From Ambassador Shirley E. Barnes
outside USA United States Embassy- Antananarivo
 B.P. 620
 Republic of Madagascar
 (Use postage of country from which you send the letter)

Telephone US Embassy - Dial Long Distance Access;
 Then Country Code- 261 City Code 20
 Telephone # is 261-20-222-1257

There is a 24 hour receptionist at the Embassy who will answer
you call in English

Fax # 261-20-223-4539

E-MAIL barnes@dts.mg

P.S. June, July, August are cold months here. Best time to come is late October,
November, December. Rainy season starts at the end of November and goes
through January. It's warm (not really hot, hot) at that time. January to early
June is fine—but there may be a cyclone now and then.

12 December

Dear Melann -

*My best to all of you. I'm
thinking of you, President and Mrs. Clinton
and hope for a peaceful, fulfilling
1999 to you and to our First Family.*

*We'd love to see you in
Madagascar. It is such a wonderful
place on the good Earth. The Malagasy
are kind, hard-working and well
worth our presence, support and
partnership.*

*Joyeux Noel
Bonne Année !
Shirley*

Ant S. Barnes
D05 - Antananarivo
Washington DC 20521-2040



Thelann Verwee
Assistant to the President
Chief of Staff of the First Lady
of the United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington DC 20500



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 19, 1999

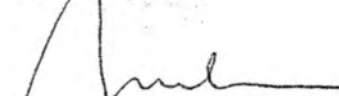
Janet Benshoof and Sana Shtasel
The Center for Reproductive Law and Policy
1146 19th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Janet and Sana:

Thank you for the copy of your letter to Secretary Albright about the problems with the Helms Amendment.

Enclosed is a copy of the First Lady's remarks at the Hague Population Conference. Best wishes and thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Melanne Verveer', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

C · R · L · P

Thanks

THE CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE LAW AND POLICY

January 27, 1999

120 WALL STREET

NEW YORK

NEW YORK 10005 USA

212/514-5534

212/514-5538 fax

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to the First Lady
Old Executive Office Building, Room 100
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Melanne,

1146 19TH STREET, NW

WASHINGTON, DC 20036

USA

202/530-2975

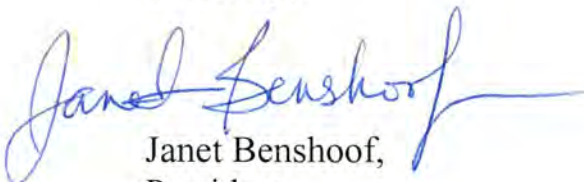
202/530-2976 fax

Please find attached a copy of our recent letter to Secretary of State Albright protesting the Administration's apparent support for the Helms Amendment in U.S. foreign policy on abortion.

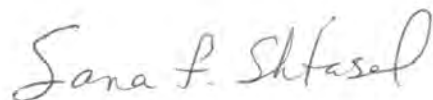
Although bound by the Helms Amendment until its repeal, the Administration appears both to misinterpret the breadth of the legislation and to contravene the human rights-based policy articulated five years ago at the Cairo International Conference on Population and Development. The Center for Reproductive Law and Policy (CRLP) seeks to work with you both to reverse this Administration pronouncement and to repeal the statute.

With The Hague International Forum quickly approaching, we want to call your attention to this problem and secure your assistance in its resolution.

Sincerely,



Janet Benshoof,
President



Sana F. Shtasel,
Washington D.C. Director

Melanne,

Great to see you - look forward to working with you again.

Sana

C · R · L · P

THE CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE LAW AND POLICY

January 25, 1999

120 WALL STREET

NEW YORK

NEW YORK 10005 USA

212/514-5534

212/514-5538 fax

1146 19TH STREET, NW

WASHINGTON, DC 20036

USA

202/530-2975

202/530-2976 fax

The Hon. Madeleine K. Albright
Secretary of State
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Madame Secretary:

With the fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) almost upon us, all of us here at the Center for Reproductive Law & Policy would like to express our appreciation for your personal engagement in the Cairo review process, as evidenced by your remarks at the "U.S. NGOs in Support of the Cairo Consensus" meeting last week. We would also like to applaud the pivotal role played by the United States in framing the human rights-based agenda of Cairo.

I am troubled, however, by the recent pronouncement from your office that appears both to misinterpret U.S. law and to contravene Cairo policy. On January 21, Julia Taft, Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration, announced at a press briefing that "the United States is forbidden by statute, *and we agree certainly with the statute*, that the U.S. government will not fund abortions and will not fund advocacy for abortions. And in all of our funding programs with NGOs internationally, we do not fund those services" (emphasis added). We believe Ms. Taft misread the statute and in the process exposed a significant discrepancy in the U.S. position on abortion.

The Helms Amendment, a 1973 provision of the Foreign Assistance Act which prohibits the use of federal money "for the performance of abortions as a method of family planning or to motivate or coerce any person to practice abortions," undermines the concept of reproductive rights that is at the center of the ICPD Programme of Action. In 1994, the U.S. Cairo team was a strong supporter of the Programme of Action's provision on access to safe abortion wherever it is legal. The Helms Amendment's restriction of a woman's freedom to make crucial decisions about her reproductive life is incompatible with Cairo's call for the empowerment of women and the "basic right of all couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number, spacing and timing of their children and to have the information and means to do so, and the right to attain the highest standard of sexual and reproductive health." We are confident,

therefore, that Ms. Taft was incorrect in stating the Administration's support for the Helms Amendment.

Moreover, the Helms Amendment, as interpreted by USAID during the Reagan, Bush, and Clinton Administrations, does not restrict funding of all abortions. Rather, it permits U.S. funding for abortions in cases of endangerment to the woman's life, rape, and incest.¹ Thus, USAID grantees sign agreements prohibiting them from performing abortions outside of those circumstances. Notwithstanding, USAID has decided, as a matter of policy, to refuse to fund all abortions where they are legal even in cases of threat to life, rape and incest.² While Ms. Taft may have correctly stated USAID's policy on this matter, the policy itself is profoundly flawed because it denies abortions to women faced with pregnancy in extremely tragic circumstances. This policy also conflicts with our domestic law. The Hyde Amendment requires funding low-income American women's abortions in cases of life endangerment, rape, or incest. USAID's inconsistent policy in this regard needs to change; we hope that the Administration will be supportive of such a change.

Mortality and morbidity from unsafe abortion continue to plague virtually all low-income countries, even where abortion is legal. These preventable deaths and injuries to women underscore the deleterious effect of the Helms Amendment. Moreover, in at least 21 of about 67 countries that receive USAID population funding, abortion is legal in most circumstances and, in all of those countries except one, abortion is legal in cases of life endangerment. The United States' continued support of the Helms Amendment stands as a mockery of Cairo and the basic human right to health and reproductive self-determination that Cairo represents. We respectfully request that Assistant Secretary of State Taft retract her statement, made in error, and clarify that the Clinton Administration does not support the Helms Amendment, though it is bound to this legislation pending its repeal by Congress.

Sincerely,

Janet Benshoof
President

cc: Ms. Julia V. Taft, Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees and Migration
Mr. J. Brian Atwood, Director, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency

¹ See JOHN BLANE & MATTHEW FRIEDMAN, MEXICO CITY POLICY IMPLEMENTATION STUDY Appendix A, AID Mexico City Policy Procedures (Population Technical Assistance Project, Occasional Paper No. 5, 1990), *citing* AID Handbook #13. Trans. Memo No. 13:43, at 4C-47, 4C-53 (effective date June 19, 1987) (Reagan Administration); Supplemental Declaration of Duff. G. Gillespie (June 15, 1990), at ¶ 5, in *Pathfinder Fund v. A.I.D.*, 746 F. Supp. 192 (D.D.C. 1990) (Bush Administration); USAID Policy on Abortion, April 1994 (on file with CRLP) (Clinton Administration).

² CRLP staff discussions with Barbara Crane, Senior Policy Adviser, Office of Population, USAID, Sept. 11, 1998 and Stephen R. Tisa, Deputy General Counsel, USAID, Jan. 19, 1999.



THE CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE LAW AND POLICY

**ADMINISTRATION'S RENEWED COMMITMENT TO WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTH AND RIGHTS UNDERSCORES CORE AMERICAN VALUES**

For Immediate Release
January 22, 1999

Contact:
Margie Kelly 212-514-5534
X238

In the wake of several new initiatives announced by the Administration to promote women's reproductive rights, the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy stands in firm support of the renewed attention by the Clinton/Gore Administration to the health of women throughout the world.

"By proposing increases in funds for both domestic and international family planning programs, as well as seeking to enhance security at abortion clinics at home, the Administration has put itself four-square behind the principles that women's rights are human rights," said Sana F. Shtasel, Washington, D.C. Director, Policy and Legislation for the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy. Shtasel also praised the commitment of the Administration to contributing again to the United Nations Population Fund to support women's services abroad.

"The availability of family planning services and the ability to obtain a safe, legal abortion – regardless of where a woman lives – are core values for which we advocate," said Shtasel. "We thank the First Lady and the Vice President for their leadership and look forward to working with the Administration to implement these vital new proposals."

The Center for Reproductive Law and Policy is, a legal advocacy organization dedicated to promoting women's reproductive health and rights through litigation, policy analysis, and public education.

CAMPAIGN For TOBACCO-FREE Kids

February 1, 1999

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Assistant to the President &
Chief of Staff to the First Lady
Executive Office of the First Lady
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

This is to let you know of our plans for the **1999 Youth Advocates of the Year Awards gala**, which will be held on **April 29 at 6:30 p.m. at Washington's National Building Museum**.

We will once again honor the outstanding work of young advocates who have distinguished themselves as leaders among thousands of kids working to protect their peers, their communities and the nation from tobacco addiction and tobacco-caused disease.

The CAMPAIGN honors a national winner, five regional winners and one group winner. They are among the most impressive young people any of us will ever meet. Our winners receive scholarships and program funds to help them continue their leadership work, and they remain engaged with the CAMPAIGN as local and national spokespersons.

Please mark your calendar for our April 29, 1999 Youth Advocates of the Year Awards event. We would like you to attend as our guest.

Last year's event was a great success, and the gala this coming April promises to be the best ever. **Producer/director Rob Reiner is serving as chair of the event.** He is already a success in the Tobacco Wars, having led the fight last November in California on a ballot initiative that raised the price of cigarettes by 50¢ per pack. Rob succeeds two distinguished chairmen: Vice President Al Gore, who served as chair in 1997, and Ben Cohen, co-founder of Ben & Jerry's Homemade, who was our 1998 chair.

We expect more than 500 people to attend, including members of Congress, the Administration, public health leaders, business and civic leaders, and of course – kids.

We hope that you will be able to join us. Your presence will mean a great deal to our winners and to all those in attendance. An invitation will be sent to you soon.

Please call Tonya Buford or me if you have any questions or would like further information.

Sincerely,

Bill Novelli

William D. Novelli
President

NATIONAL CENTER FOR TOBACCO-FREE KIDS

1707 L STREET, NW • SUITE 800 • WASHINGTON, DC 20036

PHONE (202) 296-5469 • FAX (202) 296-5427

www.tobaccofreekids.org

©
not
sure
whether
be here

Melanne, all is fine, able
I hope you will be able
to join us on April 29
to honor these
outstanding kids.
Best,
Kathy Kohen Verveer

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 4, 2000

S.I. Blokhina
Director, Bonum
620149, г.Екатеринбург,
ул. акад. Бардина, 9а RUSSIA

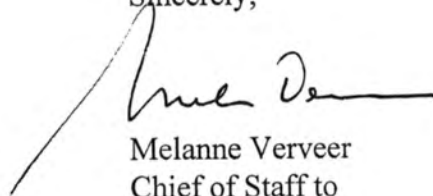
Dear Mr. Blokhina:

On behalf of the First Lady, thank you for your wonderful letter and the progress report about Bonum's activities.

Please accept Mrs. Clinton's appreciation for you and your colleagues' vital work to help those in need. She will always remember her visit to your center in Yekaterinburg. You have the great satisfaction of knowing your work matters to so many and makes such a positive difference. Thank you for all you do.

Very best wishes in this New Year. *С Новым годом!*

Sincerely,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady



Научно-практический реабилитационный центр

620149, г. Екатеринбург, ул. акад. Бардина, 9а Тел. (3432) 28-42-68, тел./факс 28-36-97
E-mail: library@ bonum.e-burg.su ИНН 6658090050, р/с 4060381050000000090 в АКБ ОАО "СКБ-банк"
кор/с.30101810800000000756 в ГРКЦ ГУ ЦБ РФ Свердловской области,
БИК 046577756 ОКОНХ 91511 ОКПО 16769234

19.11. 1999 г. № 321
На № _____ от _____ 1999 г.

Dear Mrs Clinton,

Recollecting our meeting on the 15th of November 1997 during your visit to Yekaterinburg and keeping in mind our understanding about informing you what is going on at the Russian Scientific Rehabilitation Center "Bonum" for children with cranial - maxilla - facial pathology, the administration and the staff of the center would like to express you our deep gratitude for the prolongation of the charitable Russian.

American program which is in progress from 1992 to 1999 and is supported by the USA Consulate General in Yekaterinburg.

During these years 783 consultations have been held, 360 children have been operated, including 160 orphans from different regions of Russia and of the Common Wealth of Independent States.

Thanks to this mission 59 orphans found families, 6 children returned to their families, 22 children have been adopted by the citizens of Russia and 31 children have been adopted by the citizens of the USA and European countries.

17 charitable seminars for the surgeons have been held during this long - term mission, where practitioners had the opportunity of getting acquainted with the modern methods in performing operations.

There were two more stages of the mission since your visit to "Bonum", which can be characterized by the accumulation of the high scientific potential of the American and Russian scientist researchers and practitioners.

The next in turn 8th complex stage is to be held in April 2000.

This stage is supposed not only to consolidate what has been done but to develop further and practical directions:

- removal of combinatorial affections of face which demands bone plastic operation;
- elaboration of new approaches to the post - burn plastic of the affected head, neck and hands;
- treatment of children and adults with extensive tumores on the neck, maxilla, face and plastic replacement of the defects e.t.c.

On the threshold of the new millennium we'd like our professional and human relations to be strengthened and prolonged.

Allow us once again to express you our gratitude for the work which has been done and to express hope for its further prolongation which is so necessary for our patients.

Director of SPRC "Bonum"
Professor, M.D.
Honoured Doctor of Russia

S.I. Blokhina

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 30, 1999

Dr. Susan Blumenthal and Mrs. Michael Oxley
Co-Chairs
The Ambassadors Ball
2021 K Street, NW #715
Washington, DC 20006-1003

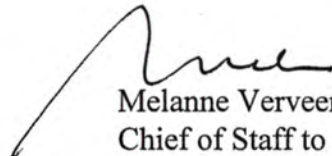
Dear Dr. Blumenthal and Mrs. Oxley:

On behalf of the First Lady, thank you for your letter and thoughtful invitation for Mrs. Clinton to attend the 21st Annual Ambassadors Ball on September 23.

Regrettably, Mrs. Clinton's schedule will not permit her to attend, as she is committed to be elsewhere on that date. Supporting the fight against MS is so important. Please accept Mrs. Clinton's appreciation for your leadership in rallying Washington's diplomatic corps and other supporters for this important cause. She extends her best wishes for a successful evening.

All the best.

Sincerely,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

The Ambassadors Ball
to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society

July 27, 1999

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

On behalf of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, National Capital Chapter, we are writing to request that you and President Clinton attend this year's 21st Annual Ambassadors Ball. The event will take place on the evening of Thursday, September 23, 1999, at the Grand Hyatt Washington.

The Ambassadors Ball is held under the honorary patronage of the President and First Lady and is one of Washington's most spectacular evenings. This year the New York Stock Exchange and NASDAQ are joining forces to sponsor this gala event.

The Ball raises awareness and funds to fight multiple sclerosis, a disabling disease that affects more than 300,000 people in the United States. The Ball also honors the Washington Diplomatic Corps for their support of the many charitable activities and humanitarian endeavors that occur in the Nation's Capital. It is also an occasion to welcome the newly arrived Ambassadors and their spouses to Washington, D.C. and provides an opportunity for them to meet the Cabinet, Members of Congress, and Washingtonians. The Ball is the MS Society's largest fund raising event in the quest to find a cure for multiple sclerosis. The proceeds support vital research and services that help the more than 2 million people worldwide who are affected by this disease.

Mrs. Clinton, we know that there are people you care about who have this disease. Your presence at the Ambassadors Ball on Thursday, September 23 would be very meaningful to us all. We would appreciate you and President Clinton lending your support to the quest to find a cure for multiple sclerosis. We sincerely hope that you and President Clinton will be able to attend the Ball. We have enclosed a copy of the "Save the Date" invitation as well as some press surrounding past events.

Please contact the National Capital Chapter President, Jeanne Oates Angulo, at 202-296-5363, ext. 213, if you have any questions regarding this event.

Sincerely,



Dr. Susan Blumenthal Markey
1999 Ambassadors Ball Co-Chair



Mrs. Michael G. Oxley
1999 Ambassadors Ball Co-Chair

Washington's Traditional Tribute to the Diplomatic Corps

2021 K Street, N.W., Suite 715 • Washington, D.C. 20006-1003

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already
committed

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The Ambassadors Ball

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society
The National Capital Chapter
requests that you please mark your calendar for

Thursday evening, September 23, 1999
and join us for the celebration of

The 21st Annual Ambassadors Ball

sponsored by



The world puts its stock in us.®

and



NASD®

Parent of The Nasdaq-Amex Market Group

1999 Co-Chairs

Dr. Susan Blumenthal Markey
Mrs. Michael G. Oxley

Past Co-Chairs

Mrs. Bill Archer	Mrs. Thomas F. McLarty
Mrs. James A. Baker, III	Mrs. Edwin Meese, III
Mrs. Richard Berendzen	Mrs. Robert H. Michel
Mrs. John A. Boehner	Mrs. Frank H. Murkowski
Mrs. John B. Breaux	Mrs. Don Nickles
Mrs. George Bush	Mrs. Charles B. Rangel
Mrs. Jack Coopersmith	Mrs. Alan Simpson
Mrs. Thomas A. Daschle	Mrs. Samuel K. Skinner
Mrs. Byron L. Dorgan	Mrs. Charles W. Stenholm
Mrs. Benjamin A. Gilman	Mrs. John H. Sununu
Mrs. J. Bennett Johnston	Mrs. Al Ullman
Mrs. Joseph I. Lieberman	Mrs. Guy Vander Jagt
Mrs. Bob Livingston	

The Washington

Diplomat

Volume 4, Number 10

October 1998

Page B-14

culture

October 1998

Ball

Sparkle, Elegance Mark 20th Ambassadors' Ball To Raise Funds for Multiple Sclerosis



Clockwise from top left: South African Ambassador Franklin Sonn tours the dance floor with his wife. □ Ambassador and Mrs. Dimitrij Rupel of Slovenia □ From left, Ambassador of Turkey Baki Ilkin, Mrs. Gilman, Congressman Ben Gilman, Mrs. Ilkin and Ester Cooper-Smith □ From left, Garnet Stackelberg, Mrs. El-Sayed, Mrs. Muasher, Ambassador of Jordan Marwan Muasher and Ambassador of Egypt Maher El Sayed □ From left, Assistant U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Susan Blumenthal with Lady and Sir Christopher Meyer of Great Britain.

The 1998 Ambassadors Ball was an evening brimming with glitter, glamour and generosity.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary, the ball brought together diplomats, American lawmakers, and business leaders in a festive atmosphere to raise money for multiple sclerosis.

In its elegant two-decade history, the ball has raised \$6 million for research into the cause and cure of multiple sclerosis and for programs and services to help more than 5,500 people with MS and their families who live in the Washington, D.C., area.

Held on Sept. 24 at the Hyatt Regency, the ball celebrated the many contributions of the Washington diplomatic corps to the area. More than 100 ambassadors attended the ball, which raised about \$500,000 to fight MS.

The Ambassador's Ball is customarily held under the honorary patronage of the president and first lady, the secretary of state, and congressional leaders to pay tribute to the diplomatic community.

It takes place each September after ambassadors have returned from their

summer vacations, and most new envoys have taken up their diplomatic posts.

President and Mrs. Clinton were the honorary patrons of this year's ball and the president sent a warm letter to those in attendance.

"For two decades, the Ambassador's Ball has brought Washington's diplomatic corps together, not only to enjoy an elegant evening of international friendship, but also to advance the efforts of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to bring MS under control," Clinton wrote.

Raymond Smith of Bell Atlantic, the sponsor of this year's Ball, pleaded for a continued war on MS. "The path to finding the cure for MS has been long and the end of the journey is still not at hand," he said in a written statement. "Nonetheless, there is every reason to be encouraged by the remarkable progress that has been made in the past several years through cooperative efforts worldwide."

As in past years, the 1998 ball was an exhilarating mix of old world elegance and late-20th century sparkle.

As music drifted through the spacious Independence Ballroom, more than 1,200

guests mingled and chatted before sitting down at tables. Each table had a rose topiary and two dozen red roses.

The guests then enjoyed a delightful meal of crepe purse filled with Long Island shredded duck, aged rack of lamb with roasted tomato jus, and arugula lettuce in carrot curl. For dessert, guests were served chocolate timbale paired with spun sugar nest of fresh berries and port wine sauce.

U.S. House International Affairs Committee Chairman Ben Gilman praised the event and cited the hard work of his wife, Georgia, who chaired this year's ball. "This is such an important night," Gilman said. "It's fun and it's a great opportunity to raise funds for a wonderful charity. I'm very proud of my wife's work and the work of all involved in this ball."

"This is a very nice, special evening," said Bill Frenzel, a former Republican member of the U.S. House who is now vice chairman of the Eurasia Foundation. "I look forward to coming every year," he added.

Paul Duke, the master of ceremony, toasted the 49 new ambassadors in Washington and then praised the contributions of all the diplomats in the city.

"The diplomatic corps plays such an important role in so many of the charities in this city," Duke said.

He then invited all of the ambassadors to the dance floor for the traditional first dance of the evening.

Ambassador Franklin Sonn of South Africa was one of the first to take to the dance floor—and one of the last to leave.

"This is fun and for such a good cause," said Ambassador Diego Ramiro Guelar of Argentina.

While many diplomats took to the dance floor, a few stepped back to observe the action and enjoy a few quiet moments.

"I'm resting," said Ambassador Alexander Vondra of the Czech Republic, who had been escorting President Vaclav Havel around Washington.

Ambassador Mark Anthony Micallef of Malta seemed to be delighted with the whole event and exuded enthusiasm about life in Washington.

"I love this city. It's civilized, sedate, marvelous," he said.

— John Shaw

Book World: 'Hand of God,'
on soccer star Diego Maradona

2

Arts agency backers surprise
foes with legislative maneuver

2

Style

5

14

Style Plus: The Navigator finds
a direct link to the golf course

Rapper Master P, finding
no limit to success



Having a ball: Georgian Foreign Minister Irakli Menagarishvili, left, chats with Bell Atlantic Executive Vice President Toby Webb and his wife, Stacie.

The Diplomatic Dance

Ambassadors Waltz With Business at the Ball

By Roxanne Roberts
Washington Post Staff Writer

Last night's Ambassador's Ball looked like one of those old-fashioned diplomatic affairs. The ambassadors were charming, the gowns formal, and manners flawless as the envoys swirled to a very traditional waltz. "It has the feel of yesteryear," observed Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.).

But anyone listening as well as watching would have realized this was a very modern affair. There was much buzz about global economies and trade missions. Lobbyists cornered ambassadors and ambassadors cozied up to business leaders.

The 19th annual black-tie ball

at the Grand Hyatt Hotel was bound to include a few political types, but not enough to get in the way. "Don't quote me, but we're sick of meeting government people," whispered one anonymous ambassador.

More than 1,000 people, including representatives from more than 120 countries, turned out to kick off the fall diplomatic season, receive a formal thank-you from local charities the embassies assist throughout the year and schmooze a few corporate bigwigs.

"I try to promote Cyprus as an economic, business and banking center in the Eastern Mediterranean," said Ambassador Andros Nicolaides. "Parties [are] a part of our profession, but we are very selective."

See BALL, C12, Col. 1

A Night at the Ball

BALL, From C1

There was a time when ambassadors went to lots of parties and rarely strayed from the nation's capital. Then Jimmy Carter stopped having balls for diplomats at the White House, and the Cold War ended, and ambassadors started dashing around the entire country.

"My husband has a saying: 'He needs to get out of the Beltway,'" says Hildgard Silva Herzog, wife of Mexican Ambassador Jesus Silva Herzog. "I do it as often as possible," the ambassador said, only half teasing.

It's a wonder last night's ball organizers got as many ambassadors as they did. Hungarian Ambassador Gyorgy Banlaki is leading a delegation of 400 American business CEOs through his country. Austrian Ambassador Helmut Tuerk is up at the United Nations, another leg in a whirlwind agenda as ambassador.

"I've officially visited all 50 states of the union, and four out of the five territories," he said earlier this week.

Tuerk has attended other ambassador's balls—most notably in Palm Beach and Dallas—but they are still (almost) all business. "For those who have not been to Austria, I hope to be able to entice them," he said.

The ambassador's ball in Dallas used to be simply a glittering social evening with ambassadors invited for excitement. Now it's a glittering social weekend filled with lectures and lobbying.

"The Dallas biz community is very much involved," said Kristi Sherrill, assistant to Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk. More than 40 ambassadors attended last May; "the invitations are typically extended to hard-currency countries and emerging markets," she said. The two-day meeting ended with a huge black-tie ball. "Dallas likes to put on big events," said Sherrill. "And we're very good at it."

Less glamorous is the biennial Ambassador's Tour organized by Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), who brings diplomats to his home state for a week-long introduction to the heartland.

Grassley launched the tour in 1986 as a way to promote Iowa products during the farm crisis. This year, more than 80 delegates from 50 countries rode a bus caravan through the state, stayed in the homes of Iowa families, and toured high-tech factories. The visit ended with a trip to the Iowa State Fair. No tuxedos were required.

Then there's the International Red Cross Ball in Palm Beach.

Suffice to say it's a fabulous, over-the-top affair: elegant and rich, rich, rich. Ladies wear tiaras, ambassadors wear all their medals. There is dancing. And yes, business does get done.

There were no medals last night, although all the ambassadors wore red roses on their tuxedo lapels and looked rather dashing anyway.

"This is the granddaddy of the ambassador's balls," said Jeanne Oates Angulo, local chapter president of National Multiple Sclerosis Society. "It's a diamonds-and-pearls evening."

The ball benefited the Multiple Sclerosis Society, and corporations who bought tables could request an ambassador to sit with them. With the event totally underwritten by Bell Atlantic, more than \$500,000 was raised for research and patient services.

"As a company expanding globally, the connection with the international community is particularly important," said Toby Webb, Bell Atlantic's executive vice president.

The night ended with more dancing—salsa, waltzes and jigs—and a champagne toast to the diplomats.

Then it was back to business.

"I'm looking for another ambassador to host a dinner for the Meridian Ball," said a determined Esther Coopersmith. "I will have luck."

Weather

Today: Mostly sunny, breezy, mild.
High 76. Low 56. Wind 8-16 mph.
Saturday: Early fog, sunny, mild.
High 76. Low 56. Wind 8-16 mph.
Yesterday: Temp. range: 52-75.
Pollen Count: 21. Details, Page B2.

The Washington Post

FINAL
*Inside: Weekend
Today's Contents on Page A2*

120TH YEAR • • • • No. 295

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1997

Prices May Vary in Areas Outside
Metropolitan Washington (See Box on A4)

25¢

DIPLOMATIC DISPATCHES

Dancing Away From Baghdad

By Nora Boustany
Washington Post Foreign Service

Snapping his fingers and tapping his feet was none other than Sweden's **Rolf Ekeus**. He was not hopping over land mines, inspecting missiles or playing hide-and-seek with Iraqi nuke nerds. He was getting his feet wet at the Grand Hyatt in Washington.

Sweden's new ambassador was dancing with wife **Christina** and loving it after surviving six years of staying one step ahead of Iraq's intelligence network and agonizing over its compliance with international resolutions on disposal of destructive weapons.

He is pleased to be here, not only because he can finally stop and smell the roses. "In a sense I miss the excitement, but Washington has its own thrill. The distance between word and deed is much shorter here than elsewhere. Power here is not abstract," he said as he nibbled at cheese and figs at the Multiple Sclerosis Society ball Wednesday.

He is still struck by Iraqi leader **Saddam Hussein's** obsession with power and what is at stake in terms of the world's energy security. "Iraq's failure to totally comply was not rational. But if you look deeper, it was chemical weapons and missiles that gave Iraq an edge in protecting the [Persian] gulf from Iran and controlling it," Ekeus noted. "The leadership identified its role with weapons, a role that is bigger than its borders. The United Nations was trying to take away these components which made Iraq credible in the gulf. You take away these weapons and Iraq is reduced to a state that can only defend its borders."

An usher brought him a ribboned box. He checked it, unwrapped it—a pink bowl. "No bombs. I like this," the ambassador said with a smile.

They were all there, incandescent and polished, beaming ambassadorially with gravitas and mission mystique tucked into evening clothes, envoys from all the places you know and others you may never visit, such as Brunei, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Malta, Mauritius, Mongolia, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Kyrgyzstan and Western Samoa.



BY NESHAN H. NALTCHAYAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Rolf and Christina Ekeus dance at the Ambassador's Ball, a benefit for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Panama's Ambassador **Eduardo Morgan Gonzalez** said he is expecting an interesting time here as the transfer of the Panama Canal and U.S. military bases is completed at the end of 1999. Malta's Ambassador **Mark Anthony Micallef** is passionate about forming ties between his Mediterranean island state and the United States. He plans to market Malta's validity as an international banking and transshipment center, it being the world's sixth-largest maritime flag carrier. "Let the sons of dreams outlive the sons of seed," Micallef recited, quoting **Alexander the Great**. So late in the millennium, the band was louder than the thinkers.

South Africa's tall **Franklin Sonn** was the first ambassador to waltz and slide, followed by Saint Lucia's **Joseph Edsel Edmunds**, the outgoing vice dean of the diplomatic corps. Accomplished dancers both of them, but not as nimble or supple as Liberian charge d'affaires **Konah K. Blackett**.

Weather

Today: Cloudy, cooler.
 High 66. Low 54. Wind 6-12 mph.
 Thursday: Cloudy, breezy, rain.
 High 64. Low 56. Wind 8-16 mph.
 Yesterday: Temp. range: 58-76.
 Pollen Count: 29. Details, Page B2.

The Washington Post

Sections

A News/Editorials
 B Metro/Obituaries
 C Sports/Business/Comics
 D Style/Television
 E Food
 Inside: Classified
 Today's Contents: Page A2

120TH YEAR ... No. 293

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1997

Prices May Vary in Areas Outside
Metropolitan Washington (See Box on A2)

25¢

DIPLOMATIC DISPATCHES

Envoys to Give It a Whirl

By Nora Boustany

Washington Post Foreign Service

With old world grace, amid thousands of red roses and silver settings on dramatic black linen, Washington's top diplomats will hobnob with politicians and company executives tonight at an event held in their honor by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

The Ambassadors Ball kicks off the diplomatic season for the 19th year, celebrating embassies' Washington role as a magnet for community causes and fund-raising. Since the Multiple Sclerosis Society took over from the White House the tradition of hosting the diplomatic corps, which simplified social duties under President **Jimmy Carter**, the Ambassadors Ball has become the prototype for major fund-raisers and charities across the nation, such as the annual Red Cross Ball in Palm Beach, Fla.

"I really enjoy this as an American. We show the best of America and the ambassadors show us the best of their countries. My personality likes this because I see the best in people, such as generosity," enthused **Jeanne Oats Angulo**, executive director of the society's Washington chapter. "They come and see the need and opportunities for working together."

There are now four medications that do not cure but help MS patients cope with their symptoms. They are produced in the United States, Germany, Israel and Ireland, and three of them have already been approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

"With all the countries working together, this is really a wonderful thing. When you control flare-ups, you control deterioration. With our widening network, there is more awareness and understanding for which areas need more research," she added.

In 10 years, scientists believe, 80 percent of the disease's symptoms will be under control.

Last year the ball raised \$500,000 and it is expected to do as well tonight. If last year is any indication, the evening will showcase the latest ball gowns and colorful national costumes in a swirling collage of yellow organza, electric blues and robes of rust and gold brocade at the Grand Hyatt Independence Ballroom.

Colombia donated 4,500 red roses, which were jetted into town Monday, and a silent auction of more than 50 items includes round-trip tickets to Japan, India and Brazil; a week in Greece; a sauna for 10 (not gender-specific) and buffet at the Finnish Embassy; two weeks in a Caribbean cottage in Antigua with romantic terraces, a beach house and maid service; scores of weekend packages from Biarritz, France, to Tobago; and passes to Disney World. The less fortunate may just win leisurely hayrides in the Virginia countryside, golf expeditions, vintage wines and crystal goblets. Floral arrangements have been designed so guests can see across their tables.

Have a ball, but don't expect charity in Friday's dance ratings.

Ambassadors Ball Raises \$500,000 For Multiple Sclerosis Fund

by John Shaw

This year's Ambassadors ball was a glittering, elegant affair in which diplomats, senators, members of Congress, business leaders and other distinguished guests enjoyed an evening of social fun while raising \$500,000 to combat multiple sclerosis.

Held in the Independence Ballroom of the Grand Hyatt Hotel in downtown Washington, D.C., on Sept. 24, the Ambassadors Ball was the 19th annual celebration of the contributions made by the diplomatic community to the United States.

In a perfect reflection of Washington-style diplomacy, the ball mingled old-world elegance with late 20th-century commerce. Extravagant gowns and colorful national costumes attracted the eye while talk of trade missions and capital flows grabbed the ear.

By tradition, the Ambassadors Ball is held under the honorary patronage of the president and first lady, the secretary of state, and congressional leaders and is designed to honor the Diplomatic Corps.

The ball takes place each year in September after ambassadors have returned from summer holidays and most new ambassadors have settled into their posts.

The Ambassadors Ball has raised more than \$5 million for research into the cause and cure of MS and for programs and services to help people with the disease and their families who live in the Washington area.

"I commend the Diplomatic Corps for your history of supporting charitable activities and humanitarian endeavors," President Clinton said in a letter to those at the ball. He cited the important contribution of the annual event in helping give "real hope for the future" for those living with MS.

More than 120 embassies were represented at this year's ball. Many embassies found creative ways to contribute to the night's fundraising goals, which included offering interesting gifts that were bid on in a silent auction.

For example, Ambassador Raymond Chretien of Canada donated a Fourth of July rooftop evening for a couple to enjoy next year's fireworks; Ambassador Nitya Pibulsonggram of Thailand will host a tea and tour for 15 people at the Royal Thai residence; Ambassador Loucas Tsilas of Greece will provide six nights in an elegant hotel in southern Greece for a couple; Ambassador Mimir Zuzul of Croatia is providing a rare Croatian wine from Dalmatian vineyards; Ambassador Jaakko Laajava of Finland is offering a sauna for 10 people followed by a buffet at the Finnish Embassy; and Ambassador Mohamed Benaissa of Morocco donated an authentic Berber carpet.

As for the evening's festivities, guests began arriving about 6:30 p.m. and mingled and chatted for almost an hour, comparing notes on summer holidays and business trips. Then the more than 1,000 guests entered the ornate ballroom, which was festooned with 4,500 red roses donated by Colombia and flown in just two days earlier.

The program began with brief remarks by Linda Jenckes, who chairs the board of trustees of the Capital Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. She introduced a special guest: Georgian Foreign Minister Irakly Menagarishvili.

Then a tribute was paid to the 37 new ambassadors who have recently arrived in Washington,



photos by Seva Raskin

Clockwise from top left: Magda Gohar-Chrobog wife of the German ambassador at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C.; from left, Congressman Bob Livingston (R-La.), Ambassador of St. Lucia and the deputy dean of the diplomatic corps Joseph Edmonds, Mrs. Bonnie Livingston, Sen. Byron L. Dorgan (D-N.D.), Mrs. Kimberly Dorgan; left, Ambassador Jesus Silva-Herzog, with Sen. and Mrs. Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska); left, Ruthy Frenzel, wife of former Congressman Bill Frenzel (R-Minn.), greets Ambassador and Mrs. Mohamed Benaissa of Morocco; Ambassador and Mrs. Jaakko Laajava of Finland.

followed by a tribute to the entire ambassadorial corps. All of the ambassadors were then invited to the dance floor for the traditional ambassador's waltz.

Ambassador Chretien and Ambassador Franklin Sonn of South Africa and their wives were among the first to reach the dance floor and the last to leave. They were joined by several dozens of their colleagues for the first dance.

As music continued through the evening, guests enjoyed a meal of Louisiana crawfish, Western stuffed veal tenderloin with sorrel, sun-dried tomato and shi-

itake mushrooms, and nougatine and kahlua-flavored vanilla ice cream parfait with bananas, and bourbon chocolate sauce.

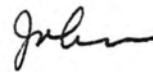
Dancing extended through the evening, with an assortment of salsas, waltzes and jigs. And a champagne toast was offered to the diplomats before the event was concluded. "This is a good event and a very fine cause," said Chretien.

John Shaw is a contributing writer for Embassy Flash.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 4, 1999

John Brademas
President Emeritus
New York University
King Juan Carlos of Spain Center
Third Floor
53 Washington Square South
New York, NY 10012-1098

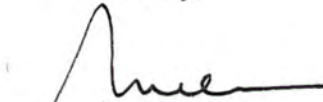
Dear Mr. Brademas: 

Thank you for the copy of the Government Green Paper, as well as the invitation to the Ditchley conference: "The Family in Public Policy".

Regrettably, Mrs. Clinton will be unable to attend the conference in March but she does extend her appreciation for the invitation and sends her best to the organizers for a successful conference on a most important topic.

Best wishes and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,


Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

December 29, 1998

John Brademas
President Emeritus
New York University
King Juan Carlos of Spain Center
Third Floor
53 Washington Square South
New York, NY 10012-1098

Dear Mr. Brademas:

Thank you for the copy of the Government Green
Paper as well as the invitation to "The Family in Public Policy"
~~conference~~.

Regrettably, Mrs. Clinton will be unable to attend the
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Best wishes. *in March - Happy New Year.*

Sincerely,

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

the Ditchley conference!

*the invit'n +
Send her
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organizer for a
successful
conference on a
most int. topic.*



New York University
A private university in the public service

King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center

Third Floor
53 Washington Square South
New York, NY 10012-1098
Telephone: (212) 998-3636
FAX: (212) 995-4810

November 2, 1998

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Assistant to the President
and Chief of Staff to the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20050

BY FAX: 202-456-6244

Dear Melanne:

You will, I trust, be aware of a proposal on the part of Brandt Ayers to the First Lady, to chair a conference at The Ditchley Foundation, which as you know is a few miles outside Oxford, England, on the subject of "The Family in Public Policy".

The date the Ditchley Foundation has proposed for this conference is March 19-21, 1999.

As you may know, I am chairman of the American Ditchley Foundation, and our Foundation Board has its Fall meeting next week at which time the Director of the Ditchley Foundation in England, Sir Michael Quinlan, and his colleagues will be with us.

Would you be kind enough to let me know if it is possible for the First Lady to chair such a conference?

I understand from Sir Michael that there are a few later dates that may be possible but we would need to know now if this is a conference the First Lady would consider leading.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

John Brademas
President Emeritus

JB:ym

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
A private university in the public service

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THIRD FLOOR
53 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012-1098

(212) 998-3636
(212) 995-4810 FAX

December 1, 1998

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Assistant to the President
and Chief of Staff to the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20050

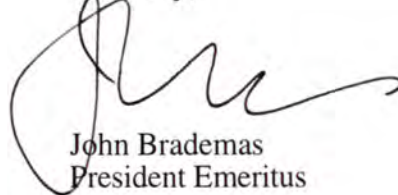
Dear Melanne:

You will, I trust, recall an earlier letter that I wrote to the First Lady in which, wearing my hat as chairman of the American Ditchley Foundation, I extended, on behalf of British Ditchley, an invitation to her to chair a conference on "The Family in Public Policy" next March. Here is a copy of that earlier letter.

I have just received from David Gillmore, The Lord Gillmore of Thamesfield GCMG., Chairman of the Ditchley Foundation in the United Kingdom, a copy of the recently published Government Green Paper on the Family of which he thought might be of interest as the First Lady considers the possibility of coming to Ditchley. Here is the Green Paper.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,



John Brademas
President Emeritus

JB:ym
Enclosure

Q
Eric - in
response, needs
for report but
decline
Ditchley
invite

January 15, 1999

Palladian Partners, Inc.
Call for Nominations (COPR)
7315 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 440W
Bethesda, MD 20814

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to recommend Professor Eileen Burgin to serve on the Director's Council of Public Representatives (COPR). I have known Eileen Burgin since 1983 when we worked together on Capitol Hill. I was the Legislative Director for a member of Congress and in that capacity, I selected Eileen to be one of our Legislative Assistants. Eileen is an extremely bright, innovative, and dedicated individual who works well with others. I believe she would be an excellent selection for the COPR.

When I met Eileen she was on leave from the Ph.D. program in the Department of Government at Harvard University. After her stint on Capitol Hill (lasting five years), she completed her Ph.D. in Political Science with a focus on American politics, and more specifically, decision making, policy making, and Congress. Since then, Eileen has been a faculty member in the Political Science Department at the University of Vermont. Her scholarly work over the past ten years highlights her analytical and problem-solving abilities, as well as her orientation to the "big picture." These attributes would serve her well on the COPR.

Eileen's interest in the NIH, health and medical policy, and medicine stems from her son's diagnosis of Type I diabetes four years ago. This personal interest complements her general academic expertise and has prompted her more recent research activities in the area of health and medical policy making. Eileen's academic orientation and government expertise provide her with a unique perspective for a family member of a patient. She naturally thinks of the public view and the broad representation of public concerns.

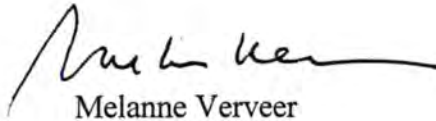
Since her son's diagnosis, Eileen also has assumed a leadership role in relevant organizations. She serves as the State Leader for Government Relations for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (JDF). In addition, she is co-director of a diabetes family support group in Vermont. Eileen also participates in the statewide coalition working on diabetes issues in Vermont (Parent-to-Parent of Vermont). I am personally familiar with her activism because as Chief of Staff to the First Lady, I have met with her on health care issues during her periodic visits to Washington.

I understand that members of the COPR must be able to communicate regularly with the public about COPR and NIH activities. Eileen is particularly well positioned to carry out this function, as a leader with the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation; her professional affiliations with a range of colleges at the University of Vermont, including the medical school; her links to those with diabetes and their families across the state of Vermont; her professional ties to health care providers in Vermont through her work with various associations and ad hoc groups; and

relationships with a larger community of parents throughout Vermont dealing with different chronic and life-threatening diseases in their children. Through her activities, she reaches many segments of the population with a stake in NIH's work. If selected to serve on the COPR, she will do an excellent job of communicating with these broader audiences.

I recommend Eileen Burgin to you for service on the COPR. I am confident she would be a superb choice for membership on this important council. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions about her candidacy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanne Verveer', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Melanne Verveer

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 4, 1999

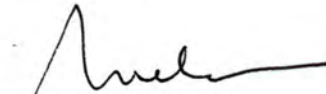
Mr. John Brademas
President Emeritus
New York University
King Juan Carlos of Spain Center
Third Floor
53 Washington Square S.
New York, NY 10012-1098

Dear John:

Thank you for your note and recent speeches. You
always give us much wisdom on which to reflect.

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanne', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

December 21, 1998

Mr. John Brademas
President Emeritus
New York University
King Juan Carlos of Spain Center
Third Floor
53 Washington Square S.
New York, NY 10012-1098

Dear Mr. Brademas:

Thank you for your note and the ^{recent} speeches you provided ~~us with about education.~~

I appreciate your input and have shared the speeches ~~with colleagues. We appreciate you keeping us apprised of your work.~~

~~Best wishes.~~

Sincerely,

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

wisdom

~~wisdom~~

For on which
to reflect

happy holidays!

②

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
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(212) 995-4810 FAX

November 23, 1998

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Assistant to the President
and Chief of Staff to the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20050

Dear Melanne:

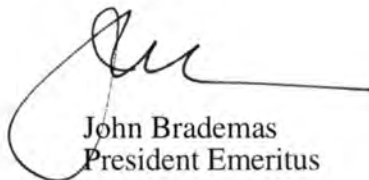
Given that the First Lady and you are all over the globe, I'll send you my own latest offering from abroad--a talk I am giving this week at the National Academy of Education of Argentina.

Here also is another I prepared for a conference in Graz, Austria, that I was not able because of illness (I'm okay now) to deliver.

I'm telling everybody to buy Vogue!

Warmest good wishes.

Sincerely,



John Brademas
President Emeritus

JB:ym
Enclosures

**"EDUCATION: BUILDING BRIDGES TO THE NEXT MILLENNIUM"
AN ADDRESS BY DR. JOHN BRADEMAS,
PRESIDENT EMERITUS, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
AND
CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS AND THE
HUMANITIES**

**On His Induction as a Corresponding Member
of the National Academy of Education of Argentina
Buenos Aires, Argentina
6:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 25, 1998**

Academy President Dr. Porto, Academy Secretary Dr. van Gedderen, distinguished colleagues and friends, I thank you for the high honor that you do me by electing me a Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Education of Argentina.

I bring you greetings on this occasion from three other academies of which I am a member: The Academy of Athens, in the land of my father's birth, Greece; and, in the United States, the National Academy of Education, which, I may note, is now headquartered at New York University; and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

There are several reasons I feel privileged to be with you today.

First, this is not my initial visit to this great country. Just thirty-seven years ago, then as a Member of the United States Congress and of its Committee on Education, I came with a colleague to Buenos Aires to inquire into the potential contribution of universities in Latin America to the success of the "Alliance for Progress" proposed by President John F. Kennedy.

That trip was memorable. My colleague, Congressman Robert Giaimo of Connecticut, who spoke Italian, and I, who could defend myself in Spanish, talked with the President of the Republic, Dr. Arturo Frondizi; his brother, Dr. Risieri Frondizi, Rector of the University of Buenos Aires; as well as with leaders of other universities.

I shall not list all the other eminent Argentines on whom we then called but I cannot fail to note the Nobel Laureate, Dr. Bernardo Houssay; the journalist Jacobo Timmerman; and, in La Boca, Quinquela Martín.

After a few days here, I almost felt myself a porteño!

On our return, my colleague and I wrote a report, of which I shall shortly say more, with our recommendations for United States policy to assist universities in Latin America.

On our return, my colleague and I wrote a report, of which I shall shortly say more, with our recommendations for United States policy to assist universities in Latin America.

That exposure to Argentina, early in my Congressional career, was, I can tell you, one of the factors that contributed to my interest in improving education in the United States and in championing the study of other countries.

May I add that two of the persons whom I met when I got back to Washington have remained dear friends, the distinguished former Argentine Ambassador to Canada, Lilian O'Connell Alurralde, and her husband, a respected former lawyer with the Inter-American Development Bank, Carlos Alurralde. Two other Argentine-born friends from my days in Washington, Cordobesas, sisters, , both outstanding public servants, are Dolores Moyano Martin, for many years editor of the Handbook of Latin American Studies at the Library of Congress, and Magdalena Moyano, now with the United Nations Development Program in Caracas.

A second reason I feel at home with you tonight is that, in one way or another, my life has been involved in education. The grandson of a university professor, son of a schoolteacher mother, I grew up in a family in which my Greek immigrant father said, "I'll never leave much money to my children but I will leave you all a first-class education", and he did. That, of course, was the richest legacy of all.

After the opportunity to study at Harvard and Oxford Universities, I plunged into the turbulent seas of American politics and, on my third attempt, at the age of 31, was elected to the United States House of Representatives from the constituency that is home to an institution known to many of you, I'm sure, the University of Notre Dame.

In Congress, I served for twenty-two years, all on the committee with responsibility for legislation affecting education, and during those more than two decades, spanning the presidencies of three Republicans -- Eisenhower, Nixon and Ford; and three Democrats: Kennedy, Johnson and Carter -- I took part in writing all the laws then enacted to assist schools, colleges and universities; libraries and museums; the arts and the humanities; services for the very young, the elderly, the disabled.

One statute that may be of particular interest to you in the Academy created the National Institute of Education, then the principal agency of our Federal Government to support research into the processes of teaching and learning.

In 1980, seeking my twelfth term and a Democrat, I was defeated in Ronald Reagan's landslide victory over President Jimmy Carter. My mother thought the loss fortuitous for shortly thereafter I was invited to become President of

During my eleven years as President of NYU, as we call it, I think it's fair to say that we transformed the institution from a regional -- New York, New Jersey, Connecticut -- commuter school, into a national, indeed, international -- we now have more students, nearly five thousand, from other countries than any other university in the land -- residential research university.

In fact, one of my major commitments as NYU's President was to strengthen our capacity for teaching and research about countries and cultures.

As I had myself studied abroad and in Congress had authored the International Education Act of 1966, to help colleges and universities in the United States offer courses about other countries, I was deeply dedicated to this objective. During my tenure as president, New York University established a Center on Japan-U.S. Business and Economic Studies, an Onassis Center for Hellenic Studies, a Casa Italiana and a Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies.

Finally, given that I had written an undergraduate essay at Harvard on the Sinarquista movement in Mexico and a Ph.D. dissertation at Oxford on the anarcho-syndicalist movement in Spain from the mid-1920s through the first year of the Spanish Civil War, and given, too, that Spanish is now the second language of the United States -- indeed -- 25% of the people in New York City speak Spanish -- I decided to move on the frente español!

In 1981, my first year as president, I received the illustrious Jorge Luís Borges and presented him the University's Presidential Medal while in 1985 I had the privilege of conferring an honorary degree on the distinguished president of the Argentine Republic, Dr. Raúl Alfonsín. I note, by the way, that I had first met Borges, nearly twenty years earlier, in the home in Washington, D.C. of Carlos and Lili Alurralde.

Indeed, New York University is proud to have on its faculty the eminent Argentine Borges scholar, Sylvia Molloy, and several other academics from your country. NYU's Spanish language program--our largest foreign language program by far--is directed by Judtih Nemethy, an Argentine of Hungarian descent; Juan Corradi, of our Sociology Department, recently served as Dean of our Graduate School of Arts and Science; Denis Pelli, son of the famed Argentine architect, Cesar Pelli, is a leading vision scientist in our Department of Psychology and Center for Neuroscience.

In 1983, I awarded his first honorary degree to His Majesty, King Juan Carlos I of Spain, and established a cátedra in his name under which there have come to NYU, as visiting professors, some of the leading authorities in the world on modern Spain.

Then last year, in the presence of Their Majesties, King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia, and of the First Lady of the United States, Hillary Rodham Clinton, we dedicated the King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center, devoted to the study of modern Spain and the Spanish-speaking world.

In the relatively brief life of the Center, we have developed an intensive program of activities. For example, last April, under the leadership of the highly regarded former Mayor of Barcelona, Pasqual Maragall, we conducted a conference on the future of cities. Among those participating were the Mayors of Barcelona, Sevilla, Santiago de Compostela, Santiago de Chile, Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City, New York City, Indianapolis, and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

A couple of months ago we sponsored a symposium on "Twenty Years of Spanish Democracy", with eminent intellectuals from Spain joining American scholars, and in September also welcomed President Rafael Caldera of Venezuela to announce the establishment, made possible by a generous donation from CITGO, of the Andrés Bello Chair of Latin American Culture and Civilization, under which cátedra we shall bring to our campus annually an eminent scholar from this region or distinguished cultural or political figure.

I'm glad to tell you too that programming at the Center has featured Argentina on a number of occasions and will continue to do so. Over the last eighteen months, the architect Jorge Liernur, novelist Tomás Eloy Martínez and cultural critics Beatriz Sarlo, Jorge Schwartz and Josefina Ludmer, have all delivered lectures under the auspices of the Center. In the last two weeks we sponsored a lecture by the distinguished Spanish writer, Juan Goytisolo, on "Los Viajes de Sarmiento: España, Argelia y La Pampa", and another by the historian José Moya on Spanish immigrants in Buenos Aires. In February, we shall host the exhibition of photographic portraits of Jorge Luís Borges that is currently at the Museo de Bellas Artes here in Buenos Aires and will travel to Madrid's Círculo de Bellas Artes before coming to us in New York.

So we are busy at New York University building bridges to both Spain and Latin America, and it is to discuss ways of building still more and even stronger bridges that I am pleased to be with you tonight.

First, however, allow me only to cite two other responsibilities I have that I believe bear on my visit with you in Buenos Aires.

In 1994, President Clinton appointed me Chairman of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, a group of twenty-seven private citizens and thirteen heads of departments or agencies of the Federal government with some cultural program, including, for example, the

In 1994, President Clinton appointed me Chairman of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, a group of twenty-seven private citizens and thirteen heads of departments or agencies of the Federal government with some cultural program, including, for example, the chairmen of the National Endowments for the Arts and the Humanities, the Librarian of Congress and Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. The President charged our Committee to make recommendations for strengthening support, from both the public and private sectors, for these fields.

Last year, the First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, who is Honorary Chair of the Committee, and I released Creative America, a report to the President with over fifty such specific recommendations. One of the Committee's chief recommendations was to expand international educational and cultural exchanges, a cause I shall press with you of the Academy. Executive Director of the Committee, by the way, is Harriet Mayor Fulbright, widow of the famed Senator whose name has become a synonym for such exchanges.

The other obligation I shall mention is to chair what we call the National Endowment for Democracy, a government-financed, non-governmental organization that makes grants to private groups that work for democracy in other countries.

Earlier this month, wearing this hat, I joined colleagues in Europe and the United States to announce the creation of a Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeastern Europe, the Balkans, to plant the seeds of freedom, democracy and the rule of law in that troubled part of Europe.

The Center's initial project will be to bring together professors of Balkan history from the region in seminars and roundtables, not to write a common history but, in the words of President Clinton in Sarajevo, "to make history our friend and not our enemy."

It is then, ladies and gentlemen, against this background of my own life and commitment to learning and culture and to the institutions and habits of democracy that I should like now to discuss with you some of the challenges to the universities of Latin America as we enter a new century.

Indeed, at the outset, I want to raise this question: Can we not, working together, leaders of universities and other institutions of learning in the United States, Latin America and, in light of the ties we share with Spain, that country, find ways better to know each other and, in particular, to lift the level of life and secure the blessings of democracy for the peoples of all our countries?

It was, I remind you, the great Argentine educator-statesman, Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, who proclaimed that it was education that was "the basis of a democratic government, a society of intelligent beings capable of knowing their rights, sensing the values of these rights and causing them to be respected."

So where are we then as we focus on the panorama of higher education in Latin America, in Argentina?

Not having been here for over a generation, I cannot pretend to have formed judgments based on observation and experience. Nor do I wish to appear to speak with authority on what's been happening in this part of the hemisphere in recent years.

Nonetheless, I have found illuminating, as I thought about what I would say to you tonight, the reading of a range of reports, by North Americans, Latin Americans, including Argentines, and scholars and observers from other countries who have devoted themselves, by personal engagement and study, to consideration of the place of higher education in this region of the world.

I have been especially impressed by the writings of Jorge Balán, an Argentine, now at the Ford Foundation; Iván Jaksic of the University of Notre Dame; Daniel C. Levy of the State University of New York at Albany; Jeffrey M. Puryear of the Inter-American Dialogue; Simon Schwartzman of the University of São Paulo; by a World Bank Strategy Paper, Charting the Course of Educational Change in Latin America and the Caribbean, produced last summer; and by the contributions to a 1997 volume entitled, Higher Education in Latin America, edited by Lewis A. Tyler. I would also draw to your attention a recent (1998) Inter-American Development Bank Strategy Paper, Science and Technology for Development, by Claudio de Moura Castro, Laurence Wolff and John Alic.

And I have, of course, a modest measuring rod against which to read the present situation in my own observations and recommendations of thirty-seven years ago.

So let me tell you what, to this itinerant North American politician-academic, appears to be the configuration of forces shaping the prospects for education, specifically higher education, in Argentina and Latin America generally, as we look to the next Millennium.

As I read again my report of my 1961 visit to Buenos Aires, I must tell you that many of the problems I saw then seem still to be with you. What, in my eyes, characterized the Argentine university scene, nearly four decades ago?

- That most university students in Argentina came from the middle and upper classes , few from poor families;
- That the typical student was part-time;
- That there were few full-time professors and that professors were poorly paid;
- That students participated actively in governing the university;
- That students were intensely interested in national politics;

That universities were weak in preparing persons for fields that led to rapid economic progress and that instead enrollments were heavy in law and medicine;

- That there was significant tension between public universities and private ones;
- That universities lacked adequate equipment, libraries and laboratories;
- That there was little tradition of private philanthropic support of universities, including from U.S. business firms;
- That there was great demand for visiting professors from the United States;
- That some academic leaders here felt that Argentine students sent to the United States should do graduate rather than undergraduate work and should be required to return to Argentina.

Now you, better than I, will be able to judge the extent to which my observations of almost forty years ago apply to Argentine universities even today. Certainly there appear to have been some significant changes.

Most obviously, there have been vast increases in the number of Argentine university students, in the number of teaching staff and the number of private universities. There has been a rise as well in the establishment of research centers, both private and state-supported, that are not part of universities.

Nor, as I understand the present picture here, is innovation adequately valued, or properly rewarded; it is too often seen as threatening existing institutions and individual positions. Universities do not always welcome reform, for reform means change.

In like fashion, such reformist initiatives as evaluation are not built into the system, or non-system, of higher education.

Recent reports on higher education in Latin America generally find that there still seems much too little investment in graduate education and in research as distinguished from teaching, and that there are still too little coordination among universities and too few mechanisms for evaluation and accreditation.

All these problems are exacerbated in Argentina by insufficiently controlled growth in the numbers of both students and institutions.

I do understand that Argentina's Higher Education Law of 1995 is aimed at both limiting the entry of new institutions and, by requiring assessment of programs, assuring quality.

But the problem of part-time professors seems to have continued as has that of emphasis on professional degrees as distinguished from science and technology.

I must interject that although I'm discussing universities in Argentina, I realize that higher education in this country is also conducted by institutions that are not universities such as research centers, technical institutes and even military academies. Coming from a country with a wide variety of post-secondary institutions, I certainly do not want to insist that policies appropriate for one kind are appropriate for all. My focus here is on what we commonly describe as universities.

To continue, I observe that today, with return to civilian rule and democratic governments in most of the hemisphere, threats of repression of universities, endangering their autonomy, no longer seem likely.

If there is less confrontation between universities and government than when I was here before, the relationship between the government and the universities in Argentina--chiefly financial rather than educational-- is nonetheless a source of on-going friction. Increased enrollments have not brought commensurate increases in spending on higher education; the result is, therefore, declining real investment in it.

Nor has there been effective regulation of the newly created private universities.

I shall be keenly interested to learn if the establishment by the 1995 law of the Consejo de Universidades and the Comision Nacional de Evaluación y Acreditación Universitarias, or CONEAU, is yet making a positive impact.

Against these comments about what's been happening to universities in Argentina, I take the liberty now of summarizing the recommendations my colleague, Congressman Giaimo, and I made in 1961 for United States policy toward higher education in Latin America.

Then I should like to offer, in the year 1998, some other thoughts for your consideration. I want to ask how, as we look to a new century and new Millennium, universities in the United States, universities in Latin America, and, I would like to suggest, universities in Spain, can find new ways of working together to the benefit of the peoples of all our countries.

Here then are the Brademas-Giaimo proposals, I reiterate, of 1961:

1. That any U.S. aid to Latin American universities strengthen "the strategic fields", those that contribute to the economic development of the country such as agronomy, industrial engineering, economics, the natural sciences and public administration, as distinguished from law and medicine.
2. That U.S. assistance to Latin America be chiefly directed to higher rather than elementary and secondary education.
3. That emphasis be on sending professors from the United States to Latin American universities rather than bringing Latin American undergraduates to the United States.
4. That we establish a new system of exchange chairs, or professorships, between the United States and Latin America, for example, the Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln or Franklin D. Roosevelt Chairs at universities here, chiefly in what I have called the "strategic fields", and in return, in the United States, Chairs of Latin American Studies, each named after an outstanding figure from this region, such as Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, Simón Bolívar or, I would say today, Andrés Bello, with such scholars coming from the arts, literature and the humanities generally.
5. That existing Latin American universities with strength in certain fields be developed as regional centers rather than all universities attempting to be strong in every subject.
6. That encouragement be given to tax reforms to stimulate private philanthropic contributions to universities in Latin America.

7. That because private universities were too small to have significant impact on the economic development of the country, U.S. aid be targeted to the national universities but that the test for such assistance be on a country-by-country basis. In Chile, for example, we noted that private colleges and universities played a more important role than in Argentina.

These, then, were the principal recommendations I voiced 37 years ago for United States assistance to universities in Latin America.

What about now?

Where, as we consider the role of education and especially higher education, should those of us dedicated to democracy and social and economic progress in this region and, indeed, elsewhere in the world, be pointing?

My first general recommendation will, I feel sure, be controversial. It is that serious attention be given by Latin American political and educational leaders to restructuring the relationship between governments and the universities.

Now I realize that universities in the region play not only crucial educational roles in their respective societies but political and even spiritual ones as well.

Yet in the next century and the Millennium soon to begin, the winds of the increasing globalized economy can blow exceedingly hard and, it seems to me, the peoples of Latin America and their leaders must ask if the valuable resources being dedicated to their institutions of higher learning are being efficiently, wisely, productively invested.

To be concrete, are your systems of financing universities appropriate?

Of governing universities?

Of insuring quality of teaching and research?

Of making it possible for talented men and women of all income groups to have the opportunity to pursue a higher education?

Have you in place mechanisms for determining accountability for the expenditure of scarce funds?

Have you vehicles for relating your expenditures on universities, both public and private, to national needs, social and economic?

Well, from everything I can gather, the answer to all these questions is, by and large and with exceptions, "No".

As myself fourteen times a candidate for election to Congress and for twenty-two years a legislator, I think I know something about politics, and I appreciate that the questions I am raising are in some ways profoundly political. But so be it. You and I realize that the greatest obstacles to improvement of universities, or anything else for that matter, in your country and mine, are often "political".

I am, therefore, making bold to assert that the time has come, if Argentina and the other countries of Latin America are not to be left behind in terms of their economic growth, of the standard of living of their peoples and the viability of their democracies, for major steps to reform the relationships between their governments and their universities.

What might such actions be?

Here, to illustrate, are a few that seem to me worthy of consideration:

First, press ahead with what you have started in Argentina with the establishment of CONEAU, that is to say, with evaluation of the quality of teaching and research at the universities.

Second, find new sources of income that do not leave the universities solely dependent on public monies.

Here I remind you that as a Member of Congress, I helped write laws that continue to provide, based on need, scholarships, loans and work-study programs financed by the national government, that enable millions of young people in my country who would otherwise not be able to afford it, to have a university education.

I remind you, too, that as a university president, I helped raise hundreds of millions of dollars in private contributions from individuals, business corporations and foundations, funds which, added to the grants New York University wins from the Federal government and New York State government and tuition fees paid by students, support our teaching and research.

Has not the time come to reinvigorate public debate about reforms in the pattern of financing of the universities of Argentina and of Latin America generally? I realize that the debate on free tuition is a hot potato politically; it is in my country, too. But the present system in effect subsidizes many who can afford to pay and discriminates against the poor. Is this a just and equitable arrangement in a democratic society?

Another reform that I know is also controversial is that governments should direct a significant amount of funds they allocate to higher education to students as distinguished from institutions. The present system, characterized by free tuition and government grants to universities, has meant too little attention to quality of teaching and research. Why not give money to students, in the form of loans or scholarships, and let them decide which universities they want to attend?

I hope also that more attention will be given in Latin America to writing further incentives into your tax laws to encourage philanthropic contributions to universities, medical and cultural institutions--a sermon I also preach in Europe and Japan! Certainly we should not have been able to raise the large sums of money for New York University to which I have referred without the powerful instrument of a sympathetic tax system.

Another thought: Although I'm well aware that the question of governance of Latin American public universities is also a highly sensitive matter politically, I suggest that individual universities, public and private, should feel free to reform their own structures and processes of decision-making. For consider, in the context of what I have been saying, the external shocks that your universities have felt in recent years: economic, political and demographic. Then consider the rigidity of structures, of finance and governance, to which I have been pointing. And consider how passive, indeed, defensive, has been the attitude to change on the part of universities in the region.

In light of what I've said, I have been heartened by what I understand is a rising interest in the application of management knowledge to universities. I have told you that I'm not a businessman; I came to the presidency of the nation's largest private university as one who had for nearly a quarter of a century been a practicing politician. But that background did not mean that to lead a university with a very large budget, thousands of employees and thousands of students, I did not have to pay attention to sound management.

So my first general recommendation for the future of the universities of Latin America is, to reiterate, to reform their relationships with governments; my second is to reform the governance and management of your own institutions.

Clearly these recommendations mean looking at new ways of financing universities, evaluating them, managing and governing them.

And these observations lead me to what I want to say about the subject that brought me to Buenos Aires all those years ago--strengthening connections between the United States and universities in Latin America.

Please allow me then to offer a few specific suggestions for forging new links among universities in the United States, Latin America and, where appropriate, Spain.

I know, of course, that over the years, many universities in North America have developed bilateral agreements with universities in Latin America even as universities in the United States have entered into exchanges of student and professors with universities in Europe--and I hope that such relationships not only continue but grow. Expanding international cultural and educational exchanges was one of the chief recommendations of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

But I want to offer a new dimension for your thinking, namely, that we consider much more seriously than we have so far done developing what I would call triangular relationships among universities in the United States, Latin America and Spain.

Let me reiterate here in Buenos Aires that Spanish is now the second language of the United States, that there are 28 million Spanish speakers in my country and that Hispanic voters are playing an increasingly important role in our national politics, as our recent elections made dramatically clear. In California, Florida and Texas, to cite only a few examples, if you seek election to public office, my advice is, "Learn Spanish"!

Let me remind you, too, that modern democratic Spain has now become not only a vital part of the European Union but is also more and more engaged in Latin America. During the last eight years, Spanish merger and acquisition activities in Latin America, chiefly in banking, energy and telecommunications, have totalled 22.7 billion U.S. dollars. And if Spain's economic influence is rising, the United States continues to be engaged in this region, with the comparable figures for the same period reaching 30.1 billion U.S. dollars.

So the triangular economic relationship is already here and expanding.

Why not a triangular university relationship as well? As we look to the next century and new Millennium, are there not activities in which scholars and students from institutions of higher learning in all our countries can engage to our common benefit? I believe the answer is "Yes", and I should like to offer several suggestions for your consideration:

First, we should greatly increase student exchanges. We should make it possible for more students from Latin America and Spain, especially those seeking doctoral degrees, to come to universities in the United States and more of ours to come here and there. I add that I am sharply critical of my

own government for cutting back funds for the Fulbright and similar exchanges, a most shortsighted posture and one to be resisted. Yet I want also to pay tribute to the Executive Director of the Fulbright Commission in Argentina, Dr. Norma Gonzalez, for her work in helping generate over \$1 million in funds from Argentine sources for the Fulbright Program here.

Second, beyond urging governments, business corporations and private foundations to finance becas for student exchanges, all our universities should be much more vigorous in arranging exchanges of professors.

Here allow me to suggest that universities in Spain and the United States can work with universities in Latin America in ways that can benefit all three actors.

For example, U.S. colleges and universities can cooperate in strategic planning, applied research and in demonstration programs with universities in Latin America on substantive projects that range from agriculture and health to business and public administration.

Scholars from U.S. and Spanish universities can collaborate with Latin American institutions in seminars, symposia and courses on foreign affairs, economic policy and cultural issues, and such discussions can be held in all the participating countries. As I have said, the King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center of New York University already has a lively such program.

Particularly valuable will be the opportunity for college and university administrators to share with each other their knowledge and experience in higher education reform, discussing such issues as university governance and campus management, linking institutional capacity to national needs and establishing partnerships with business and government leaders.

I know that the Columbus Project, sponsored by the Conference of European Rectors, has for the last decade been dedicated to "promoting the institutional development of universities by improving management processes and structures essential for implementing long-term strategies and ensuring high performance standards". Some seventy universities from eleven European and thirteen Latin American countries, including Argentina, participate in the Columbus Network. I applaud this "flexible, multilateral program for cooperation between university leaders [such as Dr. Avelino Porto], aimed at the improvement of institutional management".

Let me here add that we are now organizing in NYU's School of Education, what we are calling a "Partnership for International Higher Education Policy Studies". Its purpose is to bring together researchers from both developed and developing countries to build the capacity for higher education policy

work. The Partnership will be characterized by in-country study teams and training for graduate students.

Of course, the development of information technology and the great strengths of institutions in the United States in organizing and communicating scientific and technological information represent an extraordinary opportunity for collaboration on the part of institutions of higher learning in the United States, Spain and Latin America. "Distance learning" is not far distant!

I remind you that over 350 million people in twenty-three countries speak Spanish, the world's fourth most spoken language. And I note, too, that Spanish speakers constitute the second largest unit of Internet users -- nearly one-quarter of the Internet universe, or twenty-six million people. And this segment is tripling annually. I understand that use of the Internet in Latin America skyrocketed 780 percent between 1995 and 1997 and that Internet use in Spain rose by 562 percent between 1996 and 1998--developments fraught with potential not only for business but for education as well.

In proposing that we seek ways of bringing universities in the United States, Latin America and Spain to develop three-way relationships, I would not at all want to weaken the ties between your universities and those in Europe. Rather I am recognizing that the changes in this hemisphere of recent times, economic, demographic and political, open new doors of opportunity to nations with roots in the culture of Spain, and I am suggesting that the universities in all our countries should not lose that opportunity.

There is but one other matter of which I want to say word--democracy. For if the universities of Latin America, Europe and the United States provide the business, cultural, professional and political leadership of our several countries, it is, I believe, imperative that universities also play a role in inculcating the values of a free, open and democratic society.

The current controversy over General Pinochet reminds us that establishing enduring democratic regimes in Latin America remains a challenge even at the end of the twentieth century.

I was pleased in this respect to learn that the Argentine Ministry of Education is pressing classroom activities aimed at teaching civic values. And I was interested to learn that working with the Ministry is Conciencia Nacional because I am chairman of an organization in the United States, the National Endowment for Democracy, which promotes the institutions and practices of a democratic society and which has made grants to Conciencia. Only recently in New York, I met with its impressive leader, Maria Rosa Martini.

But universities can also play a role in strengthening democracy. As both Jorge Balán and Daniel C. Levy have wisely insisted, in shaping an agenda for research on higher education policy in Latin America, it is not enough to focus on modernization. Although, they argue, political economics, public policy-making, management and leadership are all legitimate subjects for university courses, they do not suffice. Universities must also look to the study of democracy, of civil society, freedom, of transitions from authoritarianism, of the consolidation of democratic regimes.

Ladies and gentlemen, allow me to conclude these remarks.

In a most thoughtful address in Paris at last month's UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education, my friend, the distinguished Spaniard who is President of The Club of Rome, Ricardo Diéz-Hochleitner, declared, "Universities cannot...afford to stand off, isolated from society. The evolution of higher education is inexorably linked to the future of our changing world...."

That is what, in my own words, I've tried to say to you this evening.

Please allow me then to reiterate my profound appreciation to you for having honored me with your invitation to become a Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Education of Argentina. I am most grateful.

Second, let me thank you for having permitted me, as a politician-academic from the United States, so candidly to inflict my views on you, as distinguished leaders of education in this great nation, of your universities. I am sure there will be some disagreements with what I have said. But I trust there will be no disagreement in your understanding that I am deeply devoted to encouraging the closest possible ties, especially through education, between the peoples of Argentina and the other countries of Latin America and the people of the United States.

We need each other.

You can learn from us; we can learn from you.

REMARKS OF DR. JOHN BRADEMAS
PRESIDENT EMERITUS, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, AND
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY
KULTURKONTAKT AUSTRIA
ON BEHALF OF THE
AUSTRIAN FEDERAL MINISTRIES
OF EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
AND OF SCIENCE AND TRANSPORT
IN COOPERATION WITH
THE ROYAUMONT PROCESS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

CONFERENCE ON "SOUTHEAST EUROPE - EUROPEAN EDUCATION,
COLLABORATION FOR PEACE, STABILITY AND DEMOCRACY"

GRAZ, AUSTRIA,
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1998

Ladies and gentlemen, I count it a great privilege to have been invited by such distinguished persons as Mr. Gottfried Wagner of KulturKontakt Austria and the European Union Coordinator of The Royaumont Process, Dr. Panayotis Roumeliotis, to offer some remarks at the concluding plenary of this important conference sponsored by KulturKontak on behalf of the Austrian Federal Ministries of Education and Cultural Affairs and of Science and Transport.

I warmly commend all the organizers and participants on what I believe has been a most successful series of discussions.

Please allow me to tell you why I am so enthusiastic about the proceedings and conclusions of this conference and why I salute the participants on their commitment to education as an instrument -- I do not say the only one -- for developing the institutions of democracy and the conditions for peace in this troubled part of the world.

The reasons for my enthusiasm are several.

First, education has played a central role in my own life. My Scots- English-Irish mother was a public school teacher for nearly half a century. My father, a Greek immigrant -- I was the first native-born American of Greek origin elected to the Congress of the United States -- used to tell his children, "I'll never leave you much money but I will leave you all a first-class education", and that, of course, was the richest legacy of all.

I had the opportunity to study at both Harvard and Oxford Universities at the second of which I wrote a Ph.D. dissertation on the anarcho-syndicalist movement in Spain from the mid-1920s through the first year of the Spanish Civil War.

That happy exposure to education caused me, years later, to seek and win election to the United States House of Representatives where I served for more than two decades, all on the Congressional committee with responsibility for education. There I took part in writing laws to support schools, colleges, universities; libraries and museums; the arts and the humanities.

One of the measures I authored, the International Education Act, provided Federal funds to colleges and universities in the United States for teaching and research about other countries.

During my service in Congress, I traveled widely, from the then Soviet Union to China, Eastern Europe, South America and even Austria, to learn as much as possible about peoples and cultures different from my own.

Then, for 11 years, as President of New York University, our country's largest private university, I continued that commitment to international studies and worked to strengthen the University's offerings in the international field.

Already powerful in the study of French civilization, we established the Alexander S. Onassis Center for Hellenic Studies and the Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò. And only last year, I had the honor of welcoming to our campus Their Majesties, King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sofia of Spain, as well as the First Lady of the United States, Hillary Rodham Clinton, to dedicate the King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center of New York University, for the study of modern Spain, its economics, history and politics, and of the Spanish-speaking world, generally.

Now if I bring to our discussion of international education the background of a former student, legislator and university president, I wear yet two more hats that touch directly on the subject of this conference.

Here let me speak of two American organizations both of which I serve as Chairman.

In 1994 President Clinton did me the honor of asking me to chair the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. Composed of 45 persons--32 private citizens and 13 heads of Federal departments and agencies with cultural programs--our Committee is charged by the President with encouraging greater private sector support and more public-private partnerships for the arts and the humanities in the United States.

Last year the President's Committee--of which the First Lady, Mrs. Clinton, is Honorary Chair--released Creative America, a report to the President-- and the country--containing over 50 specific recommendations.

President Clinton and the First Lady endorsed our Committee's recommendations and last year established a "White House Millennium Council", to champion activities throughout the country that will, in the words of the President, "honor the past and imagine the future."

Last month in Prague, the First Lady of the United States, Hillary Rodham Clinton, added an important reminder to that goal: "Honoring the past," she said, "requires us to be honest about our past. To take a hard look about where we have been and who we are in order better to live in the present and imagine a better future."

Hillary Clinton's words remind us all that education, and especially history, provide the foundation for change, and in Southeastern Europe, I would argue, an honest knowledge of the various histories of the region -- freed from the nationalist distortions that dominate much of the current political rhetoric -- is key to shaping a more peaceful and democratic future.

This observation brings me to say a word about the other organization I chair, the National Endowment for Democracy. NED, as we call it, is unusual in the United States in that it is a non-governmental organization financed with government funds.

The purpose of NED is to make grants to private organizations in countries that do not enjoy democracy in order to encourage the institutions and practices of a free, open and democratic society -- free and fair elections, independent media, the rule of law and vigorous non-governmental organizations.

Albeit with modest funds, the Endowment has, among its programs in over 90 countries, sought to address some of the obstacles to democratization in Southeastern Europe. NED grants have contributed to the resolution of inter-ethnic conflict, greater political pluralism and economic reform as well as assisted the NGOs that form the fabric of civil society in the region.

I cannot begin to list all the proposals the Board of NED has considered. But let me note a few of the countries for which grants have recently been approved.

In Bosnia-Herzegovina, with the continuing animosity between Muslims and Croats and where peace remains fragile, in an effort to promote cross-cultural communication and better relations between these two ethnic communities, NED is helping an NGO in Livno, the Center for Civic Cooperation.

In Bulgaria, despite the victory of non-communist forces in presidential and parliamentary elections, genuine participatory democracy is far from reality. NED is assisting the Balkan Forum Civil Association, which teaches people how to be politically active in their own communities.

In Kosovo NED has supported Koha Ditore, the only independent daily newspaper and one of the few reliable sources of information on political and economic developments in the Balkan countries where Albanians live. In Serbia, too, where Milosevic uses the official media to attack his opponents and to disseminate anti-Western propaganda, NED supports Vreme, a weekly magazine regarded as the number one chronicler of events in Yugoslavia and a leading critic of Milosevic.

To generalize, and as all of you know better than I, the advance of democracy has proceeded at a different pace in the various states of the region. Given the different circumstances in each, this is not surprising.

The countries of Southeastern Europe and the Newly Independent States continue to struggle, economically, politically and, as the strife in Kosovo illustrates, sometimes violently. What the National Endowment for Democracy, with its grants program, has demonstrated, is that education can play a crucial role in promoting stability and democracy.

Let me in this respect commend to you the hard work of the European Union's Royaumont Process for Promoting Stability and Good Neighborliness in Southeast Europe, ably led by Dr. Roumeliotis. Through its sponsorship of NGOs in the region, The Royaumont Process is advancing the cause of educational reform and civic development.

This observation leads me to tell you of a related project on which I have been working for the past two years with colleagues in Europe and the United States. We have just established what we are calling the Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeastern Europe. Activities of the Center, located administratively in Salonika, Greece, will be carried out in the several countries of the region. These programs are intended to be multinational in scope, bringing together participants from throughout Southeastern Europe.

Our Advisory Council includes persons from Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, the Netherlands, Rumania, Serbia, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. Our Chairman is Matthew Nimetz, the distinguished diplomat and lawyer who served as Undersecretary of State with Cyrus Vance, is President Clinton's Special Envoy to deal with the dispute between Greece and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and also Deputy to Mr. Vance as the United Nations Secretary General's Personal Representative on the same matter. Ambassador Nimetz and I are the only Americans on the Center's Council; all the others are from the region itself.

The Center is led by our first Executive Director, an outstanding British journalist, Liam McDowall, who gained substantial experience in the region in his former position as UN Spokesman in Sarajevo.

The purpose of the Center's multinational approach will be to foster greater interchange and understanding among the peoples of the area and to build networks among individuals and groups committed to the democratic and peaceful development of Southeastern Europe. We hope very much to cooperate with The Royaumont Process.

The inaugural initiative of the Center is a Joint History Project, an effort that will include organizing seminars and roundtables in which professors of Balkan history from within the region can meet to exchange ideas. Academic narratives of historic relationships are of real consequence in Southeastern Europe, as they are elsewhere. The views the peoples of the Balkans take of their neighbors are extremely important in shaping political attitudes. Here I remind you of President Clinton's words in Sarajevo, "We must make history our friend and not our enemy."

I am very glad to say that a brilliant historian, of Bulgarian origin, now a professor of Balkan history at the University of Florida, Maria Todorova, who spoke to you two evenings ago, has agreed to help organize and coordinate the Joint History Project. Maria Todorov is author of a book I warmly commend to you, Imagining the Balkans (Oxford University Press - USA, 1997).

We believe that the teaching of history is a crucial step in the promotion of tolerance and peace. As many speakers throughout the conference have noted, the violence plaguing this region has its roots in nationalist, religious and ethnic intolerance. As we know, in many cases, these prejudices are being wrongly cultivated by and based on distortions of histories.

As the distinguished Harvard historian, Ernest May, wrote recently:

Students need history -- indeed are crippled without it . On the other hand, history misunderstood or misapplied can do at least as much harm as medical knowledge misunderstood or misapplied... History teachers at all levels need to remember that they are helping students learn the use of a powerful, potentially valuable, but also highly dangerous tool.

If our Center and the Joint History Project can help teach national, ethnic and religious histories without these prejudices, we shall have taken an important step towards eliminating this violence and meeting the goals of this conference.

Our Center has submitted a proposal for support of the Joint History Project to Dr. Roumeliotis and The Royaumont Process and we plan also to invite support for this, I believe, most significant initiative, to the appropriate officials of European Union member-states.

We shall also, I assure you, seek financial contributions from individuals, business firms and private foundations in the United States and Europe.

But the Joint History Project of which I have told you is, of course, only one of the ways in which education can play a constructive part in building democracy and peace in Southeastern Europe.

As we press the cause of education in Southeastern Europe, allow me to voice some concerns, especially in respect of higher education.

First, we must insist on academic freedom. Autonomy of decision-making on the part of universities is essential. Educational institutions should not be subjected to political control of professors and curricula.

Second, we must work to ensure the quality of education. There should be vehicles for evaluation and accreditation. Institutions of learning should be accountable for their results.

Third, civic responsibility, respect for the rule of law and tolerance of others are all principles that can be incorporated into the curriculum. If we teach students to think, analyze and participate and not merely to memorize and imitate, we shall have taken an important step towards creating responsible and active citizens. Such a commitment may require writing new textbooks and establishing new goals for courses.

Finally, we must encourage political and financial support for education in Southeastern Europe. The European Union and the EU member states through Royaumont and in other ways, should assign high priority to funds for schools, vocational and technical institutions and universities in the region.

In this regard, I commend the European Union on its Tempus program which, through its Pharis branch, has provided a strong foundation for sponsorship of higher education programs in Central and Eastern Europe. But we must pursue private sources of funding as well -- individuals, corporations and foundations.

And the United States must follow the European Union's lead. The United States has in many ways set the standard for higher education and must now use its experience and financial resources to encourage the development of education in other areas of the world.

A specific contribution the United States could make to the development of healthy universities in Southeastern Europe is to arrange for American professors and university administrators who are experts on the governance and management of institutions of higher learning to visit their counterparts in the region to give counsel and advice.

Let me note one other concrete illustration from the United States that offers a model that could be most useful in Southeastern Europe : continuing and adult education programs. At New York University, for example, we have a thriving continuing education program which provides invaluable vocational and professional schooling to persons not enrolled in degree programs as well as degree candidates. We use buildings throughout New York City to provide evening education for students many of whom are working full-time during the day.

I bring this particular experience to your attention because I think it relevant to a region in which many communities lack school buildings and where many people who could benefit from new opportunities for learning must be employed or are not interested in a degree program. In such situations, continuing education programs represent a flexible approach to accessible schooling.

Of course, all these issues I have been discussing are not unique to Central and Eastern Europe. Later this month, I shall travel to Argentina to speak both at the National Academy of Education of Argentina and the University of Buenos Aires. In both places I intend to talk about higher education in Latin America. I'll be addressing many of the same issues and concerns we have discussed in Graz and will call for reform of the relationship between governments and universities in Latin America. As I was preparing my lectures on higher education for Argentina and thought about what I would say to you here in Graz, I must confess that I was struck by the similarity, on two very different continents, of the challenges and opportunities.

As we seek to promote democracy, prosperity and peace in the new century and the Millennium soon to begin, educational reform is a crucial issue throughout the world. Certainly the future of Southeastern Europe, in terms of its economic development, the quality of life of its peoples and

the viability of their institutions of democracy depends, powerfully and directly, on the strength of its schools, colleges and universities.

In its understanding of this fundamental fact, KulturKontakt and The Royaumont Process and all of the participants in this conference have made a splendid contribution, and I congratulate you.

I enthusiastically support the significant recommendations of this conference, its focus on education, its call for more cooperation on a regional and multilateral basis, its linking of education to democracy.

I am especially impressed that in establishing a task force, recommending a follow-up conference in Sofia and proposing an interim clearinghouse to provide tangible support for these objectives, the conference participants have undertaken concrete steps to implement their commitments.

As Hillary Clinton said last month in Prague, if we want to have a peaceful and democratic society, we must "invest in people". And the best way way to invest in people is education.