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Thursday, May 27, 1999

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
5-27-99

*Podesta / HRC
very good argument - needs a
FYI - Box
Get on summer then
we have -*

*Copied
Podesta
HRC*

Turning the Tables on School Choice

By Charles Wheelan

CHICAGO
Allow me to propose a thought experiment for my fellow Democrats. Imagine Trent Lott puffing himself up in the well of the Senate and announcing a new Republican education proposal. (Another Republican Senator can be substituted here; Jesse Helms would work nicely.)

The major elements of this proposal are the following: Two parallel school systems will be set up. One will be for poor, predominantly minority students in cities. These schools, housed in crumbling buildings, will offer a low-quality curriculum, stultifying bureaucracy and few extracurricular activities. The other system will be for affluent students, who will be able to choose either to enroll in a private school or move to the suburb with the public school that they favor most. Poor students will not have such a choice; they must attend schools in their neighborhoods.

Imagine Trent (or Jesse or Strom) pounding the lectern, saying, "Under no circumstances will public money be used to allow poor students to attend any school but the one to

Charles Wheelan, a correspondent for The Economist, was a member of the school council at Lincoln Park High School in Chicago from 1995 to 1998.

which they have been assigned!"

How would Democrats react to such a plan? They would rightfully blast it as unfair, racist, inefficient and detrimental to the long-term economic health of the country. Why, then, are they so wedded to the education status quo, which is really nothing more than the hypothetical Republican plan that I have just described?

The Democrats are on the wrong side of the school choice issue. The political explanation for this decision is pathetically simple. The National Education Association, the nation's largest teachers union, is consistently one of the top soft-money contributors to the Democratic Party. At the state level, where education policy is often shaped, the teachers unions are always a potent force. And because the N.E.A. opposes school choice with every fiber of its existence, supporting vouchers

The New York Times

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1999

It's illogical for Democrats to be against vouchers.

would be political suicide for aspiring Democratic candidates.

What is more disturbing (and less easily explained) is that the Democratic Party's intellectual leaders, many of whom are either outside of politics or entrenched enough to withstand an assault from the unions, have attacked school choice with superficial complaints that are far from the heart of the debate.

Democrats say that vouchers will destroy the public schools. This statement makes a great sound bite, but it is probably a better argument in favor of school choice. The supposed logic is that millions of students will stream out of the public schools if given the opportunity, leaving behind a shell of a system. There are two problems with this logic. First, if students — especially the "best" students — will flee public schools like rats from a sinking ship,

then what makes this system so worth protecting? And second, the essence of "public" education is that the government provides an opportunity for all students to attend a decent school, not that all students must attend a publicly operated school. Do we believe that the spirit of Medicare has been compromised because the system uses private hospitals and doctors?

Vouchers will benefit wealthy families who already send their children to private schools. So what? Democrats are at their absolute ugliest when they assume that punishing the rich and the middle class is the same as helping the poor. Is there some logical reason that a family paying \$60,000 or \$80,000 in taxes should not have the right to a subsidized education at a school they deem excellent? More important, vouchers will bolster urban tax bases by stemming the flight of middle-class parents who move out of the city because they do not trust urban public schools and cannot afford private ones. Vouchers are pro-city, which is something that we Democrats are supposed to care about.

Some parents won't exercise their right to choose, or will make a bad choice. Perhaps, but there is ample

evidence — for example, in Milwaukee and Cleveland — that low-income parents will make a great effort to take advantage of voucher programs. When did it become morally acceptable to punish some parents and children for the bad decisions that other parents might make? The Democratic Party has rarely been so patronizing toward the poor.

Democrats also argue that school choice must be a bad idea if the Republicans are so excited about it. Ignore the stupidity of this logic for a moment and recall some recent history. The Republicans were the party of civil rights in the 1950's (with the strongest opposition coming from Southern Democrats). The Democrats took the issue away from them and have done quite well with it.

There are good reasons to move deliberately on school choice. Most important, the data on how effective vouchers would be in improving student achievement are far from conclusive. Several small programs offer reasons to be optimistic. But we don't know that school choice will leave students radically better off, even if we have strong theoretical reasons to believe that it might.

Also, the devil is in the details with voucher plans. How will schools select students? Will parents be able to add money on to the value of their voucher? What schools will be able to accept public dollars? Can religious schools legally participate? How will students with special needs be integrated into the system?

These are the issues that we need to be discussing. But we should stop clinging defensively to a system that, if it were presented to us fresh today, we would blast for what it is: an assault on the poor, a waste of resources and a disgrace to the principles that the Democratic Party stands for.

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Steel Output Rises 1.7% Week-to-Week, Falls 7.7% From Year Ago

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter

WASHINGTON—Raw-steel production by the nation's mills increased 1.7% in the week ended May 22 to 1,991,000 tons compared with the 1,957,000 tons produced the previous week, the American Iron and Steel Institute said.

The week's output was down 7.7% from the 2,156,000 tons produced during the year-earlier period.

The industry used 80.6% of its capacity during the week, compared with 79.4% the previous week and 89.7% a year ago.

Foreign Bonds

Emerging-market bonds ended sharply lower as investors continued selling bonds in large volume. The selling intensified as U.S. stocks retreated.

Emerging markets have been weak since the Fed's decision last week to adopt a tightening bias. That prompted investors to take profits and dump bonds, which few dealers were willing to hold. As a result, emerging-market spreads have given up close to two percentage points.

But traders said they were surprised by the bearish tone permeating the market yesterday. Brazilian Capitalization Bonds dropped 1% to 60% bid, while Mexico's Global bonds due 2026 fell 2% to 105% bid.

Dealers who lost large amounts of money last year after Russia devalued its currency have so far been unwilling or unable to support the market.

Meanwhile, Argentine debt continued to come under pressure on speculation about whether and when the country could move to abandon its current foreign-exchange regime, which pegs the peso to the U.S. dollar. Argentine floating-rate bonds plunged 1% to 81% bid.

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They're still
in numbers →
be -*

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1999

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Albright Says Hussein's Foes Are Building Unified Front

By JANE PERLEZ

WASHINGTON, May 24 — Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright met leaders of Iraqi opposition groups today, the first encounter that she has had with such leaders and an indication of the Clinton Administration's efforts to build a more cohesive opposition against Saddam Hussein.

The meeting between Ms. Albright and nearly a dozen Iraqi opposition leaders occurred as the State Department announced moves to supply the opposition with "nonlethal" aid like offices and communications equipment.

Under the Iraqi Liberation Act that Congress passed last year, \$97 million was made available for lethal and nonlethal aid to seven groups that are intent on overthrowing the Iraqi President.

In January, the Administration appointed a foreign service officer, Frank Ricciardone, as special representative for transition in Iraq and the official responsible for overseeing Administration policy toward the groups.

The Administration decided to move ahead with supporting the groups, whose leaders include Ahmed Chalabi, head of the Iraqi National Congress, despite skepticism at the Pentagon.

In 1996, the northern Iraq operations of the Iraqi National Congress were extensively destroyed by the Iraqi Army and Mr. Chalabi was out of favor with the Administration after that. But he lobbied Congress to pass the \$97 million plan and hoped to have his group designated as the main recipient.

The top American commander in the Middle East, Gen. Anthony C. Zinni of the Marines, warned last year that none of the groups were strong enough to unify the opposition or topple Mr. Hussein.

After Ms. Albright met the opposition leaders, the Assistant Secretary for Near East Affairs, Martin Indyk, said the support for the groups was

one facet of the overall policy to change the Iraqi Government. "This is a political effort from the outside to delegitimize Saddam," Mr. Indyk said.

The broader policy embraced the continuing United States bombing of Iraq, economic sanctions and diplomatic isolation, Mr. Indyk said.

The first money from the \$97 million would be spent on training the opposition groups in civil administration, to help them "move into" Iraq should Mr. Hussein be toppled, a senior Administration official said.

"We're not talking about lethal assistance at this time," said a spokesman for the State Department, James P. Rubin.

The program includes money for a broadcasting system to enable the opposition to send its message into Iraq. The groups would most likely open offices in London, New York and the Middle East.

In announcing the activities, Mr. Rubin said the Administration was embarking on a new policy. "This kind of broad-based political-regime change, overt policy, is a new policy," he said.

He described the opposition that the United States is backing as a "variety" that stretched beyond Mr. Chalabi's interests. Among those groups at the State Department were the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, led by Latif Rashid, and the Kurdistan Democratic Party, led by Hoshiyar Zebari. State Department officials said they were pleased that a centrist Sunni leader in exile, Riyadh al-Yawir, was also present.

Part of the meeting with Ms. Albright was intended to show to the Administration that the frequently squabbling groups had patched up their differences and were reuniting on the goal to overthrow Mr. Hussein, a senior State Department official said.

Head of Federal Drug Agency Says He'll Retire This Summer

By CHRISTOPHER S. WREN

After 39 years in law enforcement, Thomas A. Constantine abruptly announced yesterday that he would step down as the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, which he has headed since March 1994.

Mr. Constantine said his decision was not motivated by political considerations. Now 60 years old, he said, he wanted to return to New York and spend more time with his family. But he has disagreed, sometimes forcefully, with the rest of the Clinton Administration's portrayal of Mexico as a full ally in fighting the flow of drugs into the United States.

Testifying before the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control on Feb. 24, Mr. Constantine asserted that Mexican drug trafficking organizations posed the worst criminal threat to the nation that he had seen in nearly 40 years in law enforcement. Two days later, Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright declared that Mexico was cooperating fully with the United States in drug-fighting efforts.

Mr. Constantine's readiness to criticize Mexico's record on drugs set him well apart from other senior Administration officials. But Gen. Barry R. McCaffrey, the White House's director of national drug control policy, who supported certifying Mexico as a drug-fighter, praised Mr. Constantine yesterday for "his dedication, persistence, seriousness and integrity."

"He did a superb job as the nation's top drug cop," General McCaffrey said.

Mr. Constantine, who said he had planned to announce his retirement last month, expects to leave office by July 1.

"My sense with these things is to make it as quick as you can, and as short a time between when you an-

nounce it and you actually go," Mr. Constantine said in an interview from Arlington, Va., the headquarters of the Federal drug agency.

"What was also important for me was a strong reputation for integrity," he added enigmatically. "I wanted to be able to leave here with it."

He declined to go into details.

Mr. Constantine was the Superintendent of the New York State Police, when President Clinton appointed him head of the Drug Enforcement Administration on March 11, 1994. As Administrator he added more than 1,100 agents, raising the agency's total strength to more than 9,000 agents and supporting employees.

General McCaffrey said Mr. Constantine had "made an enormous difference" in refocusing the drug agency to give more assistance to local sheriffs and police chiefs who were fighting drug trafficking in their areas. This involved dispatching what are called mobile enforcement teams of agents who arrested more than 8,000 suspected drug traffickers around the country.

Under Mr. Constantine, the drug agency also helped the Colombian police dismantle the Cali drug cartel.

Mr. Constantine's successor has not been named. A likely candidate is the agency's Deputy Administrator, Donnie Marshall, a veteran counter-drug agent who was previously the chief of operations.

Mr. Constantine said he hoped to return to New York to teach and to consult for law-enforcement organizations.

"It is totally and completely a personal decision," he said, but then he hinted at a sense of isolation in Washington. "I probably could have stuck around to the end of this Administration, but it would be disingenuous."

Foduta

we need to get someone good to fill the shoes

TTC

The New York Times

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1999

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Here - you need to keep up w/ this - It would build over into the big race, etc given the attention to the police problem -

Be

Prosecutors Move to Drop Cases Linked To Profiling

By ROBERT HANLEY

HACKENSACK, N.J., May 24 — Acting in what they called "the interests of justice," prosecutors have moved to drop drug and weapons charges filed against 21 motorists by two New Jersey state troopers who have been indicted on charges that they singled out black and Hispanic drivers for stops and tried to cover the fact up.

In a motion filed on Friday in New Brunswick, the Middlesex County Prosecutor's office said the 21 cases should be dismissed because they were undermined by an April 19 indictment that charged that the troopers, John Hogan and James Kenna, falsified records by lying about the race of other drivers they had stopped and searched.

Of the 21 drivers whose cases could be dismissed, 19 are either black or Hispanic. The races of the other 2 could not be learned from their arrest records.

Judge Robert A. Longhi of State Superior Court has scheduled a hearing on the motion on Wednesday.

If the cases are thrown out, it will be a result of the State Attorney General's ongoing investigation into charges that some state troopers have for years practiced profiling, the singling out of black and Hispanic drivers for stops, particularly on the New Jersey Turnpike.

Defense lawyers say that the state's willingness to drop these cases, in which all the drivers were stopped or arrested by Troopers Hogan and Kenna, could lead to challenges to overturn dozens of convictions of minority motorists who were arrested by them or by other troopers who may have practiced profiling.

William Buckman, a Moorestown lawyer who has represented several people in profiling cases, said he believed the Attorney General's office had an ethical and legal obligation to share with defense lawyers any new evidence of discriminatory stops that led to conviction of black or Hispanic drivers.

Mr. Buckman also said he expected that those convicted in the past would file appeals charging that the state withheld evidence of profiling or that their lawyers did not raise the issue during trial.

Troopers Hogan and Kenna made the 21 arrests in the months before April 1998 when they opened fire on four young black and Hispanic men riding in a van they had stopped on the turnpike. Three of the van's passengers were wounded. A state grand jury is still considering filing criminal charges against the troopers in the shootings.

Last month, a different grand jury accused the two troopers of falsifying official documents and reporting that black and Hispanic drivers they had stopped were white. Both were suspended from the state police without pay immediately after the indictment. They face arraignment on those charges on Thursday.

In the motion filed last Friday, Lawrence R. West, first assistant Middlesex County prosecutor, said the two troopers were "necessary and essential witnesses" against the 21 people. In the motion, Mr. West said the charges that they had lied on official records prompted his office to seek dismissal of the charges.

The move to dismiss the cases comes nearly six months after the Attorney General's office persuaded state judges to suspend prosecution of these 21 people and 9 others who had been either stopped or arrested by Troopers Hogan or Kenna.

The state asked that the cases be suspended after a Trenton lawyer, Robin Kay Lord, started a court fight in Mercer County to obtain Trooper Hogan's personnel file and any evidence that he had engaged in profiling. Ms. Lord wanted the material to help defend two black men whom the two troopers arrested on drug charges in 1997.

The state argued that surrendering the documents would jeopardize the grand jury investigation of the van shooting.

Two judges granted the state's motion and suspended prosecution of Ms. Lord's 2 clients in Mercer County and 28 others in Middlesex County from Dec. 11 to April 11. The state allowed the suspension period to lapse about a week before the troopers' indictments.

Earlier this month, judges in Mercer County dismissed drug charges against Ms. Lord's two clients.

Seven defendants in the 28 Middlesex cases are not involved in the current dismissal motion. Mr. West said that some pleaded guilty during the suspension period in plea bargains that did not involve jail time and that troopers other than Troopers Hogan and Kenna would testify against the others.

The New York Times

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1999

THE WHITE HOUSE

Staff Secretary

a:boxes.wpd
c:boxes.wpd

From: Ruth Eaglin
Chief of Staff

Date:

5-24-99

5-27-99

To:

Send to Burkhardt

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no

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☐ PAS FT Jobs Binder

☐ Please File

☐ Set up for a Meeting

☐ "C" Binder

☐ Call Me On This

☐ Put on SES list

☐ PAS FT Bds Binder

Remarks:

Gen Paschal asked
me to forward the
Attached: to the President.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Staff Secretary

a:boxes.wpd
c:boxes.wpd

From: Ruth Eaglin
Chief of Staff
Office of Presidential Personnel

Date: 5-24-99

To: *Nancy Hermiech*

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| ☐ For Your Signature | ☐ Please Return Call | ☐ Put on PAS F/T Bds list |
| ☐ Prepare Reply for
Bob J. Nash's Signature | ☐ Reply Directly
- Copy to Me | ☐ Put on PAS Jobs List |
| ☐ Prepare Reply for My Signature | ☐ Acknowledge Referral | ☐ Put on "C" List |
| ☐ For President's Signature | ☐ For Your Action | ☐ Put on PT/BD List |
| ☐ Please Locate Resume | ☐ For Your Approval | ☐ Put Attached Backup In |
| ☐ For Your Information | ☐ For Your Comments | ☐ Put on PT/BD Binder |
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| ☐ Please File | ☐ Set up for a Meeting | ☐ "C" Binder |
| ☐ Call Me On This | ☐ Put on SES list | ☐ PAS FT Bds Binder |

Remarks:

*Gen Paschal asked
me to forward the
Attached: to the President.*



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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109
(617) 223-9317

FAX # 617 223-9324

TEL# 617 223-9317

FAX COVER SHEET

TO:

Ruth Englin
White House

Tel #

Fax #

202-456-2259

FROM:

Jean Paschal
DOE

Number of pages (including cover sheet)

4

Message:

*Please forward to President Clinton's
Office*



Family Life Development Foundation
169 N. Halstead Street
Pasadena, CA 91107
tel 626/744-1133 fax 626/744-1148

May 20, 1999

Jan Paschal
U.S. Department of Education
J.W. McCormick Building Suite 540
Post Office Square
Boston, MA

To be forwarded to President Bill Clinton

Dear Mr. President,

Sammy Sosa's Safe at School - KidsRun is a national awareness program addressing the issues of school violence prevention. We introduced the Safe at School program this March. Over 800 schools representing 400,000 students have requested materials and are participating in the program. Our objective is to provide schools with a year-long anti-violence & bullying program which will include preventative measures, safety and security information, teacher and parent support, workbooks and teaching aides.

The KidsRun program deserves to be immediately expanded to reach more children, parents and teachers.

Dr. James Garbarino, PhD of Cornell University is affiliated with Safe at School. You asked him to deliver the opening remarks at the conference on school violence last week. In a meeting after the conference, both Mrs. Clinton and Mrs. Gore asked Dr. Garbarino to be involved in a national program to address the issues of school violence prevention that they believed could be an important part of the solution. I sent the Safe at School information to both Mrs. Clinton and Mrs. Gore last week. Within the past few weeks several nationally prominent educators have expressed their willingness to create programs for KidsRun. They are experts on issues of violence and bullying. We have also created a dynamic new program promoting "listening" as a solution to problems of violence and bullying that we would like to share with you.

The Safe at School KidsRun program can be part of a solution to rapidly decrease incidents at schools and build more effective communications between children and adults. Please locate the material sent to the White House last week. If one kit cannot be found, I will be happy to send another. Once you have reviewed Safe at School, I am confident that you will recognize the potential long-term benefits.

Sincerely yours,


Fred Powers
Director

FMP/dd
Enclosures

Family Life Development Foundation

169 N. Halstead Street
Pasadena, CA 91107
(626) 744-1133
(av) (626) 744-1148

May 14, 1999

Hillary Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20501

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

In early March, a test project addressing the issues of violent and aggressive behavior by children in schools was introduced. The program is endorsed by David Turner, Director of the Illinois Principal's Association and was developed with Professor James Garbarino, PhD of Cornell University. At the national conference on school violence last Monday, both you and Mrs. Gore indicated to Dr. Garbarino that you are interested in a national program that will address the issues of school violence and bullying. In meeting with Dr. Garbarino in Los Angeles yesterday, he suggested that I send you our project information for your review. Other national educators and organizations support the program. Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs agreed to be the national image for the program called Safe at School, KidsRun. KidsRun was introduced with a proclamation issued by Illinois Governor, George Ryan. The program addresses aggressive behavior and potential preventive strategies.

- Create awareness among students, teachers & parents
- Supply instructional materials for students and effective teacher training
- Establish funding for further research and preventative programs

The program was initiated before the tragedy at Littleton. To date over 800 schools representing approximately 400,000 students requested information or enrolled in the test program. Every school district has students who are disconnected from peers, schools and parents. We know who they are but we do not have the training or resources to help them. Those words were spoken by Julius Maddox, President of the Michigan Education Association in a written response to the events of the past days. The words of Mr. Maddox directly focus on America's great sense of urgency in finding solutions to the crisis in our schools. KidsRun will be an effective step in providing solutions.

Bullying in early ages without counseling and alternative intervention programs progresses to advanced forms of aggressive behavior, and in far too many instances, to criminal offenses. As a result, many of our students exist in an environment of fear and intimidation. KidsRun will help.

In coming weeks, many educators will begin the process of finding solutions to the crisis in our schools. Many of the forums will center on a basic but forgotten skill - the need to listen. The positive impact that effective listening can have on our lives is

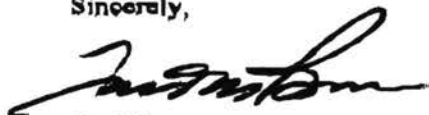
enormous. We have created an educational program based on the need for all of us to listen more.

Mrs. Clinton, The Family Life Development Foundation asks that you support the KidsRun Run-A-Thon this fall by asking the President to proclaim the weeks of September 15-29 as Safe at School / KidsRun Weeks. KidsRun will allow millions of students across the country to participate in an in-school event to support the program. Parents, relatives and friends will be asked to sponsor students as they run the bases with Sammy Sosa in a safe and fun way to create an open dialog between parents and children while raising awareness and funds to find solutions.

Safe at School - KidsRun has been funded by donations from the private sector. This fall every school in the country will have the opportunity to enroll in the program. Fundraising and sponsorship programs are currently being developed to insure that all schools will have access to the program. However, additional immediate funding is needed to continue the project now. We ask that you give this your immediate attention by directing us to a government fund that, at your request, will be able to offer immediate financial assistance to the program.

Questions pursuant to the program can be referred to Fred Powers, Sammy Sosa's KidsRun program at (626)744-1133.

Sincerely,



Fred Powers
Director

FMP/dd
CC: Tipper Gore