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WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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July 19, 1999

Raymond R. Abramson
Post Office Box 281
Clarendon, Arkansas 72029

Dear Raymond:

Thank you for your letter and for sharing the family news. It sounds like you all are doing well.

I appreciate your wise comments on the White River eco-system. I've forwarded your letter to George Frampton, the Acting Director of the White House Council on Environmental Quality. His staff will look into your suggestions and should follow-up with you directly. Thanks for writing to me about this important issue -- and keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Bill

Raymond R. Abramson
Post Office Box 281
Clarendon, Arkansas 72029

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CEA*

Raymond R. Abramson

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Attorney at Law

P. O. Box 281

281 Madison

CLARENDON, ARKANSAS 72029

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E-mail RABRAMSON@futura.net

June 30, 1999

Honorable Bill Clinton, President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bill:

There is a local issue of great importance to me that I would like you to know about. First, I'd like to bring you up to date about our family since we last saw you.

We have now completed the process of restoring my grandparent's home in Holly Grove. As you would expect, Mockie did an outstanding job in her painstaking and artistic way to restore the home to its former glory, and it has been placed on the National Historic Register. It means a lot to me that my children are the fourth generation to be brought up in our family home in Holly Grove, and makes us proud of our heritage and deep roots in the community. We look forward to the time when you will visit us, as you have in all of our previous homes.

Anne is looking forward to her senior year at Phillips Exeter Academy. She continues to excel academically, making top grades and top test scores. She is attending a summer program at Harvard, and we are beginning the college selection process. Emily will become a ninth grade boarding student at Baylor School in Chattanooga this fall, and she is quite excited about the challenge. Mockie and I are equally anxious about having both of our daughters off at school, and becoming premature "empty nesters".

One of my most rewarding and enriching experiences has been my service on the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, to which you appointed me many years ago. This year I am serving as Chairman.

For many years, the Natural Heritage Commission has maintained a fervent interest in the White River eco-system; we have conducted independent studies as well as studies in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and others. I am gravely concerned at this time because a massive navigation project is planned for 258 miles of the lower White River from mile 10 near Gillett all the way up river to Newport. Four irrigation projects are in various stages of planning, project design, or nearing construction. Other irrigation projects are being proposed. Both the Environmental Protection Agency and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service have gone on record opposing the navigation project. Numerous other public interest groups have expressed concern over the impact of this proposed navigation project.

As you know, in its northern reaches, the White River is dammed by Beaver, Table Rock, Bull Shoals, and Norfolk Dams, creating recreation, power generation, and flood control and drinking water for municipalities and industry. Its middle section is world renowned for trout fishing. The lower White River is used for transportation of goods, irrigation, and as a municipal and industrial water source. The lowest 100 miles of the river flows through the White River and Cache River National Wildlife Refuges and is the most important wintering area for mallards in North America. The Big Woods project is an exciting way that the private and public sectors have combined to preserve and protect this precious bottomland hardwood ecosystem that is all but extinct elsewhere in this country. As you know, the lower White River has been designated a Wetland of International Importance, and is a national treasure. Your most loyal and longtime supporters here in Clarendon, Holly Grove, and up and down the lower reaches of the White River are extremely proud of our natural areas, which is a major resource for us. Hunters, fishermen, conservationists, scientists who study wetlands, and non-consumptive users such as hikers, campers, and birdwatchers are vitally interested in our refuges and their preservation.

In your weekly radio address on Saturday, May 29, 1999, you instructed all federal agencies to adopt "a comprehensive strategy to better safeguard rivers and other bodies of water on federal land." I would like to ask you to instruct the federal agencies to focus on the White River as a model for the implementation of that policy. At no point has a comprehensive study been conducted to determine how any one project or use interacts with other projects or uses. More importantly, no study has been conducted to determine the cumulative impact of these uses on the White River. Secretary of the Interior Babbitt has been briefed on these issues, and is scheduled to be in Clarendon on a tour of various Mississippi River Valley projects on July 19, 1999. I believe that his appearance in Clarendon would be the perfect time and place for an announcement that a comprehensive study will be conducted on the White River. The Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission would eagerly support and participate in such a study.

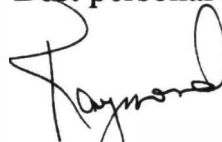
The White River would be the perfect model for a comprehensive study for several reasons. First, the River contains a wide variety of geography, geology, and ecosystems as it flows from the mountains of Northwest Arkansas through the Delta of Southeast Arkansas. Secondly, the River has a diversity of uses from bass fishing and boating on the big lakes, to municipal water use, to irrigation, to hunting and outdoor recreation. Third, it would be tremendously efficient because the White River and its tributaries have been the focus of many different studies, but none have been interrelated or interactive with each other, so it would be cost effective to bring these studies together to form a comprehensive study.

It would be tragic to allow the White River to deteriorate because of a lack of planning and become like the Colorado River, which was used for so many types of projects that the downstream residents often times no longer have the river as a resource. Our government needs to take action to see that no other American rivers and streams suffer the same fate, and I certainly do not want it to happen to the White River.

With an administration decision to use the White River as the model for the implementation of your previously announced policy, you can take a major policy step towards an environmentally responsible balance between the competing uses of our rivers and streams, and preserve the natural heritage which means so much to us locally for our children and generations to come.

Again, I look forward to visiting with you soon, and will be more than happy to discuss these vitally important public policy matters with you or your staff at your convenience.

Best personal regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Raymond R. Abramson

RRA:ls

RAYMOND R. ABRAMSON

Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 281
Clarendon, AR 72029



Honorable Bill Clinton, President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

20300/0001



I'm glad Susan took us back to 1991 when our party had lost 5 of the preceding 6 Presidential elections. It is easy to forget that the Republicans controlled the White House 20 of those 24 years and were poised to become the clear majority party.

First, politically, bringing the Democratic Party back to the center and bringing back the middle class. He did this by turning our weaknesses into strengths, particularly in crime and welfare.

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POTUS

That is a magnificent legacy – a political revolution that brought the Democratic Party back, a record economic boom that is preparing us superbly for the 21st century and a renewed support for the needy. And that legacy isn't completed yet – with 18 months of his presidency left you can be confident that this president, this man of tremendous energy and vision, will not rest until other major goals are reached.

Lee Hamilton
Chicago, Ill.

7-20-99

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He called me about
this. Why not?

RC

Fast Track Isn't Fast Enough

By Mack McLarty

WASHINGTON
"This is our fast track." So said leaders of the European Union last month as they signed the Rio Declaration calling for free-trade talks between the union and Latin America and the Caribbean. Although the obstacles to any substantive agreement are large, this challenge to United States leadership in the hemisphere must not be ignored.

Since Congress failed last year to give President Clinton fast track negotiating authority, trade in the Americas has been stalled. In my view, it is time to rethink our approach. For the sake of free trade, it's time to abandon fast track — at least for now.

Fast-track legislation, developed in the early 1970's to smooth Congressional consideration of trade agreements, now threatens by its absence to stop trade negotiations before they start. Let's put the horse back before the cart. Rather than asking Congress to consider broad, abstract fast-track authority, President Clinton should send Congress a concrete free-trade agreement.

When presented with specifics, Congress repeatedly votes pro-trade. Congress has supported the North American Free Trade Agreement, the World Trade Organization and trade relations with China. A recent poll by the Association of Women in International

Mack McLarty was President Clinton's first chief of staff and his special envoy for the Americas.

Trade shows that Democrats, Republicans, business owners and, yes, even union members support the concept of free trade by a 2-to-1 ratio.

The challenge is to tap this broad support. It is easier to put a human face on trade when tangible benefits are at hand. With a real agreement before Congress, the winners know who they are and can mobilize public opinion. The few hurt by such an agreement can be helped with worker retraining and transition assistance.

The most logical candidate for a free-trade agreement is Chile, a country whose center-left Government shows sensitivity to environmental

labor and environmental provisions. Such an agreement would complement Chile's membership in Mercosur, South America's trade bloc.

Of course, without fast track, Chile could make politically sensitive concessions only to see Congress try to change the agreement. But Chile can stipulate that it will not accept amendments — the same option available to any sovereign state negotiating with the United States. If Chile coordinates carefully with Congress and the Administration, an agreement is within reach.

The United States exports more than \$4 billion worth of goods each year to Chile, amounting to a \$1.5 billion trade surplus. We sell more to Chile, a country of 14 million people, than we do to India, a country of almost a billion. But our companies and workers are now at a competitive disadvantage to competitors in Canada and Mexico, who already have free-trade agreements with Chile.

I see encouraging signs that members of Congress in both parties are tired of the old polarized trade debate. It is time to capitalize on this opportunity. A trade agreement with Chile can be a bridge between South America and North America. As an old friend of mine might say, it would be the bridge to the 21st century. □

Clinton should get specific on trade.

concerns and working conditions, a country whose economy is a model for Latin American and the world.

This spring in Santiago, I urged the Chilean Government and business leaders to renew their quest for an agreement with the United States. I received a warm response, and President Eduardo Frei's new chief of staff — José Miguel Insulza, the former Foreign Minister — recently endorsed such bilateral trade talks.

I now urge the Clinton Administration to stop waiting for fast track. The United States and Chile should begin talks this summer on an agreement, using Nafta as a model. Chile has said that it would comply with the vast majority of Nafta's terms, including

Correction

An article on Sunday about busing in Boston incorrectly stated the author of "Common Ground." The author is J. Anthony Lukas.

7-20-99

Gum

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 It's a pitfall to the government and
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Europe Hit By Tariffs In Battle Over Beef

*U.S. Acts After EU
Ignores Trade Group*

By PAUL BLUSTEIN
 Washington Post Staff Writer

Danish ham, German mustard, French goose liver and a host of other continental delicacies will be hit with punitive 100 percent tariffs in retaliation for the European Union's ban on U.S. hormone-treated beef, the Clinton administration announced yesterday.

The move may be the final, unsatisfying blow in a battle over efforts by U.S. ranchers to sell their beef—nearly all of which comes from cattle injected with growth-inducing hormones—in the European market.

The announcement means that the wholesale prices of the European products on the target list, which total \$116.8 million a year in value, will effectively double, making them impractical to import into the United States. But that won't necessarily change the EU's prohibition on the sale of hormone-treated meat.

The outcome is thus likely to stir debate about the World Trade Organization, which sets the rules for global commerce and adjudicates disputes. The case illustrates that, while the WTO can use leverage to prod its 134 member countries toward more open markets, it cannot force them to change their laws and rules.

Indeed, the case is the second this year in which the WTO decided in favor of a U.S. complaint against the EU's import rules, but the EU failed to change its regulations and instead was obliged to accept harsh U.S. duties on a selected group of goods. Earlier, the WTO decided The other case involves a WTO decision against the EU's system for banana imports, has resulted in U.S. sanctions on \$191 million worth of European products. Other

In the latest case, the WTO ruled against the EU on the grounds that,

despite widespread fears among European consumers over the safety of hormone-treated beef, Brussels' ban is not based on scientific evidence. The WTO gave Washington the right to impose duties on European products equal to the amount of lost sales that American ranchers were estimated to be suffering each year. The duties go into effect July 29.

"Our goal was to have the greatest impact on the EU while minimizing the impact on U.S. interests," said Peter Scher, deputy U.S. trade representative, noting that Washington has sought to inflict pain on four EU members—France, Germany, Italy and Denmark—that appear to be exerting the most influence over the meat-import policy. Britain's products were exempted "because of its consistent voting record against the EU's import ban," Scher said.

"This is the second time in a row the EU has failed to honor its WTO obligations," Scher said. "The EU countries are the only member states of the WTO to fail to honor [WTO panel] findings. . . . We hope the EU will recognize that it alone cannot ignore the rules of the world trading system."

But in effect, the EU is simply exercising its right to keep the WTO from infringing on its sovereign powers—a right that members of the U.S. Congress, among others, insisted on when the WTO was created. Under the WTO system, a country whose import rules are found in violation can either change its rules, accept punishment in the form of tariffs against some of its products, or provide mutually agreeable

compensation to the complaining country.

Yesterday, acting EU trade commissioner Leon Brittan reiterated Brussels' view that "compensation is a more constructive approach than these sanctions." But Washington has rejected one compensation offer, which would increase the EU's import quota for hormone-free beef from the United States. So few cattle are raised without hormones on American

ranches that the offer is viewed as worthless by the U.S. beef industry.

But the two sides remain far apart over the most obvious compromise: a proposal to label U.S. beef sold in Europe. The Europeans say they would be willing to allow the import of hormone-treated beef if it were labeled as such, but the U.S. side insists that any label should simply state the country of origin.

The Washington Post

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 1999

7-20-99

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 16, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JOE LOCKHART
GENE SPERLING
LORETTA UCELLI

SUBJECT: MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE NEW MARKETS TOUR

We wanted to forward to you a compilation of national and regional print and television news coverage from your recent New Markets tour. Your tour received excellent local and television coverage, as well as coverage by all major national newspapers.

We are circulating this packet to White House staff and others who worked to put this trip together.

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Photo Office

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album for my personal collection
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and Congressmen on Friday
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and soon —

The President's New Markets Tour

July 5-8, 1999



Overview and Press Summary

MOZARK PRODUCTIONS

7-20-99

July 14, 1999

Send to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒no ☐

President Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, DC 20501

99 JUL 20 PM 12:50

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you again for taking the time last March to meet with my friends at the Feminist Majority. As you know, some progress has been made involving the issues discussed that day, but there's still much that has not been done that could be done.

I know that you have a larger picture to consider, and are certainly in possession of more information than is available to us. However, in the spirit of moving forward and achieving our mutual goals, I am enclosing a list which enumerates our most current concerns and recommendations. Ann Lewis, who has been so receptive and helpful to us, has also been provided with a copy.

We are extremely encouraged and grateful for all that you have already done on behalf of restoring human rights to the women of Afghanistan. Our event in Los Angeles (of which your film was such a compelling part) was so successful, we are planning to duplicate it in New York in the fall. We feel the momentum is with us and our just cause.

Anything you can do to address any of the enclosed recommendations will be received with profound and lasting gratitude from all concerned.

Sincerely,



Linda

P.S. That was a fabulous Saturday soccer day! Another great memory for Harry and me, made possible by you - thanks and love, LBT.

Feminist Majority Foundation
Campaign to Stop Gender Apartheid in Afghanistan
Policy Recommendations

1) We commend the Executive Order blocking property and prohibiting commercial transactions with the Taliban. However, the Taliban should be isolated not only because of Osama bin Laden and terrorism, but also because of their abhorrent treatment of women and girls. We urge that the sanctions should include in their purpose U.S. opposition to gender apartheid and that the sanctions should not be removed until the rights of Afghan women and girls to education, to health care, to employment, and to mobility are restored fully and permanently. We are concerned that if the Taliban turns over bin Laden that the sanctions would be removed and that the willingness and ability of the U.S. to pressure the Taliban to restore women's human rights would be diminished.

The U.S. should also place additional sanctions on Pakistan and condition trade with Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates until they withdraw all support from the Taliban. The Taliban depends on Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. The sanctions should be widened to include institutions within Pakistan, which extend expertise, ship equipment and fuel, provide funds, and dispatch personnel into Afghanistan.

2) The United States has essentially closed the door on Afghan women and girl refugees. Blocking the admission of Afghan women and girls as refugees, shores up the Taliban. Despite numerous meetings with the State Department since our meeting with the President, we are no closer to increasing the admission of Afghan women and girls overall and only somewhat closer on the scholarship program. On the scholarship program, we now have a letter from the State Department endorsing the scholarship program, but we are worried that very few women and girls will be allowed to enter the country for this program and that there has been no commitment of U.S. dollars to this program. We have found it extremely difficult to get Afghan women and girls into the U.S.. For example, we have hit nothing but roadblocks in our efforts to assist in three tragic cases of Afghan women and girls trying to gain refugee status. We believe that the UNHCR is hindering the ability of Afghan women and girls to come to the U.S.

To overcome this stalemate, we must streamline the process of admission of Afghan refugees by creating a P-2 Category that includes Afghan women and girls. P-2 status would allow admission of Afghan refugees without involvement of the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR) and without the need for each person to show how they individually were persecuted by a regime which clearly persecutes classes of people along gender and ethnic lines. Moreover, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) must set up a processing center in Pakistan to further facilitate the admission of women and girls to the United States.

The United States also must significantly raise the quota of refugees allowed into the U.S. from Afghanistan. One of the cases that we are trying to help involves a well-known Afghan woman journalist whose family members are being terrorized by the Taliban because she has spoken out against the Taliban in Afghanistan. If her family were safe in the United States, this journalist could help expose the brutalities of the Taliban to the U.S. public and policy makers. On the scholarships,

3) The Feminist Majority Foundation is assisting in the cases of several specific women and their families who are seeking admission to the United States as refugees.

The first case involves the niece of Dr. Zieba Shorish-Shamley, an Afghan-American who directs the Women's Alliance for Peace and Human Rights in Afghanistan. The niece's dying mother arranged for her daughter, Maryam Shams, to marry an Afghan-German doctor so that she could escape the Taliban. Rather than saving Maryam's life, this man, who has a record of trafficking young women in these dire circumstances, brutally raped, sodomized, and abused the nineteen-year-old for

the three months that she has been in Germany. She is now in hiding with her American aunt in Germany. Currently, she is seeking both Humanitarian Parole status from the INS in Rome and refugee status from UNHCR in Germany.

The second case is Dr. Sohaila Nader, who is an Afghan woman doctor of Hazara ethnicity seeking admission to the U.S. for herself, her two children, and her mother, who are currently in hiding from her husband who is a member of the Taliban. Her husband in his position as a Talib has used beatings, threats, and imprisonment to apply Taliban law to her and her family. UNHCR denied her application because she is not divorced from her Talib husband, who will not allow a divorce and if he gained custody of the children would prohibit the daughter from attending school and force the son to go to a madrasa (Taliban training school).

The third case is the family of the Afghan woman journalist, Nazira Karimi. After a long battle, Ms. Karimi was admitted as a U.S. refugee last year. Her widowed mother, teen-aged sister and young brother have been targeted, tortured, and threatened with death by the Taliban. Despite a Taliban decree against the Karimi family, the UNHCR denied her family's application which prevents them from entering the United States.



EMBASSY OF GHANA
3512 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008

99 JUL 20 PM12:49

Tel. No. (202) 686-4520

Fax: (202) 686-4527

Telex: GHANAEMB 64539

Date: July 20, 1999

No. of Pages 2
(Including cover sheet)

TO:

Name: Mrs. Betty Currie
Company: White House

Fax No.: 202 456 1210

City/Country:.....

FROM:

Name: Ambassador Koby Koomson

SUBJECT:

MESSAGE:

Grateful bring the attached for the attention of
His Excellency the President. Regards.

7/20/99
Send to NSC? ☒
Yes ☒
No ☐

This message is intended only for the use of the add
that is privileged and confidential. If you are not
that any dissemination is strictly prohibited. If yc
in error, please notify us immediately by telephone



REPUBLIC OF GHANA

THE CASTLE
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ACCRA**20 JULY, 1999*****Excellency,***

I learnt with anxiety the disturbing news about the missing aircraft on which one of the finest sons of America, Mr. John F. Kennedy Jr, his wife and sister-in-law were travelling. While the search for the missing aircraft was going on our fervent prayers were for the safety of those on board.

We are deeply saddened by the confirmation that the aircraft has been given up for lost and those aboard are believed to have perished.

On behalf of the people, the Government of Ghana, Nana and in my own name, I extend to you, the Kennedy and Bessette families and the entire American people, deepest condolences for this tragic loss. May the victims find eternal peace.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**FLT. LT. JERRY JOHN RAWLINGS
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF GHANA**

**HIS EXCELLENCY
MR. WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
PRESIDENT OF THE ~~UNITED~~
STATES OF AMERICA
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
U.S.A.**

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PK

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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Gore
Herchel Guber
Bunkhardt

July 19, 1999

Harry G. Kelly
11406 Dunbeath Drive
Houston, Texas 77024-2712

Dear Harry:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter. I really appreciate all your wise comments.

I've passed along your letter to the Vice President and to Hershel Gober at the Department of Veterans' Affairs. You've raised some good questions there, and I know they'll look into them.

Thanks for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

Harry G. Kelly
11406 Dunbeath Drive
Houston, Texas 77024-2712

EP

HARRY G. KELLY 11406 Dunbeath Drive Houston, Texas 77024-2712 713-467-9531

July 12, 1999

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500-2000

Dear President Clinton:

Since I last wrote, several things have occurred that merit my commendation and notice. Here are some of those occurrences:

Kosovo

Except for the news media and the GOPP¹ candidates running for office, Americans are pleased with your success in Kosovo; which success was *without loss of a single life to enemy action*. Now Television's attack-media are beside themselves, wearing their saddest funeral faces. One could believe that those creatures have recently lost their closest family member. But I say to you, "Well done, Mr. President!"

The FBI

Surely copies of Anthony Summers' *Official and Confidential-The Secret Life of J. Edgar Hoover* (1993) should be supplied to every agent within today's FBI.² Though Hoover has been dead a quarter century, FBI agents still quake and duck whenever one mentions Hoover's multiple crimes, whether official or personal. The FBI's position seems to be that the *actual* crimes of Hoover did not occur by reason of the fact this is contrary to the official FBI posture. This is awkward for the agent who must knowingly spout a party line that is so plainly *mashuggah* that it would be flattery to call it stupid.³

I departed a Crawford County farm on July 6, 1949, and signed in the following day at the Little Rock Field Office of the FBI. Four years later, I had finished pre-law and law school, and I enlisted for three years in the Army Counter Intelligence Corps. Fifty years later, on July 7, 1999, I came through Little Rock and stopped at the FBI Field Office, believing the Bureau might allow me to sign its daily Sign-In Book on the 50th anniversary of my first signing. This was not to be; five decades have lent the FBI no discernible sense of humor. A receptionist stated there is an employees sign-in book, but none (as I well knew) "for visitors." But the agent who visited with me stated that today the FBI has no employee sign-in book.

I suggested the devil would be to pay when the late "J. Edna" learns that his sign-in books have been abandoned. Defending the agency view that Hoover died a vestal and heterosexual

¹ GOPP indicates the Grand Old Pornography Party.

² Because the Summers book is now seven years old, there are likely more up-to-date Hoover biographies available that better tell the sordid life of J. Edgar Hoover. The FBI fights hard, but the FOIA permits our scholars to continue to chip away at the FBI's closely held secrets of Director Hoover.

³ Crimes attributed by Summers to Hoover include: tax evasion, theft of Government and other property and funds, deviant sex with a subordinate employee, solicitation and receipt of gifts from subordinates, off-track betting, et al.

virgin, the agent opined that all of the documented tales of Mr. Hoover are believed groundless. Thanking the agent for his courtesies, I asserted that Truth, the supposed fort of the FBI, is better known to the book-reading public outside the Bureau. No doubt, the agent has now prepared and forwarded a CYA memorandum for my personnel file of 50 years ago.

The FBI's first rule is still: **"Don't embarrass the Bureau."** In the 1950s, an Arkansas prosecutor was prosecuting a defendant in an Arkansas bank robbery. This defendant was known to the FBI because of his alleged bank robberies in other states. I recall hearing the assigned FBI case agent ponder whether he should embarrass the Arkansas prosecutor with the fact that his defendant had been incarcerated in another state at the moment the bank in question was robbed in Arkansas. I never learned the outcome of the case agent's moral dilemma.

Today's article from the Associated Press reports that, in addition to Martin Luther King, Jr., the FBI once pursued King's successor, Ralph David Abernathy, "looking for the same type of 'immoral activities.'" . . . "FBI spokesman Tron W. Brekke said the Abernathy files 'should be viewed in their historical context and should in no way infer that the FBI currently initiates investigations utilizing the standards of that era.'" There was never a "historical context," then or now, which justified these violations by Hoover's FBI. Hoover once justified his pursuit of King by supposing that King had communist connections. I don't recall that this claim was ever made with regard to Mr. Abernathy. What are the "standards" employed by the FBI today?

The Department of Veterans Affairs

Something should be done soon about the medical care provided to veterans by the new Department of Veterans Affairs. Correction is needed *before* the Year 2000 and the GOPP's discovery of how poorly budgeted, and how marginal is the present medical care for veterans. As a service-connected veteran of the Korean Era, I once received VA medical care for diabetes mellitus that arose during my Army years. As Houston's District Director of Customs, the time lost on a visit to the VA diabetic clinic gradually increased from just two hours to more than five hours. Thereupon, I ceased to visit the VA diabetic clinic (paying for my insulin and medical care), but continuing to use the VA dental care that is an accepted (essential) part of diabetic medical care.

Circa two years ago, the VA began billing two-dollar "co-payments" whenever a painkiller, antibiotic, or other drug is used in conjunction with a procedure that does not relate to the veteran's service-connected disability. The VA's pharmacy personnel now bill me on the mistaken premise that the VA dental clinic cannot be the source of *diabetic care*. Service by this VA pharmacy has *admittedly gone to hell* as more and more personnel are used to spend twenty dollars billing and collecting two- or four-dollar co-payments. As one who gave three years of honorable Military Service, I am insulted, and angry, that I am *mistakenly* billed for these co-payments. Doctors in the dental clinic admit that it's an error, but when a veteran asks for an opportunity to protest the mistaken billing of a co-payment, the VA pharmacy will not supply the VA procedures (if any exist). The responses to telephone queries are that "Our Miss FNU says you do not qualify for an exception." A visit to the office of the (absent) hospital director gets a promise that "The Director will call you," but the director never calls.

Six weeks ago, the chief of the VA dental clinic, without prior notice, declined to supply *scheduled* dental care and apprised me that my dental care had been terminated until I forward a letter from my personal doctor certifying that I need dental care as part of my regimen of diabetic care. My own private doctor supplied the requested letter weeks ago, but the VA dental clinic has

not bothered to respond. The dental chief is reportedly confronted with an annual "straight-line budget" that will not increase even were his workload to double or triple.

An acquaintance, a Marine Corps veteran, is now approaching eighty years of age. This retired veteran's last W.W. II assignment was in China, where he helped to protect the defeated Japanese from the earnest anger of Chinese nationals. He was directed to a local VA official about the VA hospital's refusal of needed medical care. He waited until the official returned from a late lunch. Entering the VA office, he found the official sitting with both feet placed in the center of his desk. The veteran waited patiently while the official straightened a piece of paper-clip wire and proceeded to carefully pick his teeth. When done, and with both feet still in the desk's center, this officer asked sternly, "Well, what do you want?" When the veteran explained that he had delayed asking for the refused care, the response was: "That's what they all say." Today, this old gentleman regrets that he did not physically address the wantonly discourteous treatment by the VA official. Truly, the new Department of Veterans Affairs has bureaucrats who seem to delight in giving short shrift to needy and deserving veterans.

At the appropriate time, Vice President Gore should discuss improving the VA Department's care for disabled veterans. He should publicly ponder why a Republican congress saddled the VA with spending twenty dollars of its budget to collect a two-dollar co-payment for needed drugs, which co-payment collections are reportedly not usable by the VA as part of its current budgetary needs. The VA management should be admonished for proposing recent budgets that are palpably and grossly inadequate. The incumbent Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that it is his plan to retire, "as soon as he has aided in the preparation of the VA's next budget." If he is responsible for the present VA budgetary mess, this Secretary should be invited to depart forthwith.

Birth of Wyatt Gore Schiff

In a friendly column today, David S. Broder reports that Vice President Al Gore has become a grandfather, on July 4, 1999, thereby kicking in the G Factor! Give Grandfather Gore our congratulations and best wishes, and tell him to keep giving the GOPP hell. My first grandchild, William Dover Kelly, is nearly 15 months old. He is learning to treat "GOP" as a naughty word.

Wishing you and the First Lady continued health, happiness, and success, I am

Sincerely,



Harry G. Kelly

Tax cuts: What's behind the partisan posturing

By David R. Francis
Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

The tax-cut debate in Washington has become almost unreal.

"Kind of an Alice in Wonderland atmosphere," says Fred Ross, a budget consultant for the Washington Research Group.

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer (R) of Texas last week introduced a bill chopping \$864 billion in taxes over 10 years. Senate Republicans are developing a competing plan that slashes roughly \$792 billion over 10 years.

Probably the House and Senate will pass these bills before the August recess.

But they won't become law. President Clinton will veto any such bill, as the Republicans know.

Meanwhile, liberally inclined think tanks issue scholarly reports blasting the Republican proposals for giving most of their tax relief to the already well-to-do.

"House GOP targets tax cuts: Rich, richer, richest," proclaims Citizens for Tax Justice (CTJ), referring to the Archer plan.

According to CTJ director Bob McIntyre, 60 percent of the income-tax rate cut will go to the best-off tenth of all taxpayers. So will 91 percent of the cut in capital-gains taxes and virtually all of the estate-tax cuts.

"They [Republican leaders] are just doing it for show," says Mr. McIntyre. "It will not happen anyway."

So what's the score? Why the fuss? Earlier, Archer even trotted out a life-and-drum corps, red, white, and blue balloons, and tiny American flags to announce the basic components of his proposal to the press.

These are "message bills," reckons Martin Sullivan, an

Election-year politics have both sides staking out bargaining room. Look for a fall compromise.

economist with Tax Notes, in Arlington, Va. They're Republican wish lists.

"As the 2000 election draws closer, the Republicans do not want to lose their identity as the tax-cutting party," he notes.

Further, the Republicans argue that it is necessary to deprive Washington and the Democrats of money that could be blown on program expansions.

"We believe the people can spend their money more wisely than the bureaucrats in Washington," Archer told the media.

It's also political fund-raising time for the parties, notes Mr. Ross.

The biggest beneficiaries of Archer's tax cuts would be those most likely to give to Republican politicians.

Another goal of the tax legislation is to stake out tax turf for a possible bargaining session with the White House.

Though criticizing the Republican tax cuts as being too large, Clinton often indicates there is room for a "sizable" tax cut.

The experts suspect a compromise deal will be hashed out in September or October involving perhaps \$200 billion in tax cuts plus some extra spending sought by both the president and by Republicans in Congress.

"It will look a lot like the Clinton plan," predicts Ross.

With the budget in surplus, the president's veto power gives the White House extra clout. If no deal is reached, the surplus goes automatically into saving Social Security and slashing federal debt — two goals of Clinton.

Indeed, Iris Lav, an economist with the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington,

says no tax cut at all would be "the best outcome this year."

One reason for that view stems from the laws of mathematics. Since the prosperous pay most of the nation's income tax, almost any type of tax cut benefits mostly those in upper-income brackets.

Low-income workers pay little if any income tax, but do pay a goodly chunk of their income in Social Security and Medicare tax.

Further, Ms. Lav's center calculates that after locking up the surplus revenues of Social Security to "save" the system, there will be little left over for tax cuts.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates a \$996 billion surplus over 10 years. Lav says that's a "mirage" arising from unrealistic

assumptions. A more realistic surplus estimate is \$110 billion over 10 years, she says.

But there may be more money available.

The Congressional Budget Office just upped its estimate of the surplus this fiscal year to \$120 billion. Budget expert Ross says \$125 billion to \$130 billion, maybe \$140 billion. If Ross is right, Congress could have it all — extra spending plus tax cuts.



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Next Week

Not old enough to drive, but they sure can run a business.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Saudi

FYI - H. D. Abdullah for

Mr. PRESIDENT

THAT WAS ONE SPECTACULAR NITE!!

I spoke to Amb Walid MUALLEM at
About noon yesterday from DAMASCUS.

He said They were ready.

"ready to start from where they left off
in 1996 - THE TIME FACTOR IS ESSENTIAL.

WE MUST NOT WASTE TIME!!

We really appreciate all that
you are doing and being able to
be helpful to you in any way.

All our thanks to Hillary and
to you for your wonderful hospitality
it was a great evening.

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Berger
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Dan & Eve

Podesta/Gow/Preed/
C. Jennings
cc HRC, M. Penn
one under their?

7-20-99

Report Says Profit-Making Health Plans Damage Care

By SHERYL GAY STOLBERG

WASHINGTON, July 13 — Patients enrolled in profit-making health insurance plans are significantly less likely to receive the basics of good medical care — including childhood immunizations, routine mammograms, pap smears, prenatal care, and lifesaving drugs after a heart attack — than those in not-for-profit plans, says a new study that concludes that the free market is “compromising the quality of care.”

The research, by a team from Harvard University and Public Citizen, an advocacy group in Washington, is the first comprehensive comparison of investor-owned and nonprofit plans. The authors found that on every one of 14 quality-of-care indicators, the for-profits scored worse. But because the researchers favored national health insurance, some questioned their findings.

“The market is destroying our health care system,” Dr. David U. Himmelstein, associate professor of medicine at Harvard University Medical School and the study’s lead author, said in a telephone interview. “We have had a decade or more of policies aimed at making health care a business, and they have failed.”

Investor-owned health plans, which are typically made up of loose networks of doctors, have come to dominate the American medical landscape in recent years. These plans, offered by companies like Aetna, U.S. Healthcare and Cigna Healthcare, last year covered 62 percent of all patients in H.M.O.’s, as compared to 26 percent in 1985. Yet most research on quality of care in H.M.O.’s has focused on traditional nonprofits, among them Kaiser Permanente in California, and H.I.P., based in New York.

The new study, which appears this week in the Journal of the American Medical Association, analyzed quality-of-care data from 248 investor-owned and 81 not-for-profit plans in 45 states and the District of Columbia. These plans provided coverage to 56 percent of all Americans enrolled in H.M.O.’s in 1996, the year from which the patient information was drawn.

Among the findings: In profit-making H.M.O.’s just 63.9 percent of 2-year-olds were fully immunized, as compared to 72.3 percent in nonprofits. Lifesaving beta-blocker drugs were given to 59.2 percent of heart attack patients in for-profit plans,

but 70.6 percent of patients in nonprofits got the drugs. Diabetes patients were less likely to receive annual eye exams to prevent blindness in profit-making plans; the figure was 35.1 percent, as against 47.9 percent in nonprofits.

The investor-owned plans fared worse, the authors said, even when all other factors, like location of the plan, and whether the doctors were employees or members of networks, were taken into account. While the study had certain limitations — it did not examine how patients fared, for instance — the authors, who paid for the research themselves, said the data were the best available.

The study is being published just as the Senate is embroiled in a divisive debate over how to protect patients’ rights and regulate H.M.O.’s. While the authors say the timing is coincidental, the work is already influencing the discussion. In a statement released today, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, the Massachusetts Democrat who is pushing for H.M.O. regulation, said the research “contains strong new support for H.M.O. reform.”

But representatives of the insurance industry, which opposes regulation, argue just the opposite. They say the study demonstrates that, even at their worst, health maintenance organizations provide better care to patients than fee-for-service arrangements that were common 10 years ago.

“The best conclusion that can be drawn from this study is that managed care is improving the quality of health care for those Americans that are covered by health plans,” said Susan Pisano, a spokeswoman for the American Association of Health Plans, which represents both for-profit and nonprofit plans.

Ms. Pisano also accused the authors of confusing “analysis and ideology.”

Dr. Himmelstein did not dispute that he had a bias. “My bias is that for-profit H.M.O.’s kill people,” he said.

But Eli Ginzberg, a health care economist at Columbia University who did not participate in the study, said Dr. Himmelstein’s political views did not discredit the Harvard professor’s work.

“There is no question that he has an agenda, but I think he is reading his data correctly,” said Professor Ginzberg, adding that it was hardly surprising that nonprofit plans deliver better care. “Let’s face it, people went into the for-profit managed care business to make bucks,” he said. The study was made public here today at the offices of Public Citizen, whose director, Dr. Sidney M. Wolfe, was a co-author.

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The New York Times

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 1999

Podesta (Genu)

This is a theme we should
explore - can we get Grammlich or anyone
to suggest a big cut would lead to a tax increase?

Would Tax Cuts Prove a Bit Too Stimulating?

By LOUIS UCHITELLE

For all the recent talk of cutting taxes, Congress rarely cuts them when the economy is growing robustly, as it is today, and unemployment is low. The worry among economists is that the extra money in people's pockets may make an already strong economy too strong, finally stoking inflation after a long period of relatively stable prices.

Yet that danger is hardly mentioned in the rising public debate over the Republican and Democratic proposals for tax cuts.

Why not? In part, it is because the advocates of the tax cuts, as well as many of the

opponents, agree that any reductions will probably be small, at least in the initial years. And few analysts expect any final tax cut to come close to the \$864 billion over the next decade that has been proposed by House Republicans.

"Most of the tax cut proposals are phased in gradually over a number of years," said Senator Connie Mack, Republican of Florida, the chairman of Congress's Joint Economic Committee and the author of a proposal to cut taxes by \$137 billion over 10 years, most of it toward the end of the period. "I think the immediate economic stimulus will be small," he said.

The Federal Reserve, however, is concerned. "If taxes were cut while the na-

tion's resources are highly employed, that would put more pressure on monetary policy," Edward M. Gramlich, a Fed governor, said. He suggested, in effect, that the Fed might have to raise interest rates to prevent the extra spending that would overstimulate the economy. Others worry that the higher rates might reduce investment or bring down inflated stock prices, damaging the economy through these avenues.

Stock prices should already be reacting to the prospect of a tax cut, some people say, but they have not so far because too many people on Wall Street express doubt that tax cut legislation will be enacted

Continued on Page 25

Continued From First Business Page

before next year's election — or soon afterward, for that matter.

"A bunch of friends on Wall Street have asked me why the markets are so quiet about the tax cut proposals," said James E. Glassman, a senior economist at Chase Manhattan Bank. "Wall Street is unusually quiet because it realizes that there will just be gridlock on this issue near term — a lot of proposals and no real action."

Still, Mr. Gramlich's concern reflects a view widely shared among economists — that broad tax cuts tend to stimulate spending and therefore should be reserved for recessions or periods of slow growth. In the early 1960's, President John F. Kennedy proposed a tax cut in this spirit, and President Ronald Reagan's tax cuts, which started during a recession, contributed to the long expansion in the 1980's.

By contrast, President Lyndon B. Johnson's 10 percent income tax cut, carrying through on the original Kennedy proposal, came when the economy had turned from the weak Kennedy years to the much more robust mid-1960's. The Fed responded by raising rates.

And the altered mix was damaging, says Alan S. Blinder, a Princeton University economist who served as Fed vice chairman from 1994 to 1996. The new mix — higher interest rates to offset more fiscal stimulus from the tax cut and from stepped-up spending for the Vietnam War and for the Johnson social programs — shifted the economy toward consumption and away from investment. Inflation also got a foothold.

Some economists contend that fiscal policy has lost its punch since the 1960's while monetary policy has evolved to the point that the Fed can regulate the economy through interest rate adjustments, offsetting tax cuts without damage.

"Monetary policy administered by the Fed is far more important as far as economic stabilization is concerned and regulating aggregate demand," said James Gwertney, the Republican-appointed chief economist of the Joint Economic panel.

Mr. Blinder disagrees. Monetary policy has its limits, he said. A tax cut offset by higher interest rates today "would reverse the policy mix that we have followed in the 1990's with such splendid effect: low interest rates and high corporate investment," Mr. Blinder said.

Henry Kaufman, a Wall Street economist and consultant, adds a related reason for not using the budget

surplus to finance tax cuts, as both parties now propose. "With the surplus, we could have some timely fiscal action when the economy goes inevitably into recession," he said. "We would not for once have to worry about deficit financing."

Clinton Administration officials say that their more modest tax cut proposal gets around the problem of encouraging too much consumption. By offering incentives, particularly to the poor, to invest the tax cuts in retirement accounts, they say, private savings will rise, and the savings will then be available for corporations to borrow and invest in productive equipment.

But many economists say that such tax rebates would not go dollar for dollar into retirement accounts. Upper-income people in particular have the wherewithal to shift savings from one account to another to qualify for a tax refund, which would then be spent on consumer goods, according to this view. That has been the experience with individual retirement accounts.

This is not the supply-side view. For supply-siders, tax cuts — particularly a Republican proposal to reduce the capital gains tax on the profit made from the sale of stocks and other assets — encourage investment by reducing its risk. While supply-siders are a distinct minority among economists, they are a vocal one in the incipient debate about a tax cut's effect on the economy.

In their view, suppliers, not consumers, are the chief economic actors. And suppliers respond to tax cuts by investing their capital in new supply. Far from stimulating demand beyond an economy's capacity, the supply-siders say, a tax cut increases the supply of goods and services, which are then consumed.

No one pushes this view harder than Jude Wanniski, an economics consultant and adviser to Steve Forbes and various other Republicans involved in tax-cutting proposals. "The Government, by cutting tax rates, is simply removing the barrier to investment," he said.

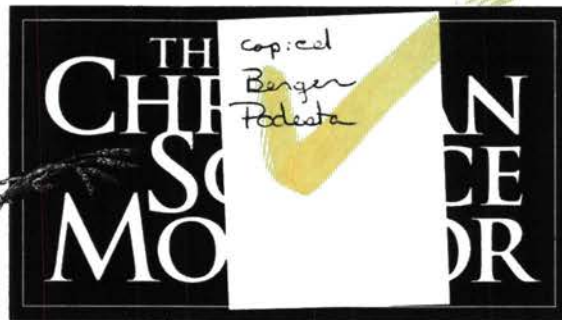
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The New York Times

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 1999

'To injure no man,
but to bless all mankind'

BOSTON • MONDAY
JULY 19, 1999



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
7-20-99

Blockbuster summer Hollywood is breaking box-office records, yet all is not well for the industry.	3
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'YOU GO, GIRL'



DAVID J. PHILLIPS

HER TURN: Eileen Collins will command the space shuttle.

Going where no woman has gone before

By Peter N. Spotts
Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

WHEN Air Force Lt. Col. Eileen Collins straps into the left front seat of the space shuttle Columbia tomorrow morning, she will shatter a glass ceiling first erected 38 years ago.

In 1961, NASA selected 13 women as astronaut candidates for the Mercury program. None led a mission. But now, for the first time in the history of US spaceflight, a woman will command a crew heading for space.

During Colonel Collins's 21-year career, she's bucked cockpit machismo in the Air Force and endured a death threat. But while she's keenly aware of her unique standing, she adds, "I didn't come here to be the first woman in any position. I came here because I love to fly... and I wanted to be an astronaut."

That's enough to make Donna Welstrop, a former NASA contractor, downright giddy. Watching Collins during a television interview Friday.

See **COLLINS** page 5

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The personal relations of peace

■ For President Clinton and Israeli Prime Minister Barak, first step in Mideast progress may be forging a friendship.

By James N. Thurman
Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

WASHINGTON - Emerging from the diplomatic whirlwind of Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak's current trip to the United States is at least one apparent disappointment.

The Israeli leader, President Clinton has learned, does not golf.

That shortcoming aside, aides say, the two men are forging a genuine friendship that may infuse the Mideast peace process with a fresh promise not felt since 1993, when Mr. Clinton presided over a historic handshake between Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and the late Israeli leader

Yitzhak Rabin.

Since then, US-Israeli relations have deteriorated badly - along with prospects for peace. Thus, to many analysts, creating a bond between Clinton and the newly elected Mr. Barak is as important a goal for this trip as any of the specific issues still to be resolved.

"They are genuinely hitting it off," says a senior administration official, that the president quietly invited

See **PEACE** page 10

QUEST FOR PEACE



VINCENT YU/AP

TUNING IN: Pedestrians in Hong Kong follow the latest developments in the John F. Kennedy Jr. disappearance via a giant TV screen. Newspapers and news shows around the world have been filled with the story for two days.

JFK JR.

In Kennedy family saga, a sad chapter

By Alexandra Marks
Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

NEW YORK - Since before he was even born, John Fitzgerald Kennedy Jr. has been an intimate part of America's family album.

During the 1960 presidential campaign, stories about the young Kennedy family and their forthcoming child filled women's magazines and the popular press. Before he was a year old, 'John-John' graced the cover of Life magazine in a white playsuit, chewing on a toy rooster.

The next time the little boy appeared on

'He grew up in the camera's eye,... he maintained his dignity in the camera's eye.'

- Neal Gabler, media critic

Life's cover, just shy of his third birthday, he and his sister, confused and uncertain, clutched their mother's hands at his father's funeral.

Since then, the news media have obsessively chronicled his coming of age, recognizing that - even with the passage of decades - America could never quite shake its fascination with the young man who, for many, came to symbolize the hope lost in the Camelot of his father's administration.

Kennedy himself, at first a reluctant celebrity, eventually acquiesced to the media demands.

See **KENNEDY** page 4

Serbs warn of civil war prospect

■ Opposition leaders urge peaceful change as discontent with Milosevic regime rises.

By Alex Todorovic
Special to The Christian Science Monitor

KRAGUJEVAC, YUGOSLAVIA - As Serbia's opposition mobilizes to try to oust Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, some of the leaders are urging that change must occur peacefully.

But the need for such public statements points to a tension that could explode into another conflict, this time pitting Serb against Serb.

"Civil-war wounds last the longest and heal the hardest," Vuk Draskovic, leader of the Serbian Renewal Movement, warned Saturday at a demonstration that drew 20,000. "Serbia must avoid the danger of civil war."

For now, the smell of revolution does not hang in the air. Many people are deterred by the possibility of further destabilization in a region beset by a decade of fighting.

But discontent is increasing. Yugoslav Army reservists, for example, are upset because most have not received back pay from the war in Kosovo. Some opposition members say the Army would turn on the police if the police used force to quell protests.

See **YUGOSLAVIA** page 10

USA/WORLD

Peace often forged from strong personal relationships

PEACE from page 1

Barak into the most private parts of the White House, showing him family photos and some of the rare books he collects.

The effusive reception is intended to move US-Israeli relations to firmer ground for negotiations with Israel's Arab neighbors, as well as to give Clinton a legacy of progress toward lasting peace in the Middle East.

Last week, Barak was invited to visit Camp David, the site of the historic accords reached between Israel and Egypt during the Carter years. "This is a major symbolic gesture to have your first meeting and [then] be whisked off to Camp David," says Richard Murphy of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.

BARAK has also met with the administration's national security team - a relationship he fostered when serving under Mr. Rabin. "Clinton seems to regard Barak as son and heir of Rabin," says Mr. Murphy. At a White House dinner in his honor, Barak was toasted for his efforts to rejuvenate a peace process that had faded during the tenure of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The relationship between American presidents and Israeli

leaders, while always mindful of the larger importance, have often been tumultuous. Tensions between Clinton and Mr. Netanyahu became so severe, they were described as poisonous.

Similarly, affairs between President Bush and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir became so strained that US loan guarantees were put on hold. Many believe Mr. Shamir's relationship with Washington contributed to his political downfall.

During the Carter years, when the hard-fought Camp David accords were forged between Israel and Egypt, personality and friendship played key roles. President Carter ordered psychological profiles of Israeli leader Menachem Begin and Egyptian leader Anwar Sadat, believing a knowledge of the personalities involved was vital to success.

But on a human level, Mr. Carter was profoundly moved by his friendship with Mr. Sadat. So much so that after a White House meeting, he brought Sadat into his private residence and woke up his young daughter, Amy, so he could introduce the two. "I felt a strange rapport with that man that has been almost



GREG GIBSON/AP

A GROWING FRIENDSHIP: Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak waved from the White House lawn as the Clintons swept him off to Camp David last week.

unequaled in my life," Carter told a group last fall, pointing out that the friendship often provided the cohesion needed to keep the leaders at the table.

Carter did not share the same closeness with Mr. Begin. "Despite not getting along with Begin,

Carter thought he was stubborn but had respect for him," says Shibley Telhami at the Brookings Institution in Washington.

As Camp David illustrated, a strong friendship can make all the difference in tenuous negotiations. "It can make it easier to

take you over the inevitable period of tensions," says Herbert Kelman at the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University. "It helps, but won't necessarily make the difference between yes and no in a negotiation."

Others suggest Barak should take full advantage of the good press and get to know as many Washington officials as possible.

"Barak has to be careful not to focus all of this relationship with the US on the presidency," says Zoe Danon Gedal at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. "There are reports he will ask for a tremendous amount of assistance. To get that, he'll need a good relationship with the congressional leadership."

At a joint news conference today, the two leaders are expected to announce renewed military cooperation, more than \$40 million for the Arrow antimissile system, and solid support for the \$3 billion in economic aid for Israel.

The negative side of warming US-Israeli relations is its effect among Palestinians. Observers warn it could undermine their ability to extract concessions in the bargaining process.

Tension in Serbia leads to thoughts of civil war

YUGOSLAVIA from page 1

as it did in 1996 and 1997.

"The most likely scenario is that a conflict between the police and demonstrators will escalate into something else," says retired journalist Nebojsa Magdeski, who founded the independent Yugoslav news agency FoNet. Mr. Magdeski spent many years covering civil wars for Tanjug, Yugoslavia's official news agency.

"Another likely scenario for conflict is that security personnel hired by various political parties could start a conflict among themselves. Such scenarios will be more likely in fall when students come back to school," Magdeski says.

In the event of civil war, Mr. Milosevic could likely count on the loyalty of special units, especially the 72nd Brigade located in Belgrade. The Red Guard, which numbers roughly 5,000 soldiers, would also likely remain loyal to Milosevic, as would special units in the police.

But reservists and the professional Army might very well disobey Army commands and even fight against the police, according to Magdeski and members of the opposition.

Vladan Batic, the director of the Alliance for Change, told a crowd of several thousand in the Serbian town of Kraljevo last week that the Army would not remain allied to Milosevic.

"The Army, the people, the Alliance for

Change," Mr. Batic shouted.

The Alliance for Change is a coalition of opposition groups that has been holding rallies across Serbia over the past few weeks. The Alliance is planning a massive civil disobedience campaign in late August or early September whose goal is to force the resignation of Milosevic.

Crucial weight to movement

Mr. Draskovic's rally Saturday, in Kragujevac, was the first his Serbian Renewal Movement has led since the war in Kosovo. A central Serbian town, Kragujevac was hard hit during and after the war; the Zastava car factory that employed 38,000 was heavily damaged by NATO bombs, and the town was flooded by refugees from Kosovo.

Some see Draskovic's entrance into demonstrations as adding crucial weight to the opposition movement. His speech was aimed at trying to unite disaffected sectors of Yugoslav society: For Montenegrins, he avoided any mention of monarchy; for disillusioned members of Milosevic's Socialist Party, he offered a transitional government that would not take revenge on other figures in the Milosevic regime; and he avoided any mention of the police or Army to win their support.

Draskovic also spoke of the disunity that has repeatedly plagued the opposition movement. "What could ruin this large and last chance to peacefully move past our



DAVE HERRING - STAFF

tremendous misfortune? Our own irresponsibility is our largest problem and enemy. Things are said which can only hinder our goals."

Some are hopeful of peaceful change. Asked how he saw change happening - a "Hitler scenario" or "Romania scenario," for example - opposition Democratic Party president Zoran Djindjic says an "Indonesian scenario" is most likely. He thinks a popular uprising on the street could force relatively peaceful change.

Yugoslavia, furthermore, may be too tired for more violence. "People's energy for fighting was depleted during the war [in Kosovo]. I don't foresee the possibility of civil war," says Miroslav Lazanski, a military commentator close to the Milosevic regime.

Patterns from the past

Serbs have a turbulent history of settling affairs at critical moments in their history by internal strife.

World War II was also a civil war in Serbia. A number of factions fought against the Communist Partisans and sometimes against one another, while the country fought a guerrilla war against the Nazis.

In 1903, the repressive authoritarian regime of Serbian King Alexander Obrenovic came to a violent end when he was assassinated by a group of his own officers. King Alexander had suspended the Constitution in 1888.

Yugoslavia's government today has eerie parallels. The opposition considers the Milosevic government unconstitutional because it does not recognize Montenegro's ruling party in federal government and because parliamentary procedure has not been followed in parliament.

The New Democracy Party, which is opposed to Milosevic, was stripped of its seats in federal parliament last week, and a number of temporary martial-law decrees were permanently codified.

*Scheduling
done
cc: scheduling
per [unclear]
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 19, 1999

The Honorable Garry Moore
Christchurch City Council
Civic Offices
Post Office Box 237
Christchurch 1
NEW ZEALAND

Dear Garry:

Thank you for your letter and for the gift
book on Christchurch.

I do hope I'll have the opportunity to visit
your beautiful city during my trip to New
Zealand in September. I have alerted my
scheduling office about this possibility, and
they will be in touch with you as further plans
are made.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Garry Moore
Christchurch City Council
Civic Offices
Post Office Box 237
Christchurch 1
NEW ZEALAND

7/20/99
Send to Scheduling
Yes ☒
No ☐

C

Office of the Mayor



22 June 1999

The President
The White House
WASHINGTON DC 20500

Dear Mr President

I was delighted to learn that you are interested in visiting Christchurch during your short visit to New Zealand in September of this year. I thought you would enjoy the enclosed book about Christchurch so that you can get a feel for what our city is all about.

September is the beginning of Spring in our city and is a really beautiful time to visit. Christchurch is a small city on global standards, yet the city is the major education, manufacturing and technology base for New Zealand.

Our international airport is modern, safe and close to the central city. It welcomes many daily national and international flights, and is not only the gateway to the South Island of New Zealand but also the main gateway to Antarctica. The United States Antarctic Base is located alongside the Christchurch International Airport.

One of the very special things about Christchurch is the significant number of beautiful parks and public gardens in the central city, many of which were gifted to the city by early residents. Christchurch won the international Nations in Bloom Award in 1997, giving it recognition as the 'Garden City of the World'. The present day residents have a commitment to ensuring a healthy and sustainable landscape and environment for the future generations.

The city infrastructure is modern and easily accessible. Surrounding the city is a recreational paradise including skiing, golfing, climbing, sporting and water activities.

I hope that you can visit Christchurch within your busy schedule and when you do I look forward to meeting with you.

Yours sincerely

Garry Moore
MAYOR

JUL 12 1999

Office of the Mayor

JB



Schubert

21 June 1999

His Excellency Mr Josiah H. Beeman
Ambassador
Embassy of the United States of America
PO Box 1190
WELLINGTON

Jo
Dear Ambassador Beeman

Enclosed is a letter to The President, inviting him to visit Christchurch when he is in New Zealand in September. Attached to the letter is a pictorial book on Christchurch.

I would appreciate it very much if this correspondence could be sent on to Washington DC.

Yours sincerely

Garry Moore
MAYOR

H.E. Mr. Josiah Horton Beeman
Ambassador
American Embassy
P.O. Box 1190
Wellington, New Zealand

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

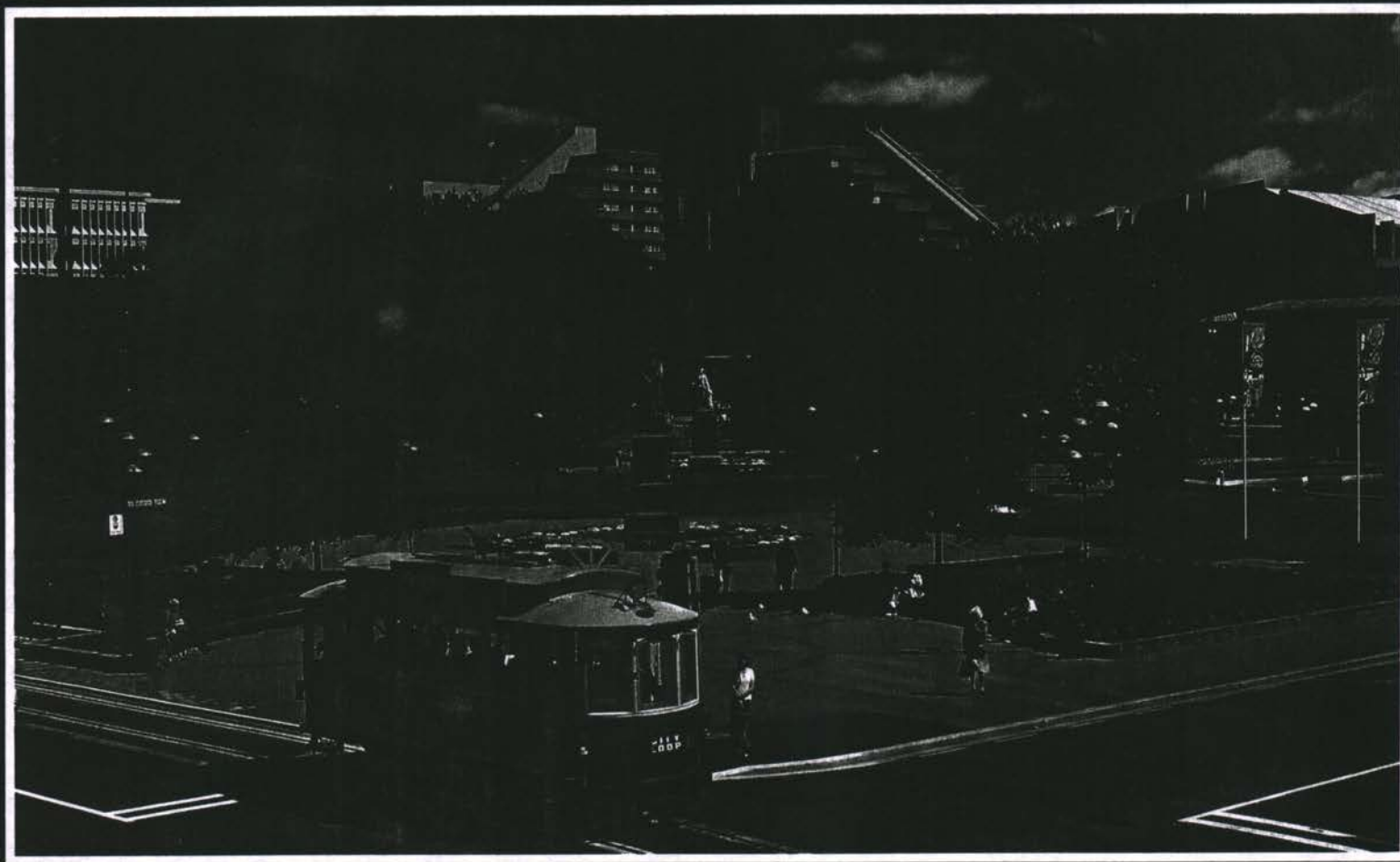
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**TIME SENSITIVE
DO NOT DELAY**

**WHITE HOUSE
MAIL SECTION**

CHRISTCHURCH

A CITY FOR ALL SEASONS



CANTERBURY, NEW ZEALAND

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 24, 1999

1999 JUL 20 PM3:29

Dear Mr. President:

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Barbara Boxer

Schumer Proposal to Make College Tuition Tax Deductible

The Schumer Plan:

- Makes up to \$12,000 in college tuition tax deductible;
- Allows anyone with a top marginal tax rate of 28% or less to take the full deduction (joint filers earning up to \$104,000, single heads of households earning up to \$89,500, and single filers earning up to \$62,450);
- Gives taxpayers in the 28% bracket a maximum benefit of \$3,360 per college student per year;
- Allows parents to choose between Hope Scholarships and the tax deduction based on what is best for them;
- Has a budgetary impact of between \$45 and \$50 billion over ten years, according to preliminary estimates by the Joint Tax Committee.

The Schumer Plan does not:

- Make room and board tax deductible;
- Allow any tuition beyond the \$12,000 cap to be tax deductible;
- Replace Hope Scholarships

Talking Points

- This is a way to differentiate the Democratic tax plan with the GOP tax plan.
- It will be seized upon by the press as a major difference in the two plans and will put the GOP on the defensive.
- It is a very simple but powerful message – “The Democratic Plan Makes College Tuition Tax Deductible.”
- The Schumer campaign promise to make college tuition tax deductible caught like wildfire. Now other candidates are using it. It shows the power of the message.
- It is good, forward-thinking policy in an ideas, 21st century economy.
- The Democrats need a provision that is clearly for the middle class in the Democratic tax bill.
- Since 1980, the cost of college tuition has increased faster than any other major consumer item – including health care which we all acknowledged as a cost crisis. Tuition has increased faster than inflation for 20 consecutive years.
- Only 14 of the top 50 universities (as listed in *U.S. News and World Report*) had college tuition of less than \$12,000, and all but 4 of those colleges were less expensive than \$12,000 for in-state students only.
- Targeted tax cuts are more popular than broad-based tax cuts.

COMMITTEES:

BANKING

JUDICIARY

RULES

CHARLES E. SCHUMER
NEW YORK

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

SENATOR CHARLES E. SCHUMER

313 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

(202) 224-6542/FAX (202) 228-3028

TO: Ms. Betty Curry

FROM: Elizabeth G. Stanley

FAX: 202.456.1210

PHONE: 202.456.1414

DATE: 7.20.99

PAGES TO FOLLOW: 2
