

*celia letter to Emerson
this comment
Be*

WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*please enclose
Bosnia remarks
11/27*

*cc: wjnc. Stephanie
Streett / Anne Walley*

January 16, 1996

S. Daniel Stracner
Ameron, Inc.
245 South Los Robles Avenue
Pasadena, California 91101-2984

Dear Dan:

Thanks so much for your letter, especially for what you said about Bosnia. Having just returned from visiting with our troops, I was heartened to receive your words of support for our peace-keeping efforts over there. I believe the American people will support our mission as they see it unfold. At any rate, it is clearly the right thing to do.

Thanks, too, for the invitation to speak at a Town Hall of Los Angeles meeting. While I never know what my schedule will hold, I've shared your letter with my schedulers, Stephanie Streett and Anne Walley, to make them aware of your personal recommendation.

I, too, hope we have the chance to visit soon. Please send my regards to Barbara.

Sincerely,

Bin

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT
ON BOSNIA

November 27, 1995

The Oval Office

Good evening. Last week, the warring factions in Bosnia reached a peace agreement, as a result of our efforts in Dayton, Ohio, and with the support of our European and Russian partners. Tonight, I want to speak with you about implementing the Bosnian peace agreement, and why our values and interests as Americans require that we participate.

Let me say at the outset, America's role will not be about fighting a war. It will be about helping the people of Bosnia to secure their own peace agreement. Our mission will be limited, focused and under the command of an American general.

In fulfilling this mission, we will have the chance to help stop the killing of innocent civilians, especially children; and at the same time, to bring stability to Central Europe, a region of the world that is vital to our national interests. It is the right thing to do.

From our birth, America has always been more than just a place. America has embodied an idea that has become the ideal for billions of people throughout the world. Our founders said it best: America is about life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

In this century especially, America has done more than simply stand for these ideals. We have acted on them and sacrificed for them. Our people fought two world wars so that freedom could triumph over tyranny. After World War I, we pulled back from the world, leaving a vacuum that was filled by the forces of hatred. After World War II, we continued to lead the world. We made the commitments that kept the peace, that helped to spread democracy, that created unparalleled prosperity, and that brought victory in the Cold War.

Today, because of our dedication, America's ideals -- liberty, democracy and peace -- are more and more the aspirations of people everywhere in the world. It is the power of our ideas, even more than our size, our wealth and our military might, that makes America a uniquely trusted nation.

With the Cold War over, some people now question the need for our continued active leadership in the world. They believe that,

much like after World War I, America can now step back from the responsibilities of leadership. They argue that to be secure we need only to keep our own borders safe and that the time has come now to leave to others the hard work of leadership beyond our borders. I strongly disagree.

As the Cold War gives way to the global village, our leadership is needed more than ever because problems that start beyond our borders can quickly become problems within them. We're all vulnerable to the organized forces of intolerance and destruction;; terrorism; ethnic, religious and regional rivalries; the spread of organized crime and weapons of mass destruction and drug trafficking. Just as surely as fascism and communism, these forces also threaten freedom and democracy, peace and prosperity. And they, too, demand American leadership.

But nowhere has the argument for our leadership been more clearly justified than in the struggle to stop or prevent war and civil violence. From Iraq to Haiti, from South Africa to Korea, from the Middle East to Northern Island, we have stood up for peace and freedom because it's in our interest to do so and because it is the right thing to do.

Now, that doesn't mean we can solve every problem. My duty as President is to match the demands for American leadership to our strategic interest and to our ability to make a difference. America cannot and must not be the world's policeman. We cannot stop all war for all time, but we can stop some wars. We cannot save all women and all children, but we can save many of them. We can't do everything, but we must do what we can.

There are times and places where our leadership can mean the difference between peace and war, and where we can defend our fundamental values as a people and serve our most basic, strategic interests. My fellow Americans, in this new era there are still times when America and America alone can and should make the difference for peace.

The terrible war in Bosnia is such a case. Nowhere today is the need for American leadership more stark or more immediate than in Bosnia. For nearly four years a terrible war has torn Bosnia apart. Horrors we prayed had been banished from Europe forever have been seared into our minds again. Skeletal prisoners caged behind barbed-wire fences; women and girls raped as a tool of war; defenseless men and boys shot down into mass graves, evoking visions of World War II concentration camps; and endless lines of refugees marching toward a future of despair.

When I took office, some were urging immediate intervention in the conflict. I decided that American ground troops should not fight a war in Bosnia because the United States could not force peace on Bosnia's warring ethnic groups, the Serbs, Croats, and Muslims. Instead, America has worked with our European allies in searching for peace, stopping the war from spreading, and easing the suffering of the Bosnian people.

We imposed tough economic sanctions on Serbia. We used our air power to conduct the longest humanitarian airlift in history, and to enforce a no-fly zone that took the war out of the skies. We helped to make peace between two of the three warring parties, the Muslims and the Croats. But as the months of war turned into years, it became clear that Europe alone could not end the conflict.

This summer, Bosnian Serb shelling once again turned Bosnia's playgrounds and marketplaces into killing fields. In response, the United States led NATO's heavy and continuous air strikes, many of them flown by skilled and brave American pilots. Those air strikes, together with the renewed determination of our European partners, and the Bosnian and Croat gains on the battlefield, convinced the Serbs, finally, to start thinking about making peace.

At the same time, the United States initiated an intensive diplomatic effort that forged a Bosnia-wide cease-fire and got the parties to agree to the basic principles of peace. Three dedicated American diplomats -- Bob Frazier, Joe Kruzell and Nelson Drew -- lost their lives in that effort. Tonight we remember their sacrifice and that of their families. And we will never forget their exceptional service to our nation.

Finally, just three weeks ago, the Muslims, Croats and Serbs came to Dayton, Ohio, in America's heartland, to negotiate a settlement. There, exhausted by war, they made a commitment to peace. They agreed to put down their guns; to preserve Bosnia as a single state; to investigate and prosecute war criminals; to protect the human rights of all citizens; to try to build a peaceful, democratic future. And they asked for America's help as they implement this peace agreement.

America has a responsibility to answer that request, to help to turn this moment of hope into an enduring reality. To do that, troops from our country and around the world would go into Bosnia to give them the confidence and support they need to implement their peace plan. I refuse to send American troops to fight a war in Bosnia, but I believe we must help to secure the Bosnian peace.

I want you to know tonight what is at stake, exactly what our troops will be asked to accomplish, and why we must carry out our responsibility to help implement the peace agreement. Implementing the agreement in Bosnia can end the terrible suffering of the people -- the warfare, the mass executions, the ethnic cleansing, the campaigns of rape and terror. Let us never forget a quarter of a million men, women and children have been shelled, shot and tortured to death. Two million people, half of the population, were forced from their homes and into a miserable life as refugees. And these faceless numbers hide millions of real personal tragedies. For each of the war's victims was a mother or daughter, a father or son, a brother or sister.

Now the war is over. American leadership created the chance to build a peace and stop the suffering. Securing peace in Bosnia will also help to build a free and stable Europe. Bosnia lies at the very heart of Europe, next-door to many of its fragile new democracies and some of our closest allies. Generations of Americans have understood that Europe's freedom and Europe's stability is vital to our own national security. That's why we fought two wars in Europe. That's why we launched the Marshall Plan to restore Europe. That's why we created NATO and waged the Cold War. And that's why we must help the nations of Europe to end their worst nightmare since World War II -- now.

The only force capable of getting this job done is NATO, the powerful, military alliance of democracies that has guaranteed our security for half a century now. And as NATO's leader and the primary broker of the peace agreement, the United States must be an essential part of the mission. If we're not there, NATO will not be there. The peace will collapse. The war will reignite. The slaughter of innocents will begin again. A conflict that already has claimed so many victims could spread like poison throughout the region, eat away at Europe's stability and erode our partnership with our European allies.

And America's commitment to leadership will be questioned if we refuse to participate in implementing a peace agreement we brokered right here in the United States, especially since the Presidents of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia all asked us to participate and all pledged their best efforts to the security of our troops.

When America's partnerships are weak and our leadership is in doubt, it undermines our ability to secure our interests and to convince others to work with us. If we do maintain our partnerships and our leadership, we need not act alone. As we saw in the Gulf War and in Haiti, many other nations who share our goals will also share our burdens. But when America does not lead, the consequences can be very grave, not only for others, but eventually for us as well.

As I speak to you, NATO is completing its planning for IFOR, an international force for peace in Bosnia of about 60,000 troops. Already, more than 25 other nations, including our major NATO allies, have pledged to take part. They will contribute about two-thirds of the total implementation force, some 40,000 troops. The United States would contribute the rest, about 20,000 soldiers.

Later this week, the final NATO plan will be submitted to me for review and approval. Let me make clear what I expect it to include, and what it must include, for me to give final approval to the participation of our Armed Forces.

First, the mission will be precisely defined with clear, realistic goals that can be achieved in a definite period of time. Our troops will make sure that each side withdraws its forces behind the front lines and keeps them there. They will maintain the ceasefire to prevent the war from accidentally starting again. These efforts, in turn, will help to create a secure environment, so that the people of Bosnia can return to their homes, vote in free elections and begin to rebuild their lives. Our Joint Chiefs of Staff have concluded that this mission should and will take about one year.

Second, the risks to our troops will be minimized. American troops will take their orders from the American general who commands NATO. They will be heavily armed and thoroughly trained. By making an overwhelming show of force, they will lessen the need to use force. But unlike the U.N. forces, they will have the authority to respond immediately, and the training and the equipment to respond with overwhelming force to any threat to their own safety or any violations of the military provisions of the peace agreement.

If the NATO plan meets with my approval, I will immediately send it to Congress and request its support. I will also authorize the participation of a small number of American troops in a NATO advance mission that will lay the groundwork for IFOR, starting sometime next week. They will establish headquarters and set up the sophisticated communication systems that must be in place before NATO can send in its troops, tanks and trucks to Bosnia.

The implementation force itself would begin deploying in Bosnia in the days following the formal signature of the peace agreement in mid-December. The international community will help to implement arms control provisions of the agreement so that future hostilities are less likely and armaments are limited, while the world community, the United States and others, will also make sure that the Bosnian Federation has the means to defend itself once IFOR withdraws. IFOR will not be a part of this effort.

Civilian agencies from around the world will begin a separate program of humanitarian relief and reconstruction, principally paid for by our European allies and other interested countries. This effort is also absolutely essential to making the peace endure.

It will bring the people of Bosnia the food, shelter, clothing and medicine so many have been denied for so long. It will help them to rebuild -- to rebuild their roads and schools, their power plants and hospitals, their factories and shops. It will reunite children with their parents and families with their homes. It will allow the Bosnians freely to choose their own leaders. It will give all the people of Bosnia a much greater stake in peace than war, so that peace takes on a life and a logic of its own.

In Bosnia we can and will succeed because our mission is clear and limited, and our troops are strong and very well-prepared. But, my fellow Americans, no deployment of American troops is risk-free, and this one may well involve casualties. There may be accidents in the field, or incidents with people who have not given up their hatred. I will take every measure possible to minimize these risks, but we must be prepared for that possibility.

As President my most difficult duty is to put the men and women who volunteer to serve our nation in harm's way when our interests and values demand it. I assume full responsibility for any harm that may come to them. But anyone contemplating any action that would endanger our troops should know this: America protects its own. Anyone -- anyone -- who takes on our troops will suffer the consequences. We will fight fire with fire -- and then some.

After so much bloodshed and loss, after so many outrageous acts of inhuman brutality, it will take an extraordinary effort of will for the people of Bosnia to pull themselves from their past and start building a future of peace. But with our leadership and the commitment of our allies, the people of Bosnia can have the chance to decide their future in peace. They have a chance to remind the world that just a few short years ago, the mosques and churches of Sarajevo were a shining symbol of multi-ethnic tolerance; that Bosnia once found unity in its diversity. Indeed, the cemetery in the center of the city was just a few short years ago a magnificent stadium which hosted the Olympics, our universal symbol of peace and harmony. Bosnia can be that kind of place again. We must not turn our backs on Bosnia now.

And so I ask all Americans, and I ask every member of Congress, Democrat and Republican alike, to make the choice for peace. In the choice between peace and war, America must choose peace.

My fellow Americans, I ask you to think just for a moment about this century that is drawing to close and the new one that will soon begin. Because previous generations of Americans stood up for freedom and because we continue to do so, the American people are more secure and more prosperous. And all around the world, more people than ever before live in freedom. More people than ever before are treated with dignity. More people than ever before can hope to build a better life. That is what America's leadership is all about.

We know that these are the blessings of freedom. And America has always been freedom's greatest champion. If we continue to do everything we can to share these blessings with people around the world, if we continue to be leaders for peace, then the next century can be the greatest time our nation has ever known.

A few weeks ago, I was privileged to spend some time with His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, when he came to America. At the very end of our meeting, the Pope looked at me and said, "I have lived through most of this century. I remember that it began with a war in Sarajevo. Mr. President, you must not let it end with a war in Sarajevo."

In Bosnia, this terrible war has challenged our interests and troubled our souls. Thankfully, we can do something about it. I say again, our mission will be clear, limited and achievable. The people of Bosnia, our NATO allies, and people all around the world are now looking to America for leadership. So let us lead. That is our responsibility as Americans.

Good night and God bless America.

S. DANIEL STRACNER
VICE PRESIDENT, COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Bill,

I am astonished at the politicians and pundits who contend that you have not make a persuasive case for sending American troops to Bosnia. I assure you that I was persuaded to support the cause of peace both by your speech and your subsequent actions in Europe. I deeply admire the courage and conviction that led you to your difficult decision.

One thing that particularly bothers me is the number of people who are trying to compare our mission in Bosnia to the Vietnam conflict. As a former Army officer and a Vietnam-era veteran (and, I hasten to add, an active member of Veterans Against the Vietnam War back in the early '70s), I abhor, as I know you do, the thought of sending American soldiers into a military quagmire of the sort that killed four of our high school classmates. But to compare the role of our troops in Bosnia to the situation we faced in Vietnam is an appalling oversimplification. When the subject comes up, this is what I've been telling my colleagues: "Bosnia is not Vietnam, and Bill Clinton is not Lyndon Johnson. There has never been an American President more alert to the dangers of military intervention and escalation than the man now sitting in the White House. He would *never* send troops into harm's way unless it were absolutely necessary. It's time to rally behind him—unless you want to bring back the Cold War and leave it as a legacy for our children."

Perhaps it's because we were raised with similar values, but I agree with you totally that we Americans have a solemn duty and moral obligation to make sure that the slaughter of innocents does not resume in Eastern Europe. During my tour of duty, I learned that soldiers must take risks when called by their Commander and Chief and a just cause. Vietnam was *not* a just cause; keeping the peace in Bosnia is. Were I still a soldier, I would gladly answer your call. As a citizen, I am answering it now: I will support your efforts to keep the peace with all my heart. I only hope that the Congress will do the same. I'm proud of the stand you've taken—and I couldn't help thinking as I listened to your speech that Johnnie Mae Mackey would be proud, too.

On another matter: I understand that you've received several invitations in the last few months to speak at a luncheon meeting of Town Hall of Los Angeles, which includes among its membership many influential business leaders in Southern California. I'm an active Town Hall member, and I sincerely hope that you'll accept our invitation, because I think it's important to let the business leaders of L.A. get a chance to hear and see the *real* Bill Clinton in an open forum. I'm convinced that it would dispel the negative myths they've heard about you and your administration. Believe me, I've spent a fair amount of time fighting those myths in business gatherings, and one thing has become clear to me: Those who criticize you the most don't know what you've really been doing and the principles you truly stand for. I've made a point of telling them—but it would sound a lot more convincing coming from you.

*Send
Legislators
sent these
some support
letters*

*positive
-Ethen
from
Ramble
School
FRIDAY
NEEDS TO READ*

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT IT
LAWYERS WEEKLY
(800) 635-LAWS

AMERON, INC.
AMERON CENTER
10000 W. LOS ROBLES AVENUE
COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA 92626-1894
TELEPHONE: 818-683-4000
FAX: 818-683-4060

5 December 1995

*in a
week*

I believe that support for you is growing in the L.A. business community, even among Republicans. I don't think Bob Dole is a particularly popular fellow here. I know firsthand that Dole's people had a great deal of trouble raising a crowd for his fund-raising reception and dinner earlier this year—the one where he gave his anti-Hollywood speech (a theme he stole from your State of the Union address, as I recall). I've heard plenty of Republicans say privately that they'll have a hard time voting for Dole if he's the GOP nominee. It may amuse you to hear that my 78-year-old mother-in-law, who is a long-time leader in the Republican Women's Club, says that she and most of her friends think Dole is "too damned old" to be President.

Town Hall speakers over the last few months have included Ross Perot (with whom I was decidedly unimpressed), Dan Quayle, Mikhail Gorbachev, Colin Powell (*before* he talked to Barbara Walters) and Jimmy Carter. We are certain to hear from more of your political opponents in the near future, and I honestly think a Town Hall appearance would contribute toward your victory in Southern California next year.

My last reason for urging you to accept the invitation is totally selfish: It would be great to see you again and personally wish you well in '96. It's hard to believe that a little over a year ago our class was together at the White House. On behalf of my family, let me again thank you and Hillary so much for inviting us and helping create memories that we'll cherish for the rest of our lives.

Warmest regards and Godspeed,

Dan Stracner

DATE: 1-18

TO:

Jack (Quinn)

FROM: Staff Secretary

Note: The Pres. checked
the "no meeting box,"
his note to you says he'll
talk to Bob when Bob
wants. Translation, I
think, is he knows what he
wants to do (legislation) but
will meet with Bob as
courtesy. (After which maybe

he won't know for sure
what he wants to do, but
that's another story)

Toll

THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN
1/18/96
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 17, 1996

MR. PRESIDENT:

Attached is a follow-up memo from Jack Quinn on whether to seek certiorari in two 9th Circuit cases where taxpayers sought IRS refunds on grounds of mental incompetence after the statute of limitations expired. The Court ruled in favor of the taxpayers, holding that the statute can be "equitably tolled" upon proof of mental incompetence. Justice must decide by late January whether to seek cert.

Treasury opposes modification of the statutory scheme that lays down a concrete, inflexible deadline, since anything less than this would lead to inconsistent results; encourage late filers to come up with some factual basis for relief; greatly increase tax litigation; present real administrative burdens for IRS. Treasury believes we should defend this position in the Supreme Court. Justice also wants to defend our position in Court. DOJ believes that, if we want to change our policy, we should do so by legislation. If, instead, we abandon our litigation position, we would (i) probably lose in the Supreme Court; (ii) invite inconsistency in the courts if we were to win; and (iii) risk an unwanted spillover to other areas like immigration.

Jack agrees with DOJ that it would be better to address the issue by legislation. Secretary Rubin has asked for a meeting with you if you are considering modifying Treasury's policy, whether by litigation or legislation.

Meet with Rubin ___ Develop legislation ___ Discuss ___
(no meeting)

Todd Stern

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 10, 1996

96 JAN 10 P12:05

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JACK QUINN
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Position of Departments of Justice and
Treasury on Equitable Tolling of Tax Refund Claims

This is a follow up to my prior memo and our earlier discussion regarding "equitable tolling" of the limitations period governing tax refund claims.

You will recall that the Solicitor General needs to decide by late January whether to petition the Supreme Court for certiorari in two Ninth Circuit cases that authorized refunds to taxpayers who discovered they had overpaid the IRS after the statutorily-imposed period for refunding tax payments had expired. In both cases, the Ninth Circuit (contrary to the views of several other circuits) held that the limitations period should be equitably tolled during the time of a taxpayer's incompetence.

When we spoke, you expressed some discomfort about the recommendation of both the Departments of Justice and Treasury that the United States continue its longstanding litigation position opposing any form of equitable tolling for tax refund claims. You pointed out that, under current policy, the government keeps money to which it was never entitled (even as against mentally incompetent taxpayers) and that, although changing the rule might cost the government money, "doing the right thing is sometimes expensive."

In response, I asked both agencies to explain more fully the basis for their position, with a particular emphasis on documenting the actual consequences that would attend adopting a more generous stance on this issue. In addition, I asked them to give further consideration to the possibility of a legislative resolution -- i.e., a carefully-crafted statute that would delineate with precision the narrow circumstances in which tolling would be permitted.

I attach for your consideration the two memos I finally received in response to my inquiry. In brief, their positions are as follows:

1. Treasury. Treasury opposes any modification of the statutory scheme and urges that the United States seek a Supreme Court ruling confirming the unavailability of equitable tolling to tax refund claims. Of the approximately 14 million refund claims filed annually after the original return, approximately 250,000 per year are denied in full because they request refunds after the statutory deadline has passed. Treasury acknowledges that it has no way of knowing how many of these denials would be affected if some version of equitable tolling were available. It contends, however, that anything other than an objective, concrete and inflexible deadline would (a) lead to the perception and reality of highly inconsistent results; (b) encourage late filers to attempt to craft a factual basis for relief; (c) "significantly increase" the amount of tax litigation; and (d) create "serious administrative burdens" for the IRS. Treasury also points out that the adoption of equitable tolling in the refund context would create pressure to show similar flexibility with respect to other deadlines in the tax code.

2. Justice. DOJ takes no position on the desirability, as a matter of public policy, of permitting equitable tolling for late tax refund applications. It believes, however, that the existing statutory scheme precludes tolling as a matter of law. Accordingly, DOJ strongly recommends that it be permitted to defend the government's sixty-year-old interpretation of current law in pending litigation. Any decision to abandon that position (1) would likely lose in the Supreme Court; (2) if successful, would invite inconsistency and unpredictability as the courts struggle to define which circumstances justify tolling; and (3) carries a substantial risk of an unwanted spillover effect into other areas, particularly in the immigration context. If the Administration does elect on policy grounds to alter its historic position, it should do so by means of legislation not litigation, DOJ suggests.

Recommendation. DOJ's argument that the relevant statute leaves no room for equitable tolling is convincing, but probably overstated. Nonetheless, for the reasons identified by DOJ, I am persuaded that the better approach would be to address this issue by legislation, rather than litigation. One approach would be to announce simultaneously with the filing of the cert petitions that -- while the statutory language left us little choice in existing litigation -- you had directed the Secretary of Treasury to develop legislation that would correct the problem in the future. Prior to that filing, you should task Treasury and Justice with developing a legislative proposal that would be fair to taxpayers and predictable in application, without undermining the government's position in other important contexts.

However, Secretary Rubin has asked for an opportunity to meet with you in the event you are considering modifying

Treasury's established position on this issue. I recommend that such a meeting be scheduled as soon as your schedule permits.

Agree to meet ____

No need to meet; task development of legislation ____

Let's Discuss ____

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. M. L.", is written in the right margin of the document.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-17-96

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

96 JAN 16 P7:26

January 16, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: STEPHANIE STREETT & ANNE WALLEY *aw*

SUBJECT: SCHEDULING DECISIONS

Accept:

Date of Event:

Name of Event:

1/18/96

Interview w/ US News & World Report

1/19/96

Sign Executive Order on Missing
Children (Oval Office photo-op)

1/22/96

Drop By Meeting With Israeli Foreign
Minister Ehud Barak

1/25/96

Address the Plenary Session of the US
Conference of Mayors (possibly @ WH)

1/26/96

National Association of Hispanic
Publications @ the National Press Club
(early evening)

1/30/96

Iowa Interviews

(Conference call w/ smaller newspapers,
individual phone calls w/ major papers &
radio interviews)

1/30/96

Meeting w/ Prime Minister Chernomyrdin

Pending:

Date of Event:

Jan.

Jan. - Feb. *Good idea*

2/1/96 - 2/28/96

2/1/96 - 2/28/96

2/11/96

2/21/96 - 2/23/96

Name of Event:

Speech to Women CEO's @ WH

You would announce the results of 2 new reports on the success and growth of women-owned business and government programs that are helping women entrepreneurs.

Satellite Town Hall Meeting w/ Iowa High School Seniors

Meeting w/ Representatives From the Central and East European Coalition

Meeting on the Intelligence Community

Attend the Kentucky/Arkansas Basketball Game in Kentucky

Gov. Paul Patton of Kentucky invited you to attend this game with him. You could do this on the way back from Iowa per Doug Sosnik.

Participation in the White House Community Empowerment Zone Conference and Reception

Regret:

Date of Event:

1/16/96 - 1/18/96

1/30/96

1/31/96 - 2/1/96

Name of Event:

Speech @ National Press Club Luncheon

Attend Washington Press Club Foundation's Congressional Dinner

Presentation of the Flo Hyman Award

We are going to ask the VP to present this award.

Do I do this every year?

7/17/96

From the Oval

Send to Derskind for
appropriate action?

Yes ☒

No ☐

C.

Original to Jim Derskind

GORDON H. PARSONS
809 WEST 15 STREET
SANTA ANA CA 92706
714 953 1003

96 JAN 17 P3:52

Betty Currie,
Personal Secretary
to the President
The Whitehouse
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington D.C.
20500

Dear Madam Currie.

If you believe Bill Clinton Our Very Great President of the United States, would like to see this letter I know you will let him see it. Otherwise I do not wish at this time to have him in any way annoyed over it's contents.

General Eisenhower called me by my Nic Name Bink and he was a good Friend in deed. Beginning with his Term in the Whitehouse, The republicans started to use money from the Social-Security funds and spend it via Nixon, Reagan and even Bush. I must also admit I voted for all of those wonderful Men and did not understand at the times how deeply our Government was sinking in to debt. None of those Four Good Men could have balanced the U.S. Budget either so it's not at all fair for the Republicans to expect President Clinton to do so in just seven short years so that the Republicans can utterly destroy all of the real life good Franklin D. Roosevelt had done to repair the damage done by the Republicans which I firmly believe put our Government into the Big Depression.

For some reason most of those in Congress and the Senate must be quite wealthy and wish to help only those who are also.

Twenty years will not help at this time and our Government will still be deeper in debt after the Republicans get all

through messing things up all over again in the gloomyness of the future.

It's High time for all Americans to realise what has taken place and to place a solid Democratic Senate and Congress in place. They need another L.B.J. with a rolled up newspaper to whack the backs of the Congressmen to get them back into the old ways when the Federal Government was really far better off with a full Democratic Majority in both houses.

I've lived Seventy Two years and it was also told to me by my family I'd seen many Presidents from Coolidge to today and also many other National leaders.

Many men in the U.S. today would like to just "Warm the Oval Office Chair and many may eventually do so like Harding and Taft but not Teddy Roosevelt or Wilson or Ford who like Bill tried to get things done. Regardless of Taft I still dislike Salmon and I am not crazy about Tuna or any kind of fish. so it must be given credit where.....

God Bless the Giver of all the World and also Bill for what He's done so far. Fewey on those who elect a man only to try to get the man into trouble right off. I trust Bill. With all respect, I am your Friend and I still will vote for you at Election time. Very Sincerely

Gordon H. Parsons
GORDON H. PARSONS O.S.V.A.S.

H.U.C.

I will always be proud to be an American.....

OSVAS ORDER OF SAINT VINCENT ALTAR SERVERS
EPISCOPAL AND ROMAN CATHOLIC
HAUD UNQUIM CEDO
(WE WILL NEVER SURRENDER)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

1/7/96
96 JAN 17 All : 19

Dear Todd,

Thank you so much for helping us obtain the signed photo of the President for Dr. Gibbons. He was very pleased and very surprised to receive it.

In receiving it, it did occur to me that there is one other thing that would mean a lot to Dr. Gibbons - he has never during these past 3 years received any of the items that many others may have received; namely cufflinks or such from the President, yet he has led international delegations, etc. Is there a regular process for this? At one time Nancy H. noted that 'on birthdays?, etc.,' but I'm not sure how that works. Any help/advice? This also would be a surprise.

Not wanting to burden you on this - mainly to say again a big thank you for your help.

Sue Bachtel
6-7116

Sue - I actually don't know
about that other stuff. Not my
ballin'ck. Sorry. Ted
1-17-96

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

We also received the following items:

1-10-96

Need Reply

- **Letter on farm bill from Gary Ebree and Keith Glover.** Via Rasco. Commends you on your press conference last week. They say farmers are facing critical decisions with regard to the '96 crop and are finding it difficult to get financing without the farm bill settled. They suggest extending current farm program for one more year. Carol is having a response prepared and would like to discuss farm bill with you.

- **Rabin Speech distribution.** From Alexis. Your speech plus VP's remarks at D.C. memorial service were sent to entire delegation that accompanied you to Israel. Your speech also sent to 400 community leaders who didn't attend either event.

- **Holiday card from Frank Thurmond.** Via Mack. He wishes you and Mrs. Clinton the best for the holidays, says it's great to be back in Oxford, and hopes you can come for another visit soon.

JIM DORSKIND:
Please coordinate
the reply.

Do nothing

SAX copy to Jim D.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

96 JAN 12 P4:01

January 12, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: CAROL H. RASCO 

SUBJECT: Letter from Gary Sebree and Keith Glover

Attached is a letter I received by fax from Gary Sebree and Keith Glover in Arkansas County immediately after your press conference on Thursday afternoon. They requested I pass it along to you. I have let them know it arrived, and I have asked Marion Berry to work with Dorskind to prepare a response. This issue of the Farm Bill is one we must discuss as soon as possible.

Thank you.

JIM DORSKIND:
Please coordinate
the reply.



PRODUCERS
rice mill, inc.

January 11, 1996

FAX: 202-456-2878

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Congratulations on your news conference this afternoon. You handled the budget issues very well. We were glad you mentioned that the current budget stalemate is creating hardships for farmers because of the lack of a farm bill. Our farmers have reached a critical point—they must prepare for spring planting and financing the '96 crop. Without a farm program, bankers are hesitant to refinance them. As you are aware, when farmers cannot get financing, others in the agricultural sector are also affected such as seed dealers, chemical dealers, farm equipment suppliers, and local retailers.

The simplest way to resolve the immediate farm crisis is to extend the current farm program for at least one more year.

Thanks again for all your support of farm programs.

Sincerely,

Gary Sebree
Chairman, Board of Directors

Keith Glover
President & CEO

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

We also received the following items:

1-16-96

- **Letter on farm bill from Gary Ebree and Keith Glover.** Via Rasco. Commends you on your press conference last week. They say farmers are facing critical decisions with regard to the '96 crop and are finding it difficult to get financing without the farm bill settled. They suggest extending current farm program for one more year. Carol is having a response prepared and would like to discuss farm bill with you.
- **Rabin Speech distribution.** From Alexis. Your speech plus VP's remarks at D.C. memorial service were sent to entire delegation that accompanied you to Israel. Your speech also sent to 400 community leaders who didn't attend either event.
- **Holiday card from Frank Thurmond.** Via Mack. He wishes you and Mrs. Clinton the best for the holidays, says it's great to be back in Oxford, and hopes you can come for another visit soon.

JIM DORSKIND:
Please coordinate
the reply.

ORIGINAL
CARD to
Jim D.

car. I hope you are well.
All best wishes for the holidays!
It's great being back in Oxford,
and I really hope you can
come back for another visit
Sometime soon!

Yours ever,
Frank

With Best Wishes for Christmas
and the New year

from
Frank H. Thompson

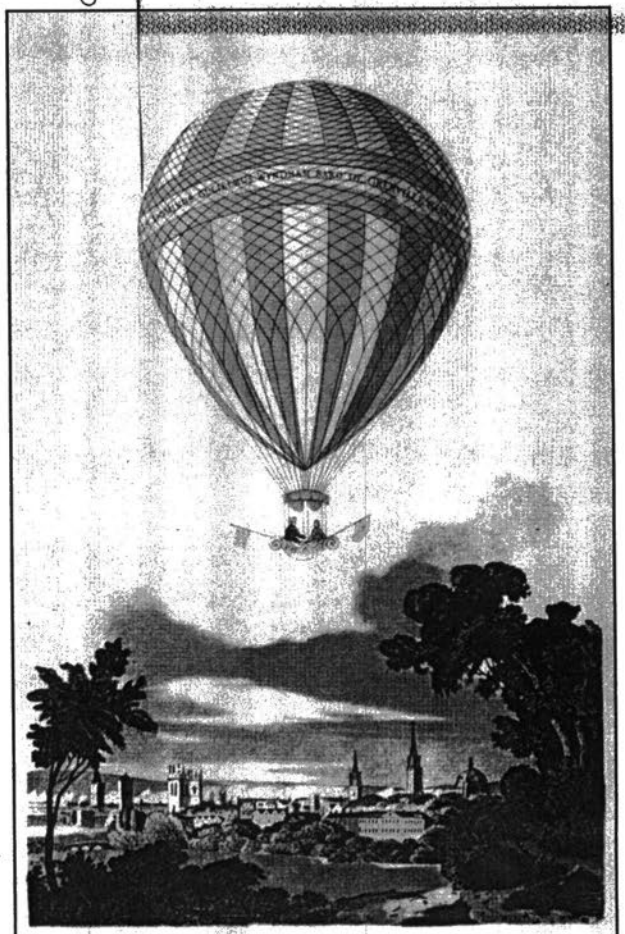
JIM DORSKIND:
Please coordinate
the reply.

Ascent of James Sadler at Oxford

96 JAN 9 P4:33

From: Mack McHarty

15 Wellington Square
Oxford OX1 2HY





President & Mrs. Clinton

**BERIC TEMPEST
COLOURCARD**

GREAT BRITAIN TR26 3HT
Tel 01736 752500 Fax 752515

ADDRESS



BATE COLLECTION OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Saxophones: Alto *The Grafton* by Hector Sommaruga, London, c. 1950; 520, given by Martin Block. Soprano by Evette & Schaeffer, Paris, early 20th century; x 50, Philip Bate Loan. Alto marked Key, Rudall, Rose, Carte, London, 1857-8, but probably by Adolphe Sax, Paris; 5, Philip Bate Gift.

Faculty of Music, St. Aldate's, Oxford.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
1-16-96

January 15, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: TODD STERN *TS*
PHIL CAPLAN *PC*
HELEN HOWELL *HH*

SUBJECT: Recent Information Items

We are forwarding the following recent information items:

- cc*
Leah {
- (A) **Les Samuels memo on adoption tax credits.** Via Rubin. The Balanced Budget Act includes a 100% tax credit for the first \$5,000 per child of adoption-related ~~expenditures, including those reimbursed by states for "special needs" adoptions.~~ Does not include step-parent adoptions. The credit would be phased out between \$75,000 and \$115,000 of AGI and would cost \$1.94 billion over FY 1996-2002. Treasury objects on several grounds: there's an excess of people wishing to adopt non-special needs kids, so no need to give incentive for such adoptions; adoption assistance should be targeted -- tax credit gives windfall to those who would adopt anyway; a tax credit for 100% of expenses encourages an increase in adoption fees and costs; granting a credit for expenses already reimbursed would encourage shift of expenses to federal government. Treasury's alternatives: 1) give 50% credit for first \$5,000 of eligible expenses, restricted to "special needs" adoptions, and exclude reimbursed expenses. Same phase-out. Cost: \$58 million over FY 1996-2002; OR 2) give 50% credit for first \$4,000 of eligible expenditures, *not* restricted to special needs adoptions, exclude reimbursed expenses. Same phase-out. Cost: \$723 million over FY 1996-2002. This reduces maximum credit to \$2,000, as suggested by Dole.
- (B) **Dodd letter and attached proposal for "National Commission on American Civil Society."** Letter thanks you for enjoyable evening at the White House. Proposal is from Dr. Claire Gaudiani, President of Connecticut College. The Commission, comprised of 20-30 influential citizens, would sponsor major events such as speeches, debates and conversations, focussing national attention on such issues as race, civic duty, violence, economic insecurity and personal responsibility. Dodd thinks her idea is "sound both substantively and politically" and urges it be included in the State of the Union. Dodd sent copies of Gaudiani's memo to Don Baer and George.

Also to Rubin



United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Jan 3-96

Dear Mr. President,

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
1-16-96

First of all, thanks
for the enjoyable evening at
the White House. I really enjoyed
having some quiet time with you.
You're a good friend - I wish there
were more time for such occasions.

Over dinner I mentioned
Claire Sandione - President of Connecticut
College. She is very bright and a
high energy person. You would
really like her. I would recommend
you meet her. The enclosed
memo lays out a very sound
(over)

idea both substantively and
politically. I would urge that
this idea be incorporated in
your State of the Union speech
and such a commission be set
up. I have sent copies of this
memo to Don Bean and George.

Let me know what you
think.

Thank you again -

Best - Chris.

81 : 52 11 JAN 11 96

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE

MARKING INITIALS: PB DATE: 7/11/2019
2019-0774-S

THE PRESIDENT HAS S
1-16-96

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ PROPOSAL FOR A
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON AMERICAN CIVIL SOCIETY

By Claire Gaudiani

President, Connecticut College (860)439-2666
New London, Connecticut

Purpose

The "National Commission on American Civil Society" will bring together 20-30 influential and respected citizens conducting major public events from January to September 1996 to focus national attention on our democratic civil society as the framework in which to discuss issues such as race relations, civic duty (voting and volunteerism), violence, economic insecurity, and personal responsibility. The result should be independent verification of the President's leadership on values, making a clear move from family values to civic values.

Civic values define our responsibility to each other as fellow citizens in a democracy. The Democratic Party needs to recapture the values agenda for civic life and return family and personal values to private life. Civic values are a central framework in which to constructively address our nation's problems.

Goals

1. Shift the focus of public debate from family values to civic values -- what unites us as Americans.
2. Position the President as leader of this shift by reinforcing the President's language from major addresses including the New Covenant and the 1995 State of the Union address. Returns the President to the central issues of the 1992 campaign without making it appear that he is "reinventing" his New Democrat roots.
3. Create framework for effective debate of issues that are typically divisive. These issues include race relations, economic opportunities and disparities, and the role of government and responsibilities of democratic society to all citizens.
4. Provide voters with a clear, positive alternative to the radical and dangerous Republican philosophy that no government is the solution to the nation's problems.

The Commission

The Commission members will be influential citizens from each of the major sectors that comprise civil society (our interaction outside of both our families and the government). Through their leadership activity on the Commission, members reinforce the messages delivered by the President lending their own credibility as well as attracting additional media attention. They also broaden the base on the debate over civic values making it more difficult for others to attack the President alone on these issues.

The Commission can help identify constructive ways in which citizens can increase the quantity and quality of their interaction with each other and find solutions to the country's problems. The federal government's shrinking capacity to fund programs can be supplanted. By emphasizing individual investment in the common good, the burden for identifying problems begins to shift from government alone to government and concerned citizens together. Creating the environment to solve the nation's problems will be a far more lasting legacy than identifying an

array of solutions at a point in time.

The Political Urgency

The President frequently, in a variety of settings and while addressing varied topics calls on the nation to restore our values. In the budget negotiations he has said that the Republican budget "does not reflect our values." He meant their budget did not reflect our civic values. He is right and the polls affirm that a growing number of Americans agree. In the 1995 State of the Union address he spoke of "civic life." In a powerful speech delivered in Memphis, the President outlined the need "to make our people whole again" by restoring community.

Even though the concept of civil society increasingly appears in print and electronic media (200% increase from last year in the New York Times alone), his words are being lost in noisy rhetoric from others and he is not receiving enough credit for his remarks and his leadership.

A National Commission on American Civil Society creates an opportunity for a growing chorus of respected citizens to affirm the President's leadership. The Commission's speeches and hearings can foster examination of our civic values, history and aspirations as a society. This activity will shift the focus from personal and family values to civic values.

The Commission will focus the credit for a strong effort to advance democratic civil society on the President. Especially as the Christian Coalition seeks to engage American Catholics in their conservative agenda, the Commission would create a robust alternative that could appeal to social justice and to economic growth at the same time. Through this focus, the President can lead a positive effort to respond to the deeply felt concerns of Americans.

The Commission would help change the climate around a potentially divisive debate that is growing on the topic of race relations. This subject is best engaged in a new civic framework so that the result is productive and not simply more hot-headed stereotyping and further alienation. The work of the Commission can deploy eloquent centers of influence to reframe the subject and focus on the 50% of African-Americans in and above middle class as well as needy minorities. Well designed, this approach could help all Americans reduce anxiety over race and feel some pride by invoking images of the progress our nation has made from slavery and hatred toward the dreams of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Key Topics

Debate would focus on three areas of responsibility — civic, social, and international.

- Civic responsibility defines the responsibilities of each individual citizen for example, voting and volunteerism.
- Social responsibility is the responsibility we share to work together as members of a group or society. This creates a climate for justice and opportunity. For example, improving race relations and reducing discrimination, increasing security both economic and physical. The weakening moral consensus around debt repayment is another possible focus for this area.
- International responsibility is the role of the United States in the world recognizing that the United States is neither the world's policeman or an island. But as democracy

becomes the aim of so many people world wide, we have unique and important works to do as Americans.

The Commission will sponsor speeches, debates and conversations before large, live and televised audiences all over the country. The President's defense of programs important to students (financial aid and volunteer opportunities) and programs important to people in urban areas (law enforcement, drug treatment, and economic development) has created large groups of individuals interested in and traditionally eager to work for a cause. From Berkeley to Westwood and from Bethlehem to Ann Arbor, large audiences will flock to hear the respected Commission members discuss our shared hopes for a strong future.

This work would not be occurring in a vacuum but will take advantage of the work of many. Groups such as America Speaks, Healthy Cities, Alliance for National Renewal, the Communitarian Network, Campus Compact (500 college and university presidents whose campuses are organized to promote volunteerism, chaired by Claire Gaudiani) among others are wrestling with these and related issues. The difference is that the Commission will provide coherence to the work of all these groups and ensure that it resonates more effectively with the convictions the President has been expressing.

Commission Time Line and Action Plan

January

- Define the Commission.
- Solicit members and staff.
- Define goals and time frame
- Distribute background material in preparation for announcement and first meeting (#3).

January

- Announce the Commission. Option: after New Year, prior to State of the Union address, so its purpose can be woven into State of the Union speech.

February

- Convene first meeting of the Commission to refine the issues.

Late February to early April

- Sponsor speeches by members in major media markets to generate debate, build a common language, inspire interest in hosting hearings. Echo President's messages on civic values.

Late February to early April

- Arrange for members to appear on national media programs.

February

- Organize competition among sites for privilege of hosting a Commission hearing.

Early April to mid May

- Hold hearings at sites across the country. Ideal sites are likely to be at colleges and universities (easily organized with large activist, sympathetic audiences) but may include religious institutions, work places, public arenas, and perhaps some national conventions of groups likely to be sympathetic. Competition to host hearings could be used to generate early interest in the Commission's work. Hearings would feature 2-4 Commission members speaking and hosting panels of citizens before large live audiences

with extensive media coverage. Target states would include in order: CA, FL, TX, NY, PA, OH, IN, IL, MI.

July

- Organize major event on July 4 to generate broad national media exposure.

September

- Issue report and conduct a celebration of the Commission's work in September, 1996. Organize simultaneous events in all cities that hosted speeches or hearings of the Commission. Options include Labor Day (September 2), Citizenship Day (September 17, Tue), or other weekday. Timing to avoid this project being lost in the growing election rhetoric and to create growing sense that the nation is "on the right track" and "moving toward a better future."

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
1-16-96

January 15, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: TODD STERN *TS*
PHIL CAPLAN *PC*
HELEN HOWELL *HPH*

SUBJECT: Recent Information Items

We are forwarding the following recent information items:

- (A) **Les Samuels memo on adoption tax credits.** Via Rubin. The Balanced Budget Act includes a 100% tax credit for the first \$5,000 per child of adoption-related ~~expenditures, including those reimbursed by states for "special needs" adoptions.~~ Does not include step-parent adoptions. The credit would be phased out between \$75,000 and \$115,000 of AGI and would cost \$1.94 billion over FY 1996-2002. Treasury objects on several grounds: there's an excess of people wishing to adopt non-special needs kids, so no need to give incentive for such adoptions; adoption assistance should be targeted -- tax credit gives windfall to those who would adopt anyway; a tax credit for 100% of expenses encourages an increase in adoption fees and costs; granting a credit for expenses already reimbursed would encourage shift of expenses to federal government. Treasury's alternatives: 1) give 50% credit for first \$5,000 of eligible expenses, restricted to "special needs" adoptions, and exclude reimbursed expenses. Same phase-out. Cost: \$58 million over FY 1996-2002; OR 2) give 50% credit for first \$4,000 of eligible expenditures, *not* restricted to special needs adoptions, exclude reimbursed expenses. Same phase-out. Cost: \$723 million over FY 1996-2002. This reduces maximum credit to \$2,000, as suggested by Dole.
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Also to Rubin



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-16-96

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

January 16 1996
JAN 9

P5:46

MEMORANDUM FOR PRESIDENT CLINTON

FROM LESLIE B. SAMUELS *LBS*

THROUGH SECRETARY ROBERT E. RUBIN *RE*

SUBJECT: ADOPTION TAX CREDITS: BACKGROUND AND ALTERNATIVES

The Balanced Budget Act (BBA) includes a tax credit for adoptions. It would provide a 100% non-refundable credit for the first \$5,000 per child of eligible adoption-related expenditures (including expenditures that are reimbursed by the states for "special needs" adoptions). No credit would be allowed for step-parent adoptions; and the credit would be phased out between \$75,000 and \$115,000 of AGI. JCT estimates that the BBA adoption proposal would cost \$1,945 million over FY1996-FY2002, and \$2,960 million over FY1996-FY2005.

We have significant concerns about the BBA adoption credit. The following policy issues are presented for your consideration as well as two possible proposals which we believe represent better tax policy than the BBA provision.

- o The number of people seeking to adopt non-special needs children exceeds by several times the number of such children available for adoption. Conversely, there is a shortage of adopters for "special needs" and similar children.
- o Adoption assistance should be targeted. Adoption assistance is best targeted when provided through outlay programs. Adoption tax relief provides windfall benefits to those who would undertake adoptions anyway but does not provide sufficient incentives for lower income families to undertake adoptions.
 - This is particularly true for "special needs" adoptions which are undertaken predominately by foster parents (typically lower- and middle-income families) who are already providing homes for these hard-to-place potential adoptees.
 - A refundable tax credit would be of more benefit to lower income families for whom the incentive created by tax relief would be greatest. However, refundable credits raise significant compliance problems.
- o A tax credit should not be for 100% of expenses. A 100% credit is essentially a direct expenditure program. It would encourage increases in adoption fees and costs, since they will be reimbursed through the 100% credit. A 100% credit also presents compliance and enforcement problems.
- o A tax benefit should not be allowed for reimbursed expenses. This "double dipping" would encourage unnecessary increases in expenditures so that costs currently borne by states or private agencies would be shifted to the Federal government. This is particularly true for "special needs" adoptions where government programs currently absorb most of the costs.
- o For "special needs" adoptions, the real need is for continuing long-term assistance, such as medical benefits which could be provided by automatic eligibility for Medicaid.

Option 1: Target Credit to "Special Needs" Adoptions.

The credit would be restricted to expenditures for "special needs" adoptions, and no credit would be allowed for reimbursed expenditures. The credit would be 50% of the first \$5,000 of eligible expenditures. With the same income phase out range as in BBA, the cost of this option is \$58 million over FY1996-FY2002, and \$88 million over FY1996-FY2005.

By targeting "special needs" adoptions and addressing some of the concerns mentioned above, we believe that this option would be good tax policy and would encourage "special needs" adoptions that would not otherwise occur.

Option 2 - Reduce Maximum Credit to \$2,000 as mentioned by Senator Dole.

The credit would be 50% of the first \$4,000 per child of eligible adoption expenditures, and would not cover reimbursed expenditures. With the same income phase out range as in BBA, the cost of this option is \$723 million over FY1996-FY2002, and \$1,096 million over FY1996-FY2005.

Option 2 is far more liberal than Option 1, but by providing only a 50% credit rate and eliminating double-dipping, it eliminates the main objections to the BBA provision.

cc: Laura Tyson

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-17-96

To Tony / Stanley
Fry - 1000 P.M.
Waggy / (this means
Fry)

✓ Call my Mother

Susie E. Richardson

1-804-633-7501

SON: LTCOL Frank
Richardson

✓ Call my Mother

Lacile June (C Bonneau, S.C.)

1-803-825-4496

SON: CPT. Keith June

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-17-96

Shirley said a motto to
both men keeping & called
their mothers & they showed
too! ——— Thank them for their
sacrifice

BK

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 1/17/96

TO: Leon
Bry
Bob Nash

FROM: Staff Secretary

FYI

This has been forwarded
to the President

Bdd Stern

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 01/17/96

LEON PANETTA
TO: TONY LAKE
BOB NASH

FROM: Staff Secretary

FYI

This has been forwarded to
the President.



January 17, 1996

MADELEINE MAY KUNIN

Dear Mr. President:

I would like to express my strong interest in having you as Ambassador to Switzerland.

I believe I could represent the United States with expertise and distinction. You may recall that I was born there and my mother and brother and I immigrated to the U.S. in 1940 because of the threat of World War II.

I still speak Swiss-German, French and German and believe I would be enthusiastically received by the Swiss.

Thank you kindly for your consideration.

With Best Regards,

Madeline

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 1/17/96

TO: Kumiki Gibson

FROM: Staff Secretary

Per our conversation, attached are comments we received re: the proposed EO on empowerment contracting.

This does not ring a bell with Harold, so I'm taking yours as the last word on this -- "pulled until further notice."

Thanks.

J. Delon

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: Sept. 29 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: OCT 2 PM 3:33 Oct. 1SUBJECT: Proposed Exec. ORDER ON EMPOWERMENT CONTRACT

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☐	McGINTY	☐	☐
PANETTA	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
McLARTY	☐	☐	QUINN	☐	☐
ICKES	☒	☐	RASCO	☐	☐
BOWLES	☒	☐	SOSNIK	☐	☐
RIVLIN	☒	☐	STEPHANOPOULOS	☒	☐
BAER	☒	☐	STIGLITZ	☐	☐
EMANUEL	☐	☐	TYSON	☒	☐
GIBBONS	☐	☐	WEBSTER	☐	☐
GRIFFIN	☐	☐	WILLIAMS	☐	☐
HALE	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
HERMAN	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
HIGGINS	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
LAKE	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
LINDSEY	☐	☐	_____	☐	☐
MIKVA	☒	☐	_____	☐	☐
McCURRY	☐	☒	_____	☐	☐

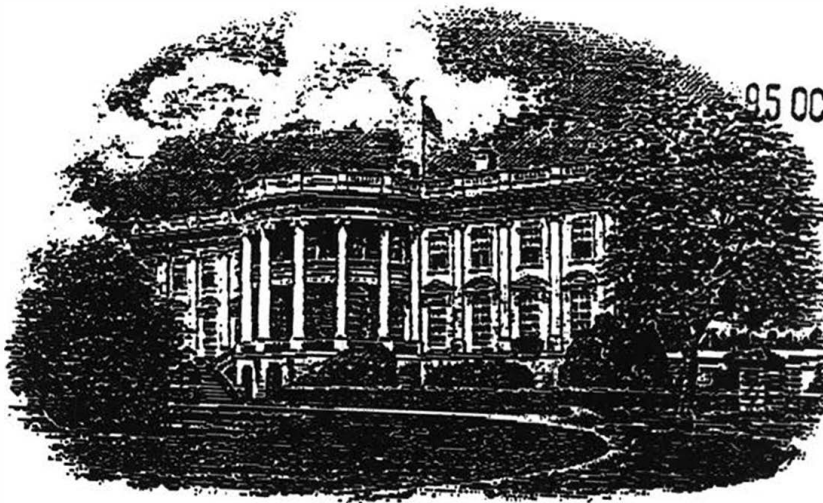
REMARKS:

Please advise promptly.

RESPONSE:

To: Todd
Fri. GSThis is good. By question
is how to announce. Will depend
on other pol. Admin developments.
Need to discuss at next meeting. (CS)Staff Secretary
Ext. 6-2702

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



95 OCT 2 P2:16

Office of Management and Budget
FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

Number of pages (including cover sheet) 3

Date: 10-2-95

To: Todd Stern

Fax No. 62215 Voice No. _____

Comments: OMB Comments re White House
stopping request concerning V.P. E.O. on
Empowerment Contracting

From: Lois ALTOFT

Fax No.: (202) 395-3174

Voice No. (202) 395-3060

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

02-Oct-1995 08:05am

TO: Lois E. Altoft

FROM: Francis S. Redburn
Office of Mgmt and Budget, HTF

CC: Robert E. Litan
CC: Alan B. Rhinesmith
CC: Theodore Wartell

SUBJECT: VP Memo re. Exec.Order on Empowerment Contracting

Ted Wartell and I have reviewed this for Bob Litan. Ted may have left you a voicemail over the weekend.

We have one comment concerning the definition of "qualified business." This would qualify a firm for the benefits of empowerment contracting if it is either located in a distressed area or employs a significant number of area residents. This would allow benefits to be received by firms located in a distressed area regardless of whether they employ area residents. The approach taken in the Empowerment Zones program is to provide the major tax benefits (wage credits) to firms that are either in the area or doing significant business in the area (zone) to the extent that they employ area residents. This results in a tighter targeting of the benefits.

Possible rewording is to replace "or" with "and".

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

02-Oct-1995 10:53am

TO: John B. Arthur

FROM: William S. Coleman Jr,
Office of Mgmt and Budget, OFPP

CC: Robert G. Damus
CC: Steven Kelman

SUBJECT: Comments on Draft E.O. on Place Based Preference

The following is offered as proposed OMB comment on the draft empowerment contracting executive order:

The Office of Management and Budget has concerns about the current draft of the proposed E.O. on empowerment contracting. We have concerns regarding the requirement for provision of a price preference to all qualified business. The Executive Branch does not have the legal authority to mandate a price preference for contractors. To do so would require legislation. Agencies do, however, have the discretion to consider price and other factors in making contract award decisions.

We recommend that Section 1 of the draft be revised to read:
"...the Secretary of Commerce shall develop policies and procedures to ensure that all agencies grant qualified businesses a preference when evaluating offers for government contracts in unrestricted competitions. In developing such policies and procedures the Secretary should give consideration to the size of the qualified business and may authorize consideration of such techniques as price or evaluation preferences."

Call Me Caring



THE PRESIDENT

Jan. 16, 1996

Dear Charles —

Thank you for your fine letter and
for making the moving story of your fight
to freedom — People like you have made
our country greater,

Sincerely
Bill Clinton

4534 Albemarle St. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20016.
January 15, 1996.

Dear Mr. President:

Forty five years ago in January almost exactly to the day of your recent news conference I was laying on snow-covered ground alongside the minefields of Soviet-occupied Hungary, waiting for a former Hungarian Sergeant to cut the barbed wire fences of that Iron Curtain separating us from freedom of the western world, or if caught by the Communist border guards, than come what may.

It was a long road from that moment on, while living throughout the Soviet zone of Austria, then to the American zone in Salzburg, on to Venezuela and finally after 13 years on the waiting list for immigration, to this blessed Country of the United States.

Your most unexpected and kind words at the conclusion of the news conference made every hardships of those forty five years worthwhile, and I will treasure your kindness Mr. President for the rest of my life.

I pray to God Mr. President that your hopes, expectations and those of our First Lady may be fulfilled and realized.

God bless You Mr. President.

Most respectfully /
Charles T. Sunday
AP news photographer.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 12, 1996 86 JAN 13 P12:17

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: KITTY HIGGINS *Kitty*
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF CABINET WEEKLY REPORTS
JANUARY 11-18

As you know, today you granted limited major disaster assistance to New York and Delaware as a result of the "Blizzard of 96." James Lee Witt, director of FEMA, announced those declarations at a press conference today at which he and other federal officials outlined the federal response to the disaster. Transportation Secretary Federico Pena, Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, Small Business Administrator Philip Lader, Federal Highway Administrator Rodney Slater and representatives from GSA and the Army Corps of Engineers also participated. (The press release laying out the complete federal response is attached.) Among other positive steps, over the weekend, GSA and the Parks Service will provide snow removal equipment to the District of Columbia. Tomorrow, we expect that FEMA will recommend that you grant limited assistance for West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, North Carolina, and Virginia. We expect that you will grant these requests tomorrow. Thus, far you have granted relief to New York, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

- **Funding for Department of Commerce:** The continuing resolutions will not fund any of the Department's programs after January 26, 1996.
- **Economic Data:** The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and the Census Bureau are currently revising their schedule of economic indicator release dates. The data releases continue to be the subject of much interest from the business and financial press, financial market participants and policymakers.
- **Secretary's Travel:** The Secretary's trip to India, Pakistan, and Turkey, originally scheduled for January 12-22, has been postponed, and most likely will take place in June.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

- **Intelligent Transportation Infrastructure (ITI) Rollout:** On January 10, Secretary Pena announced in a major policy speech at the Transportation Research Board's Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., the launching of Operation Timesaver, an offensive against gridlock. The goal of the project is to build the Intelligent Transportation Infrastructure across the United States within a decade--to save time and lives and improve the quality of life for Americans everywhere. DOT estimates that Americans will save up to 15 percent off their present travel time by creating the ITI. The effort will require federal, state and local officials working with the private sector to implement the program.
- **Air Travel:** The winter storm that blanketed the entire East Coast this past week had a tremendous impact on the aviation system. Major airports from Washington to Boston were closed during the periods of heaviest snow. The industry experienced substantial loss revenue and hundreds of thousands of people were inconvenienced. However, the airlines, the airports, and the Federal Aviation Administration worked together to plan and implement a safe and orderly operation in the National Airspace System throughout the storm. All major airports in the northeast are now open, although not all runways have been cleared of snow. However, flight delays are still anticipated because air carriers are recovering from the disruption to their crews and aircraft which were moved out of the storm's path.
- **Rail Travel:** AMTRAK is providing service on a modified weekday schedule. Some delays are expected because of snow and ice conditions. All major New England and Mid-Atlantic freight rail carriers are operating, however, they also are experiencing delays. The Long Island Railroad, a major commuter rail service for New York City, is operating at 80 percent of its usual schedule and is experiencing delays.
- **Colombian Air Crash Accident.** The Government of Colombia continues to investigate the cause of the December 20th American Airlines crash near Cali, Colombia. On January 11, Colombian investigators met in Miami with their Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board counterparts to plan additional operational and human factors testing.
- **International Aviation--U.S. - Thailand.** The United States and Thailand held civil aviation talks in Washington, D.C., December 18-20, 1995 to negotiate an agreement to replace the current comity and reciprocity regime. The two delegations made substantial progress toward a new agreement, and also on a Memorandum of Understanding to govern airline capacity. A second round of talks is scheduled to be held in Thailand January 16-20, 1996. Both sides hope that the second round will result in agreement on all remaining issues.

- **National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Hearing:** On January 17, a Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Office of Safety representative will testify at a NTSB hearing concerning the collision between a METRA Express commuter train and a Crystal Lake School bus which occurred in Fox River Grove, IL on October 25, 1995. The purpose of this hearing is to develop a comprehensive factual record of information concerning the accident. The FRA representative will discuss safety issues at the highway-rail grade crossings as well as our Action Plan.
- **Innovative Financing--Interstate System Considered for Fiber Optic Network:** Pennsylvania is considering the development of a resource sharing program for fiber optics on Pennsylvania's Interstate and other freeways. PennDOT is planning to initiate new legislation to provide the authority required to permit limited access right-of-way usage specifically for fiber optics and other communication media that serve a statewide public interest. PennDOT intends to generate revenue from this arrangement as well as obtaining communication services for Commonwealth agencies.
- **Media Inquiries:** The New York Times and the Washington Post are expected to run stories on January 12, regarding FAA's continued testing of the operation of aircraft in icing conditions similar to conditions which caused the American Eagle ATR-72 crash on October 31, 1994 in Roselawn, Indiana. The FAA had promised to complete the testing by October 31, 1995, but has faced complications in testing and expects to issue recommendations on January 19 regarding operations of these aircraft.

U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

- **Banana Imports:** In accordance with the statutory requirements under Section 301 of U.S. trade law, Ambassador Kantor made an announcement on January 10 regarding the pending investigations of banana export policies maintained by the Columbian and Costa Rican Governments. In a press statement, Kantor announced an affirmative determination that the Columbian and Costa Rican regimes are unfair. However, both governments demonstrated their willingness to work constructively with the U.S., and concluded Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) establishing consultative mechanisms, no sanctions will be invoked at this time. The United States will continue to press both Governments to adopt measures which do not distort the competitiveness of U.S. banana firms. The U.S. will also continue to pursue a dispute within the World Trade Organization against the European Union regarding unfair banana import policies.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- **California Proposal for Medicaid Managed Care Under Final Review:** The State of California has requested approval of a waiver of Medicaid's freedom of choice provisions to enable it to implement the largest and most ambitious Medicaid managed care initiative to date. Medicaid beneficiaries in 12 counties would be offered a choice of two managed care plans - a "Mainstream Plan," which is a commercial HMO, and a "Local Initiative Plan." After full implementation, a total of 3.3 million Medi-Cal beneficiaries are expected to enroll, the overwhelming majority of whom are AFDC and AFDC-related beneficiaries. Twelve (12) counties are designated to implement the Two-Plan Model: *Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Stanislaus, and Tulare*. The Health Care Financing Administration must make a decision on the Two-Plan Model by January 22, the 90th day and statutory deadline for action.
- **California Officials to Meet with Department on Statewide 1115 Demonstration:** Department staff and California and Los Angeles County senior officials tentatively are scheduled to meet on January 18 in Washington to discuss the significant issues with the State's most recent working draft section 1115 demonstration application, submitted on November 21. Significant issues to be discussed include the lack of a plan to restructure the Los Angeles County public health care system, the request to recalculate disproportionate share hospital payments to include services provided in free standing clinics, and budget neutrality. In addition, there will be a discussion concerning the 23 additional counties in California that have expressed interest in participating in the section 1115 demonstration application that Los Angeles County submitted.
- **Ritalin Alert:** Friday FDA issued a press release announcing that it has just taken steps to alert the health care community that an animal study of Ritalin, a stimulant widely prescribed for children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, has produced a "weak signal" that the drug may have the potential to cause cancer. FDA has asked the manufacturer to revise its labeling to include the study results, i.e., that malignant liver tumors have occurred in male mice but not in rats administered Ritalin. The agency also is requesting the manufacturer to notify physicians of these results through sending out a "Dear Doctor" letter. While FDA believes it is important to share this information, these animal studies do not necessarily reflect human findings. The kind of liver tumor found in mice is extremely rare in humans, and its occurrence in recent years has not increased despite the increased use of Ritalin. FDA plans to initiate additional follow-up studies, including both animal tests and epidemiological studies in humans using Ritalin. FDA continues to consider Ritalin a safe and effective drug.

- **Middle East Cancer Consortium:** National Cancer Institute Director Richard Klausner has been working with Ephraim Sneh, the Minister of Health of Israel, on a proposal to establish a Middle East Cancer Consortium. The proposal would create a dedicated, government-sponsored infrastructure for interaction and coordination of activities within the Middle East aimed at increasing knowledge about decreasing the burden of cancer. Ministers of Health from Egypt, the Palestine Authority, Cyprus and Turkey already have indicated their support for the Consortium. We will keep you informed as plans develop.
- **Grassroots Regulatory Partnership Meeting on Seafood:** On January 19, FDA will hold a grassroots regulatory partnership public meeting in Gulfport, Mississippi, to listen to concerns and ideas of the regulated seafood industry and other stakeholders, and to identify possible next steps for the Agency.
- **Secretary's Schedule Highlights:** Secretary Shalala will call radio stations in Phoenix, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis to discuss Medicare and Medicaid and editorial boards in Chicago, Detroit, Cincinnati, and Cleveland. Friday, she will deliver remarks on post-Beijing activity and empowerment of women at the Institute of Arab-American Women's opening conference dinner in New York. Tuesday, she will participate in a White House roundtable with regional reporters to discuss Medicare and Medicaid.
- **FBI and Inspector General Announce Multiple Count Fraud Indictment:** On January 11, the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Department's Regional Inspector General, Denver, announced a 30 count indictment of a licensed physical therapist for mail fraud and fraudulent claims in connection with Medicare, Colorado Compensation Insurance Authority, the State of Colorado worker's compensation insurer, and other insurers.
- **SAMHSA To Announce Release of Tobacco Regulation:** On Thursday, January 18, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration is scheduled to release the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Tobacco Regulation, which implements the Synar Amendment, named for former Congressman Mike Synar (D-Okla.). The Synar Amendment requires states to prohibit the sale or distribution of tobacco products to youth under the age of 18; enforce such laws to reduce the extent to which tobacco products are available to individuals under age 18; and conduct random, unannounced inspections to enforce such laws. Failure to abide by the regulations could result in a state having their block grant funding reduced. Along with the FDA initiative, the SAMHSA final rule is part of the Department's overall effort to eliminate the sale of tobacco products to minors.
- **Foods ReGo:** The Administration's reinvention of food safety regulations, coordinated by the National Performance Review, will be announced Wednesday,

- January 17th, by the Department's Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Services (FSIS). Under Foods ReGo FDA and FSIS will reform rules to reduce the burden of outdated regulations, join in cooperative food safety programs, and expand international trade agreements to ensure greater regulatory harmonization with trading partners. The Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) approach, under which food companies design and implement individual safety plans, is a major component of the Foods ReGo package. This initiative will streamline requirements for food manufacturers and importers without sacrificing the controls necessary to ensure the safety of the Nation's food supply.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- 1995 HUD Reinvention Legislation:** The Senate passed the Public Housing Reform and Empowerment Act of 1995 on Wednesday, January 10. The authorization bill converts the federal public housing program into a direct block grant funding source to the nation's 3,300 public housing authorities. While there is much to be commended in the bill, the Administration finds the legislation too sweeping -- towards unfettered control by local bureaucracies and away from prudent national standard's and appropriate federal oversight. Specifically, HUD is still concerned about the bill's lack of flexibility in allowing HUD to get rid of the worst developments in the country and the far-reaching deregulation of local housing agencies without appropriate performance accountability measures.

We anticipate House floor action to take place in February at the earliest. The Banking Committee has not issued its report, which is expected to be issued within the next two weeks.

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

- Key Department News:** Sunday, January 14, is the date of Lee Brown's resignation. He will continue to make statements on several ongoing issues that have been initiated this month.

The Deputy Director and Associate Director have agreed to participate in events prior to the State of the Union. On the 17th of January the Deputy for Demand Reduction will travel to Omaha, Nebraska to a site to reinforce the budget message and the Associate Director for State and Local Affairs will be in Nashville, Tennessee on the 18th for a similar event with law enforcement personnel.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

- **Documentary - Persian Gulf War:** On January 19, CBS News is scheduled to air a special two-hour documentary on the Persian Gulf War. (The air date is still tentative). Dr. Robert Roswell, VA physician and Executive Director of the Persian Gulf Coordinating Board, was interviewed for this program.
- **Shooting of VA Police Officer at the Albuquerque, New Mexico, VAMC:** On January 10, 1996, a VA police officer was killed by a 76-year-old outpatient while on duty at the Albuquerque, New Mexico, VA Medical Center. The FBI has arrested the suspect and he is in custody.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- **OECD Conference:** Secretary Riley will travel to Paris January 13-18 to participate in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Education Committee meeting. The meeting will provide an opportunity for education ministers to recommend priorities for OECD's international work over the next five years.
- **Family Involvement Partnership:** On January 30, the Secretary will travel to Boston for the kickoff of the Family Involvement Partnership for Learning with church leaders there.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

- **Arizona Republic Op-Ed:** Joe Sax and Secretary Babbitt have written an op-ed piece that will appear this Sunday in the Arizona Republic. The op-ed will specifically address issues of concern for Arizona relating to the Lower Colorado River. Following his speech last month to the Colorado River Users Annual meeting, The Secretary wants to allay any fears that Arizona might have relating to water marketing and water banking.
- **Upcoming Travel:** The Secretary will be traveling Saturday to Guatemala as head of the United States delegation attending the inauguration of President-Elect Alvaro Arzu on Sunday. The Secretary currently does not have any other travel plans for the remainder of the week.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- **Conference Call Held Regarding EU Hormone Ban:** Thursday, Secretary Glickman held a conference call with European Union (EU) Agriculture Minister Franz Fischler about the EU ban on hormones (which has resulted in lost U.S. beef exports of \$100 million per year) and other trade issues. As a result of the failure of

- the EU to indicate any willingness to respond to concerns on the hormone issue, Ambassador Kantor and Secretary Glickman have agreed that the issue should be pursued in the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Forest Service Office Bombed: The USDA Espanola District Office of the Santa Fe National Forest (New Mexico) was bombed on January 6. Nobody was in the building or injured and the FBI and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms are investigating. Damages are estimated at \$25,000.

Environmental Group Bids On Timber Sale: The Northwest Ecosystem Alliance, an environmental group, has submitted the highest bid on the Thunder Salvage Sale on the Okanogan National Forest in Washington. The organization says that it will not fell timber, if it receives the bid.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Upcoming Hearings on the GAO Report on Department of Energy on Travel: The Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the House Commerce Committee will hold a further hearing on the GAO's report on Department of Energy travel. While a date has not been finalized, it appears that the hearing will be January 25. The Committee intends to focus on the \$80,000 of funds resulting from the trade mission to India. DOE are currently working with the State Department to reconcile this bill. This process has been delayed by the inclement weather and the government shutdown, the department expects to resolve these issues soon.

At this hearing, Secretary O'Leary will communicate that the Department has instituted several measures to overhaul its travel practices. The GAO confirmed in its testimony to the House Commerce Committee last week that the Department has implemented procedures to address problems related to travel costs. This hearing will provide an opportunity to update the progress of over \$4.3 billion in business deals that have been either closed or are near completion. In addition to the \$4.3 billion in deals already closed, a controversial power project in India worth \$700 million has moved closer to final approval by a state government in India. Also, several power deals that have been delayed in China may be approved by the State Planning Commission by the time of the hearing. This approval in China is the last requirement for final approval. These are all good news stories, and the Secretary welcomes the opportunity to testify on the benefits of the trade missions that she has led.

Upcoming Press Conference on an Advisory Committee on External Regulation: The former weapons productions facilities of the Department, its laboratories and other facilities have been self-regulated since the formation of the Atomic Energy

Commission nearly 50 years ago. An advisory committee including affected interest groups was established last year and charged with reporting on an efficient regulatory regime capable of protecting the health and safety of the public. This advisory committee will present its final recommendations to Secretary O'Learly, and she will communicate them in a press conference on Friday, January 19.

- **MLK Day:** On Sunday and Monday, the Secretary will be in Cleveland celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday. She will speak at the Martin Luther King Day celebrations at Cuyahoga Community College and the Cleveland Convocation Center. Congressman Stokes and other local elected Democratic officials will be in attendance.
- **Elimination of Obsolete Regulations:** The Department published a direct final rule, which becomes effective on January 16, 1996, to remove regulations for which statutory authority has expired or has been superseded by subsequent legislation, as well as regulations governing non-functioning and unfunded programs. As a result of this and previous actions, the Department has reduced the CFR by 514 pages, or 71 percent of its goal of 726 pages.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

- **The Everglades Coalition:** On January 13, Carol Browner will address the Everglades Coalition, the premiere annual environmental event in Florida on everglades and south Florida ecosystem issues. OMB Director Rivlin will address the coalition as well. EPA has been working with the White House and other agencies on a memorandum to be issued by the Vice President directing federal departments and agencies to prepare a restoration plan on an expedited basis. These efforts will be coordinated by OMB and CEQ. Her speech will highlight the Administration's firm commitment to Everglades restoration and to assuring funding for restoration based upon a "polluter pays" principle. The Vice President's Memorandum and these speeches are the next steps in assuring the Administration retains its key role in this issue.
- **Nitrogen Emissions from Utility Plants:** This week EPA is proposing to require additional reductions in nitrogen oxide emissions from coal burning utility plants. These utility plants are major sources of nitrogen oxide emissions which contribute to numerous environmental problems including acid rain, smog, and impaired visibility. In 1995, EPA issued the first phase of nitrogen oxide reductions for certain utility plants. This action will strengthen these regulations and result in 820,000 more tons of nitrogen oxide reductions per year.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT



Government Downsizing: As reported last week, the total number of federal employees on-board fell below two million in October for the first time since 1965. Jim King is working on an op-ed for release around the time of the State of the Union address. It will stress that the decline of the workforce reflects three years of tough management by the President and that he has kept his promise to the American people for a smaller, more efficient government, etc.

- **Schedule Update:** Director King will chair meetings of the National Partnership Council in Portsmouth, NH and Andover, MA on Wednesday, the 24th. The outing will highlight successful federal labor-management partnerships in those cities and Brunswick, ME.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

- **New Russian FM:** President Yeltsin named Yevgeniy Primakov foreign minister four days after Kozyrev's January 5 resignation. Primakov, who moved to the Foreign Ministry from the Foreign Intelligence Service where he served as Director since 1991, has extensive foreign policy experience, particularly with the Near East and South Asia.
- **Sudan:** The January 10 Principals meeting was inconclusive as to whether Embassy Khartoum should remain open, and we continue to develop information on the state of play in Sudan. Anti-U.S. rhetoric in the Sudanese press has decreased and the security apparatus has added additional armed manpower at USG facilities.
- **Middle East Trip:** Due to the snowstorm, Secretary Christopher was forced to miss the Conference on Assistance to the Palestinians in Paris, and travelled directly to Israel to begin work on the Syria Track of the Middle East Peace Process. He is currently in Damascus to meet with the President Asad on January 12. If, after the meeting in Syria, there is no reasonable expectation of forward progress, we expect to host a second round of negotiations at the Wye Plantation in the near future.
- **Harvard Address:** On January 18, Secretary Christopher will travel to Boston, MA, to address Harvard University's School of Government.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 01/16/96

TO: THE FIRST LADY

FROM: Staff Secretary

Attached is a copy of the
President's State of the
Union address which has
been staffed.

Draft January 16, 1996 9pm

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON

"AMERICA'S CHALLENGE"

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

U.S. CAPITOL

JANUARY 23, 1996

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Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice-President, Members of the 104th Congress, distinguished guests:

Tonight, I speak not only to you gathered here in this chamber and those across America, but also to the men and women of our armed forces who stand sentry around the world -- and particularly those who are helping peace to take root in Bosnia. To these warriors for peace, I say: we are proud of you.

My duty tonight under the Constitution is to report on the State of the Union. Not on the state of our government, or even on the state of individual Americans, but of our union -- how we as Americans together are building our national community and creating a more perfect union.

The State of our Union is strong -- as strong as it has ever been.

Through the hard work of the American people, our economy is the strongest it has been in three decades. The combined rate of unemployment and inflation is the lowest in 27 years. We are keeping the American dream alive.

Through the hard work of the American people, there is new hope for peace tonight -- from the cobblestone streets of Northern Ireland to the sands of the Middle East to the snows of Bosnia. We are keeping America the world's strongest force for peace and freedom.

And through the hard work of the American people, the crime rate is down, teen pregnancy is down, even divorce is down. We are coming together as a nation.

Exactly 200 years ago, President George Washington stood before the 4th Congress of the United States to deliver his annual message. America faced great uncertainty about a new century, a new economy and competing visions for how best to move into the future. President Washington could have spoken to the young nation about what divided it. But instead, he chose to talk about all that held us together -- in his words, of our mission to "unite our efforts to preserve, prolong and improve our immense advantages."

Much more unites us than divides us. That vision has rescued our nation every time we have been seriously tested. Throughout our history, we have come together around three

great ideals: First, our belief in progress -- that every American can dream of a better future, and that hard work can make those dreams come true. Second, our love of liberty. And third, our constant struggle to find common ground.

Now, at another moment of great change, our challenge -- America's Challenge -- is to find a way to preserve these old American ideals in new times. America's Challenge is to call on citizens in all walks of life to join together ... to win the war on crime, to renew our public schools for a new century, to give Americans health care and economic independence so they can be the winners of change.

The answers will not come from here in Washington alone, or from individuals acting alone. They will come from all of us, acting together -- in our communities, our churches, our businesses, our homes, our neighborhoods, and, when necessary, through our government. We must ask more of ourselves, and expect more from one another.

We will only rise to our challenges by speaking honestly about the duties we owe one another and the possibilities of what we as a nation can do together. So tonight, I want to speak directly about eight great challenges that America must meet as we move into the next century. For America was built on challenges, not promises.

America's first great challenge lies with all of us here tonight: to put our partisan differences aside and balance the budget.

It is wrong to leave our children a legacy of debt. I am proud that my administration cut the deficit nearly in half in 3 years. The federal government is now the smallest it has been since 1965. Now we must finish the job.

Earlier this month, I presented to the Congress a balanced budget with tough cuts in wasteful spending. According to the Congress own economists -- the Congressional Budget Office -- my plan makes real cuts and balances the budget in seven years.

And it balances the budget in a way that reflects our values.

We have a duty to honor our parents. And we can balance the budget without devastating Medicare or Medicaid. To anyone who would undercut Medicare, let me make myself clear: I will not let it happen.

We have a duty to our children, and to future generations. And we can balance the budget without cutting education or the gutting the environment.

We believe in work and responsibility. And we can balance the budget while ending welfare as we know it.

We believe in helping families who are trying to raise their children. We can balance

the budget while still providing a modest tax cut. And certainly without raising taxes on working families.

That's the right way to balance the budget. And if this Congress gives me the line-item veto, as you have pledged to do, I pledge tonight that I will balance the budget.

In recent weeks, I have spent many hours negotiating in good faith with the Republican and Democratic leaders of Congress. Already, we have agreed to more than enough spending cuts to balance the budget, with enough left over for a modest tax cut.

In his 1862 State of the Union message, President Lincoln said to another Congress: "We cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this administration will be remembered -- in spite of ourselves." We, too, will be remembered. So I say tonight to you, Mr. Speaker, to you Mr. Majority Leader, to all the leaders of this Congress: Let us not be remembered for partisan bickering. Let us be remembered for seizing this moment of national unity. For the sake of our children, for the sake of the country, let us balance the budget -- and do it now.

And finally, let me say this: America is the greatest nation on earth -- we are its leaders, and we must behave responsibly. No public servant should ever threaten the full faith and credit of the United States. And no public servant should ever -- ever -- shut down the government again.

Balancing the budget is the beginning of our challenges, not the end. Our second great challenge is to make sure that America faces up to our responsibility to lead the way to peace in the world.

This century -- the American century -- our country has led the fight for freedom and peace -- and won. Because we did, more people than ever before live free, more nations enjoy peace -- and our own people have had half a century of prosperity and security.

But as the Cold War fades, the voices of indifference and fear grow louder. They say America should retreat from the hard work of leadership. I say they are wrong. All over the world, people look up to America not only because we are strong -- but because of what we stand for -- and what we stand against. And though it imposes extra burdens on us, they trust us to help them seek the blessings of peace and freedom.

Because of our leadership, tonight, there are no Russian missiles pointed at our cities or citizens. More Americans have jobs here at home because we're working to open markets abroad. In Haiti, the dictators are gone, the democrats are back and the flow of refugees to our shores has ended. In Northern Ireland, girls and boys can now dream of the simple blessings of a normal life.

In the Middle East, Arabs and Jews are learning to live side-by-side. The American

people -- and I -- lost a great friend and partner when Yitzhak Rabin was taken from us. We can be proud, though, that the people of the Middle East have found the strength to go forward, in part because they know that America will stand with them, now and forever.

And, in Bosnia, the most terrible conflict in Europe since World War II is over -- because America stared down aggression and stood up for peace.

We have been able to do all of this because we kept our military strong... we invested in diplomacy and foreign assistance... we built alliances to share the risk and the cost of fulfilling our responsibility. We know we can't be everywhere. We can't do everything. But where we can make a difference -- and where our values and interests are at stake -- America must lead.

Our leadership is more important now than ever. Old threats have assumed new and dangerous dimensions -- ethnic and religious hatreds and aggression by rogue states. New threats are equal opportunity destroyers with no respect for borders -- the spread of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking. We must confront them.

If we do, we can cut the world's nuclear stockpiles by another XX percent -- and we will if Congress ratifies the START II treaty -- this year.

We can stop the development of an entire new generation of nuclear weapons -- and we will by signing a truly Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty -- this year.

We can better control chemical and biological weapons -- and we will if Congress heeds my call to ratify the Chemical Weapons Convention -- this year.

We can enact stronger laws to fight terrorism and organized crime -- and we will if Congress finally passes legislation I proposed after Oklahoma City to give our law enforcement even stronger tools to fight terrorists.

We can help more people move from hatred to hope -- and we will, if Congress gives our diplomats the resources they need to remain leaders for peace.

We can do all of these things -- but only if we continue to lead. It has never been -- and it must never be -- the American way to hide behind the curtain of our fears. If we hold to that truth now, the next century will be an American Century too.

If we are to be strong abroad, we must remain strong at home. So America's third challenge is to crack down on violent crime, and turn our young people away from drugs and gangs.

For 3 years in a row, crime has gone down in this country. In New York, the murder rate dropped 25% in one year; in St. Louis, 18%; in Seattle, 32%. Government is living up

to its first responsibility, to keep its citizens safe . . . and citizens are living up to their responsibility, by coming out from behind closed doors and shuttered windows to help one another. Tonight, for the first time in decades, we can say that America is winning the battle against crime.

But we have not yet won the war. We still face the challenge to make the defense of our streets as important as the defense of our shores.

That means keeping guns out of the hands of criminals. Under the Brady Bill, already 45,000 criminals have been stopped from buying guns. And that is why, if anyone tries to repeal the Brady Bill and the assault weapons ban, I will veto it.

That means putting more police on the street through community policing -- walking the beat, working with neighbors, catching criminals and stopping crime before it happens. And if Congress tries to gut the law that will put 100,000 more police on the street, I will veto it.

In the days after the Oklahoma City bombing, Americans wore T-shirts with a simple slogan: "A society that makes war against its police officers had better learn to make friends with its criminals." Those officers put their lives on the line to protect us, every day. We owe them our help, our support, our gratitude, and most of all, our undying respect.

We can cheer the drop in crime. We cannot begin to meet our other challenges until we break the culture of crime that engulfs our young people. Crime among juveniles is the one kind of crime that continues to rise. A few years ago, I spoke to grade school children in South Central Los Angeles. They told me that their biggest fear was getting shot on the way to school -- and their second biggest fear was being forced to join a gang when they turn 12.

We need more efforts like the boys and girls clubs in Chicago to steer young people away from drugs and crime.

People who live in public housing should live decent lives without being terrorized by gangs. Tonight I am asking every housing authority to take all steps necessary to drive gangs from public housing. From now on, for public housing residents involved in drugs and crime, the rule will be: One strike and you're out. I am directing our nation's prosecutors to prosecute violent juveniles as adults. And I am directing the FBI and other enforcement agencies to target gangs that involve juveniles in violent crime. It is time to break the gangs the way we broke the mob.

We must slam shut the revolving door that lets violent criminals go free. I am proud that we passed the Violence Against Women Act, made three-strikes-and-you're-out the law of the land, and said that if you kill a law enforcement officer, you will get the death penalty. Tonight, I challenge judges, prosecutors, and legislators in every state to meet a new national goal that, by the year 2000, every violent criminal will serve out at least 85% of his sentence.

All of this will make a difference. But, my friends, we could put a million new police on the streets and build a million new prison cells, and we would not win this war on crime and drugs unless we all join together -- every one of us -- to fight this fight.

America's fourth challenge is to give our people the tools they need to make the most of their God-given potential and become the winners of economic change.

These are good times for America. For three straight years, we have had the strongest growth of any major economy. Businesses have created nearly 8 million American jobs. Three years ago, our auto industry was losing jobs. Today, it has gained over 700,000 jobs, and Detroit is beating Japan for the first time since the 1970s. Three years ago, we were losing jobs in construction; today, we have gained over 700,000. Small businesses started by women now employ more people than the Fortune 500. Home ownership is expanding more rapidly than ever before. (ck) Thanks in no small measure to the work of Vice-President Gore, we have cut 16,000 page of unnecessary rules and regulations -- so government costs less and works better to build our economy. And from coast to coast, remarkable new industries like biotechnology and telecommunications are leading the world into the 21st century.

In the industrial economy dominated by big companies, people got their health care, their pensions and their training where they worked. Today, in the information age, more and more people work in small businesses or at home. More than ever, we need to help people carry with them the fruits of their work -- their training, their health care, their retirement benefits -- so they can thrive in the new economy. We must not fear economic change. We must conquer it.

We can do this, if Congress passes my GI Bill for workers, which will give people a training voucher they can take to a community college or their next job.

We can do it, if we enact reforms so that insurance companies cannot deny you coverage or raise rates when you are changing jobs, because you or a member of your family have a preexisting condition. We should help give small businesses the same purchasing power to buy health care as big businesses, make it easier for women to get mammograms every year, and find a way to ensure that if you lose your job, you don't lose your health care.

We can do this, if we cut through red tape to make it easier for small business to

provide pensions for their employees, so that every American can share the responsibility of saving for retirement. I propose that every American be allowed to join the federal workers retirement system. If it is good enough for federal workers, it should be good enough for employees of small businesses across the country.

Economic growth and environmental protection go hand in hand. We should say to business: if you can meet tough pollution goals, we will let you figure out how to do it in the cheapest, most efficient way. We will give communities the right-to-know what toxic chemicals are being released into their neighborhood, by expanding our pollution disclosure order. And we will launch a "brownfields initiative" to waive the rules and call off the lawyers for businesses that develop abandoned industrial sites.

And if we honor work, then work must pay. Two and a half million Americans -- many of them women with children -- earn the minimum wage, and it is at a 40 year low. A year ago, I called on Congress to raise the minimum wage. Since then, the value of the minimum wage has dropped \$250 -- while Congress' pay has gone up [x]. That's wrong. Congress should increase the minimum wage.

We will all be stronger the more our companies invest in the long term and treat their workers like their most valuable asset. Last month, the Malden Mills factory in Massachusetts burned to the ground, taking 2400 jobs with it. The mill's owner could have cut his losses and left his workers behind. That's not what he did. Here's what he said at the time -- quote: "I don't consider the workers an expense that can be cut. I know in the long run that what I'm doing today will come back tenfold." His name is Aaron Fuerstein, and he is with us tonight. We salute him; and pledge to learn from his example. [*Mr Fuerstein will be in the First Lady's box.*]

Fifth, to renew the American dream of opportunity for all, I challenge parents, teachers and students -- and business and community leaders -- to join a national mission to renew our public schools for the challenges of the 21st century.

Our best economic strategy is also our best opportunity strategy.

America was the first nation to believe that every child deserves an education. For two hundred years, the public schools raised up generation after generation, and taught us what it meant to be an American. They have opened the world of math and science and poetry and history to the sons of farmers and the daughters of factory workers. Next year there will be more young Americans in school than ever before. Yet today, our schools are not ready for the new era. Our schools have low standards, dilapidated and crowded classrooms, and only chalkboards in the age of the microchip.

To make our school succeed at this moment of change, tonight I propose a four part challenge to renew every level of education in America for the new century.

We must raise our sights. We should insist that every teacher meet basic competency standards . . . that every student meet national standards of excellence . . . that every parent take responsibility for their children . . . and that every school be held accountable for results.

Every state should give parents the right to choose their child's public school. And if the idea of choice in public schools is to be real, we must give parents and teachers the right to start better public schools -- charter schools -- if the current ones do not work.

We must recognize that technological literacy is now as important as learning to read, write, and do math. Our goal is clear: when we walk into any school in the 21st century -- five years from now -- we should see every classroom connected to the outside world . . . a cutting-edge computer accessible to every student . . . and teachers with the skills and the software to make technology as exciting in the classroom as it is in the video arcade. Tens of millions of parents have watched their children play every video game from Mortal Kombat to Killer Instinct. From now on, the most important computer game in America must be learning.

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Higher standards. Public school choice. Technology in the classroom. And an aggressive strategy to open wider the doors of college. That is my education challenge. Because when our schools succeed, America succeeds.

America's eighth and perhaps most important, challenge is this: to live up to our values, and restore a sense of right and wrong, in our daily lives. I challenge Americans in all walks of life to reach within themselves and find a new sense of personal responsibility.

As Americans, we more than any people on earth should recognize the truth of the Gospel: "To whom much is given, from them much is required." We need a rebirth of ethics, of values, of the moral code that this country was built on. Only if we share a community of values, can we value community.

Throughout our history, Americans have always joined together as neighbors and citizens to build strong communities and a strong country. We need that spirit more than ever today.

That means:

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- We must challenge every father to take responsibility for his children. Spend time with your child, love your child, and take an interest in your child's daily life. And if you owe child support, pay it. Your child needs you. You cannot walk away.
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Conclusion/Olympic torchbearers

That is what we will see this summer in Atlanta, when we are hosts to the centennial of the modern Olympics. I am not just talking of our athletes, who show us all how to work hard to make our dreams come true. I also mean the shared effort of the entire community of Atlanta -- the City Too Busy to Hate. One community, pulling together. That is what's right with America.

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These are not celebrities or heroic athletes, but they are heroes nonetheless. Thousands of them are being selected because they are community heroes -- Americans who have used their energies to make our world better, one community at a time. Most of these people will be announced next month. But I am proud to say that the first three of them have been chosen so they can be here with us tonight. [insert on two or three heroes]

Let us strive to be like these everyday champions. They show us a different kind of strength and endurance and a lot of heart. They show us that if we each do our part, we are sure to reach our destination. Together. And when we do, we will know the joy of a special victory -- where every American has a chance to win.

We are going to show the world this summer what happens when America pulls together. And I believe, my fellow Americans, we are going to show it time and time again in the century that lies ahead. That is, and forever will be, America's challenge.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 01/16/96

TO: NANCY SODERBERG

FROM: Staff Secretary

Attached is a copy of the
President's State of the
Union address which has
been staffed.

Draft January 16, 1996 9pm

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON

"AMERICA'S CHALLENGE"

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS JAN 16 P 9: 22

U.S. CAPITOL

JANUARY 23, 1996

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice-President, Members of the 104th Congress, distinguished guests:

Tonight, I speak not only to you gathered here in this chamber and those across America, but also to the men and women of our armed forces who stand sentry around the world -- and particularly those who are helping peace to take root in Bosnia. To these warriors for peace, I say: we are proud of you.

My duty tonight under the Constitution is to report on the State of the Union. Not on the state of our government, or even on the state of individual Americans, but of our union -- how we as Americans together are building our national community and creating a more perfect union.

The State of our Union is strong -- as strong as it has ever been.

Through the hard work of the American people, our economy is the strongest it has been in three decades. The combined rate of unemployment and inflation is the lowest in 27 years. We are keeping the American dream alive.

Through the hard work of the American people, there is new hope for peace tonight -- from the cobblestone streets of Northern Ireland to the sands of the Middle East to the snows of Bosnia. We are keeping America the world's strongest force for peace and freedom.

And through the hard work of the American people, the crime rate is down, teen pregnancy is down, even divorce is down. We are coming together as a nation.

Exactly 200 years ago, President George Washington stood before the 4th Congress of the United States to deliver his annual message. America faced great uncertainty about a new century, a new economy and competing visions for how best to move into the future. President Washington could have spoken to the young nation about what divided it. But instead, he chose to talk about all that held us together -- in his words, of our mission to "unite our efforts to preserve, prolong and improve our immense advantages."

Much more unites us than divides us. That vision has rescued our nation every time we have been seriously tested. Throughout our history, we have come together around three

great ideals: First, our belief in progress -- that every American can dream of a better future, and that hard work can make those dreams come true. Second, our love of liberty. And third, our constant struggle to find common ground.

Now, at another moment of great change, our challenge -- America's Challenge -- is to find a way to preserve these old American ideals in new times. America's Challenge is to call on citizens in all walks of life to join together ... to win the war on crime, to renew our public schools for a new century, to give Americans health care and economic independence so they can be the winners of change.

The answers will not come from here in Washington alone, or from individuals acting alone. They will come from all of us, acting together -- in our communities, our churches, our businesses, our homes, our neighborhoods, and, when necessary, through our government. We must ask more of ourselves, and expect more from one another.

We will only rise to our challenges by speaking honestly about the duties we owe one another and the possibilities of what we as a nation can do together. So tonight, I want to speak directly about eight great challenges that America must meet as we move into the next century. For America was built on challenges, not promises.

America's first great challenge lies with all of us here tonight: to put our partisan differences aside and balance the budget.

It is wrong to leave our children a legacy of debt. I am proud that my administration cut the deficit nearly in half in 3 years. The federal government is now the smallest it has been since 1965. Now we must finish the job.

Earlier this month, I presented to the Congress a balanced budget with tough cuts in wasteful spending. According to the Congress own economists -- the Congressional Budget Office -- my plan makes real cuts and balances the budget in seven years.

And it balances the budget in a way that reflects our values.

We have a duty to honor our parents. And we can balance the budget without devastating Medicare or Medicaid. To anyone who would undercut Medicare, let me make myself clear: I will not let it happen.

We have a duty to our children, and to future generations. And we can balance the budget without cutting education or the gutting the environment.

We believe in work and responsibility. And we can balance the budget while ending welfare as we know it.

We believe in helping families who are trying to raise their children. We can balance

the budget while still providing a modest tax cut. And certainly without raising taxes on working families.

That's the right way to balance the budget. And if this Congress gives me the line-item veto, as you have pledged to do, I pledge tonight that I will balance the budget.

In recent weeks, I have spent many hours negotiating in good faith with the Republican and Democratic leaders of Congress. Already, we have agreed to more than enough spending cuts to balance the budget, with enough left over for a modest tax cut.

In his 1862 State of the Union message, President Lincoln said to another Congress: "We cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this administration will be remembered -- in spite of ourselves." We, too, will be remembered. So I say tonight to you, Mr. Speaker, to you Mr. Majority Leader, to all the leaders of this Congress: Let us not be remembered for partisan bickering. Let us be remembered for seizing this moment of national unity. For the sake of our children, for the sake of the country, let us balance the budget -- and do it now.

And finally, let me say this: America is the greatest nation on earth -- we are its leaders, and we must behave responsibly. No public servant should ever threaten the full faith and credit of the United States. And no public servant should ever -- ever -- shut down the government again.

Balancing the budget is the beginning of our challenges, not the end. Our second great challenge is to make sure that America faces up to our responsibility to lead the way to peace in the world.

This century -- the American century -- our country has led the fight for freedom and peace -- and won. Because we did, more people than ever before live free, more nations enjoy peace -- and our own people have had half a century of prosperity and security.

But as the Cold War fades, the voices of indifference and fear grow louder. They say America should retreat from the hard work of leadership. I say they are wrong. All over the world, people look up to America not only because we are strong -- but because of what we stand for -- and what we stand against. And though it imposes extra burdens on us, they trust us to help them seek the blessings of peace and freedom.

Because of our leadership, tonight, there are no Russian missiles pointed at our cities or citizens. More Americans have jobs here at home because we're working to open markets abroad. In Haiti, the dictators are gone, the democrats are back and the flow of refugees to our shores has ended. In Northern Ireland, girls and boys can now dream of the simple blessings of a normal life.

In the Middle East, Arabs and Jews are learning to live side-by-side. The American

people -- and I -- lost a great friend and partner when Yitzhak Rabin was taken from us. We can be proud, though, that the people of the Middle East have found the strength to go forward, in part because they know that America will stand with them, now and forever.

And, in Bosnia, the most terrible conflict in Europe since World War II is over -- because America stared down aggression and stood up for peace.

We have been able to do all of this because we kept our military strong... we invested in diplomacy and foreign assistance... we built alliances to share the risk and the cost of fulfilling our responsibility. We know we can't be everywhere. We can't do everything. But where we can make a difference -- and where our values and interests are at stake -- America must lead.

Our leadership is more important now than ever. Old threats have assumed new and dangerous dimensions -- ethnic and religious hatreds and aggression by rogue states. New threats are equal opportunity destroyers with no respect for borders -- the spread of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking. We must confront them.

If we do, we can cut the world's nuclear stockpiles by another XX percent -- and we will if Congress ratifies the START II treaty -- this year.

We can stop the development of an entire new generation of nuclear weapons -- and we will by signing a truly Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty -- this year.

We can better control chemical and biological weapons -- and we will if Congress heeds my call to ratify the Chemical Weapons Convention -- this year.

We can enact stronger laws to fight terrorism and organized crime -- and we will if Congress finally passes legislation I proposed after Oklahoma City to give our law enforcement even stronger tools to fight terrorists.

We can help more people move from hatred to hope -- and we will, if Congress gives our diplomats the resources they need to remain leaders for peace.

We can do all of these things -- but only if we continue to lead. It has never been -- and it must never be -- the American way to hide behind the curtain of our fears. If we hold to that truth now, the next century will be an American Century too.

If we are to be strong abroad, we must remain strong at home. So America's third challenge is to crack down on violent crime, and turn our young people away from drugs and gangs.

For 3 years in a row, crime has gone down in this country. In New York, the murder rate dropped 25% in one year; in St. Louis, 18%; in Seattle, 32%. Government is living up

to its first responsibility, to keep its citizens safe . . . and citizens are living up to their responsibility, by coming out from behind closed doors and shuttered windows to help one another. Tonight, for the first time in decades, we can say that America is winning the battle against crime.

But we have not yet won the war. We still face the challenge to make the defense of our streets as important as the defense of our shores.

That means keeping guns out of the hands of criminals. Under the Brady Bill, already 45,000 criminals have been stopped from buying guns. And that is why, if anyone tries to repeal the Brady Bill and the assault weapons ban, I will veto it.

That means putting more police on the street through community policing -- walking the beat, working with neighbors, catching criminals and stopping crime before it happens. And if Congress tries to gut the law that will put 100,000 more police on the street, I will veto it.

In the days after the Oklahoma City bombing, Americans wore T-shirts with a simple slogan: "A society that makes war against its police officers had better learn to make friends with its criminals." Those officers put their lives on the line to protect us, every day. We owe them our help, our support, our gratitude, and most of all, our undying respect.

We can cheer the drop in crime. We cannot begin to meet our other challenges until we break the culture of crime that engulfs our young people. Crime among juveniles is the one kind of crime that continues to rise. A few years ago, I spoke to grade school children in South Central Los Angeles. They told me that their biggest fear was getting shot on the way to school -- and their second biggest fear was being forced to join a gang when they turn 12.

We need more efforts like the boys and girls clubs in Chicago to steer young people away from drugs and crime.

People who live in public housing should live decent lives without being terrorized by gangs. Tonight I am asking every housing authority to take all steps necessary to drive gangs from public housing. From now on, for public housing residents involved in drugs and crime, the rule will be: One strike and you're out. I am directing our nation's prosecutors to prosecute violent juveniles as adults. And I am directing the FBI and other enforcement agencies to target gangs that involve juveniles in violent crime. It is time to break the gangs the way we broke the mob.

We must slam shut the revolving door that lets violent criminals go free. I am proud that we passed the Violence Against Women Act, made three-strikes-and-you're-out the law of the land, and said that if you kill a law enforcement officer, you will get the death penalty. Tonight, I challenge judges, prosecutors, and legislators in every state to meet a new national goal that, by the year 2000, every violent criminal will serve out at least 85% of his sentence.

All of this will make a difference. But, my friends, we could put a million new police on the streets and build a million new prison cells, and we would not win this war on crime and drugs unless we all join together -- every one of us -- to fight this fight.

America's fourth challenge is to give our people the tools they need to make the most of their God-given potential and become the winners of economic change.

These are good times for America. For three straight years, we have had the strongest growth of any major economy. Businesses have created nearly 8 million American jobs. Three years ago, our auto industry was losing jobs. Today, it has gained over 700,000 jobs, and Detroit is beating Japan for the first time since the 1970s. Three years ago, we were losing jobs in construction; today, we have gained over 700,000. Small businesses started by women now employ more people than the Fortune 500. Home ownership is expanding more rapidly than ever before. (ck) Thanks in no small measure to the work of Vice-President Gore, we have cut 16,000 page of unnecessary rules and regulations -- so government costs less and works better to build our economy. And from coast to coast, remarkable new industries like biotechnology and telecommunications are leading the world into the 21st century.

In the industrial economy dominated by big companies, people got their health care, their pensions and their training where they worked. Today, in the information age, more and more people work in small businesses or at home. More than ever, we need to help people carry with them the fruits of their work -- their training, their health care, their retirement benefits -- so they can thrive in the new economy. We must not fear economic change. We must conquer it.

We can do this, if Congress passes my GI Bill for workers, which will give people a training voucher they can take to a community college or their next job.

We can do it, if we enact reforms so that insurance companies cannot deny you coverage or raise rates when you are changing jobs, because you or a member of your family have a preexisting condition. We should help give small businesses the same purchasing power to buy health care as big businesses, make it easier for women to get mammograms every year, and find a way to ensure that if you lose your job, you don't lose your health care.

We can do this, if we cut through red tape to make it easier for small business to

provide pensions for their employees, so that every American can share the responsibility of saving for retirement. I propose that every American be allowed to join the federal workers retirement system. If it is good enough for federal workers, it should be good enough for employees of small businesses across the country.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1/16/96

January 96 JAN 13 P12:35

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM: RAHM EMANUEL

SUBJECT: WEEKLY REPORT

CRIME:

The main focus this week has been to bring the Drug Czar search to a close. I think we have the perfect person for the job and all we need now is for the President to ask him and to complete the FBI background check. I would like to have this completed by the State of the Union.

Approximately 24 hours elapsed between Director Bennett's resignation and Martinez's nomination. Realizing that we will not have the nominee selected by Dr. Brown's last day, I am developing some announcements we can do in the dead time between Dr. Brown's departure and our new nominee to ward off any possible criticism. Some of these suggestions are as follows:

1. Acting Director. Name Tom Constantine the Acting Director of ONDCP until our nominee is ready. This will show that the President won't allow there to be a gap in this office and is putting his top drug law enforcement official in charge. Constantine is well-liked by Republicans and this would be a first step towards pulling him more to the center of the Administration's drug team.
2. Drug Testing. We could hold a White House event with the national board of NDAA announcing their resolution to endorse the President's drug testing initiative. We are working with DOJ to see if NDAA's Executive Board can pass a resolution supporting our drug testing initiative next week.
3. Tougher Regulations on drugs that teens are abusing. Direct the Attorney General to schedule Rohypnol (Roofies) as a Schedule I drug -- which is the highest restrictions for a drug. This would increase the penalties for distributing it and force the DEA to clamp down more on this drug. Rohypnol, which is similar but more powerful than Valium (and is not FDA approved), is immensely popular among teenagers in the South, especially Florida.
4. Grant Announcements. ONDCP has some grant announcements coming up for a program called "Break the Cycle" that are going to several major cities. The grants go to criminal justice systems for drug testing and treatment.

In the area of Crime announcements, we have the Executive Order on Missing Children ready, we are ready for the Anti-gang announcement, the District Attorney's Association endorsement of our drug testing initiative, the directive on school uniforms, and we will be scheduling the Conference on Juvenile Violence and Adolescent Drug Use.

WELFARE:

I think we did a pretty good job of vetoing the Welfare Bill without catching a tremendous amount of flack for it. The Republicans wanted to make an issue out of the timing, but their coordinated criticism fell flat. I do not think any of us ten months ago would have predicted that we would veto a welfare bill and escape a long bitter debate.

agree
I do believe that welfare, like the budget, is the issue the Republicans will try to peel off a number of conservative Democrats to support their compromise. It is essential that we immediately begin staff level talks with the Republicans in order to avoid or counter any of their attempts to jam us with legislation we cannot support. We always need to show good faith effort.

IMMIGRATION:

This has been a very busy week in the press for the administration. I worked on the CBS story that profiled our Southwest border czar, Alan Bersin. This is part of our attempt to build him up as the California spokesman on immigration and drugs. In the summer and fall he can be helpful in countering Republican attacks. My goal is to develop him as our California immigration and drug voice to hit back during the GOP convention.

Today, the INS and the Justice Department are announcing our new deployment at the San Diego border. The news will be on the new use of the local sheriffs department and the military. We gave the story early to the LA Times and the Washington Post to generate network coverage.

* *[* We should expect the Republicans to attack our actions as a) not going far enough in using the military, and b) that we have failed to gain control of the border after three years on the job. The line I have been using is that we are finally putting the rule of law back at the border after years of neglect. The GOP goes crazy when we refer to their years of inaction.

If everything goes according to plan, we should also be announcing a major workplace raid later this month. I am sure the INS will claim the furlough has hampered their efforts so it might get delayed until next month.

My goal is to continue to use the budget talks and GOP distraction to run up the numbers on immigration. We can expect the GOP to eventually come back to this issue soon and with a real vengeance.

Sandy Berger and I have agreed to meet next week to coordinate our communication and

policy on Mexico. I am very concerned that we not be on the defensive when the Senate begins to debate Mexico's loan repayment in February and it is imperative that we begin planning ahead.

MIDEAST:

As I have mentioned to Dennis Ross and Sandy Berger, the next stage of the Mideast agreement has the real potential to hurt us domestically. President Carter was very popular after Camp David, but his vote among American Jews went down to 58%. The Golan is very sensitive for American Jews, many of whom have traveled up to the Golan and seen its importance, and the Israelis living there are mythological figures. If not communicated correctly, this can be the first agreement which we pay a price with a key Democratic constituency. It can be done right, but it will take a level of coordination we have not needed or shown in the past.

STATE OF THE UNION:

I think the President should invite Aaron Feuerstein to the State of the Union. Feuerstein is the President of the Malden Mills Industries, Inc., who continued to pay the salary and benefits of his mill workers for a month after a fire left them unemployed. The President should point to him as an example of how the private sector can take more responsibility for the well-being of their employees.

He's right
about this

to a law

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1 / 16 / 96

January 96 JAN 13 P12:35

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM: RAHM EMANUEL

SUBJECT: WEEKLY REPORT

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He's right
about this

to a law

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 1/17/96



TO: Pat Griffin

FROM: Staff Secretary

For your information.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 1-4 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 1-5

SUBJECT: PRODUCT LIABILITY

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	McCURRY	☐	☐
PANETTA	☒	☐	McGINTY	☐	☐
McLARTY	☐	☐	NASH	☐	☐
ICKES	☒	☐	QUINN	☒	☐
BOWLES	☐	☐	RASCO	☐	☐
RIVLIN	☒	☐	SOSNIK	☒	☐
BAER	☐	☐	STEPHANOPOULOS	☒	☐
CURRY	☐	☐	STIGLITZ	☒	☐
EMANUEL	☐	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
GIBBONS	☐	☐	TYSON	☒	☐
GRIFFIN	☒	☐	WALLEY	☐	☐
HALE	☐	☐	WILLIAMS	☐	☐
HERMAN	☐	☐		☐	☐
HIGGINS	☐	☐		☐	☐
KLAIN	☒	☐		☐	☐
LAKE	☐	☐		☐	☐
LINDSEY	☐	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

Please advise if you have any

RESPONSE:

comment.

January 4, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

96 JAN 4 P2:32

FROM: Bruce R. Lindsey

RE: Products Liability Reform

As you may know, products liability reform legislation is currently in conference. As with securities litigation reform, you are again caught between a good friend and supporter in Senator Rockefeller, who is the main sponsor of the legislation, and a number of Democratic constituencies -- labor, consumer groups, trial lawyers -- who are strongly opposed. Unlike securities litigation reform, most Democrats in Congress oppose the legislation. In the House, a broader tort reform bill passed 265 to 161; and in the Senate, the Rockefeller/Gorton bill passed 61 to 37.

Substantively, we have a greater philosophical disagreement with products liability reform -- federalism; but fewer specific disagreements. The Senate bill would:

- Limit punitive damages in products liability cases to two times compensatory damages, or \$250,000, whichever is greater, but allow judges to increase the award in certain egregious cases. In the case of small businesses with fewer than 25 employees and individual defendants with a net worth of less than \$500,000, punitive damages would be limited to the lesser of twice compensatory damages or \$250,000.

- Eliminate joint and several liability for noneconomic damages, i.e., pain and suffering.

- Make retailers and wholesalers liable only if they were themselves negligent.

- Require that compensatory damages be reduced by the amount a defendant receives from collateral sources, such as insurance or workers' compensation.

- Establish a statute of repose that would prohibit suits involving products that were 20 years old.

- Establish a statute of limitations that would require plaintiffs to file suits within two years after discovering they were harmed.

OMB's April 25, 1995 Statement of Administration Policy indicated that we opposed an arbitrary ceiling on the amount of punitive damages that may be awarded in a products liability lawsuit and the abolishment of joint-and-several liability for

noneconomic damages. Senators Rockefeller and Gorton, working with John Schmidt and Frank Hunger, attempted to address the "cap" issue by allowing the judge to increase a punitive damage award in some cases. The bill that passed the Senate, however, would allow a defendant who is unhappy with the judge's additur to obtain a new trial on the punitive damages issue. Senator Rockefeller has promised to "correct" this in conference. In addition, Senator Rockefeller has indicated a willingness to reduce the statute of repose from 20 to 17 years and to extend the limitation on punitive damages to certain charitable organization. No Senator offered an amendment to change the joint and several provision and Senator Rockefeller has not indicated a willingness to delete the limitation on joint and several liability in conference.

In their discussions with Senators Rockefeller and Gorton, John and Frank have made it clear that they are not speaking for the Administration. Nevertheless, Senator Rockefeller believes -- based in part on a conversation with you -- that if his bill emerges from conference, you will sign it. He has also stated publicly that he would expect you to veto any bill that went beyond his. As with securities litigation reform, if the Senate bill is substantially adopted by the conference, the House, as the price for going along, will probably be allowed to write the Statement of Managers, thereby putting a troublesome "spin" on ambiguous provisions, such as the judicial additur provision.

After passage of the Senate bill, the White House issued the following statement:

The Senate-passed product liability bill is a clear improvement on the extreme legal reform measures passed by the House. Unfortunately, the legislation in its present form does not go far enough toward balancing the interests of consumers with those of manufacturers and sellers.

The Senate approach on punitive damages is an improvement on an absolute cap, but it still has flaws. Moreover, the Administration has consistently made clear its opposition to the provision that would make it harder for injured consumers to recover their full damages in cases involving more than one culpable defendant.

President Clinton supports balanced legal reform and will work with a House-Senate conference to address these and other concerns.

Our "official" statements to date have not emphasized the issue of federalism, although you have expressed this concern in the past. For example, you told the ABA in 1992: "As a general matter, I believe that legal reform should be enacted in the laboratories of the states, rather than at the federal level." You expressed similar thoughts to the newspaper editors in Dallas in April, 1995. Pam Leopakis, the President of ATLA, reports

that during a conversation with her and Senator Kennedy at a Kennedy fundraiser in April, 1995, you ridiculed House Republicans on the federalism issue, saying "I get it, we should devolve everything to the states, no unfunded mandates, block grant everything, etc., but we should take over the civil justice systems of the states." When Senator Kennedy called tort reform "outrageous," you supposedly said "I'm with you." Our statements have said that the Administration would support "the enactment of limited, but meaningful, product liability reform at the Federal level," as long as it "fairly balance[s] the interests of consumers with those of manufacturers and sellers" and "respect[s] the important role of the States in our federal system."

The basic argument in favor of federal products liability legislation is that it will promote uniformity, and thus predictability. John Schmidt has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal as saying that product liability "is the one area where there is a real case for federal action," and in the New York Times as saying "We need some [federal] standards in this field. After all, these products are sold in a national market." While it is true that certain provisions of the bills -- the statutes of limitations and repose, exclusion of joint and several liability for non-economic damages, the cap on punitive damages - - will provide some degree of uniformity in products liability cases, most lawsuits will remain in state courts, with state court procedural and evidentiary rules and state court judges interpreting the statute. Thus, in a broader sense, the legislation will not achieve its stated goal of uniformity, while nevertheless sacrificing state preeminence in this area of the common law. Opponents of the legislation also point out that the uniformity is "one-way uniformity." Thus, (1) the legislation "caps" punitive damages, but does not make punitive damages available in states that do not have them nor does it preempt states that provide for lower caps; (2) the bill's statute of repose preempts only those states that do not have a statute of repose or that provide for longer periods; and (3) the bill mandates to the states federal "comparative negligence" whereby awards are reduced by a percentage equal to the plaintiff's own fault, unless a state has a "contributory negligence" standard whereby all damages are barred by any plaintiff fault.

It is unclear how long the conference will take or whether the differences in the Senate and House approaches can be resolved. In order to avoid a repeat of the criticism for last minute decision-making we received after you vetoed the securities litigation reform bill, we should decide sooner rather than later what our position is. If possible, we should make our objections broad-based, rather than overly technical, and we should make certain that our position is well understood by our friends, including Senator Rockefeller.

At your convenience, we should probably meet to discuss.

1/16

1000

Send to who to handle?

- Counsel?

yes —

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 01/16/96

TO: JACK QUINN

FROM: Staff Secretary

For Counsel's appropriate
action.

Thank you.

6AX "COPY"
to Quinn

**FAX**Comptroller of the Currency
Administrator of National Banks

96 JAN 16 P3:55

DATE: 1/15/96TO: BETTY CURRIE

COMPANY: _____

FAX NO.: (202) 456-2883

PHONE NO.: _____

NO. OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): _____

MESSAGE:

Betty:

Please do me a favor and see that the President receives this
fax as soon as possible.

Thanks.

FROM: _____

CITY: _____

FAX NO.: _____

PHONE NO. _____

SENDER, PLEASE CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

☐ Return originals to contact person☐ Will pick up originals☐ Destroy originals

Staff Secy -
The Pres. has
not seen
on #

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CC 6058-01 (06/94)



MEMORANDUM

Comptroller of the Currency
Administrator of National Banks

Washington, DC 20219

To: Senators/Congressmen

From: Meyer Cypkin

Date: January, 1996

Subject: Death of Executive Vice President
The National Republic Bank of Chicago

Enclosed please find a copy of my November 21, 1995 memorandum regarding the sudden death of Mr. Brij Varma, Executive Vice President of The National Republic Bank of Chicago, and how the actions of the OCC may have contributed to this tragedy. I hereby request that you launch an investigation into Mr. Eugene Ludwig's administration of the OCC regarding this matter to determine why the OCC failed to serve Mr. Varma in an equitable and fair manner in the hopes of averting this kind of treatment and tragedy in the future.

Mr. Eugene Ludwig, the Comptroller of the Currency and a long-time personal friend of President Clinton, was aware of Mr. Varma's predicament.

In light of these disclosures, I believe that Mr. Ludwig and the OCC may find some way to retaliate against me, however, it is my understanding that I am protected by the Whistleblowers Protection Act of 1989.



MEMORANDUM

Comptroller of the Currency
Administrator of National Banks

Washington, DC 20219

To: File

From: Meyer Cypkin

Date: November 21, 1995

Subject: Death of Executive Vice President
The National Republic Bank of Chicago

It is with great sadness that I write this memo today. I have just learned about the sudden death of Brij Varma who was the Executive Vice President of The National Republic Bank of Chicago. Mr. Varma, prior to his death, filed an appeal at the OCC regarding Mr. Blackburn's reversal of an earlier decision made by Bank Accounting. Mr. Varma told me that he was under tremendous stress and pressure not only because of the reversal but also because of the OCC's delay tactics. His feeling was that he was not being accorded fair treatment because he was Indian.

In May of 1995 Mr. Varma filed an Information Statement to be reviewed by Bank Accounting. Mr. Shack, the Senior Accountant, and I both reviewed the filing and approved the accounting treatment proposed by Mr. Varma. As a result of our decision, Mr. Varma's bank proceeded with its reorganization. On August 16, 1995 Mr. Varma sent the OCC an inquiry regarding the manner in which the approved transaction he had filed in May should be shown on the Call Reports. On August 23, 1995 I completed and Mr. Shack approved a draft opinion which was consistent with the accounting treatment we had approved in May. At this point Mr. Blackburn decided that this accounting treatment was not proper and changed the accounting treatment to be used by Mr. Varma's bank. The effect of this change at this point in time, months after Mr. Varma's bank had gone through its reorganization, resulted in a reduction in Stockholders' Equity in the amount of \$800,000. On August 28, 1995 I completed a second draft opinion consistent with Mr. Blackburn's opinion. However, the official final response to Mr. Varma, which Mr. Shack and Mr. Blackburn worked on, did not go out until one month later on September 28, 1995. In the interim, Mr. Varma was very frustrated because it had taken 6 weeks to receive a decision.

On October 23, 1995 Mr. Varma and I spoke regarding the OCC's decision. Once again, Mr. Varma was very frustrated because he wanted to appeal this decision and no one at the

OCC would give him any direction as to how to go about filing such an appeal. He was "getting the run around." He finally decided to appeal to the Ombudsman, Mr. Sam Golden. In addition, Mr. Varma wrote a letter to Mr. Ludwig, the Comptroller, asking that I cooperate in the appeal since I had been involved in the original review and approval. During that same conversation, Mr. Varma requested that I communicate to Mr. Ludwig his feelings of frustration and pain resulting from the reversal of the May decision and from the treatment he was receiving at the OCC which he believed was because he was Indian. I did as he requested and sent a memo to Mr. Ludwig on October 23, 1995.

Shortly thereafter Mr. Varma left the country for a three-week trip abroad. When I called his office today I learned that during his trip, Mr. Varma, age 44, had collapsed and died.

|||
To Do: Kind for reply; coordinating
w/ Counselor's ofc.

✓ yes — no

S.

original to
J.M.O.



THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY
RUTGERS

Department of Political Science
Hickman Hall • Douglass Campus
New Brunswick • New Jersey 08903
(908) 932-6861, Fax: (908) 932-1922

*through
Preston
New Jersey*

Walt Whitman Center for the Culture and Politics of Democracy

Director:
Benjamin R. Barber
Whitman Professor of Political Science

January 4, 1996

President William Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

I had intended to raise the case of Preston King with you at one of our meetings, but thought it would be prudent first to try the normal route. However, having had no success in bringing this case to the attention of the Attorney General both during several Republican Administrations and more recently in your Administration as well, I would now like to bring it directly to your personal attention.

It is a particularly thorny case because Professor King is, for reasons I understand, unwilling to enter into the kinds of deal-making that would probably allow this case to be easily settled. As I understand it, because he fled the country while on bail during a federal prosecution relating to his draft status, the federal government prefers not even to consider a pardon until such time as Professor King presents himself to the federal authorities personally to submit to arrest. This he is unwilling to do, not simply because he has already lived 34 years in exile and does not wish to risk the possibility of being imprisoned over an ancient civil-rights quarrel, but also because he does not believe there is any justice whatsoever in the government's original position and that in either presenting himself to the authorities or petitioning formally for a pardon he would be acknowledging a guilt which he does not feel and which I believe he has a right not to feel. The bottom line here is that a talented and courageous young African-American got caught up in Southern bigotry over an issue of deferment and was thrown into an involuntary exile which has separated him from his country and his family all these many decades.

I know the legal position demands that he make some move, minimally to request a pardon and also to present himself to the authorities. But I believe it would serve justice far better if he were to receive an unconditional and unsolicited pardon from the President of the United States. This would be a small way of redressing the terrible bigotries of an earlier era in giving to the man who is a distinguished professor of political philosophy known around the world, a chance to reclaim his American identity and travel freely in this country. Throughout his life Preston King has stood for rationality and moderation.

He has never engaged in illegal activity of any kind and in his written works and teaching has always spoken with moderation and fairness about issues of race and about this, his country. It is a blemish on our tragic past rather than on Professor King that this matter has not been resolved, and I wonder if it is at all possible that you might be able to initiate a resolution. I'm enclosing a brief letter from Professor King that details the personal and human background (not particularly the legal background) of his case and which makes tragically clear why he feels so deeply grieved. The legal technicalities are on file in the Attorney General's office, but I think they do nothing to illuminate the core of this case, since they seem only to reiterate a refusal by the Attorney General to act.

From my interactions with you and from all that you have done as President to date, I know how deeply committed you are to racial justice and this leads me to believe that if anything at all can be done you will try to do it. I will be deeply grateful to you, as will all Americans who care about justice.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Barber", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Benjamin R. Barber
Director

BRB:bjf

Enc.: letter from Preston King

Professor Preston King
Lancaster University
Department of Politics
Lancaster LA1 4YL
United Kingdom
January 2, 1996

President William Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

I want to raise with you an issue concerning a federal case that has led to my involuntary exile from my country, which I desire to see resolved in an appropriate manner.

I grew up in Albany, Georgia. While I lived there the town was segregated by race. The communities were entirely distinct. The only traffic between them was business and labor. Most business was run by whites and most blacks worked for them as labourers. My school was segregated, so too my church, cinemas, buses, taxis, most things you can think of. Voting was a sham -- but you will know our history.

My father was local head of the NAACP. Both my mother and father started out as teachers. They later set up businesses. The only whites I knew in Albany were people who came to sell things. These were ordinary people like you and me. Yet, someone who has his foot on your neck never looks altogether ordinary. The power of whites, whether they wished it or not, made them dangerous; and they were attended to, when encountered, with the caution that the risks warranted. My father always addressed whites as "Sir" or "Mister." And he was always addressed, whether smilingly or not, as "CW." Whites who wanted to be more polite called him "King." You never shook hands with them and they never shook hands with you. Such was the background.

There were many aspects to this relationship between the communities -- economic, political, cultural, social. All needed in some degree to be changed. Most black people in my area wanted to do something. (That may equally have been true of whites; I knew none.) The question was: what? In 1956 I was in my senior year at Fisk University, my mother's college. I met Martin Luther King during the year when he came up to speak during the course of the Rosa Parks affair. I was to go to Yale to do a degree in law, and then join my brother, CB King Sr., in his practice in Albany. But my father agreed that I might have a look at Europe, do a Masters degree at The London School of Economics for a couple of years as a part of this, and then return to the US for a career in law.

I completed my M.Sc. (Econ.) in 1958 with Distinction, was offered some teaching at the LSE, and was encouraged by my supervisor to add a two-year Ph.D. to the Masters. My father agreed this, but the pay for teaching would more or less cover what I required to survive. I wrote off to my Albany draft board seeking a deferment. The draft board replied: No. More than that, the secretary of the board, a Miss Terry (who thus signed herself), studiously insisted on addressing me in all correspondence by my first name. I learned from my mother that Miss Terry had phoned her at home, and had shown her this same reflexive disrespect. Here I was, suddenly, from this great distance, caught up in the social aspect of the civil rights movement!

Of course I welcomed the opportunity to protest, but as someone who might stir the conscience of the federal government. There was no question of grandstanding. I really believed that Washington would put this right. I wanted a change in the unwritten rules. I wanted Miss Terry sorted out.

I first registered for the draft in Nashville. I had my registration transferred from Nashville to Albany -- all by correspondence. Before Miss Terry ever knew that I was black, she always wrote to me as Mr. King. The first sighting she had of me was in the summer as I was leaving for Europe, after I had received my initial deferment. I visited her office in response to a request to see my birth certificate or something of the sort. She could attach to me no racial identity before then. Afterwards, all correspondence from her addressed me by my first name.

It goes without saying that there is nothing in a name. Except everything. Miss Terry didn't know me from Adam. She wasn't so much being rude to me personally. She was merely telling me where I belonged -- which is to say where all blacks belonged, viz, beneath her. So she was really being rude -- through me -- to all black people in general, as a category -- to "Negroes," as one might be to "cripples" or "broad." Some whites have said that, in my reaction to all this, I was too proud. I reject that. Insisting upon a minimal respect for people as people can't be put down to pride. If it wasn't my style to kneel in the streets and offer up prayers of protest, I could at least confront this concrete piece of nastiness, where the issue was clear, such that a small win for me might be a big win for decency generally.

There was no way that I would or could comply with orders subsequently issued by Miss Terry in this way. I wrote to the federal government to say so. I later wrote to the US Embassy in London to say that I was returning in December of 1960. There was nothing hidden about my re-entry. It could scarcely be hush-hush. From London, I was engaged to deliver, and did deliver, a string of public lectures at colleges and universities in the South and along the eastern seaboard over the period January-March 1961. I think I was upset as much as anything by the prosecution's pretense that I had re-entered by stealth, and by the London Embassy's silence in the face of defense requests to confirm my advice to them. When I reached Albany, I was arrested, ever so dramatically, at dawn, being awakened at the home of my parents shortly after I got in for Christmas. I was arraigned for trial in the spring of 1961 and released on bail.

I never believed for a moment, really, that the federal government would go ahead with this. But I completed my lecture tour. And the prosecutor put me up for trial. They wanted a conviction, and they wanted it, as Miss Terry observed in a letter to her superiors, for fear of the example that my defiance might set for other blacks in the community. They laid out an all-white jury, as always in this completely segregated town, and secured a verdict in minutes. It was then painfully obvious that one could not deal with these people. Certainly not as they then were. It was clear, too, that I would have to leave.

I could not afford to waste the years it would take to fight this thing. I was not prepared to break my father using his money to keep the US Government at bay. My father did not want me in prison in Georgia because he did not think I would survive it, or be allowed to survive it. My father put up bail, and I left the country.

I have been in exile now for 34 years. It seems to me it would be more than fair to wipe the slate clean. I think I did what I had to do. I think the Government did what it did not have to do and should not have done. What I wanted was very little; I was perfectly open about what I wanted, and about my movements. The Government responded as a bully and as a defender of segregationist practice. I am far from saying that it had done this in every case and across the board. I am saying that it did so in my case.

I have not been allowed to attend the funerals of my mother, my father, and my three brothers. I was first stripped of my US passport; without prior notice, I was later stripped of my citizenship. The spurious justification subsequently supplied was that I had repudiated my nationality by accepting that of another country in which I was working. (Until then, for about twenty years, I had been traveling on flimsy certificates of identity.)

Even after so much time, I would delight in a small triumph for fairness and decency. I ask if you might be good enough to find a way to make that possible.

With sincere best wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Preston King" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Preston King
Professor of Politics
Lancaster University

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

0067

98 JAN 16 P2:50

January 16, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR TODD STERN

FROM: ANDREW D. SENSE *AK*

SUBJECT: Letter to President from Houston Rockets
Basketball Player Hakeem Olajuwon

The attached letter from Hakeem Olajuwon was sent to the NSC for action. Olajuwon's personal assistant, Pam Grady, told a member of our staff that John Ballis is an American who in October/November 1994, was convicted of bank fraud and sentenced to ten years in a Louisiana prison. John Ballis' wife, Joan, is from Arkansas and is said to be a friend of the President. This clearly does not involve foreign policy, and I recommend that it be handled by the appropriate domestic office.

Additional information we obtained which might be helpful include the following telephone numbers:

Houston Rockets Office: (713) 627-3865
Hakeem Olajuwon (Pam Grady): (713) 621-9710

Attachment
Incoming letter

To Doris Kind to
coordinate w/ counsel's
ofc.
✓
yes — no

S

1/16
original Sense
memo + copy
of ltr that
was attached
to J. n D



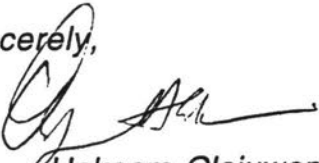
Gift
yearly
7-2-01
in
computer

Dear President Clinton,

It is at this time of year when people from all over the world spend time with their families and give praise to God. I sincerely appreciate and support your efforts to ensure the peace and freedom of all mankind.

It is with this thought in mind that I ask you to focus on my friend, John Ballis, and his quest for freedom and reunion with his family. John and I have been dear friends for years and I consider what has happened to him to be a real tragedy. In this regard, if there is anything I can do to help - please let me know.

Sincerely,



Hakeem Olajuwon

96 JAN 31 PM 4:20

Hakeem Olajuwon

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 01/16/96

TO: THE FIRST LADY

FROM: Staff Secretary

Attached is a copy of the
President's State of the
Union address which has
been staffed.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 01/16/96

TO: NANCY SODERBERG

FROM: Staff Secretary

Attached is a copy of the
President's State of the
Union address which has
been staffed.

CLOSE HOLD

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 01/16/96 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP on Wednes.
A.M.

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATE OF THE UNION

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	McCURRY	☒	☐
PANETTA	☒	☐	✓ McGINTY	☒	☐
McLARTY	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
ICKES	☒	☐	QUINN	☒	☐
LIEBERMAN	☒	☐	RASCO	☒	☐
○ RIVLIN	☒	☐	SOSNIK	☒	☐
BAER	☐	☐	STEPHANOPOULOS	☒	☐
✓ CURRY	☒	☐	✓ STIGLITZ	☒	☐
EMANUEL	☒	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
GIBBONS	☒	☐	TYSON	☒	☐
GRIFFIN	☒	☐	WALLEY	☐	☐
HALE	☒	☐	WILLIAMS	☒	☐
HERMAN	☒	☐	✓ TOIV	☒	☐
HIGGINS	☒	☐	✓ HAAS	☒	☐
○ KLAIN	☒	☐	SPERLING	☒	☐
LAKE	☒	☐	○ REED	☒	☐
LINDSEY	☐	☐	○ KAMARCK	☒	☐
			✓ WALDMAN	☐	☒
				☐	☐

REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Michael Waldman
ASAP on Wednesday morning. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

○ Gabriella delivered
✓ sew delivered

CLOSE HOLD

Staff Secretary
Ext. 6-2702

Draft January 16, 1996 9pm

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON

"AMERICA'S CHALLENGE"

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS 06 JAN 16 P 9: 22

U.S. CAPITOL

JANUARY 23, 1996

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice-President, Members of the 104th Congress, distinguished guests:

Tonight, I speak not only to you gathered here in this chamber and those across America, but also to the men and women of our armed forces who stand sentry around the world -- and particularly those who are helping peace to take root in Bosnia. To these warriors for peace, I say: we are proud of you.

My duty tonight under the Constitution is to report on the State of the Union. Not on the state of our government, or even on the state of individual Americans, but of our union -- how we as Americans together are building our national community and creating a more perfect union.

The State of our Union is strong -- as strong as it has ever been.

Through the hard work of the American people, our economy is the strongest it has been in three decades. The combined rate of unemployment and inflation is the lowest in 27 years. We are keeping the American dream alive.

Through the hard work of the American people, there is new hope for peace tonight -- from the cobblestone streets of Northern Ireland to the sands of the Middle East to the snows of Bosnia. We are keeping America the world's strongest force for peace and freedom.

And through the hard work of the American people, the crime rate is down, teen pregnancy is down, even divorce is down. We are coming together as a nation.

Exactly 200 years ago, President George Washington stood before the 4th Congress of the United States to deliver his annual message. America faced great uncertainty about a new century, a new economy and competing visions for how best to move into the future. President Washington could have spoken to the young nation about what divided it. But instead, he chose to talk about all that held us together -- in his words, of our mission to "unite our efforts to preserve, prolong and improve our immense advantages."

Much more unites us than divides us. That vision has rescued our nation every time we have been seriously tested. Throughout our history, we have come together around three

great ideals: First, our belief in progress -- that every American can dream of a better future, and that hard work can make those dreams come true. Second, our love of liberty. And third, our constant struggle to find common ground.

Now, at another moment of great change, our challenge -- America's Challenge -- is to find a way to preserve these old American ideals in new times. America's Challenge is to call on citizens in all walks of life to join together ... to win the war on crime, to renew our public schools for a new century, to give Americans health care and economic independence so they can be the winners of change.

The answers will not come from here in Washington alone, or from individuals acting alone. They will come from all of us, acting together -- in our communities, our churches, our businesses, our homes, our neighborhoods, and, when necessary, through our government. We must ask more of ourselves, and expect more from one another.

We will only rise to our challenges by speaking honestly about the duties we owe one another and the possibilities of what we as a nation can do together. So tonight, I want to speak directly about eight great challenges that America must meet as we move into the next century. For America was built on challenges, not promises.

America's first great challenge lies with all of us here tonight: to put our partisan differences aside and balance the budget.

It is wrong to leave our children a legacy of debt. I am proud that my administration cut the deficit nearly in half in 3 years. The federal government is now the smallest it has been since 1965. Now we must finish the job.

Earlier this month, I presented to the Congress a balanced budget with tough cuts in wasteful spending. According to the Congress own economists -- the Congressional Budget Office -- my plan makes real cuts and balances the budget in seven years.

And it balances the budget in a way that reflects our values.

We have a duty to honor our parents. And we can balance the budget without devastating Medicare or Medicaid. To anyone who would undercut Medicare, let me make myself clear: I will not let it happen.

We have a duty to our children, and to future generations. And we can balance the budget without cutting education or the gutting the environment.

We believe in work and responsibility. And we can balance the budget while ending welfare as we know it.

We believe in helping families who are trying to raise their children. We can balance

the budget while still providing a modest tax cut. And certainly without raising taxes on working families.

That's the right way to balance the budget. And if this Congress gives me the line-item veto, as you have pledged to do, I pledge tonight that I will balance the budget.

In recent weeks, I have spent many hours negotiating in good faith with the Republican and Democratic leaders of Congress. Already, we have agreed to more than enough spending cuts to balance the budget, with enough left over for a modest tax cut.

In his 1862 State of the Union message, President Lincoln said to another Congress: "We cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this administration will be remembered -- in spite of ourselves." We, too, will be remembered. So I say tonight to you, Mr. Speaker, to you Mr. Majority Leader, to all the leaders of this Congress: Let us not be remembered for partisan bickering. Let us be remembered for seizing this moment of national unity. For the sake of our children, for the sake of the country, let us balance the budget -- and do it now.

And finally, let me say this: America is the greatest nation on earth -- we are its leaders, and we must behave responsibly. No public servant should ever threaten the full faith and credit of the United States. And no public servant should ever -- ever -- shut down the government again.

Balancing the budget is the beginning of our challenges, not the end. Our second great challenge is to make sure that America faces up to our responsibility to lead the way to peace in the world.

This century -- the American century -- our country has led the fight for freedom and peace -- and won. Because we did, more people than ever before live free, more nations enjoy peace -- and our own people have had half a century of prosperity and security.

But as the Cold War fades, the voices of indifference and fear grow louder. They say America should retreat from the hard work of leadership. I say they are wrong. All over the world, people look up to America not only because we are strong -- but because of what we stand for -- and what we stand against. And though it imposes extra burdens on us, they trust us to help them seek the blessings of peace and freedom.

Because of our leadership, tonight, there are no Russian missiles pointed at our cities or citizens. More Americans have jobs here at home because we're working to open markets abroad. In Haiti, the dictators are gone, the democrats are back and the flow of refugees to our shores has ended. In Northern Ireland, girls and boys can now dream of the simple blessings of a normal life.

In the Middle East, Arabs and Jews are learning to live side-by-side. The American

people -- and I -- lost a great friend and partner when Yitzhak Rabin was taken from us. We can be proud, though, that the people of the Middle East have found the strength to go forward, in part because they know that America will stand with them, now and forever.

And, in Bosnia, the most terrible conflict in Europe since World War II is over -- because America stared down aggression and stood up for peace.

We have been able to do all of this because we kept our military strong... we invested in diplomacy and foreign assistance... we built alliances to share the risk and the cost of fulfilling our responsibility. We know we can't be everywhere. We can't do everything. But where we can make a difference -- and where our values and interests are at stake -- America must lead.

Our leadership is more important now than ever. Old threats have assumed new and dangerous dimensions -- ethnic and religious hatreds and aggression by rogue states. New threats are equal opportunity destroyers with no respect for borders -- the spread of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking. We must confront them.

If we do, we can cut the world's nuclear stockpiles by another XX percent -- and we will if Congress ratifies the START II treaty -- this year.

We can stop the development of an entire new generation of nuclear weapons -- and we will by signing a truly Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty -- this year.

We can better control chemical and biological weapons -- and we will if Congress heeds my call to ratify the Chemical Weapons Convention -- this year.

We can enact stronger laws to fight terrorism and organized crime -- and we will if Congress finally passes legislation I proposed after Oklahoma City to give our law enforcement even stronger tools to fight terrorists.

We can help more people move from hatred to hope -- and we will, if Congress gives our diplomats the resources they need to remain leaders for peace.

We can do all of these things -- but only if we continue to lead. It has never been -- and it must never be -- the American way to hide behind the curtain of our fears. If we hold to that truth now, the next century will be an American Century too.

If we are to be strong abroad, we must remain strong at home. So America's third challenge is to crack down on violent crime, and turn our young people away from drugs and gangs.

For 3 years in a row, crime has gone down in this country. In New York, the murder rate dropped 25% in one year; in St. Louis, 18%; in Seattle, 32%. Government is living up

to its first responsibility, to keep its citizens safe . . . and citizens are living up to their responsibility, by coming out from behind closed doors and shuttered windows to help one another. Tonight, for the first time in decades, we can say that America is winning the battle against crime.

But we have not yet won the war. We still face the challenge to make the defense of our streets as important as the defense of our shores.

That means keeping guns out of the hands of criminals. Under the Brady Bill, already 45,000 criminals have been stopped from buying guns. And that is why, if anyone tries to repeal the Brady Bill and the assault weapons ban, I will veto it.

That means putting more police on the street through community policing -- walking the beat, working with neighbors, catching criminals and stopping crime before it happens. And if Congress tries to gut the law that will put 100,000 more police on the street, I will veto it.

In the days after the Oklahoma City bombing, Americans wore T-shirts with a simple slogan: "A society that makes war against its police officers had better learn to make friends with its criminals." Those officers put their lives on the line to protect us, every day. We owe them our help, our support, our gratitude, and most of all, our undying respect.

We can cheer the drop in crime. We cannot begin to meet our other challenges until we break the culture of crime that engulfs our young people. Crime among juveniles is the one kind of crime that continues to rise. A few years ago, I spoke to grade school children in South Central Los Angeles. They told me that their biggest fear was getting shot on the way to school -- and their second biggest fear was being forced to join a gang when they turn 12.

We need more efforts like the boys and girls clubs in Chicago to steer young people away from drugs and crime.

People who live in public housing should live decent lives without being terrorized by gangs. Tonight I am asking every housing authority to take all steps necessary to drive gangs from public housing. From now on, for public housing residents involved in drugs and crime, the rule will be: One strike and you're out. I am directing our nation's prosecutors to prosecute violent juveniles as adults. And I am directing the FBI and other enforcement agencies to target gangs that involve juveniles in violent crime. It is time to break the gangs the way we broke the mob.

We must slam shut the revolving door that lets violent criminals go free. I am proud that we passed the Violence Against Women Act, made three-strikes-and-you're-out the law of the land, and said that if you kill a law enforcement officer, you will get the death penalty. Tonight, I challenge judges, prosecutors, and legislators in every state to meet a new national goal that, by the year 2000, every violent criminal will serve out at least 85% of his sentence.

All of this will make a difference. But, my friends, we could put a million new police on the streets and build a million new prison cells, and we would not win this war on crime and drugs unless we all join together -- every one of us -- to fight this fight.

America's fourth challenge is to give our people the tools they need to make the most of their God-given potential and become the winners of economic change.

These are good times for America. For three straight years, we have had the strongest growth of any major economy. Businesses have created nearly 8 million American jobs. Three years ago, our auto industry was losing jobs. Today, it has gained over 700,000 jobs, and Detroit is beating Japan for the first time since the 1970s. Three years ago, we were losing jobs in construction; today, we have gained over 700,000. Small businesses started by women now employ more people than the Fortune 500. Home ownership is expanding more rapidly than ever before. (ck) Thanks in no small measure to the work of Vice-President Gore, we have cut 16,000 page of unnecessary rules and regulations -- so government costs less and works better to build our economy. And from coast to coast, remarkable new industries like biotechnology and telecommunications are leading the world into the 21st century.

In the industrial economy dominated by big companies, people got their health care, their pensions and their training where they worked. Today, in the information age, more and more people work in small businesses or at home. More than ever, we need to help people carry with them the fruits of their work -- their training, their health care, their retirement benefits -- so they can thrive in the new economy. We must not fear economic change. We must conquer it.

We can do this, if Congress passes my GI Bill for workers, which will give people a training voucher they can take to a community college or their next job.

We can do it, if we enact reforms so that insurance companies cannot deny you coverage or raise rates when you are changing jobs, because you or a member of your family have a preexisting condition. We should help give small businesses the same purchasing power to buy health care as big businesses, make it easier for women to get mammograms every year, and find a way to ensure that if you lose your job, you don't lose your health care.

We can do this, if we cut through red tape to make it easier for small business to

provide pensions for their employees, so that every American can share the responsibility of saving for retirement. I propose that every American be allowed to join the federal workers retirement system. If it is good enough for federal workers, it should be good enough for employees of small businesses across the country.

Economic growth and environmental protection go hand in hand. We should say to business: if you can meet tough pollution goals, we will let you figure out how to do it in the cheapest, most efficient way. We will give communities the right-to-know what toxic chemicals are being released into their neighborhood, by expanding our pollution disclosure order. And we will launch a "brownfields initiative" to waive the rules and call off the lawyers for businesses that develop abandoned industrial sites.

And if we honor work, then work must pay. Two and a half million Americans -- many of them women with children -- earn the minimum wage, and it is at a 40 year low. A year ago, I called on Congress to raise the minimum wage. Since then, the value of the minimum wage has dropped \$250 -- while Congress' pay has gone up [x]. That's wrong. Congress should increase the minimum wage.

We will all be stronger the more our companies invest in the long term and treat their workers like their most valuable asset. Last month, the Malden Mills factory in Massachusetts burned to the ground, taking 2400 jobs with it. The mill's owner could have cut his losses and left his workers behind. That's not what he did. Here's what he said at the time -- quote: "I don't consider the workers an expense that can be cut. I know in the long run that what I'm doing today will come back tenfold." His name is Aaron Fuerstein, and he is with us tonight. We salute him; and pledge to learn from his example. [*Mr Fuerstein will be in the First Lady's box.*]

Fifth, to renew the American dream of opportunity for all, I challenge parents, teachers and students -- and business and community leaders -- to join a national mission to renew our public schools for the challenges of the 21st century.

Our best economic strategy is also our best opportunity strategy.

America was the first nation to believe that every child deserves an education. For two hundred years, the public schools raised up generation after generation, and taught us what it meant to be an American. They have opened the world of math and science and poetry and history to the sons of farmers and the daughters of factory workers. Next year there will be more young Americans in school than ever before. Yet today, our schools are not ready for the new era. Our schools have low standards, dilapidated and crowded classrooms, and only chalkboards in the age of the microchip.

To make our school succeed at this moment of change, tonight I propose a four part challenge to renew every level of education in America for the new century.

We must raise our sights. We should insist that every teacher meet basic competency standards . . . that every student meet national standards of excellence . . . that every parent take responsibility for their children . . . and that every school be held accountable for results.

Every state should give parents the right to choose their child's public school. And if the idea of choice in public schools is to be real, we must give parents and teachers the right to start better public schools -- charter schools -- if the current ones do not work.

We must recognize that technological literacy is now as important as learning to read, write, and do math. Our goal is clear: when we walk into any school in the 21st century -- five years from now -- we should see every classroom connected to the outside world . . . a cutting-edge computer accessible to every student . . . and teachers with the skills and the software to make technology as exciting in the classroom as it is in the video arcade. Tens of millions of parents have watched their children play every video game from Mortal Kombat to Killer Instinct. From now on, the most important computer game in America must be learning.

Tonight I challenge educators, scientists and business leaders to join in connecting the schools and prepare our people for the future. If a company or community is willing to donate money to put new computers in the schools, we will match that donation dollar for dollar. (*policy decision needs to be made*)

It is not enough to make our public schools the best in the world. We must make it easier for deserving Americans to go to college. We have already made it easier for people to pay back their college loans.

And last year, I asked the Congress to make \$10,000 of college tuition costs tax deductible. If businesses can deduct the cost of their equipment, then families should be able to deduct the cost of a college education.

Tonight, I propose two more steps to open the doors of college for people who are willing to work hard and excel. First, a \$2000 merit scholarship for the top 2% of graduating students in every secondary school in America. Second, a dramatic expansion of college work-study, so that 1 million young Americans will be working their way through college by the Year 2000. (ck)

Higher standards. Public school choice. Technology in the classroom. And an aggressive strategy to open wider the doors of college. That is my education challenge. Because when our schools succeed, America succeeds.

America's eighth and perhaps most important, challenge is this: to live up to our values, and restore a sense of right and wrong, in our daily lives. I challenge Americans in all walks of life to reach within themselves and find a new sense of personal responsibility.

As Americans, we more than any people on earth should recognize the truth of the Gospel: "To whom much is given, from them much is required." We need a rebirth of ethics, of values, of the moral code that this country was built on. Only if we share a community of values, can we value community.

Throughout our history, Americans have always joined together as neighbors and citizens to build strong communities and a strong country. We need that spirit more than ever today.

That means:

- We in this chamber should give the government back to the people. In the past year, we have already applied to Congress the laws that apply to America, banned gifts and meals from lobbyists to lawmakers, and forced the lobbyists to fully disclose who they are working for, what they are spending, and what bills they are trying to pass or kill. But we all know that special interests give too much money in political campaigns. And we should all take personal responsibility for changing it. There is a strong, bipartisan campaign finance reform bill, waiting for action. Let's pass it without delay.
- We must challenge our young people not to get pregnant or father a child until they are ready. Tonight, I am pleased to announce that a group of prominent Americans have answered this call, and are forming a new national organization to enlist the media, business and communities to help our young people do the right thing.
- I believe in a woman's right to choose an abortion. Some people deeply disagree. But I challenge people on both sides of the abortion divide to find common ground. At the very least, let us do what we can to encourage adoption, and unite the hundreds of thousands of eligible parents who want a child with the thousands (ck) of babies who need a loving home.
- We must challenge every father to take responsibility for his children. Spend time with your child, love your child, and take an interest in your child's daily life. And if you owe child support, pay it. Your child needs you. You cannot walk away.
- We must challenge those who produce and market cigarettes to take responsibility for your actions. Sell your products to adults, if you wish. But draw the line on children.
- All of us working together must find a way to do something about violence and sex on TV. We must challenge the media to put more education and less sex and violence on TV. And challenge parents to turn off the set if they don't.
- We must challenge every citizen to give something back to their community through service. I am proud of what the national service program, AmeriCorps, has done to put 25,000 young people to work in communities -- raising reading scores, pulling

garbage out of rivers, helping police shut down crack houses. But we shouldn't stop there. Every American has something to contribute -- from volunteering at an AIDS clinic to adopting a child. And let me issue a special summons to our nation's seniors, who have the time and the wisdom to teach us all: let your retirement years be a season of service.

And let me say this above all: Every one of us faces a challenge to seek common ground with our fellow Americans -- to reach out beyond our differences, both because it is the right thing to do, and because it is the way we will meet every one of our other challenges as we enter a new century.

Conclusion/Olympic torchbearers

That is what we will see this summer in Atlanta, when we are hosts to the centennial of the modern Olympics. I am not just talking of our athletes, who show us all how to work hard to make our dreams come true. I also mean the shared effort of the entire community of Atlanta -- the City Too Busy to Hate. One community, pulling together. That is what's right with America.

But there is another group of Americans I want to call your attention to tonight. They are the ones who will hold high the Olympic torch and carry it on its path across America, from Los Angeles, across mountains, concrete canyons, unbroken desert and lush farmland. They will even carry the torch across the White House lawn, and I'll be there to greet them.

These are not celebrities or heroic athletes, but they are heroes nonetheless. Thousands of them are being selected because they are community heroes -- Americans who have used their energies to make our world better, one community at a time. Most of these people will be announced next month. But I am proud to say that the first three of them have been chosen so they can be here with us tonight. [insert on two or three heroes]

Let us strive to be like these everyday champions. They show us a different kind of strength and endurance and a lot of heart. They show us that if we each do our part, we are sure to reach our destination. Together. And when we do, we will know the joy of a special victory -- where every American has a chance to win.

We are going to show the world this summer what happens when America pulls together. And I believe, my fellow Americans, we are going to show it time and time again in the century that lies ahead. That is, and forever will be, America's challenge.

Jean Pucher
Ann Malone
Nicole Amrine
Lee Canossa

FOCUS

FOUNDRY

1500 16TH STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 - OFFICE TELEPHONE: 312-4010

January 7, 1996
Vol. 15
No. 1

AN END-OF-HOLIDAY LUNCHEON for the whole church will be hosted by the Foundry Singles after the 11 o'clock service today for our traditional Twelfth Night festivities and musical feast. A choral group, Musica Concordia, will perform after the meal. Adults \$5; seniors and children \$4; families \$15.

EXPLORE FOUNDRY'S 181-YEAR HISTORY with Bryan Gray. Meet at the altar rail by the pulpit after the 11 a.m. service for a tour of the church.

FOUNDRY WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Foundry received nine new members into our faith community in December: Susan COURSEY, Marlowe DOBARGANES, John HAMILTON, Dawn JOHNSON, Bernard KNIGHT, Bernard MARTINEAU, Clement ODOI, Maureen TURMAN, and Richard TURMAN. A hearty Foundry welcome to one and all.

THE FOUNDRY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN wish to **THANK** everyone who stuffed stockings for the Kid Konnection. We contributed 50 filled stockings. A total of 3,000 were distributed in the District to needy children.

HOUSING MISSION meets for dinner Tuesday, January 9, 6:30 p.m. at Jeanette Barker's 1514 17th St., NW, #302, 202-232-8526. Come help plan January repair projects. In December, we sang Christmas carols with folks in the James and Claridge Towers senior buildings.

ALASKA CRUISE AFTERNOON sponsored by the Asbury Guild will be Wed., Jan. 10, at 2 p.m. at Asbury Methodist Village (417 Russell Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD). Jackie Simkins of Princess Cruise Line and Florence Littleton of Cruises Plus will make a presentation and provide any information you need to assist your decision. The cruise is next July, but the special price expires Feb. 14. The Guild Cruise is a benefit for the Asbury Benevolent Care Fund. For information call J. Hubbell 301-770-7253 or Florence Littleton 1-800-395-9550.

RELIGION, RACE, AND CULTURE will meet at 7 p.m. for potluck on Friday, January 12, at Ralph Williams' home, 1410 Columbia Street, NW, 202-483-4807. Come help plan our activities for 1996. Business meeting, 8 p.m.

THE FOUNDRY UMW EXECUTIVE BOARD meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 13 at 10 a.m. in Room B-1. Board members are urged to attend.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Devotions for the 1996 Lenten Devotional are due. Please put them in the Ecumenical Affairs box in the Church Office as soon as possible. Some openings are left for those interested. Call Joyce Day at 202-332-4777.

PRESCHOOL GIFT CERTIFICATES for Giant, Safeway, and Shoppers Food Warehouse will be sold today.

UNITED METHODIST MEN will meet Jan. 28 at 9:30 a.m.

JANUARY ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING

The first Administrative Board meeting will be Tue., Jan. 16, at 7:30 p.m. A light supper will precede it at 6:30 p.m. We particularly welcome all new members of the Board.

I/we plan to attend the dinner before the Administrative Board meeting on Tuesday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$5.00.

No. of Reservations _____ Phone _____
Name(s) _____

MEMBERSHIP

Foundry Church welcomes new members. Come join us if you do not already have a church home. A two-session membership orientation class starts January 14 in room 202 at 12:30 p.m. Dr. Wogaman will discuss the meaning of our faith as Christians and as United Methodists. The second session on January 21 features presentations by lay leaders on education, worship, missions, and stewardship. New members will be received into the fellowship of the church on January 28.

THE PEACE MISSION will have its first 1996 meeting next week at 12:30 p.m. in the Helen Harris Parlor. Members and anyone interested in working for peace are invited to attend. Pick up a take-out lunch and join us to plan activities for the winter and spring months.

YES, LORD, I HAVE SINNED, but I have several excellent excuses! What word or deed done by another person had a positive impact on your life of faith? How could you begin to live out your faith through word or deed? How has your faith changed your life at Home, Church or Work? Find out how others respond to these questions at the next Healing Class on Wednesday, January 10 at 6:00 p.m. in Helen Harris Parlor. Walt Shropshire will base this session on Matthew 23:23-28. See Paul Vali for parking information. There is a snack supper starting at 5:15 p.m. in Davenport Center. Questions call Shirley Nycum at 202-626-2821 or David Zesiger at 703-516-9530.

TAKOMA - SILVER SPRING BIBLE STUDY

You are invited to join a new Bible Study group beginning Mon., Jan. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at Adele and Tom Hutchins, in Takoma Park near the metro line. Call 301-270-2536 to indicate interest and get directions.

WEEKEND SPIRITUALITY RETREAT FOR WOMEN

The women of Foundry are invited to get away from it all and get acquainted through worship, meditation, sharing, discussion, art, music, and dance. Come join us on **February 9-11** at the Bishop Claggett Center in Buckeystown, Maryland. The cost of \$125 covers lodging, meals, and transportation. Child care and stipends will be available. Register early--space is limited. Call Lee Probasco at 703-533-9131, or stop by our table in Fellowship Hall.

RIDE NEEDED TO SUNDAY SERVICES: George Porter, a long-time Foundry member residing at 4514 Ellicott Street, NW, is no longer able to drive to church. If you live in the area and can provide transportation, please call 202-363-3297.

PLEASE: Organizing and counting each Sunday's donations is a complicated, time-consuming job in which you can help: pick up and always use your 1996 envelopes; write your 1996 number on your check when not using your envelope (numbers for a few pledgers have been changed); and write separate checks for each donation, rather than a note explaining how one check should be divided. Thanks.

AIDS MISSION DISPOSABLE DIAPER DRIVE to help **Childrens Hospital** due to decreased federal funding. Our diaper drive will help project CHAMP which supports families with children who have AIDS or are HIV positive. You may contribute money or disposable diapers in M, L, or XL (boys and girls, NO INFANTS) on Jan. 21 and 28 at the AIDS table in Fellowship Hall.

This wants to know why there is decreased funding.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 1-16

TO: Nancy S. (Soderberg)

FROM: Staff Secretary

Let's get that
meeting together that
we discussed in November.
Kuntz doesn't think Leary's
suggestion fixes the problem.
I'd say you, me, Vold, Kuntz,
Leary & anyone else you want.
Agree? TRK

National Archives at College Park



8601 Adelphi Road College Park, Maryland 20740-6001

Date : DEC 15 1995

Reply to
Attn of : Michael Kurtz, NARA

Subject : Library of Congress Microfilm of POW/MIA Committee Records

Re : Todd Stern, Staff Secretary

This is in response to the fax you sent me concerning Bill Leary's conversation with David Osborne at the Library of Congress' Federal Research Division (FRD). Osborne briefed Leary on the two microfilm publications of Vietnam-era POW/MIA documents produced by LC, and suggested that the automated index to the FRD microfilm would make it possible to match classified Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs documents to declassified copies of the same documents on the FRD microfilm, obviating the need for the Department of Defense to rereview the same documents.

This suggested solution is not new to NARA. In 1993, our Center for Legislative Archives purchased a set of the LC microfilm produced by LC's Photoduplication Service, tried matching documents to film, and found that it did not work. Part of the problem was that there was no index. When we were able to locate the matching file other problems appeared: some of the copies contained conflicting redactions; the two "matching" files often did not contain the same number of pages; and within the files the individual documents were arranged differently. Furthermore, the DOD redactions on the film do not cite the declassification authority and it is NARA policy to cite this.

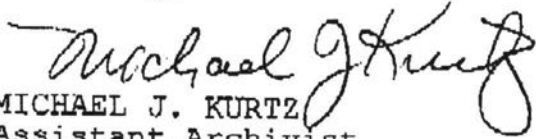
I do not believe the index to LC microfilm being developed by FRD will solve NARA's problems because the fundamental problems still remain:

1. The LC collection is not a mirror image of NARA's collection. The NARA collection contains a significant number of documents not included in the LC collection and vice versa, therefore, the LC index will only provide access to part of the records, even with extensive time-consuming searches.
2. NARA does not have the authority to declassify these documents.
3. The redactions on the documents are often conflicting and bear no citations for declassification authority.

In summary, the index is not the issue. The basic points are that the two collections are not identical and the redaction decisions were not consistently applied. NARA cannot declassify these records and make them available as required without declassification assistance from DOD and other agencies with equities in the files. This matter has dragged on for years earning the ill-will of the POW/MIA community and the frustration of interested members of Congress.

Your assistance in resolving this matter would be greatly appreciated. We believe a meeting to settle this matter is in order. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


MICHAEL J. KURTZ
Assistant Archivist
for the National Archives

Kessinger, Jodi

From: Leary, William H.
To: Soderberg, Nancy E.
Cc: /R, Record at A1; Baldwin, Kenneth
Subject: POW/MIA Documents [UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Monday, November 20, 1995 4:19PM

95 NOV 20 07:32

Nancy,

Since the meeting to discuss declassifying POW/MIA documents at the Archives was postponed I made a few phone calls to try to find out more about the microfilm of the same documents at the Library of Congress. Based on what I was told by LC officials, I would say that this issue is not ripe for White House consideration.

According to officials at LC's Federal Research Division, there are two sets of microfilm produced by LC from the POW/MIA documents they received from DoD's Central Documentation Office (CDO). They believe that the Archives acquired the less complete set, which is indeed unindexed. However, there is a more complete set of microfilm of the entire collection transferred to LC by the CDO (423 rolls), which is completely indexed. The index is available only on Internet -- not on microfilm -- and they say it would be sufficient to find any specific document at LC that matches a document at NARA.

Therefore, I would suggest that, before convening a meeting at the White House, NARA should be asked to compare its holdings with the indexed 423 rolls of microfilm at the LC. If they can find matching documents, a new declassification effort would be unnecessary. The contact at the Library of Congress is David Osborne, 707-4793.

To Todd Stearns -
Bill Leary -

Can you two talk + see if we
need to meet?

Nancy S



1211
R. N. Long

November 6, 1995

Nancy --

Here's my best shot at making sense of the muddled documents the National Archives sent over:

- POW/MIA documents have been getting declassified on two separate tracks.
- First, the Pentagon's Central Documentation Office (CDO) undertook a major declassification program in response to President Bush's July 22, 1992 Executive Order (12812) which called for the declassification of all POW/MIA documents. (President Clinton's June 10, 1993 PDD 8 called for the declassification to be completed by Nov. 11, 1993.)

CDO sent the documents it declassified to the Library of Congress for microfilming and release to the public. In virtually all of these documents, information on intelligence sources and methods was excised.

CDO also responded to requests from the Kerry Committee for documents required for the Committee's investigation. Many of these documents were duplicates of the documents sent to the Library of Congress, but evidently less material was excised from the documents sent to the Kerry Committee.

- Second, in January 1993, the Kerry Committee sent 180,000 pages of POW/MIA records to the National Archives with a request that they be declassified immediately.
- A large number if not all of the documents from the Kerry Committee were already declassified by the CDO. The problem is that there does not appear to be any way for the Archives to cross-check its 180,000 pages against the documents CDO already declassified and sent to the Library of Congress.

Furthermore, since the documents sent to Archives by the Kerry Committee have more information in them (i.e., less was excised than in the documents sent to the Library), Archives seems to feel that it would be obliged to have the Kerry Committee documents reviewed irrespective of whether ~~it~~ it were possible to verify that the same documents had already been released through the Library of Congress.

- Assuming Archives is right about the need to do a fresh review of the Kerry Committee documents, the issue is person-power. Archives believes that either DOD must agree to immediate release of the Kerry Committee records or supply Archives with enough DOD reviewers to do the review expeditiously. DOD, by letter from General James Wold, has offered funds for up to "3 man-years" of temporary personnel to help complete declassification. Archives apparently believes that this offer is inadequate.
- The questions to be resolved, in my opinion are (i) is it really necessary to go through this whole re-review process, since it appears that it will be almost entirely duplicative of work the CDO already did; and (ii) if this re-review is necessary, what personnel support must DOD provide to get it done quickly.

I would suggest a meeting with you, me, Wold, Michael Kurtz of Archives, and anyone else you think should be there. Give me a call when you're ready to talk. Thanks.

Todd

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 01/16/96

TO: NSC

FROM: Staff Secretary

The attached sticky note is
from Nancy Hernreich.

Please redo the letter to
Jack Rosen.

Thanks.

The President is unhappy
with Mr. Propson
Rosen has been a
good friend to Propson

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
1-16-96

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 15, 1996

96 JAN 15 P1:35

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE

SUBJECT: Response to Letter Requesting Presidential Message
for Jewish Congress in MoscowPurpose

To sign a letter to Jack Rosen.

Background

Jack Rosen wrote you (Tab B) to note the first Russian Jewish Congress in Moscow, which was held January 9-11 and to suggest a Presidential message.

Neither we nor the State Department had previously heard of this event, and Embassy Moscow has kept the Congress's Russian organizer, Vladimir Gousinsky, at arm's length due to questions about his business activities. State made a discreet inquiry with the National Council of Soviet Jewry; they saw no problem if you did not send a message to this conference.

The letter to Rosen at Tab A side-steps the question of a Presidential message but notes your strong and continuing interest in the fate of the Jewish community in Russia.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Presidential Letter to Jack Rosen

Tab B December 15 Letter from Jack Rosen

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Rosen:

Thank you for your letter regarding the first Russian Jewish Congress.

I fully share your view of the contribution that the Yelstin administration has made to religious freedom for Russian Jews. We have warmly welcomed and recognized this, as when I determined in September 1994 that Russia was in full compliance with the Jackson-Vanik amendment, thereby allowing Russia to retain most-favored-nation trade status without requiring an annual waiver.

You can be assured that we will continue to take a strong interest in the fate of the Jewish community in Russia and make clear our support for enlightened policies in this regard.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jack Rosen
900 Sylvan Avenue
Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey 07632

Jack Rosen

900 Sylvan Avenue
Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632
201-567-4600

*Art's
12/22
2000*

December 15, 1995

President Bill Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

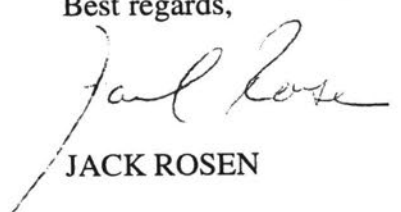
Dear Mr. President:

In January, I'll be attending the first Russian Jewish Congress, which will be held in Moscow. The three-day event will engage Jewish leaders from around the world to help Russian Jews celebrate their heritage and advance the Russian renewal of Jewish cultural, educational, and religious life. Specifically, I and the other attendees will be working to revive the use of Hebrew, support national Jewish schools, restore historic synagogues, and provide financial assistance for the elderly and disabled.

Such a gathering would have been unthinkable only a few years ago; this Congress represents the first unification event for Russian Jews since the advent of political and economic reforms. The Congress is being organized by Jewish community leader Vladimir Goussinsky, a talented, energetic businessman with whom I have worked cordially and successfully in opening new international business partnerships in Russia.

Since many of the reforms that make this Congress possible were instituted during the Yeltsin administration, it would be important to many of us if, on the occasion of the Congress, you could encourage the fact that Mr. Yeltsin has been supportive of religious freedom for Russian Jews, either verbally or through a letter of thanks on behalf of Americans. A few words from you would benefit the Jewish community in Russia immensely and free even further cultural and economic exchanges between Jews in Russia and those around the world.

Best regards,


JACK ROSEN

12/22

Todd,

To NSC for Reply?

☒ yes ☐ no

Jessica, if this goes to NSC for reply, give NSC the original, marking our chron copy as such.

s