

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

4/4/96

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April 4, 1996

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

MARKING INITIALS: MS DATE: 9/19/14
2019-0774-5

Dear Mr. President:

Your remarks about Ron Brown were dignified,
eloquent and very touching.

I know it is a great personal loss to you. He
was a great Secretary of Commerce and will be missed.

I enjoyed our visit the other day.

Sincerely,



Robert S. Bennett

From Oval ^{original} sent 4/4/96

To Jim Dorskind for
Reply?

yes

no



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594

Office of the Chairman

April 3, 1996

Honorable Sheila Widnall
Secretary, Department of the Air Force
1670 AF Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1670

Dear Madam Secretary:

This is to acknowledge the request of your Department for the assistance of the National Transportation Safety Board in the investigation of the loss of an Air Force T-43 near Dubrovnik.

We have immediately arranged for the fullest participation of a team of senior investigators that are very experienced in the civilian counterpart of this model Boeing aircraft. Four individuals have been launched to the accident scene: a team leader, a systems group specialist, a structures specialist, and a specialist with expertise in vehicle performance and flight recorders. We will, of course, make available any laboratory or other personnel resources as they may become necessary.

The Safety Board understands that its resources are to be made available for use under the direction of the Air Force lead investigator, to offer such advice and assistance as may be required, and that dissemination of information will be at the discretion of Air Force personnel. However, because of the obvious ramifications for the civilian fleet of any airworthiness issues that may arise, the Safety Board must reserve its independence of action in two respects: first, to insist on the pursuit of any airworthiness issues that Safety Board investigators perceive to be involved, and, second, in coordination with the Air Force Chief of Safety, to disseminate to regulatory authorities and manufacturers any data that reflect on the continued airworthiness or safety of flight for the Boeing model 737 fleet. We do not anticipate that these reservations will in any way impede or imperil your investigation, as we are certain that the Air Force will also desire the fullest investigation of airworthiness matters and the fullest dissemination of any pertinent information.

Again, I would like to pledge the full cooperation of the Safety Board in the investigation of this tragic accident, and I would like to thank you personally for the confidence that your invitation reflects on our abilities and expertise.

Sincerely,

Jim Hall
Jim Hall
Chairman

*Pres has
Not seen*

4/4 from OCA

To Dosskind for reply?

yes

original sent



Office of the Chairman

Phone: (202) 382-6506
FAX: (202) 382-6849

TODAY'S DATE: 4/3/96

FROM: Jim Hall

FACSIMILE FOR: President Clinton

FAX NUMBER: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2

- Staff sec,
- we should do if possible

4/4 from OVA1
 TODD. re honorary chairs

To Doriskind

~~yes~~
~~yes~~
~~yes~~

NO
 Jessica
 S

originals sent to Aaron
 Jessica

April 3, 1996



*Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Davis
Chairmen*

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton and Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
c/o Nancy Hemreich-Director of Oval Office Functions
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

APR 4 1996 P5:46

Dear Mr. President and Mrs. Clinton,

It was such a thrill in 1994 when we honored the First Lady at the Carousel of Hope, and we will always have very special memories of that wonderful evening, which was made more extraordinary by her presence.

We are busy planning for The Carousel of Hope set for October 25th at the Beverly Hilton, which will be a very exciting night with great entertainment and friends joining hands and hearts in the fight against diabetes. The event will benefit the Barbara Davis Center for Childhood Diabetes, with a portion of the proceeds given to the Los Angeles chapters of the American Diabetes Association and Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

We would like to ask if you will lend your names as Honorary Chairmen of The Carousel of Hope. It was such an honor to have Mrs. Clinton as our Honorary Chairman in 1994, and to have you both would mean so much to us. We have a wonderful committee including: Quincy Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Michael D. Eisner, Steven Spielberg and Kate Capshaw, Joanna and Sydney Poitier, Lyn and Norman Lear, Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Zanuck, Natalie Cole, David Geffen, Terry and Jane Semel, Micheline and Sean Connery, Lisa and Dustin Hoffman, Maria Shriver and Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Mr. and Mrs. Placido Domingo, Melanie Griffith and Antonio Banderas, Janice and Billy Crystal, Marsha and Robin Williams, Whoopi Goldberg, Rita Wilson and Tom Hanks, Barbara Walters, and many more.

Through the years the Ball has been supported and attended by the entire entertainment and music industry, including every major studio and television network, leaders from the world of business, and celebrated guests from all over the world.

Children with diabetes are riding on the carousel of life and reaching for their brass ring, the cure. To have your visible support as Honorary Chairmen of The Carousel of Hope would strengthen our cause and improve the quality of life for children who must face this horrible disease. Please, may we have your blessing this year by including your names as our Honorary Chairmen?

With love and gratitude,

Barbara + Marvin
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Davis

send to
Scheduling?

yes



NO



The American Chamber of Commerce
People's Republic of China • Beijing

96 APR 5 11:42
March 8, 1996

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

The one message AmCham Beijing heard loud and clear from every member of the U.S. Congress who visited us here in China during the past year could be summed up like this, "You are the American citizens on the ground in China. You have a unique perspective on and interest in the current troubled state of U.S.-China relations. You have an obligation to communicate your views your representatives in the U.S. Congress and to key Washington policymakers."

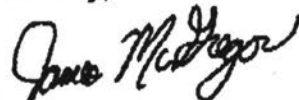
Message received. The American Chamber of Commerce, Peoples' Republic of China in Beijing will send a delegation of senior business leaders to Washington during the week of April 15.

These are indeed turbulent times for U.S.-China relations. The issues that currently define the relationship in the eyes of most Americans are serious and must be addressed. We are obviously anxious about the impact of the current situation on our individual corporate interests here in China but, at the same time, we believe a strong trade relationship between our country and China is vitally important for the long term. And, we believe the American business community here not only contributes to the growth of the U.S. economy, but also serves as a catalyst for change in that it enables Chinese people to influence China's evolving economic, political and social systems from the inside out.

Today, AmCham Beijing represents more than 320 American companies with a total membership of almost 1,000 individuals doing business here in China. As evidenced by our growing membership, the presence of U.S. businesses in China continues to grow at a significant rate. We are committed to seeing the dialogue between the governments of the United States and China continue and believe the U.S. business community in China can play an important role. We regularly liaise with senior Chinese government officials as well as our own U.S. Embassy in Beijing. We are anxious to share our experiences with you and exchange views regarding the direction of U.S.-Sino trade relations.

We would like to arrange a meeting with you during the week of April 15. Misty Church, our Washington coordinator for this visit, will be calling your office very shortly to explore the possibility for such a meeting. We look forward to visiting with you, should your schedule permit.

Sincerely,


James McGregor
Chairman

4/5/96

RUBY:

"Key is rules and regs especially
with Landlord-tenant
can landlord take payment, not
allow (?) "

We've checked in our office and in the
oval, and still can't get the last word.

- John
Staff Sec. Office

4/5/96

RUBY:

"Key is rules and especially with Landlord-tenant can landlord take payment, not allow (?) "

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

414196

96 APR 2 P6:42

RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO:

Leland "Lee" Swenson
President
National Farmers Union

Aurora, Colorado
303-338-2525 [Secretary, Sue Miller]
303-338-2530 [Margaret, back up]

*Key is Rules & Regs
esp w/ L-Farmers
can landlord take payment in
allow security -
Be*

DATE:

Date prior to the President signing the Farm Bill.

RECOMMENDED BY:

Alexis Herman
Barbara Woolley

PURPOSE:

National Farmers Union has urged the President to veto the Farm Bill because the legislation does not provide a strong safety net for family farmers. We would like you to explain to Lee why you are signing the bill and express your commitment to working with Congress next year to make this a truly farm-friendly farm bill.

BACKGROUND:

The National Farmers Union (NFU) represents 290,000 farm families and rural groups from throughout the United States. The National President, Leland "Lee" Swenson was elected president of the National Farmers Union in 1988. He is from South Dakota originally before moving to Colorado where the NFU's national headquarters.

NFU was one of only two agriculture groups to endorse the Clinton/Gore ticket during the campaign and they have remained a key supporter on a range of issues, i.e. economic plan, health care reform, tobacco, etc. The NFU's underlying theme involves a focus on strengthening the well-being of American family farmers and the communities in which they live.

Lee recently participated in a coffee with you. Lee also organized a meeting with a broad based group of farm families who met with Leon Panetta and Secretary Glickman. At their national convention in March, they received a letter of greetings which Secretary Glickman shared with the membership.

4/5/96

TO NSC FOR REPLY

FROM: TODD STERN

this page
did not
go to
NSC

4/4/96

TODD:

We searched through the cron (3/3 - 3/21)
and could not find the FAX of this
letter.

Should we send to NSC for reply?

yes

no

- John

BUT I
ALREADY
ASKED IT
TO BE SENT
TO NSC

4/4/96

TODD:

We searched through the cron (3/3 - 3/21)
and could not find the FAX of this
letter.

Should we send to NSC for reply?

yes

no

- John

BUT I
ALREADY
ASKED IT
TO BE SENT
TO NSC

ALICE WALKER

96 APR 4 P5:45

March 13, 1996

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

Dear President Clinton:

Thank you very much for the invitation to visit the White House while I was in Washington in January. I am sorry circumstances made it impossible for us to meet. I was looking forward to experiencing the symbolic seat of North American government in a new way. In the past, I have only picketed the White House, and as a student walking up and down the street outside it, I used to wonder what might be inside. It seemed to be made of cardboard, and appeared empty and oppressive, remote from the concerns of a few black students - and their courageous white teacher - from the deep South.

The first protest I joined that picketed the white house was a Hands Off Cuba rally in 1962. I was eighteen. It was very cold, snow and sleet everywhere. Our hands and feet and heads were freezing as we trudged in circles, shouting slogans to keep our minds off our misery and to encourage each other. Amazingly, someone from the President's office sent hot coffee out to us. This compassionate gesture humanized the president and the White House for me, and made it possible for me to feel a connection that I would not otherwise have felt. When President Kennedy was assassinated, and my whole school wept, it was of those warming sips of coffee that I thought.

I love Cuba and its people, including Fidel. The bill you have signed to further tighten the blockade hurts me deeply. I travel to Cuba whenever I can to take medicine and the small, perhaps insignificant comfort of my presence, to those whose courage and tenderness have inspired me practically my entire life.

I have seen how the embargo hurts everyone in Cuba, but especially Cuban children, infants in particular. I spend some nights in utter sleeplessness worrying about them. Someone has said that when you give birth to a child - and perhaps I read this in Hillary's book, which I recently bought - you are really making a commitment to the agony of having your heart walking around outside your body. That is how I feel about Cuba; I am quite unable to think of it as separate from myself. I have taken seriously the beliefs and values I learned from my Georgia parents, the most sincere and humble Christians I have ever known: Do unto others.... Love thy neighbor.... All of it. I feel the suffering of each child in Cuba as if it were my own.

This bill you have signed is wrong. Even if you despise Fidel and even if the Cubans should not have shot down the planes violating their air space. (Did you, by the way, see Oliver Stone's "Earth and Sky," about the U.S. bombing and general destruction of Viet Nam? Over years and years. There was a major case of violating air space!) The bill is wrong, the embargo is wrong, because it punishes people, some of them unborn, for being who they are. Cubans cannot help being who they are. Given their long struggle for freedom, particularly from Spain and the United States, they cannot help taking understandable pride in who they are. They have chosen a way of life different from ours, and I must say that from my limited exposure to that different way of life, it has brought them, fundamentally, a deep inner certainty about the meaning of existence (to develop one's self and to help others) and an equally deep psychic peace. One endearing quality I've found in the Cubans I have met is that they can listen with as much heart as they speak.

I believe you and Fidel must speak to each other. Face to face. He is not the monster he has been portrayed; and in all the study you have done of Cuba surely it is apparent to you that he has reason for being the leader he is. Nor am I saying he is without flaw. We are all substantially flawed, wounded, angry, hurt, here on Earth. But this human condition, so painful to us, and in some ways shameful - because we feel we are weak when the reality of ourselves is exposed - is made much more bearable when it is shared, face to face, in words that have expressive human eyes behind them. Beyond any other reason for talking with Fidel, I think you would enjoy it.

In 1962 I also went to Russia. I was determined to impress upon all the Russians I met that I was not their enemy, and that I opposed the idea my government had at that time of possibly killing all of them. I have never regretted offering smiles to the children of Russia, instead of agreeing with a paranoid government to throw bombs.

The world, I believe, is easier to change than we think. And harder. Because the change begins with each one of us saying to ourselves, and meaning it: I will not harm anyone or anything in this moment. Until, like recovering alcoholics, we can look back on an hour, a day, a week, a year, of comparative harmlessness.

Is Jesse Helms who speaks of Cuban Liberty, as he urges our country to harm Cuba's citizens, the same Jesse Helms who caused my grandparents, my parents and my own generation profound suffering as we struggled against our enslavement under racist laws in the South? And can it be that you have joined your name to his, in signing this bill? Although this is fact, it still strikes me as unbelievable. Inconceivable. I cannot think his is a name you will rejoice in later years to have associated with your own. I regret this action, sincerely, for your sake.

The country has lost its way, such as it was. Primarily because it is now understood by all that resources and space itself are limited, and the days of infinite expansion and exploitation, sometimes referred to as "growth" are over. Greed has been a primary motivating factor from the beginning. And so the dream of the revengeful and the greedy is to re-take Cuba, never mind the cries of children who can no longer have milk to drink, or of adults whose ration card permits them one egg a week. Would you want Chelsea to have no milk, to have one egg a week? You are a large man, how would you yourself survive?

My heart goes out to you - I voted for you for President, even though I personally want compassionate feminine leadership in the world, at least for the next hundred years or so: uncompassionate woman-hating and child-forgetful masculine leadership has pretty much destroyed us - because I know the same forces that have demonized Fidel for so long are after you and especially Hillary. I wonder if you can see this? Or if you really feel secure and confident of the future, standing shoulder to shoulder with the Republicans and with Helms?

Sometimes, when I don't know what to do, I imagine a little child standing beside my desk, or sometimes a small baby, kicking, on my desk. There are Cuban children - as dear as any on earth, as dear as Chelsea, or my daughter, Rebecca - standing beside your desk all the time now. How could this not be so? They are standing beside the desks of those in Congress, in the Senate. They are standing in our grossly overstuffed supermarkets and spying on us in Weightwatchers. One cannot justify starving them to death because their leader is a person of whom some people, themselves imperfect, human, disapprove.

America at the moment is like a badly wounded parent, the aging, spent and scared offspring of all the dysfunctional families of the multitudes of tribes who settled here. It is the medicine of compassionate understanding that must be administered now, immediately, on a daily basis, indiscriminately. Not the poison of old patterns of punishment and despair. Harmlessness now! must be our peace cry.

I often disagree with you - your treatment of black women, of Lani Guinier and the wonderful ^{Joy} ~~Joelyn~~ Elders in particular, has caused me to feel a regrettable distance - still, I care about you, Hillary and Chelsea, and wish you only good. I certainly would not deprive you of food in protest of anything you have done!

Similarly, I will always love and respect the Cuban people, and help them whenever I can. Their way of caring for all humanity has made them my family. Whenever you hurt them, or help them, please think of me.

Sincerely,

Alice Walker



4/5/96

GS/GENE S/ANN LEWIS

VERY IMPORTANT TO RESPOND AT LEAST TO THE
INSIDE POLITICS PEOPLE
VERY IMPORTANT
LET ME SEE RESPONSE

6

*** ^{eyes} GS / turn letter
U. might to respond
at least to the House Ad pages
U. might
let me see
see
response

INSIDE POLITICS / March 4, 1996

The opening segment focused on White House activities today surrounding the deaths of Ron Brown, Commerce staff members, military personnel and business leaders.

Bill Schneider analyzed the "Perot factor" and his recent letter to the FEC regarding his candidacy. Perot admitted that he may fall in the "technical definition" of a candidate, but asserted that presently he is not. Haley Barbour was quoted as saying "Chris Dodd and friends are praying" for Perot's entry into the race, Dodd refutes that statement, citing recent polls. A recent CNN poll among all voters shows you leading Dole in a 2-way race 54/42, then dropping to a 10 point lead over Dole with Perot in the race 46/36/16. In the same CNN poll but only among Independents, you lead Dole and Perot 47/24/27. Indeed, Dole has little to no appeal to Independents, you lead him 2/1 among those voters. In Ohio you lead a two-way race 55/36, in a three-way with Perot you lead 45/31/17. In Texas you are behind Dole 38/52, but Dole drops 10 points with the entry of Perot, 34/43/11 (BC/BD/RP). Schneider says the bottom line is that Republicans have more to fear than Democrats regarding a possible Perot candidacy.

As Jesse Helms runs for a fifth term, he is trying to present a softer image of himself to voters, as the "statesman" trying to lure foreign investment into the state. Harvey Gantt criticizes Helms for doing nothing on education, environment, health care and the infant mortality rate. He says he is the candidate of choice, the only one looking ahead to the 21st century. The other democratic contender, Dr. Charlie Sanders, is selling himself as a "non-politician" with "real-world solutions." Some African-Americans want Sanders to win the nomination because they think he has a better chance of beating Helms.

Our latest DNC ad running in 19 states was the subject of intense criticisms, with Brooks Jackson accusing us of "not let(ing) the facts get in the way" of a pro-Clinton spin. He says our cuts on Medicare are only slightly less than the Republicans and that while we have lowered the taxes for many, we raised taxes on gasoline which affects most Americans. He further accuses us of "false advertising" in our ads running in Arkansas, Louisiana and Tennessee. He says our claims on school lunch, Head Start and children's health care funding do not match our budget proposals.

Bernard Kalb closed with a brief piece on Don Imus. He said that spoofing the President is ok, sleaze is something else. Tony Blankley predicted that as society gets more vulgar, so will political humor. Dee Dee Myers declared that Imus just clearly crossed the line of decency.