

Have 032 511/96
Todd - pref. letter, T
I can only find record of
a Hickman memo -- same subject --
which we did send to scheduling
~~ADD P. White & Comment~~
~~File "I" should see them~~ Card.

Pres. has not seen

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

96 APR 30 AIO: 16

April 26, 1996

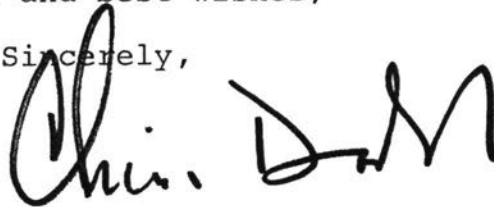
Dear Betty:

I am enclosing herewith a letter to The President regarding the visit to the United States by the Presidents of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. I had meant to have this letter with me when I saw The President on Wednesday evening.

I would very much appreciate it if you would be sure that he personally sees the letter.

Many thanks, and best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris. Dodd", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Ms. Betty Currie
Secretary
The Oval Office
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

RICHARD G. LUGAR, INDIANA
NANCY L. KASSEBAUM, KANSAS
HANK BROWN, COLORADO
PAUL COVERDELL, GEORGIA
OLYMPIA J. SNOWE, MAINE
FRED THOMPSON, TENNESSEE
CRAIG THOMAS, WYOMING
ROD GRAMS, MINNESOTA
JOHN ASHCROFT, MISSOURI

CLAIBORNE PELL, RHODE ISLAND
JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR., DELAWARE
PAUL S. SARBANES, MARYLAND
CHRISTOPHER J. DODD, CONNECTICUT
JOHN F. KERRY, MASSACHUSETTS
CHARLES S. ROBB, VIRGINIA
RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD, WISCONSIN
DIANNE FEINSTEIN, CALIFORNIA

JAMES W. NANCE, STAFF DIRECTOR
EDWIN K. HALL, MINORITY CHIEF COUNSEL & STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6225

April 25, 1996

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

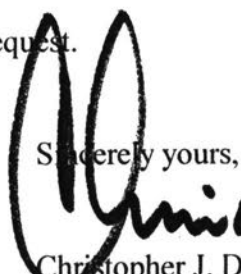
I am writing to request that you give serious consideration to meeting with the presidents of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania when they visit the United States in late June. These presidents will be visiting the United States at the invitation of the Institute for East West Studies to receive that institute's annual award for New European Statesmanship. While the award ceremony will be held in New York on June 25, these distinguished leaders would be pleased and honored to travel to Washington on June 24, if a meeting could be arranged with you.

I believe that a meeting with you would send a very powerful signal of United States support to the Baltic countries and acknowledgment of what has been accomplished there. It would also provide public recognition of their leadership in strengthening intra-Baltic relations, in effectively handling their delicate relations with Russia, and in fostering relations with other states around the Baltic Sea.

I would hope that a decision concerning such a meeting could be made at your earliest convenience so that arrangements could be made for their visit to Washington. Perhaps a reception for these presidents with members of the Baltic-American community could be planned in connection with such a meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,


Christopher J. Dodd
United States Senator

5-1-96

the election; in addition, the G-7, with our strong support, should agree to reschedule Russia's debts before elections (important for Yeltsin). **Bosnia** -- the Brussels donor conference generated the targeted \$1.2 billion. All agreed implementation is key.

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cc: G3/Alker
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We also received the following items:

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has agreed to work to make Eli the Chairman of the Board

JIM DORSKIND:
Chris Walker
Please coordinate the reply.

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Note from Janet and Henry Waxman. Sending condolences to you, Hillary, and Chelsea on the death of Ron Brown and those with him. "We heard from our neighbor, Gabe Winer, Chelsea's classmate, how sorrowed Chelsea is having been with these same special people just the week before and getting to know them."

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 11, 1996

96 APR 22 18:44

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SUSAN BROPHY *gm*
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

Attached for your review is a note from Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA) that I thought you would like to see.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515 P8:43

Dear President and Mrs. Clinton and Hillary,
Henry and I join in expressing our
condolence over the death of Ron Brown and
the dedicated people with him.
We heard from our neighbor Mike Winer,
Chelsea's classmate, how sorrowed Chelsea is,
having been with those same special people
just the week before and getting to know them.
Our thoughts are with you and the nation.
Regards,
Janet and Henry Waxman

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 30, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: TODD STERN *TS*
HELEN HOWELL *HPH*

SUBJECT: Recent Information Items

Thawley
Re: Mofy
in Washington
new (DS) brief
to Camp

We are forwarding the following recent information items:

- (A) **Berger/Gibbons/Higgins/Verveer memo on Gulf War Interim Report.** The Persian Gulf Veterans Coordinating Board -- made up of representatives from DOD, VA and HHS -- has prepared an implementation plan for the interim report of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses. **Outreach** -- DOD and VA are undertaking initiatives to improve their outreach efforts to Gulf War veterans. **Medical/Clinical Issues** -- DOD and VA are working to standardize their record-keeping procedures and have agreed to require informed consent for the use of investigational new drugs unless it is waived by the FDA. **Research** -- The agencies will promote the use of advisory committees and frequent peer review as they research the role of various risk factors (e.g., smoke and anti-nerve gas treatments). **Chemical/Biological Weapons** -- DOD and CIA are reviewing information about possible CBW incidents during the Gulf War. DOD is also improving its CBW detection capabilities and investigating the effects of exposure to low-levels of chemical agents. **Next Steps** -- Final report due December 31, 1996.
- (B) **Lake memo on funding for the UN.** Omnibus CR included an additional \$300 million in funding for the U.N., bringing the total FY 96 appropriation to \$1.2 billion for regular and peacekeeping assessments -- just under your request of \$923 million for the regular assessment, and \$440 for peacekeeping. Congress is currently reviewing your FY 97 request which includes the first of five annual payments for our past arrears. Tony notes we can now refute the perception that the U.S. has failed to honor its obligations.
- (C) **Panetta follow-up on "60 Minutes" Customs piece.** According to Customs, five years ago, Canine Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Whitesman was alerted by his dog to cocaine inside the drum of a propane tanker truck passing through San Diego. Whitesman's supervisor was skeptical and reluctant to conduct a potentially dangerous inspection. The tanker was detained for a day and the driver, who was released, returned to Mexico and disappeared. When the drum was inspected, it contained 8,000 pounds of cocaine. Whitesman and his former supervisor in San Diego are still

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 26, 1996

96 APR 26 P3:36

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE 

SUBJECT: Funding for the UN

Among the small victories in the Omnibus CR was an increase in funding for the U.N. With the additional \$300 million, the United States will now have paid \$1.2 billion in FY96 to the UN for its regular and peacekeeping assessments. This level of Congressional funding is only slightly less than you requested.

	<u>Your Request</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
Regular Assessment	923	892
Peacekeeping	440	359

(dollars in millions)

With these transfers, the worst scenarios associated with UN funding will be averted. The UN will not shut down this fall.

Your FY97 request contains the first tranche of a five year payment of our past year arrears. That proposal is still under Congressional review.

We can, however, begin to refute a public perception that the United States has failed to honor its obligations and by so doing may force the UN to close its doors.

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

employed by Customs although Whitesman now works in Orlando. (He was transferred after making allegations of corruption and harassment at the San Diego and Miami offices). The U.S. Attorney is investigating Whitesman's claims. Customs doesn't know when "60 Minutes" will air the interview with Whitesman.

(D) **Tyson follow-up on insurance company revenue raiser.** Memo by Mark Mazur, CEA, and it concerns Treasury's proposal to raise revenues by denying corporate deductions for insurance premiums paid to captive insurers. Currently, firms may deduct insurance premiums as business expenses, but may not claim deductions if they self-insure. The issue concerning "captive insurers" (generally subsidiaries of U.S. firms organized in tax haven countries) is whether they are bona fide insurers or simply a form of self-insurance designed to gain the favorable tax treatment available when premiums are paid to outside insurers. This is a question of fact and the subject of a lot of litigation between taxpayers and the IRS. *Our proposal* would settle this issue by requiring captive insurers to write over half of their insurance business with unrelated parties in order to be deemed legitimate insurers whose premiums could be deducted by related parties.

(E) **Summers memo on Treasury efforts to conserve biological diversity.** Treasury supports various efforts to make financial resources available to protect areas rich in biological diversity: *Global Environment Facility* -- since 1990, GEF (the interim financial mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity) has approved 70 biodiversity projects worth \$420 million. GEF's efforts are being impaired by low congressional appropriations -- only \$35 million in FY 96 compared to our request of \$110 million. We are requesting \$100 million for FY 97; *Multilateral Development Banks* -- World Bank is creating a \$30 million "Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund" to protect the 20 highest-priority ecosystems containing over half the world's most threatened biodiversity; *Latin American Debt Restructuring* -- Enterprise for the Americas debt-reduction program channels \$180 million in local currency to support locally administered projects in 7 Latin American and Caribbean countries, many of which support conservation of biodiversity.

(F) **Sec. Rubin memo on recent international financial meetings.** *World economic growth* -- IMF and private forecasters project 2% growth in the G-7 this year. Currently, U.S. has lowest budget deficit, longest recovery, and best performance creating jobs. U.S. exports should continue to grow and our trade deficit should decline. The Europeans face slow growth, high unemployment and large budget deficits. Japanese economy should experience moderate growth. *Halifax follow-up* - Significant progress: IMF adopted disclosure standards to improve markets' ability to anticipate and avoid financial crises; G-10 ministers endorsed recommendations for handling sovereign liquidity crises like Mexico's; recommendations were developed for improving effectiveness of multilateral development banks; regulators will enhance cooperation in supervising globally active trading groups; agreement reached on additional \$25 billion for IMF to respond to financial crises; G-7 agreed to encourage the IMF and the World Bank to develop a plan for resolving the debt burdens of the poorest developing countries. *Russia* -- IMF will continue providing support through

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

5.1.96

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

96 APR 22 P4:27

April 22, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: LAURA TYSON *Laura D. Tyson*
RE: INSURANCE COMPANY REVENUE RAISER

You recently asked me how we should respond to criticism of the Administration's proposal to raise revenues by denying corporate deductions for insurance premiums paid to captive insurers. The attached memo to me from Mark Mazur of the NEC-CEA staff provides an explanation of the logic behind this proposal.

*I want to
discuss w/ you*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 10, 1996

TO: LAURA TYSON

FROM: MARK MAZUR 

SUBJECT: SUBMISSION ON CAPTIVE INSURANCE COMPANIES

The President wanted to know how to respond to the attached criticism of the Administration's proposed captive insurance company revenue raiser. This memo provides some background information that you might find helpful when you discuss this issue with the President. Please let me know if you have any questions on this.

Background: In both the December 1995 balanced budget and the FY 1997 Budget, the Administration included as one of the "corporate loophole closers" a provision to deny U.S. firms deductions for "premiums" paid to "captive insurers" that do not shift or distribute a significant amount of insurance risk.

Analysis: For tax purposes, firms may deduct legitimate insurance premiums as ordinary business expenses. However, if a firm "self-insures" and bears the risk of loss itself, no deduction is permitted unless and until a loss actually occurs. "Captive insurers" tend to be subsidiaries of U.S. firms organized in tax haven countries (e.g., Caribbean islands) that provide "insurance" to the parent firm (or to a small group of U.S. firms in the same line of business). Whether the captive insurer actually provides insurance or simply is a corporate shell intended to let a firm deduct currently the costs of self-insurance is a question of fact that has been the subject of much litigation between taxpayers and the IRS. The proposal would settle this issue by requiring captive insurers to write a substantial amount (over half) of insurance business with unrelated parties in order to be deemed a legitimate insurer whose premiums could be deducted by related parties. If a captive insurer did not meet this test, its major shareholders would be unable to deduct currently the "premiums" paid and would be treated as self-insured.

This provision is intended to deal with a real problem -- firms trying to claim current deductions for setting aside amounts that may be used to pay for future losses. The "captive insurer" issue is particularly difficult because it is impossible to know for sure if the risk of loss has shifted from one party to another when all are part of the same corporate family. The Treasury proposal establishes an arbitrary "bright line" rule that will provide certainty to taxpayers engaging in such transactions. However, since it does limit a growing tax-planning opportunity, it will be opposed by those whose tax liabilities would increase (as in the submission).

This proposal's threshold for unrelated business is just an "opening bid" in the tax legislation process. I expect the threshold to be lowered by Congress before the provision is enacted.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
5.1.96

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

April 24, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: Robert E. Rubin *R. E. R.*
Secretary of the Treasury

FROM: Lawrence H. Summers *LS*
Deputy Secretary of the Treasury

SUBJECT: Concerted Actions to Conserve Biological Diversity

In Tokyo, you raised the issue of making financial resources available for the protection of especially rich areas of biological diversity.

I thought you might be interested to know that the Treasury Department currently supports efforts to conserve important biodiversity resources through several international fora, including:

- **The Global Environment Facility** -- The GEF serves as the interim financial mechanism for the international Convention on Biological Diversity. Since its creation in 1990, the GEF has approved 70 biodiversity projects in developing countries worth \$420 million. Examples include the \$10 million Brazilian Biodiversity Fund Project and the \$13.5 million Indonesia Kerinci Seblat Integrated Conservation and Development Project, which protect critical areas by integrating social and economic activity into conservation plans.

The GEF's ability to continue to support biodiversity protection is becoming impaired by low Congressional appropriations. Last year, the GEF received only \$35 million from Congress -- a cut of over 2/3 from the Administration's \$110 million request, one of the highest proportional reductions of all the international affairs accounts. We are requesting \$100 million for the GEF in FY 1997.

- **The Multilateral Development Banks** -- The World Bank and the regional development banks are focusing increasing attention on biodiversity conservation. The World Bank is creating a \$30 million "Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund" to protect the 20 highest-priority ecosystems that contain over half the world's most threatened biodiversity.
- **Latin America Debt Restructuring** -- The Enterprise for the Americas debt-reduction program channels \$180 million in local currency to support locally administered projects in seven Latin American and Caribbean countries, many of which support conservation of biodiversity. There have been no EAI appropriations since FY 1993. Treasury is currently initiating a pilot debt buyback/swap program that will continue to support environmental programs at zero U.S. budget cost.

5-1-96

the election; in addition, the G-7, with our strong support, should agree to reschedule Russia's debts before elections (important for Yeltsin). *Bosnia* -- the Brussels donor conference generated the targeted \$1.2 billion. All agreed implementation is key.

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cc: Doris, Lath, GS, Archer

Doris

Winer

Segal



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

5-1-86

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

SHEILA JACKSON LEE
18TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

APR 15 1996
April 2, 1996

Dear Mr. President,

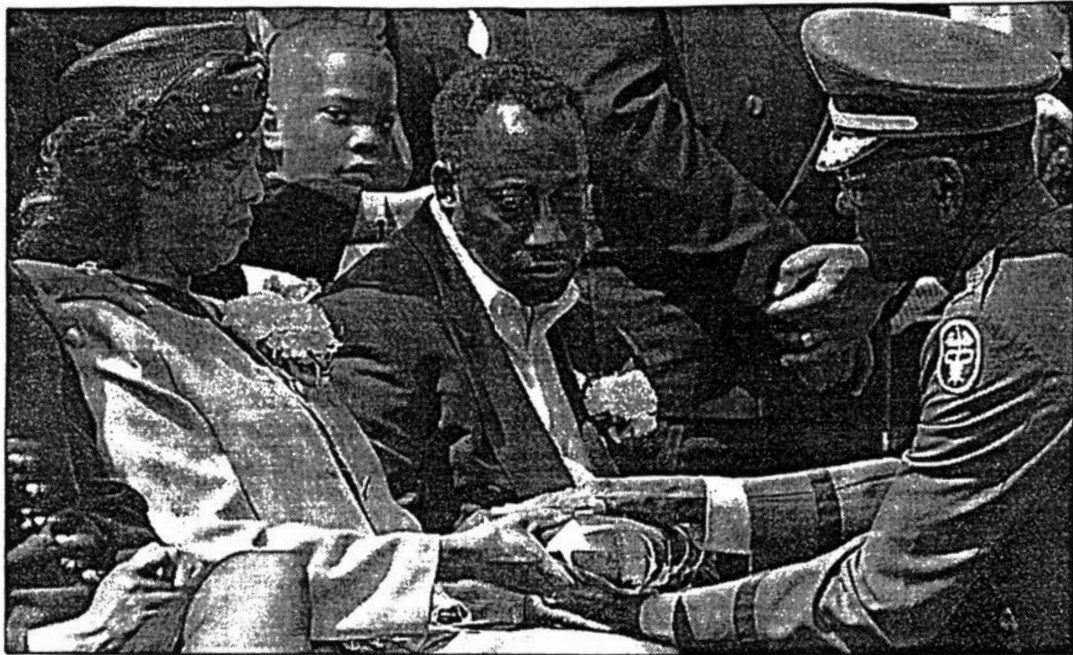
Please find enclosed
a copy of the article from
the Houston Chronicle regarding
PFC Bryant's funeral. I conveyed
your condolences along with
mine. The family was pleased.

Sincerely,
Sheila Jackson Lee

Enclosure

News & Features

'EVER PROUD OF HIM'



Pfc. Floyd Bright, a Houstonian killed in a vehicle crash while peacekeeping in Bosnia, was buried Saturday in Houston National Cemetery. Above, Col. Howard McMillan

presents Bright's parents, Floyd and Mary Bright, with the flag that draped his coffin. Below, the soldier's aunt, Jessie Irons, comforts his niece, Courtney Alabi-Isama, 9.

Family, friends, dignitaries pay last respects to fallen GI

By T.J. MILLING
Houston Chronicle

Pfc. Floyd Eric Bright lay draped in the Stars and Stripes as two stoic fellow soldiers flanked his granite gray casket Saturday.

Eight days after his fatal truck crash in war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bright had come home. And scores of family, friends and dignitaries came to this tiny east Houston church to bid the young soldier farewell.

"He went to Bosnia that he might bring peace," Pastor Robert I. Dixon said from the pulpit of the Greens Bayou First Baptist Church. "Imagine what the world would be like if we all lived our lives that others might

have peace."

The fallen soldier's mother, Mary, wept as the casket lid was closed and the choir sang *I'll Fly Away*. Congressmen, council members, military commanders and friends took to the podium, one by one, to share their recollections of the eager, young Lamar High School graduate who wanted to make a career of soldiering. His father's service in Vietnam was his inspiration, his sister said.

"He met death proudly and manfully in the service of his country," former councilman Al Calloway read from a letter from Mayor Bob Lanier.

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, bearing condolences from the White House,

See FUNERAL on Page 39A.



Photos by Ben DeSoto / Chronicle

Funeral

Continued from Page 37A.

read again the statement she read in Congress shortly after Bright's death. The soldier was a passenger in a truck that overturned. The driver was injured.

"The entire Houston community is saddened by the loss," Lee said. "Neither his country nor his community will forget Private Bright's sacrifice ... a shining light gone out too soon. We shall remain ever proud of him."

Bright's recruiter, Sgt. Stanley K. Cooper, remembered Bright as a principled man, devoted to duty. He said Bright had enormous zeal for doing what was right and good.

"His service was a reflection on him — a hero," Cooper said.

proud to have served with him."

The young soldier's high school Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps commander, Lt. Col. Gary Deskin, recalled Bright's humility and willingness to accept responsibility.

Across town at the Houston National Cemetery, the nation's banner was again draped across the casket as the Army honor guard guided Bright to his grave.

"A man is but born of a woman and has but a short time to live," Dixon said. "We therefore commit this body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

The deafening report of a 21-gun salute echoed through the cemetery. A lone soldier played taps. And the soldier's mother wept as she was handed the flag.

Survivors include his parents Floyd and Mary Bright and a sister, Samantha Hunt, all of Houston.

5.1.96

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cc: Doris Lath

cc: GS/AC/EC

copy to sign

5.1.96

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

96 APR 25 P5:22

25 March 1996

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT
THE VICE PRESIDENT

CC: Leon Panetta
Evelyn Lieberman
George Stephanopoulos
Alexis Herman

From: Harold Ickes *HI*

Re: Weldon H. Latham's article in Minority Business News USA, of 15 February - 15 March 1996 entitled "Politics Threaten Future of Federal Minority Business Programs"

I thought you would be interested in the above referenced article, a copy of which is attached. Mr. Latham has been a strong supporter of the Administration and the DNC.

Politics threaten future of federal minority business programs

By Weldon H. Latham

As a government contracts and government relations attorney and a frequent speaker on issues of importance to the minority business community, the question I am most frequently asked is: "What is the future of federal minority business programs?"

Although the current Republican-controlled Congress has repeatedly threatened or tried in vain to eliminate minority business programs, and the courts and the Department of Justice are re-evaluating the programs in light of the Supreme Court decision in *Adarand v. Peña*, there is a strong future for such programs. What that future will look like will depend on the actions of a number of institutions and individuals, including Congress, the courts, the executive branch, and perhaps most of all, the minority business community itself.

Immediately following the *Adarand* ruling, the enemies of affirmative action described it as a death warrant for federal minority business programs. A careful and objective reading of the High Court's decision, however, results in the opposite conclusion. While the decision certainly will cause the reshaping of minority business programs, the court acknowledged the persistence of discrimination, its negative impact and the continuing need for race-conscious actions by the federal government as constitutional remedies for the effects of discrimination.

Thus, the principal threat to federal minority business programs after *Adarand* is not legal, but political. Ironically, the Small Business Administration Section 8(a) Program — created by Republican President Richard Nixon, who recognized that African-Americans and other minorities had been denied a piece of "the American free enterprise system" — is now targeted by the Republican Congress, including presidential hopefuls Bob Dole and Phil Gramm, as part of election-year attacks on affirmative action.

While these attacks have slowed since President Clinton's "Mend it. Don't end it." affirmative action policy statement on July 19 and the subsequent failures of Gramm and Dole to successfully pursue anti-affirmative action legislation, these efforts are expected to continue as an effort to polarize voters along ethnic and racial lines. The demise of Governor Pete Wilson as a presidential candidate should send the message that the vast majority of Americans are fair-minded and will reject racial attacks by aspirants to the nation's highest office.

On the legal front, however, the Clinton administration must mount a forceful defense to frivolous yet recurring challenges to the 8(a) and other minority business programs, and secure victories in the lower courts that clarify the *Adarand* decision in favor of retaining these programs. Toward that end, on Jan. 22, DOJ filed a very strong brief in support of the 8(a) program. Thus, this program, at least, does not appear to be in jeopardy, as long as this president occupies the Oval Office.

The brief responds to a motion filed as part of a suit by Dynalantic Corp., mentioned in last month's edition, challenging the constitutionality of the 8(a) program. The DOJ brief clearly and convincingly argues the legality of the 8(a) program, even when judged under the *Adarand* "strict scrutiny" standard. DOJ properly notes that the 8(a) program requires an "individual" determination of qualification and is not a blanket preference to members of any particular group of Americans. As the government states, under the 8(a) program, individuals who are members of certain racial groups are only "presumptively" socially disadvantaged. Social disadvantage, however, may be demonstrated by "any" individual who presents evidence that he or she has "personally" suffered social disadvantage as a result of "color, ethnic origin, gender, physical handicap, long-term residence in an environment isolated from the mainstream of American society, or other similar cause not common to small businesses persons who are not socially disadvantaged." (And more than two dozen non-minority individuals have been certified to participate in the 8(a) program). As DOJ notes, under

the current 8(a) program, whether or not the individual is a member of a particular racial group, the socially disadvantaged status must be shown to have adversely affected the "individual's" status in business.

The 8(a) program satisfies the "strict scrutiny" standard in that it is "narrowly tailored" to advance a "compelling government interest." The *Adarand* decision notes the "compelling government interest" in combating discrimination: "The unhappy persistence of both the practice and lingering effects of racial discrimination against minority groups is an unfortunate reality, and government is not disqualified from action in respond to it."

DOJ also notes that the *Adarand* decision did not alter the principal, established in *City of Richmond v. J.A. Croson Co.*, that in any consideration of a congressionally enacted race-conscious remedial program, Congress' finding that a factual predicate exists, and Congress' choice of means to address the problem, are due great deference.

The 8(a) program is "narrowly tailored." As DOJ notes, the legislative history underlying the program, including repeated oversight and reworking of the program over the years, plainly demonstrates that Congress has identified the problem with particularity and fashioned an appropriate, limited remedy. In addition, the 8(a) program contains safeguards, waivers and other flexible features which prevent it from becoming an arbitrary and formulaic "preference" for minorities. As noted in the brief: "Most importantly, the program's flexibility allows it to focus on the 'disadvantaged' status, not the 'racial' status,



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of the individual."

The Supreme Court recognized the need for minority business programs, and President Clinton himself has weighed in heavily in favor of continuing those programs with his "Mend it. Don't end it." policy. It is important that minority business people become active, both individually and through trade associations such as the National Coalition of Minority Businesses, in protecting their interests. As noted above, the 8(a) program and other federal minority business programs appear safe so long as this president is in office. If certain Republicans gain control of the White House, however, we will all have to reassess our view of the future of federal minority business programs.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
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NOMURA
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2 World Financial Center, Building B
New York, N.Y. 10281-1198

MAX C. CHAPMAN, JR.
CHAIRMAN

April 8, 1996

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of Jinx and myself I want to thank you and Mrs. Clinton for a truly memorable evening. While the dinner for President Scalfaro was extremely enjoyable, the opportunity to stay in The White House and spend the time we did into the early hours of Wednesday to get to know you and your aspirations better were a great privilege.

Mr. President, I am sincerely impressed by the depth of your knowledge on the wide-ranging subjects we discussed and am further convinced that the characterizations of you and Mrs. Clinton by the opposition and the press are misinformed and mean-spirited. Clearly, your re-election is the only way to silence these critics and skeptics.

Let me add my sincere condolences to you, your administration, and the American people as a result of the loss of Secretary Brown and the other outstanding Americans. I had the opportunity to meet Secretary Brown at a New York Stock Exchange breakfast several months ago and was impressed by his enthusiasm and commitment to American business and the role that it can play in the global economy. He was a good man and a loss to our country.

x On a lighter note, I do hope that we can find an opportunity to play golf in the spring. Possibly we can twist the arms of Erskine and Vernon for a rematch of our Wyoming golf game at Robert Trent Jones when spring finally arrives.

On a final note, Jinx and I would like to extend to you and your family the use of our Wyoming facilities during the forthcoming summer if your schedule brings you to that part of the

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world. While there may not be many votes in Jackson, it is a wonderful place to relax and contemplate the issues facing you and our country. Jinx and I would be honored if you and your family were to spend some time at the ranch this summer.

Again, please accept our sincere thanks for a most enjoyable and memorable evening.

Sincerely,

Max