

TIME OF TRANSMISSION

TIME OF RECEIPT

96 MAY 17 16:40

**WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM**

PRECEDENCE: IMMEDIATE
PRIORITY
ROUTINE

RELEASOR: _____

DTG: _____

MESSAGE NO.: _____ CLASSIFICATION: unclassified TOTAL: 8
PAGES INCLUDING COVERS

FROM: Marsha Scott/sew _____
(NAME) (PHONE NUMBER) (ROOM NO.)

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION: Proposed Blast Fax

TO (AGENCY)	DELIVER TO	DEPT/ROOM NO.	PHONE NUMBER
MO	Harold Ickes		

*5/17 as a favor to
Marsha Scott I ran
this to Sit Rm for Rev.
S1*

REMARKS:

MEMORANDUM TO HAROLD
FROM: S Marsha
DATE: May 17, 1996

SUBJECT: Proposed Blast Fax

I want to send out my blast fax (900+). The following is my cover and talking points which were used by the Vice President at yesterday's meeting. I have also enclosed a copy of talking points that Brian Bond wants to send out on Monday. I will not send any of this until I hear from you.

A fax has also just recently come in from Elizabeth Birch, ED of Human Rights Campaign, addressed to Mike McCurry. It should be answered quickly. I am also enclosing a suggested draft reply to that letter. If we get the letter from Michael back to them, I think this will go a long way to dilute the storm over his remarks.

Dear Friends:

This has been a long and difficult week for all of us. As you know the Dole/Nickels bill (HR 3396, Defense of Marriage Act) is working its way through both houses of Congress. There were hearings on Thursday at which Cong. Barney Frank and many of our community friends gave strong testimony in condemnation of this bill. What I have been saying for several months, Mike McCurry, the Press Secretary, reiterated during recent press briefings at the White House on this subject. The President is personally opposed to same sex marriage and has been on the record with this stand since at least 1992.

However, during these press briefings comments were made implying a lack of respect and recognition of gay relationships and families. These comments do not reflect the President's commitment to treating all Americans, gay or straight, with dignity. As the Vice President strongly stated yesterday in his remarks to our gay and lesbian appointees, "We at the White House have committed ourselves to do a better job of talking about this issue - to make sure we do so in a way that is respectful of gay and lesbian relationship."

I understand how difficult it is for all of you that we are not in agreement over same sex marriage. However, I want to reassure each of you our commitment to working with you on our common goals which are many. These next few weeks will be difficult. The rhetoric of division and intolerance is being loudly used by those who want to divide and weaken us. It will be difficult to resist responding in kind. We must disagree over this issue. Once again, quoting the Vice President, "If we all stay focused and work together and treat each other with respect and dignity, we will get through this."

Sincerely,

Marsha Scott

I am enclosing some talking points which were used by the Vice President in his remarks to the gay and lesbian appointees during a reception in the White House on Thursday.

* I know this has been a tough time for many of you. The political season can make life complicated and some of the rhetoric has been particularly painful.

* The Clinton-Gore Administration is committed to you. The President strongly believes that gay and lesbian individuals should not be subject to unfair discrimination, which is why he has endorsed legislation outlawing discrimination against gays and lesbians in the work place - The Employment Non-discrimination Act.

* I know you know the record, but let's not forget the highlights:

Successfully fought for the repeal of the Dornan Amendment;
Signed the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act;
Issued an executive order mandating that security clearances no longer be denied based on sexual orientation.
Has more openly gay and lesbian appointees than all other administrations combined.
Convened the first White House Conference on HIV/AIDS and appointed an openly gay man as its' chair, Dr. Scott Hitt

* Now, let's talk as friends. Friends sometimes differ and we are not going to agree one hundred percent on the issues. On the issue of same sex marriage, we do differ and the President is not walking away from his longstanding position.

* The Republicans, who are desperate, are now trying to find whatever wedge issues they can. But, let's not allow the Republicans to win by dividing us over this issue.

* Like it or not, there are those in the Republican Party who would like the whole election to be about gay marriage. If it is, we all lose. There is not a consensus of public opinion yet.

* Our experience with gays in the military issue taught us that the cause of gay civil rights will not be advanced over an issue about which there is no public consensus.

* President Clinton has done more for gays and lesbians than all other Presidents combined. While this issue may be particularly difficult, our Administration is in this for the long haul. We are united by so many issues and divided by so few.

* We at the White House have committed ourselves to do a better job of talking about this issue - to make sure we do so in a way that is respectful of gay and lesbian relationships.

* The President and I are proud that we have more openly gay and lesbian appointees than ever before. You are an integral part of this Administration. You will be of the campaign and the second term too.

* If we all stay focused and work together and treat each other with respect and dignity, we will get through this and be the better for it.

DNC National Chairman Don Fowler today accused the extremist Republican leadership in congress and the Dole campaign of resorting to a legislative agenda of hate, deceit, and malice in a desperate attempt to win votes by dividing this country.

"With crucial legislative issues on the table that effect the environment for us and future generations, education for our children, health care for our seniors and people living with HIV/AIDS and job security for working families, it is deplorable to see the Republican leadership and the Dole Campaign divert attention away from their faltering agenda and extremist policies by resorting to legislative gay-bashing," according to Chairman Fowler.

Fowler continued. "You would think that the Republicans in congress would have something better to do. In one week the extremist Republican leadership introduced several hostile and inflammatory bills to bolster support for congressional Republicans and a faltering Republican Presidential campaign. The agenda is simple -- to divide and distract the public at the expense of lesbian and gay Americans."

Republican extremists have introduced a series of anti-gay bills which would, among other things, deny HIV+ service members the right to continue serving this country, do away with the bipartisan "don't ask/don't tell" military policy and by introducing a non-germane anti-same sex marriage bill entitled the "Defense of Marriage Act" -- an issue that should fall under the purview of state governments.

"Taxpayer dollars are being wasted on unnecessary hearings carefully orchestrated by the Republican leadership as public stunts to bash a segment of our population and divert attention from their draconian record on medicaid, medicare, education and the environment," stated Fowler.

Fowler concluded: "The Democratic Party and this Administration are concerned about bringing people together and solving our common challenges for the common good of this country. The Republican party is more concerned with driving political wedges between the American people for their short term political gain."



HUMAN
RIGHTS
CAMPAIGN

May 15, 1996

Mr. Mike McCurry
Press Secretary
The White House
VIA FAX

Dear Mr. McCurry:

I am writing to express my anger and deep disappointment over your recent remark concerning the so-called "Defense of Marriage Act." In particular, at your May 13 press briefing, you defended the President's opposition to same-sex marriage by saying "He believes this is a time when we need to do things to strengthen the American family, and that's the reason why he's taken this position."

I do not, and cannot, believe that you accurately reflected the President's views when you made that particular statement. The suggestion that lesbian and gay Americans in any way threaten the family is unconscionable. It comes right out of the playbook of the extreme right. And we both know that the President is not one of them.

Let me be clear. We understand that we differ with the President's long-stated position opposing same-sex marriage. But one can oppose same-sex marriage without embracing the rhetoric of those who seek to scapegoat lesbian and gay Americans. One can oppose same-sex marriage without capitulating to the religious political extremists who have pushed this issue before Congress in an attempt to inject the issue into presidential politics.

We know that Bob Dole has taken the bait of those who are using this issue to play the politics of fear; we expected no less. But we cannot accept that the President — or his official public spokesperson — would take the bait as well.

There is also the question of the bill itself. The bill does nothing to defend marriage or strengthen families; but it does threaten state sovereignty while scapegoating and vilifying lesbian and gay Americans for political gain. Regardless of the President's views on same-sex marriage, we fully expect him to oppose this unprecedented, gratuitous and mean-spirited measure.

I believe your remarks on Monday were not in keeping with the President's view that no group of Americans should be preyed upon by the rhetoric of intolerance and the politics of division. Any clarification you could provide would be extremely helpful.

Thank you for your further consideration of this matter. I very much look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Birch
Executive Director

DRAFT

Ms. Elizabeth Birch
Executive Director
The Human Rights Campaign
1101 14th St. N.W., Suite 200
Washington, D. C. 20005

Dear Ms. Birch:

Thank you very much for your letter regarding my recent remarks. I understand that some serious concerns, hurt and anger were raised in the gay and lesbian communities by my statements regarding the American family. Let me assure you that my statements were made in haste and do not reflect the view of President Clinton.

The President has a long record of fairness and opposition to discrimination against gay Americans. He believes this country needs to be united, not further divided by scapegoating one group of citizens. I apologize if my comments offended gay and lesbian Americans, their families and their friends.

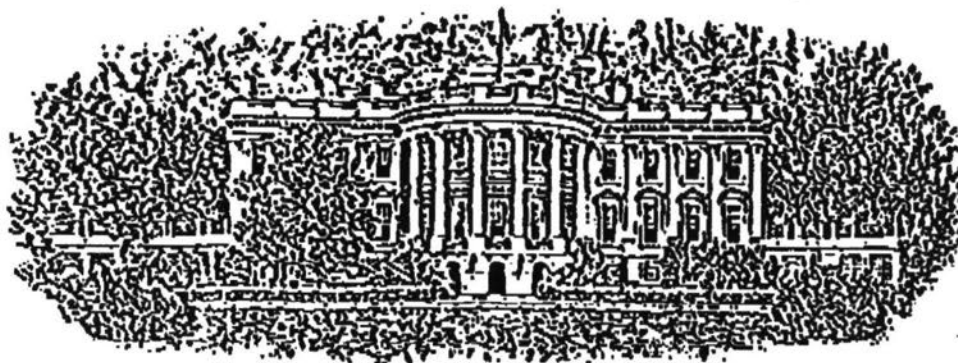
There is one statement I made last week that I would like to repeat for emphasis: This so-called "Defense of Marriage" bill now before Congress is merely an attempt to divide Americans and provoke hostility toward gays and lesbians. As I state then, it is difficult to see any need for this legislation at this point because same-sex marriage isn't legal anywhere in the United States. However, as you well know, President Clinton does not support legalizing same sex marriage, a position he first articulated in 1992 when asked by your organization.

Thank you for your strong support of the President. And I hope, while we disagree on this issue, that we can remain committed to working together on our common goals.

Sincerely,

Michael McCurry
Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE



OFFICE OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS

PHONE: (202) 456-6257

FAX: (202) 456-7929

From:

Doug Sosnik Karen Hancox

Amanda Crumley

Donald Dunn

Eric Eve

Stacy Forster

Cookab Hashemi

Wendy Heistad

Gordon Li

Ray Martinez

Linda Moore

Marsha Scott

Joe Trahern

David Wofford

OTHER: _____

TO: Sharon

DATE: _____

OF PAGES _____ (including cover)

FAX NUMBER: 62215

OFFICE NUMBER: _____

MESSAGE: _____

THE WHITE I
WASHINGTON

*Baum 1/2
file
Dale's file
CC COS
file
Send my Mother's Day
note to them*

May 13, 1996

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Baum
17 Foxboro Circle
Madison, Wisconsin 53717

Dear Ginni and Dale:

Thank you so much for your kind letter and wonderful story about my mother. She was one of the best campaigners our country has ever seen, and I'm pleased you had the opportunity to meet her.

I also want to thank you for your warm words of encouragement. It means a great deal to me to know that I have earned your support. I'm glad you took the time to write, and I hope you had a wonderful visit in Washington.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

*Placed your letter and
the pictures — Thanks
for sharing them with
me.*

Julia Barton / Rm 94

Dale and Ginni Baum
17 Foxboro Circle
Madison, WI 53717

March 31, 1996

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

Dear Mr. President:

In December of 1991 we were in San Francisco as my wife was attending a class there. During our free time we visited the Buena Vista Cafe, famous for it's Irish coffee. This establishment is small but very popular and you sit wherever you can find space even if you share a table with strangers.

As my wife and I were enjoying our Irish coffee, a couple asked if they could join us. We were carrying on our separate conversations but the woman tapped me on the shoulder, pointed proudly to a campaign button she was wearing and said "I just wanted to tell you that my son, Bill Clinton, will be the next president of the United States". Being Republicans we hadn't heard of your campaign for the primary. We asked "Who is he?" She replied "He is the Governor of Arkansas, the youngest governor in the United States". She then proceeded to give us a synopsis of your accomplishments as only a mother could. She was a most enjoyable person. We asked if we could have the button and she said it was her last one or she would give it to us. We then asked if she would mind having her picture taken. I was so concerned with getting her and the button that I cut your stepfather off.

We did vote for you in the 1992 election. We were unhappy with George Bush's views but weren't quite sure you were the man for the job. We have since changed our minds with the many great strides you have made in the past four years.

We will be visiting Washington D.C. May 9 - 13th this year as my wife will be attending a class there. On our last trip to D.C. we did not have enough time to visit the White House but plan to on this trip.

Your re-election campaign reminded us of these photos and we wanted you to have them. We plan on seeing you in the White House for the next four years! Good Luck!

Sincerely,



Dale and Ginni Baum

P.S. To quote from the New Yorker Magazine, April 1, 1996 -

"Clinton is a man of our time, and Dole is a man of a time that has past."

5/17

copy given to

Pam Cicetti, 1st

Lady's ofc per

Todd —

S.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALS OF FREEDOM
1995

CHARREN, Peggy	9/29/95
Founder of Action for Children's Television	
COLEMAN, William T., Jr.	9/29/95
Public Servant, former Sec. of Transportation, Chairman of the Board, NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, lifetime of service for equal opportunity for all citizens	
COONEY, Joan Ganz	9/29/95
Creator of Children's Television Workshop, creator of <u>Sesame Street</u>	
FRANKLIN, John Hope	9/29/95
Historian, has chronicled the history of African Americans in the South	
HIGGINBOTHAM, A. Leon, Jr.	9/29/95
Judge, academic, civil rights attorney	
JOHNSON, Frank, M. Jr.	9/29/95
District Court, Appeals Court Judge, dismantled segregation, protected the rights of mentally ill and imprisoned	
KOOP, C. Everett	9/29/95
Physician, former Surgeon General of the U.S.	
NELSON, Gaylord	9/29/95
Public Servant, former Wisconsin State Legislator, Governor & United States Senator, advocate for the environment, creator of Earth Day	
REUTHER, Walter P. (POSTHUMOUSLY)	9/29/95
Labor activist, United Auto Workers President for 25 years	
ROUSE, James W.	9/29/95
Urban Planner, designer of Columbia, Maryland, Boston's Faneuil Hall, Baltimore's Inner Harbor	
VELASQUEZ, Willie (POSTHUMOUSLY)	9/29/95
Founder of Southwest Voter Registration Education Project	
WASSERMAN, Lew R.	9/29/95
Philanthropist, advocate for the blind and visually impaired	

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALS OF FREEDOM
1994

BLOCK, Herbert	8/8/94
Political Cartoonist	
CHAVEZ, Cesar E. (POSTHUMOUSLY)	8/8/94
Union Leader, United Farm Workers of America	
FLEMMING, Arthur	8/8/94
Public Servant, former Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Chairman of the Commission on Civil Rights	
GRANT, James	8/8/94
Executive Director of UNICEF	
HEIGHT, Dorothy Irene	8/8/94
Civil Rights, Womens Rights Advocate	
JORDAN, Barbara	8/8/94
Public Servant, Educator, former Member of the U.S. House of Representatives	
KIRKLAND, Joseph Lane	8/8/94
Labor Leader, President AFL-CIO	
MICHEL, Robert H.	8/8/94
Public Servant, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois, Republican Leader	
SHRIVER, Robert Sargent	8/8/94
Public Servant, former Director of the Peace Corps	

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALS OF FREEDOM
1993

ASHE, Arthur, Jr. (POSTHUMOUSLY) Athlete, former Professional Tennis Player, Philanthropist, Author	6/20/93
BRENNAN, William J., Jr. Public Servant, former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court	11/30/93
DOUGLAS, Marjory Stoneman Conservationist, led early crusade to preserve and restore the Florida Everglades	11/30/93
FULBRIGHT, J. William Public Servant, former U.S. Senator and Member, U.S. House of Representatives from Arkansas, longtime Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, founder of the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Program	5/5/93
MARSHALL, Thurgood (POSTHUMOUSLY) Public Servant, Attorney, former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, Solicitor General of the United States, United States Circuit Judge, first African American to sit on the Supreme Court	11/30/93
POWELL, General Colin L. U.S.A. (With Distinction) Military Officer, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, former Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs	9/30/93
RAUH, Joseph L. Jr. (POSTHUMOUSLY) Lawyer, Civil Rights and Labor activist, former Counsel, United Auto Workers, General Counsel, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights	11/30/93
RAYE, Martha Entertainer, Humanitarian	11/2/93
THURMOND, Strom Public Servant, U.S. Senator from South Carolina, former Governor, State judge, and teacher	1/12/93
WISDOM, John Minor Public Servant, former United States Circuit Judge	11/30/93



Embassy of Italy
Washington D.C.
Office of the Ambassador

Put in system PK

FAX

May 14, 1996

PAGES (including cover) 1

TO MRS. MARY ANN PETERS

FROM Luca Ferrari

FAX 4569150

TEL (202) 328-5572

FAX (202) 483-2187

NOTE

A MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY
TO PRESIDENT CLINTON FOLLOWS.

Todd

TO NSC for
Response ?

yes

no

5/16/96





AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA
WASHINGTON, D. C.

**MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
WILLIAM J. CLINTON FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ITALY, OSCAR LUIGI SCALEFARO**

" IT IS WITH DEEP SORROW THAT I LEARNED OF THE TRAGIC
PLANE CRASH THAT OCCURRED IN THE PROXIMITY OF MIAMI AIRPORT.
ON BEHALF OF THE ITALIAN PEOPLE AND MYSELF I WOULD LIKE TO
EXTEND MY MOST SINCERE AND HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES, AND ASK
THAT YOU EXTEND MY SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS
WITH WHOM I SHARE MY PRAYERS.

OSCAR LUIGI SCALEFARO"

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 17, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR STAFF

FROM: EVELYN LIEBERMAN
TODD STERN *TS*

SUBJECT: Clearance Process

This is intended to reiterate the importance of providing documents to the Staff Secretary's Office with adequate time for them to be circulated to relevant White House policy and communications staff for comment, editing, etc.

On several recent occasions, lengthy documents -- e.g., EOP agency reports introduced by a Presidential message -- were delivered to the Staff Secretary's office far too late for relevant staff to give them anything more than a cursory review. That can create problems. Documents are circulated in the first place to ensure that they are accurate in terms of substance, message and form. Failure to allow proper review of Presidential documents can result in the release of inaccurate or unclear information.

There is no hard and fast rule for how many days in advance a document should be submitted, but substantive documents must be submitted to the Staff Secretary's Office so as to allow a minimum of five days of clearance time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

*TO
Evelyn Lieberman*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

96 MAY 16 P4:45

May 3, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR STAFF

FROM: EVELYN ^SLIEBERMAN
TODD STERN *TS*

SUBJECT: Clearance Process

This is intended to reiterate the importance of providing documents to the Staff Secretary's Office with adequate time for them to be circulated to relevant White House policy and communications staff for comment, editing, etc.

On several recent occasions, lengthy documents -- e.g., ^{office} reports of ~~EOP agencies~~ introduced by a Presidential message -- were delivered to the Staff Secretary's far too late for relevant staff to ~~be able to give them~~ anything more than a cursory review. That can create ~~real~~ problems. ^{EOP Agency} The reason documents are ^{must be} circulated in the first place ~~is to make sure~~ that they are in ^{accurate} good shape in terms of substance, message and form. If the staffing process is short-circuited, the ~~end~~ result can be documents released in the President's name that are inaccurate or fail to adequately reflect our policy or message. ** KA*

~~While~~ There is no hard and fast rule for how many days in advance a document should be submitted, ^{but} ~~you should assume that~~ substantive documents ~~should be submitted to the Staff Secretary's Office with several days of clearance time.~~

at allowing a minimum of five

must

Thanks for your cooperation.

* Failure to allow proper review of Presidential documents can result in the release of inaccurate or unclear information.

(to replace hi-lighted sentence)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE STAFF SECRETARY

Fax Transmittal Sheet

TO: Secretary Richard Riley

Fax Number: 401-2098

Phone Number: 708-5366

FROM: Todd Stern

SUBJECT: Medal of Freedom

DATE: 5-17-96

NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 6

MESSAGE:

If all pages are not received, please call 202/456-2702

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 17, 1996

Mr. Secretary:

We are in the process of putting together a list of names to submit to the President as possible Medal of Freedom winners. This is the highest civilian medal and winners are typically people of great eminence and distinction.

Given the high importance the President attaches to education, I thought I'd solicit your ideas. If anyone comes to mind in the field of education -- or even outside the field of education -- please let me know. Thanks so much.


Todd Stern
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary

PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

Established by Executive Order 11085 of February 22, 1963, as amended by E.O. 11515 of March 13, 1970. This is the highest civil award of our Government. It may be awarded to persons who have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors. The recipient receives a medal and a citation signed by the President.

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THURMOND, Strom Public Servant, U.S. Senator from South Carolina, former Governor, State judge, and teacher	1/12/93
WISDOM, John Minor Public Servant, former United States Circuit Judge	11/30/93