

Chon

—

12/18/96

THE WHITE HOUSE

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/20/96

Me. President -

This note will make
you feel wonderful about
the programs you have
put in place for families.
Just think of the effect you
had on the Hopper family.
The 3 of them will never

Do nice my

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/20/96

Jodd -

12/20

To Doriskind for reply?

—Y
—N

Original to Doriskind
12/20/96
Sew

RICHARD, LINDA & KRISTIN HOPPER
2112 HUNTERSON GROVE CT.
FALLS CHURCH, VA. 22043



Health Care for
America's Families

Forget the signing ceremony
and what it means to them.
AnnStock

WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR THE WARM HOSPITALITY AND FRIENDLINESS OF YOURSELF, TRACY LA BRECQUE AND BARBARA WOOLEY WHEN WE WERE INVITED TO BE PART OF THE WHITE HOUSE SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE HEALTH CARE REFORM LEGISLATION (MY DAUGHTER KRISTIN WAS THE ONE IN THE PINK DRESS IN THE WHEELCHAIR THAT SAT NEXT TO PRESIDENT CLINTON). I WISH THERE WAS A WAY TO LET PRESIDENT CLINTON AND MRS. CLINTON, AND INCOMING CHIEF OF STAFF BOWLES, KNOW WHAT A WARM, SINCERE, DEDICATED AND CARING STAFF THEY HAVE WORKING FOR THEM - A STAFF THAT TRULY KNOWS HOW TO CONVEY PRESIDENT AND MRS. CLINTON'S OWN CARING ATTITUDE AND THAT MAKES A PERSON TRULY FEEL PART OF HIS GOVERNMENT.

I USED TO BE SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO GOVERNOR BURNS OF HAWAII, AND I THINK THAT IS THE TYPE OF GOVERNMENT WE HAD IN HAWAII - AND THAT MUST ALSO BE TRUE OF ARKANSAS.

MY DAUGHTER HAS HAD FOUR SURGERIES AND ONE BROKEN LEG SINCE THE SIGNING CEREMONY (SHE HAS BRITTLE BONES, AND HAS HAD A TOTAL OF 29 BROKEN LEGS AND NUMEROUS OTHER BREAKS). AS A CONSEQUENCE, BEING PART OF THE SIGNING CEREMONY WAS IMPORTANT TO US TO DEMONSTRATE TO HER THAT SHE IS SPECIAL AND, EVEN DESPITE HER HANDICAP, SHE CAN ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS IN LIFE. IN THIS REGARD, EVEN THOUGH SHE IS ONLY 6, AT SCHOOL THEY SAY HER MATHEMATIC ABILITY IS THAT OF A 9 YEAR OLD.

Small, sparkling snowflakes,
gently, one by one,
create a whole new world
of beauty as they fall...

Small acts of kindness
given heart to heart
transform our lives with love,
the greatest gift of all.

*May love and kindness brightly shine
in your heart and your life at this season
and always.*

WE FELT SOMEWHAT GUILTY BEING SO PROMINENT IN THE CEREMONY, BUT WERE PLEASED TO BE A SYMBOL OF THE TYPICAL AMERICAN FAMILY - AND TO HAVE BEEN A SMALL PART OF THE HISTORY OF PRESIDENT CLINTON'S ADMINISTRATION. I ALSO HOPE THAT THE GOLF BALL FROM THE ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF CLUB/ PRESIDENT'S CUP THAT I HIT A HOLE IN ONE WITH - AND THAT I GAVE TO PRESIDENT CLINTON - BROUGHT HIM LUCK AS IT DID ME.

AGAIN, WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND WANT TO LET YOU KNOW OUR HEART FELT FEELINGS FOR YOU, TRACY LA BRECQUE, BARBARA WOOLEY, AND PRESIDENT AND MRS. CLINTON.

Rick, Linda & Kristin Hopper

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/20/96

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 18, 1996

MR. PRESIDENT:

Alan Dershowitz is coming out with a new book titled *The Vanishing American Jew, In Search of Jewish Identity for the Next Century*. It is a sequel to his best seller *Chutzpah*. Mr. Dershowitz wrote to you (attached) asking that you "say something positive" about the book that could be used on the book jacket.

Counsel strongly advises against this and will decline for you unless you indicate otherwise.

Todd Stern
Phil Caplan

I don't see that
it's wrong but ask
HRC P Sara Gorman
what they think - let
me know



HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

1575 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE • MASSACHUSETTS • 02138

ALAN M. DERSHOWITZ
Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law

December 11, 1996

HOLMES FIELD BLDG. 500
(617) 495-4617

President William J. Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20502

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/20/96

*through
yots
pres. show
soon
see
but not
great
based*

Dear President Clinton:

Congratulations! Your victory was wonderful. The bridge to the 21st Century is secure. I have just tried to forge another bridge to the 21st Century, namely a Jewish bridge. I have completed a new book on the Jewish future in America. It is a sequel to *Chutzpah* which was on the #1 New York Times best seller list. In my new book, *The Vanishing American Jew, In Search of Jewish Identity for the Next Century*, I call for positive Jewish ideals for the coming century. I explore predictions concerning the demographic demise of the Jewish community in America as a result of low birth rates and high assimilation. Demographers are predicting that we will virtually disappear by the end of the 21st Century. I know you will agree with me that would be bad for not only Jews but all Americans.

In my book I credit you with being the single most important force for ending institutional anti-Semitism in America. I write proudly about the Rosh Hashanah on Martha's Vineyard synagogue where you become the first American President in history to attend Jewish high holiday services. I also characterize you as the first President for whom Jewishness was not a negative factor in appointing people to any office.

I am hoping you might be willing to say something positive which could be used on my book jacket. May I respectfully propose the following:

"The future of American Jewish life is important to all Americans, since American Jews have contributed so much to our nation's history. Alan's *Chutzpah* on behalf of Jews around the world has been an important force. [His views deserve careful consideration.]"

Anything like the above would be wonderful.

Keep up your extraordinary work on behalf of all the values we share.

Happy Chanukah and Merry Christmas.

Cordially

Alan M. Dershowitz
Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law

SPECIAL JUDAICA ARTISTS SECTION
Human Rights in Gaza • Thunder on Rabin's Right
Ketubot—Renegotiating an Old Contract

THE JEWISH MAGAZINE FOR THE '90s

OCTOBER 1992 / TISHREI 5753

MOMENT

Why Jews Should Vote for Me

by BILL CLINTON

by GEORGE BUSH



Why Jews Should Vote for Clinton

The 1992 presidential election should not even pose a close question for American Jews who care deeply about Israel and Jewish values. The Clinton-Gore ticket is one of the most strongly pro-Israel combinations in recent history. And

for those of us who believe that support for Israel is good for America and good for world peace, electing the Clinton-Gore ticket will serve the overall interests of the United States.

Moreover, President Bush has been the most stridently anti-Israel American president in recent history. Despite current efforts to revise history by claiming that Bush has helped Israel in numerous ways, the reality is that George Bush has never liked Israel. When he was vice-president, he generally aligned himself with the Caspar Weinberger wing within the National Security Council. As president, he and his then-secretary of state, Jim Baker, have tilted this nation's foreign policy away from support for Israel and toward a more pro-Arab and pro-Palestinian stance.

Perhaps the most destructive single act of perfidy toward Israel was the Bush administration's decision to renege—even if only temporarily—on its promised loan guarantees to help settle Russian immigrants. Never before has an American administration linked humanitarian aid—if loan guarantees to

a reliable borrower can even be called *aid*—to the disputed political policies of a sister democracy. The impact of the Bush administration's renegeing is beyond calculation, since it sent such a negative message to the tens of thousands of Russian Jews who were seriously considering *aliyah*. The message was that unemployment and housing shortages for new immigrants would continue indefinitely in Israel, and that they faced extremely bleak prospects for themselves and their families if they decided to uproot their lives in Russia.

Many Russian Jews, who might well have made *aliyah* had the loan guarantees gone through, undoubtedly changed their minds and decided to take their chances in Russia, despite continuing threats of instability and scapegoating of Jews. In my extensive work with Russian Jews, I have heard more than a few of them express reservations about moving to Israel on the basis of a fear that they would become unemployed and homeless. These Jews were counting on the loan guarantees to signal a change in what awaited them in Israel, and the Bush signal was a stop sign. Thus, one of the most important potential *aliyot* in the history of Zionism has been curtailed, hopefully only temporarily, in significant part because of the Bush administration's shortsighted decision.

Then there was the way President Bush dealt here at home with the conflict over the loan guarantees. When grass-root Jews from all over the country—your friends and families and mine—went to Washington to exercise their First Amendment right to "petition the government for a redress of grievances," President Bush leveled his infamous attack on Jews who came to lobby their representatives: While claiming to be "up against powerful forces," he described the situation by saying, "There were something like a



ALAN M. DERSHOWITZ

thousand lobbyists on the Hill working the other side of the question. We got one little lonely guy down here doing it." That ill-conceived statement generated a torrent of anti-semitic mail and phone calls to the White House, praising President Bush for finally standing up to "Jewish power." I do not accuse President Bush of antisemitism, but his com-

ment was surely insensitive to the reality that people who are antisemitic find support in any presidential expression that reinforces the canards of "excessive Jewish power" and Jewish "dual loyalty."

Nor has the Bush administration merely been anti-Shamir, as opposed to anti-Israel. Although relations may be improving somewhat following the June Israeli elections, the Bush administration's policies fly in the face of a nearly unanimous Israeli consensus on a wide range of issues, from the status of Jerusalem to the return of the Golan Heights and the entire West Bank, including even those portions of it that are crucial to Israel's security.

Clinton and Gore, on the other hand, have deep and long-term commitments to Israel. Senator Gore has been one of Israel's staunchest supporters in the Congress over the past 16 years. He has supported aid to Israel, opposed arms sales to Israel's enemies, opposed the granting of visas to Yasser Arafat and supported the loan guarantees to Israel. He has also been an important friend of Russian Jewry. Governor Clinton, too, has always been in Israel's corner, despite the fact that the state he has governed has a small Jewish population. As he said in a recent speech, "I have believed in supporting Israel as long as I have known anything about the issue." Governor Clinton and his wife visited Israel in 1981 with his pastor. He explained:

"For the last several years until he died, I was very much under the influ-

Why Jews Should Vote for Bush

Not by Henry Kissinger

We tried, folks.... Last June, as election fever was rising, we decided to ask two prominent, insightful public figures to write for **MOMENT** on why Jews should vote for each of the candidates—Alan Dershowitz for Clinton and Henry Kissinger for Bush.

Dershowitz said yes and the director of strategic planning of the Bush/Quayle Campaign agreed on the phone to work to obtain Kissinger's statement. On July 6, 1992, we wrote the Bush/Quayle Campaign with details regarding the length and due date for Dr. Kissinger's article and requested confirmation of the forthcoming article. Associate Editor Yosef Abramowitz received confirmation in our office by phone four days later.

Dershowitz submitted his statement on time, even doing a revision soon enough to meet our publication schedule.

The campaign told us that the Kissinger statement would be late. We were told, however, that he did have in his hands a draft article that needed revisions. There would be a delay while he worked on it. Our design deadline was long gone. Frequent calls from **MOMENT** led to assurances from the campaign office that Bush's distinguished Jewish supporter, Max Fisher, and the White House were urging Kissinger to get his piece to **MOMENT**. Don't call the Kissinger office, we were instructed; leave everything to us. Still no article.

Then, as the *Wall Street Journal* reported in an article on the Bush campaign on August 14, **MOMENT** was finally told by the Bush/Quayle Campaign—over three weeks after our deadline—that we would not receive anything from Dr. Kissinger. (Subsequent calls to Kissinger's office informed us that he never told anyone at campaign headquarters that he would write the article.)

Some say that we should never have believed the repeated assurances from Bush/Quayle headquarters that the promised article would come. We did. —S.F.S.

of Arab force will be able to defeat her militarily and when Israel feels secure enough to make concessions that will not endanger her security.

On other issues of concern to the Jewish community—the separation of church and state, civil liberties, a woman's right to choice—President Bush has been on the wrong side and Governor Clinton on the correct side. Most particularly, when it comes to the Supreme Court and the judiciary in general, the Bush appointments have been mediocre at best and disastrous at worst. The nomination of Clarence Thomas was bad enough, but when President Bush declared him to be the

ence of my pastor at a small Baptist church, or not-so-small church.

Little Rock, Arkansas. He was a close friend of Israel and began visiting even before the State of Israel was created. And when he was on his deathbed, he said to me that he hoped some day I would have a chance to run for president but that if I ever let Israel down, God would never forgive me."

Governor Clinton has castigated President Bush for his comments about the Jewish effort to lobby in favor of loan guarantees:

"I am very concerned about the damage that has been done to our relationship to Israel by the Bush administration.

President Bush's press conference on September 12 [1991] was one of the worst days in the history of our two nation's relationships. His callous remarks against the American Jewish community and its efforts to participate in our system of democracy were an affront to the basic right of all Americans to speak freely and to try to influence the political process.

"In the intervening months, this administration has pressured Israel relentlessly to make one-sided concessions in the peace process. It has ignored the cruel and crippling Arab boycott and other road blocks to peace in favor of focusing only on those things that Israel has done with which it disagrees. The administration has imposed conditions on loan guarantees to Israel while granting more than \$12 billion in loan guarantees to Arab nations, including Iraq, without one single condition.

"Its rejection of Israel's request for humanitarian assistance for hundreds of thousands of Russian immigrants has imposed new hardships on these innocent refugees seeking to begin new lives. This is no way to treat a steady friend, a staunch ally and a stable de-

mocracy, and, as president, I will put an end to it. Because of the developments in Israel, which are encouraging to all of us who hope for peace, this administration will now spend the next four months trying to make you forget the last four years. But you should not forget the cold shoulder and even the back of its hand the administration gave to Israel."

If you agree with me that President Bush has been bad for Israel, bad for Jews and bad for all Americans during his first term, just imagine what a disaster he could be during a second term—when he is not seeking reelection. A second-term president is not as constrained by domestic electoral considerations as a first-term president—and is thus far less responsive to constituents such as the Jewish vote and Jewish organizations. He can do what he really believes in foreign policy. And if his first term is any guide, what he believes about Israel does not bode well for Israel's security and for the prospects of peace in the Middle East. Peace in the Middle East will only come when the Arabs realize that Israel is here to stay and that no combination

most qualified lawyer in this country for nomination to the Supreme Court, he insulted the intelligence of all Americans. Even apart from judicial appointments, the Bush Justice Department has pressed for overruling Supreme Court decisions prohibiting religious prayer—almost always Christian in content—at public school events, has advocated the overruling of *Roe v. Wade* and has called for an anachronistic construction of the Bill of Rights that does not take into account the drastic changes that have occurred in this country since it was a primitive eighteenth-century revolutionary society in which only white, Protestant, land-owning males wrote the laws and voted for the lawmakers.

By every standard—Israel, Jewish values, civil liberties, the economy—the choice for American Jews in 1992 is clear: President Bush must not be given a second term during which he will be even worse for Jewish concerns and for the concerns of all Americans. We have a real alternative that will be good for Jews and for all Americans: President Bill Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore. ☐

© Alan M. Dershowitz 1992

TO: TODD STERN
EVELYN LIEBERMAN

FROM: JIM DORSKIND *JD*

DATE: December 19, 1996

COMMEMORATIVE PROCLAMATION REQUEST

Commemoration Title: Religious Freedom Day

Commemoration Date: January 16, 1997

Requestor Name: Dr. John Palo, Executive Director, Alliance for Universal Freedom of Religion Day 96 DEC 20 PM 5:07

Request Date: October 17, 1996

Congressional Support: None

Contact Telephone #: None

History:

- The President issued "Religious Freedom Day, 1996" on his own initiative on January 16, 1996.
- There was no request for a proclamation in 1995, and none was issued.
- The President issued "Religious Freedom Day, 1994" on January 14, 1994, at the request of Congress.
- President Bush issued "Religious Freedom Day, 1993" on December 9, 1992, at the request of Congress.

NOTES: The President should probably issue this proclamation given its history and his commitment to and interest in the subject of religious freedom.

Please indicate approval or disapproval of a PROCLAMATION, or another recommendation:

TDS *yes*
12.20.96

✓
EL _____

*did not
xerox all
- original
pkg given to
E. Lieberman*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 18, 1996 THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/20/96

MR. PRESIDENT:

Sally Katzen and Elaine Kamarck are recommending that you approve a final rule to change the date on which Social Security checks are mailed out for *new* recipients. Checks would be mailed on the second, third or fourth Wednesdays of each month (rather than on the third day, as is now the case), depending on a recipient's birthdate. The change wouldn't affect current recipients.

This is a customer service idea proposed last year by the Vice President. It is designed to relieve the crush that occurs every month -- burdening Social Security toll free lines, the U.S. Postal Service, and banks -- when 50 million checks go out all at once. When the proposed rule was published in the Federal Register, there was very limited comment, almost all favorable. AARP and the Paralyzed Veterans of America have not raised serious objections. Treasury, the Fed, the Post Office and the banking and business community are supportive.

Downside risk: the later monthly payments will generate income to the Trust Fund from the "float" -- some \$1 billion over five years -- and new beneficiaries could feel angry that this money wasn't ending up in their pockets, or cheated compared to current beneficiaries, who would still get paid on the third day of the month. **Leon does not object to the new rule, but strongly believes that congressional outreach must be done before any final decision to go ahead with the rule.**

Approve rule ☒ Approve contingent on
congr. consultation ☒ Disapprove ☐ Discuss ☐

Todd Stern *Todd*
Phil Caplan *Phil*

*4/24/97
Sally Katzen
Elaine Kamarck
Council on Social Security
to the President
12/20/96*

December 5, 1996

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/20/96

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT

FROM: ELAINE C. KAMARCK *EK* AND SALLY KATZEN *SK*

SUBJECT: SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENT CYCLING

BACKGROUND

In the spring of 1995, the REGO team and OMB undertook a review of SSA as part of the second comprehensive management review of the government. In discussing obstacles to even more successful customer service on the part of SSA, the Vice President heard from the SSA team that all monthly social security payments (about 50 million) are currently paid on the third of each month. This results in peak workloads for SSA and the banking and business communities. Currently, SSA's award winning toll free help line receives more than two million calls on the day after payments are received, compared with just over 400,000 calls per day during the rest of the month. The result is that SSA cannot serve the citizens as it should when they have questions about their checks. At the beginning of the month citizens hear busy signals all too often; by the end of the month the SSA toll free lines have excess capacity.

The burden of sending out so many checks on the same day (about 25 million payments are by check and the other 25 million are paid electronically) affects other segments of the economy as well. U.S. Postal Services' deliveries spike upwards of about 25 million one day each month. The once a month flood of deposits is so overwhelming that banks literally have to stop all other business and devote their entire operation to processing the payments. Criminals know that all Social Security checks are sent out on the same day and target fraud and theft.

Finally, SSA has made great strides in their 1-800 telephone service and in automation. They intend to retire the baby boom with no increase in the number of workers that they have now--because of the productivity increases they have achieved. Failure to even out the workload throughout the month in time for the baby boom will severely jeopardized their ability to retire the baby boom and improve customer service.

REGO RECOMMENDATION

The Vice President suggested to Commissioner Chater that it was time to change the one day a month system and even out payments over the entire month. The SSA team welcomed the suggestion and proceeded to conduct research, including focus groups, on the change. They found that as long as we did not change the date that checks were sent to current beneficiaries but started the new system for new beneficiaries only, future beneficiaries felt that it was worth making the change in order to achieve improved customer service.

The proposal was announced on April 12, 1995 by the Vice President as part of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Franklin Roosevelt's death. He noted that "Social Security is one of FDR's most important legacies to the nation" and that we would have "a system ready for the next century, providing world class service to its customers."

It made the front page of most national newspapers and of most national and local television shows. SSA readied their phone systems to receive hundreds of thousands of calls from current retirees who were assured that their payment date would not change. There were not negative stories.

THE RULE CHANGE

Shortly thereafter, SSA began working on all the things needed to change the rule, and by the time it was ready to put into the Federal Register for the required comment period, we were into 1996. Throughout the extensive public comment period, the rule received only 17 comments (a very small number for a major regulation change), virtually all of them were favorable. In addition, SSA conducted an outreach meeting at which only two organizations, AARP and Paralyzed Veterans of America, chose to attend. Neither raised any serious objections. Treasury, the Post Office, the Federal Reserve System and the banking and business community were strongly supportive.

DELAY OF THE FINAL RULE

Before the rule went final, however, Leon Panetta asked for a review. After extensive discussions, the Vice President agreed with Leon that finalizing the rule in the summer of an election year could invite political demagoguery by the Republicans. Given the importance of the rule to SSA, they too agreed that its final implementation should be delayed until after the election in order to make sure that it did not, in some way, become political fodder.

WISH TO GO AHEAD WITH THE RULE

We believe that it is now time to finalize the rule so that SSA can begin payment cycling with new beneficiaries sometime next year. However, given the sensitivity with which every change in Social Security is viewed, we felt it was best to review the pros and cons so that you are aware of any and all consequences.

Advantages (discussed above):

- better customer service;
- less fraud and theft;
- less burden on banking system and postal system;
- enables further improvements in the service given on SSA's award winning 1-800 telephone service;
- first step towards getting the system ready to handle the baby boom retirees.

Disadvantages:

- because new beneficiaries (who would have received their checks on the third day of the month after they turned 65) will now receive them on the second, third, or fourth Wednesday of the month--depending on their birthdates--the Trust Fund will save some money on "the float."
- "the float" is not big in terms of the size of the Trust Fund but it does amount to nearly \$1 billion in savings over the next five years because the numbers we deal with in SSA are so huge. We will not advertise the savings since the purpose of this change is customer service, not

savings. However, because this is a major rule, there is an accompanying cost-benefit analysis which would be available to anyone on request.

- if someone picks up on the saving issue it could result in new beneficiaries feeling they were "cheated" out of money owed them, even though there is no statutory requirement to make these payments on the third of the month. For each beneficiary, the lost interest income will be, on average, \$.25 per month. It could also result in politicians using this to say we are "cutting" benefits (a charge that we did not want to respond to in the midst of a political campaign).

- new beneficiaries may compare their payment dates with current beneficiaries and feel somehow "cheated." This could result in a situation similar to the "notch" baby situation that has plagued government for years.

DECISION

Go ahead with the final rule _____

Do not go ahead with the rule _____

Need more discussion _____

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/20/96

December 19, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: STEPHANIE STREETT

SUBJECT: SCHEDULING DECISIONS

CC: EVELYN LIEBERMAN

ACCEPT

Date of Event:

Description of Event:

1/7/97

Reception For the Women's Leadership Forum,
White House

1/17/97

Breakfast Reception For the U.S. Conference
of Mayors, White House

Jan. tbd

Meeting With Noach Dear

**Ron Klain says it is fine to do this meeting after the
first of the year.**

Jan. tbd

Meeting With Senator Kennedy

**The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the legislative
agenda for the upcoming year.**

PENDING

Date of Event:

Description of Event:

12/20/97

5 Minute Phone Call Interview With Michael Frisby
of the *Wall Street Journal*

Frisby is writing a piece on Walter Moseley.

1/7/97 - 1/10/97

OK

White House Event Honoring the 1996 Stanley Cup Champions, the Colorado Avalanche

The Avalanche will be on the east coast during this time.

1/21/97 - 1/23/97

Maybe

Speech at Opening Ceremony of the National Women's Business Center at the Small Business Administration, Washington, DC

1/25/97

Alfalfa Dinner, Washington, DC

1/28/97

Maybe

Carnegie Hall Gala in Honor of Isaac Stern, New York

The Main Hall auditorium will be dedicated in honor Of Isaac Stern's life-long dedication to Carnegie Hall.

Jan. tbd

OK

Meeting With Father Leo O'Donovan

He has asked to see you at some point in the future to discuss your second term.

Jan. tbd

OK

Photo With Alex Forger, Outgoing President of the Legal Services Corporation

2/13/97 - 2/14/97

*if you
need to
be there*

Visit the UCLA Academic Health Center, Los Angeles, CA

This center is a comprehensive cancer center. You could meet with cancer survivors and research staff which would highlight the Administration's efforts in cancer research, including tobacco and youth.

2/23/97 - 2/25/97

OK

Speech to the American Council on Education, Washington, DC

REGRET

Date of Event:

Description of Event:

1/12/97

Dedicate the Jewish Community Center's Newly Renovated Site "Center in the City," Washington, DC

1/27/97

Speech to Georgia Campaign For Adolescent Pregnancy
Prevention Conference, Atlanta, GA

Jan. tbd

(Town Hall Meeting at the Home of Weldon and Connie
Latham

not in Jan but
I prob. will go to
their home sometime

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 12-20

TO:  Lael Brainerd

FROM: Staff Secretary

Dan suggested
I send this to you
to prepare reply.

Thanks,
Tred

December 18, 1996

96 DEC 18 PM 6:06

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

One year ago today, the Administration announced a freeze on implementing the crossborder trucking provisions of NAFTA. Today, we still face a serious policy logjam. Your leadership is needed to find a fair and swift solution to this vital trade issue.

Mr. President, you courageously supported NAFTA in your first term because you knew it was good for America – good for the economy, good for business, and good for consumers. The NAFTA partnership is essential to our nation's future.

The freeze on crossborder trucking is not just a trucking issue. With over 85 percent of U.S.-Mexico trade moving by truck, NAFTA's overall success hinges on efficient crossborder trucking operations. Continued imposition of the freeze has strained our relations with Mexico, stymied resolution of other essential bilateral transportation issues, and denied the United States the benefits of expanded trade.

Like you, we are committed to moving traffic safely on our nation's highways and across our borders. However, the safety argument used to delay the border opening was based upon unsupported claims. Since the delay, state enforcement officials and the governors of the four Southern border states have said they are fully prepared to enforce the nation's safety regulations.

NAFTA promised to bring North American trade into the 21st century. You helped build the bridge that can bring us there. Now we are counting on your leadership to let us cross. Thank you for your help with this important matter.

Sincerely,

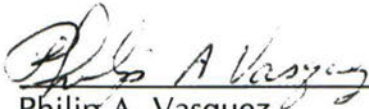


Thomas Donohue
President
American Trucking Associations



Edward Emmett
President
National Industrial Transportation League

The Honorable William J. Clinton
December 18, 1996
Page Two



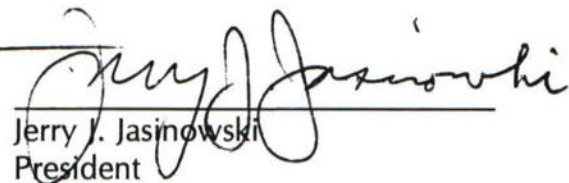
Philip A. Vasquez
President
Commercial Vehicle Safety
Alliance



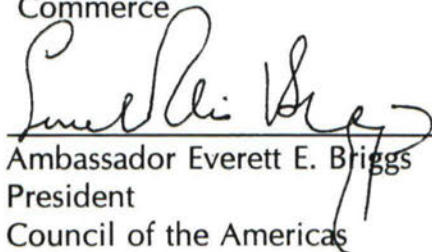
Albert C. Zapanta
Executive Vice President
U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce



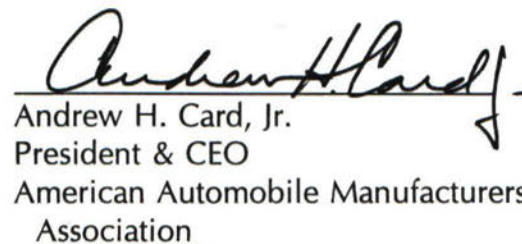
José Niño
President & CEO
U.S. Hispanic Chamber of
Commerce



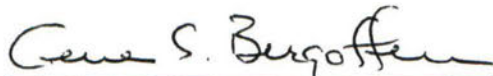
Jerry J. Jasinowski
President
National Association of Manufacturers



Ambassador Everett E. Briggs
President
Council of the Americas



Andrew H. Card, Jr.
President & CEO
American Automobile Manufacturers
Association



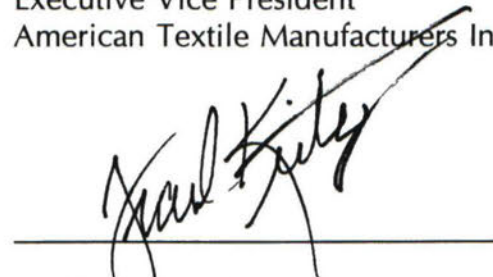
Gene S. Bergoffen
President & CEO
National Private Truck Council



Carlos Moore
Executive Vice President
American Textile Manufacturers Institute



Richard L. Lesh
President
U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Frank D. Kittredge
President
National Foreign Trade Council

The Honorable William J. Clinton
December 18, 1996
Page Three

The following individuals have also requested that their names be added as signatories to this letter:

Joel D. Anderson
Executive Vice President
California Trucking Association

Tracy Mullin
President
National Retail Federation

Richard Newpher
Executive Director
American Farm Bureau Federation

Vic J. Sheppard
Managing Director
New Mexico Motor Carriers Association

Terry Smalley
Executive Vice President
Arizona Motor Transport Association

William W. Webb
President
Texas Motor Transportation Association

**SIGNATORIES TO DECEMBER 18
LETTER TO PRESIDENT CLINTON**

Mr. Joel D. Anderson
Executive Vice President
California Trucking Association
11251 Beacon Boulevard
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 373-3500

Mr. Gene S. Bergoffen
President
National Private Truck Council
66 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 600
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 683-1300

Ambassador Everett E. Briggs
President
Council of the Americas
1310 H Street, N.W., Suite 690
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 639-0724

Mr. Andrew H. Card, Jr.
President & CEO
American Automobile Manufacturers
Association
1401 H Street, N.W., Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 326-5500

Mr. Thomas Donohue
President & CEO
American Trucking Associations, Inc.
2200 Mill Road
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 838-1800

Mr. Edward M. Emmett
President
National Industrial Transportation League
17800 N. Moore Street, Suite 1900
Arlington, VA 22209
(703) 524-5011

Mr. Jerry J. Jasinowski
President
National Association of Manufacturers
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite
1500 North
Washington, D.C. 20004-1790
(202) 637-3000

Mr. Frank D. Kittredge
President
National Foreign Trade Council
1625 K Street, N.W., #1090
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 887-0278

Mr. Richard L. Leshner
President
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
1615 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20062
(202) 659-6000

Mr. Carlos Moore
Executive Vice President
American Textile Manufacturers Institute
1801 K Street, N.W. Suite 900
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(202) 628-0099

Ms. Tracy Mullin
President
National Retail Federation
325 7th Street, N.W.
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(202) 783-7971

Mr. Richard Newpher
Executive Director
American Farm Bureau Federation
600 Maryland Avenue, SW, #400
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(202) 484-3600

Mr. José Niño
President & CEO
U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
1030 15th Street, N.W., Suite 206
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 842-1212

Mr. Terry Smalley
Executive Vice President
Arizona Motor Transport Association
2111 West McDowell Road
Phoenix, AZ 85009
(602) 252-7559

Mr. Vic J. Sheppard
Managing Director
New Mexico Motor Carriers Association
4809 Jefferson Street, N.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87109
(505) 884-5575

Mr. Philip A. Vasquez
President
Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance
5430 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 130
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 564-1623

Mr. William W. Webb
President
Texas Motor Transportation Association
P. O. Box 1669
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 478-2541

Mr. Albert C. Zapanta
Executive Vice President
U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce
1726 M Street, N.W., Suite 704
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 296-5198

Electricity: 33%

Natural gas: 53%

SOURCES: Census Bureau, Bloomberg Business News

0

J F M A M J J A S O N D

family as well while the two sides—and their law and investment bankers—have negotiated for control of the supermarket chain.

Last Monday, Dart executives took the first step toward splitting up the partnership by triggering an unusual “you buy me or I buy you” provision in the Shop partnership agreement. Under that provision, each partner can set a price for its stake in the company.

See SHOPPERS, E2, Col. 3

DIGEST

about 25 percent of its U.S. work force. Glenview, Ill.-based Zenith is controlled by a South Korean firm and has 12,000 employees in Mexico, who are not affected by the moves.

Best Buy, the nation's largest consumer electronics retailer, had a net loss from operations of \$1.8 million, compared with year-ago net income of \$17.8 million.

Computer Sciences Corp. received a five-year contract valued at as much as \$740 million from the Army. The job calls for the company, with Washington area operations based in Falls Church, to provide systems engineering and technical assistance at Army facilities.

Western Resources has offered to buy ADT in a \$3.5 billion cash and stock transaction that would transform the Kansas utility into the nation's top provider of

See DIGEST, E2, Col. 1

sell its USAir holdings. Page E3
ger reviews are revised. Page E3

Page E3
Page E3

TRENDLINES

Costly Miscalculations

By Steven Pearlstein
Washington Post Staff Writer

When President Clinton set out to reform the nation's health care system four years ago, the big question was how to pay for it. The answer the president came up with was that by injecting a dose of competition into the health care system, the government could generate enough savings to extend health insurance to 37 million Americans and still have money left over to help reduce the federal budget deficit.

Within the White House, these projected savings were the subject of intense debate among health policy czar Ira C. Magaziner and a number of skeptical economic and health advisers. And among Washington's health care cognoscenti, reactions to the

savings projections ranged from apprehension to ridicule.

“Fantasy,” declared Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.), then chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

Henry Aaron, an economist at the Brookings Institution, opined that the administration wouldn't “get within hailing distance of the kind of savings they are talking about.”

Liberals complained that savings of that magnitude would necessarily require “inhuman” cuts in health benefits to the elderly and the poor, while the insurance industry aired TV ads suggesting that such a financing scheme would inevitably lead to rationing.

On Capitol Hill, David S. Abernethy, Democratic staff director of the House Ways and

See TRENDLINES, E2, Col. 4

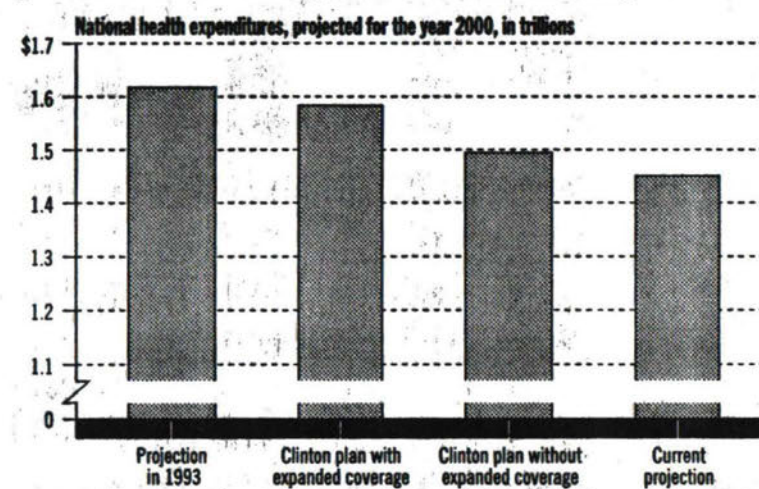
Boards/Guns



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12/20/96

There's Irony and Tragedy in Health System ‘Savings’

LOST OPPORTUNITY? In 1993, President Clinton was ridiculed for saying he could pay for universal health insurance by forcing the health system to become more competitive. Congress nixed universal coverage but competition came anyway—and is now expected to generate even more savings than Clinton was counting on.



SOURCES: Office of Management and Budget; Congressional Budget Office THE WASHINGTON POST



RITA DOVE
Commonwealth Professor of English

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
219 BRYAN HALL
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22903

December 18, 1996

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

Dear President Clinton:

'96 DEC 19 PM3:36

As you know, I thought it was a marvelous gesture to invite Maya Angelou to read a poem at your first inaugural. After all, literature as an art form has always had a leading role in defining our perspectives as individuals and as a people, and poetry in particular can capture the essence of our identities.

In my capacity as former U.S. Poet Laureate, please allow me to make a suggestion in the spirit of the tradition that President Kennedy began when he invited Robert Frost to read at his Inauguration, and that you continued so beautifully. I propose to invite Stanley Kunitz, in all respects the Grand Old Man of American Poetry, to read a poem at your second Inauguration. Mr. Kunitz, on whom you bestowed the National Medal of Arts at that memorable event in the White House when I had the honor to read a few of my poems in the East Room after dinner, would be uniquely qualified for this, and I am sure he would do a tremendous job.

I dare to call Stanley Kunitz, who is nearly as old as our century -- 92, and in excellent shape in every respect -- quintessentially American. A Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winner and former Consultant in Poetry at the Library of Congress (the position that is now called Poet Laureate), Mr. Kunitz continues to write and publish magnificent poems in the best American tradition -- complex and yet accessible. I believe that his choice as the Inaugural Poet would set numerous positive signals for our Nation.

I am sorry that I will not have the chance to meet you and Hillary at Renaissance in Hilton Head this year (family matters prevent me from attending), but I am looking forward to seeing you at the Charles Frankel Prize ceremony on January 9.

With my very best wishes, as always,


Rita Dove

FAX TRANSMISSION FROM THE OFFICE OF
RITA DOVE

Commonwealth Professor of English

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
219 BRYAN HALL
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22903

BARBARA LeVAN,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
TEL. (804) 924-6618
FAX (804) 924-1478

Ann Stock, Social Secretary, The White House

To: _____
202-456-6235 December 18, 1996
Fax #: _____ Date: _____

1 of 2 pages

Dear Ann,

I am faxing you, on the next page, a letter to the President. Would you be so kind and see to it that it is brought to his attention? Thank you!

I hope you're thriving, and wish you a joyous holiday season.

Best wishes,



Rita Dove



T H E
E C C O
P R E S S

'96 DEC 13 AM 10:00

*Just to
Harry
at copy to
Diane*

FAX COVER SHEET

TO Nancy Hernreich
DATE December 10, 1996
FAX 202 456-6703
FROM Daniel Halpern
FAX [609] 466-4706
PAGES 2 [including cover sheet]

*Through too easy
someone needs
to reply asap
to Halpern -
not*

Dear Nancy,

We were all very dismayed to learn that the POET LAUREATE OF THE UNITED STATES will not be delivering the Inaugural Poem. Nevertheless, I thought I try one more thing: As you can see from the enclosed, Mr. Hass was on the front page of the *New York Times* yesterday, in an article written by the important journalist Francis X. Clines. Mr. Hass is certainly the most visible poet in America, and should really be given a chance to write *something* for the inauguration. Would it be possible for him to compose a poem that could be read along with the poem by Miller Williams? -- which would acknowledge the government post Mr. Hass he now holds? "A POEM FROM THE POET LAUREATE OF THE UNITED STATES" sort of thing.

I hope the President will agree to this; many poets around the country are very concerned that not involving Robert Hass makes a mockery of the Poet Laureate position.

Let me know if I can provide anything. And thanks for your ongoing patience (and goodwill!) in this matter.

Regards,

Daniel Halpern

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

VOL. CXLVI . . . No. 50,636

Copyright © 1996 The New York Times

NEW YORK, MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1996

\$1 beyond the greater New York

A Poet's Road Trip Along Main Street, U.S.A.

By FRANCIS X. CLINES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 — Sometimes he hits upon a lyrical scrap of haiku amid the hum of the crosstown subway. But essentially the Poet Laureate of the United States has put aside consulting his muse in favor of proselytizing Rotarians.

"I thought an interesting thing to do would be to go where poets don't go," explained Robert Hass, heading into his final four months in one of the odder capital jobs, one that he has shaped to become more like a missionary drummer in the provinces of commerce than as a performing bard in celebrity coffeehouses.

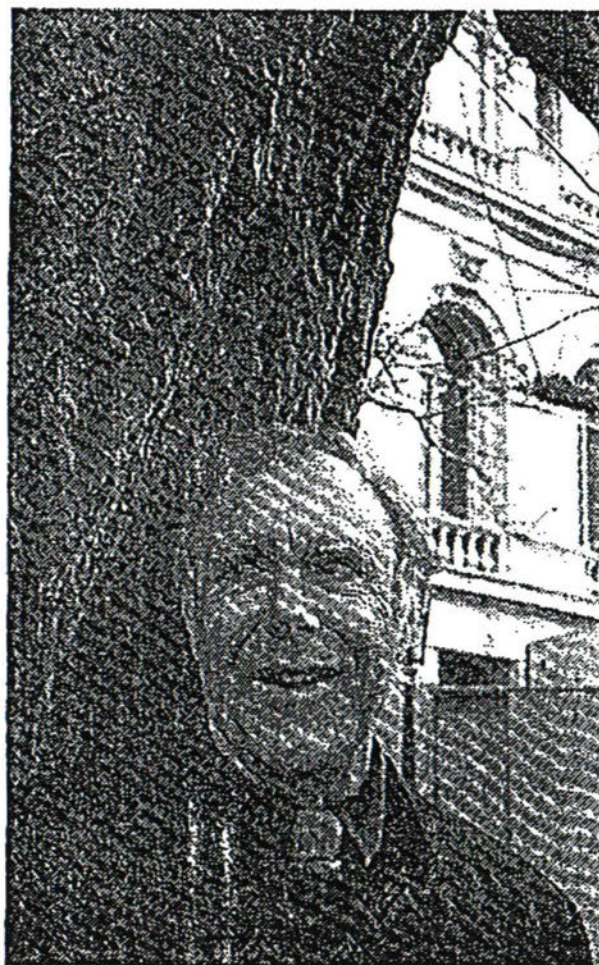
"I thought the thing to talk about is not poetic 'uplift,'" he said, "but the fact that basic literacy in this country is in a serious crisis."

With that, Mr. Hass, a celebrated 55-year-old poet and critic, offered a vivid scholarly synopsis of the decline of American literacy as he paid a rare visit to his office at the Library of Congress. He celebrated the "heroic" literacy levels of a century ago, when there was a national hunger to read and general literacy was at 95 percent. He deplored the bleak evidence of current life that finds half the eighth graders in Texas reading at the fourth-grade level.

"This is the Office of Poetry and Literature; this has to stop," Mr. Hass said, in a desperate emphasis of his concern as he sat in solitude in his attic office overlooking the Capitol dome and described his attempt to be an activist laureate.

Ostensibly, he is one of the more powerless loners among the legions of appointees in Washington. But Mr. Hass chose to resort to the basic stuff of his art, mere words, and to spend much of the last two years in the laureate's post traveling to business and civic meetings across the nation with a straight-prose alarm that literacy standards have been plummeting.

"One thing I found out about this country was that there are thousands of business and service organizations



Paul Hestros/The New York Times

Robert Hass, the nation's poet laureate, is campaigning to improve education and increase literacy.

Continued on Page B8, Column 3

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
219 BRYAN HALL
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22903

RITA DOVE
Commonwealth Professor of English

THE PRESIDENT AND SEN

12-20-96

BARBARA LeVAT
EXECUTIVE SECRETAR
TEL (804) 924-66
FAX (804) 924-14

December 18, 1996

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

Dear President Clinton:

As you know, I thought it was a marvelous gesture to invite Maya Angelou to read a poem at your first inaugural. After all, literature as an art form has always had a leading role in defining our perspectives as individuals and as a people, and poetry in particular can capture the essence of our identities.

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I dare to call Stanley Kunitz, who is nearly as old as our century -- 92, and in excellent shape in every respect -- quintessentially American. A Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award winner and former Consultant in Poetry at the Library of Congress (the position that is now called Poet Laureate), Mr. Kunitz continues to write and publish magnificent poems in the best American tradition -- complex and yet accessible. I believe that his choice as the Inaugural Poet would set numerous positive signals for our Nation.

I am sorry that I will not have the chance to meet you and Hillary at Renaissance in Hilton Head this year (family matters prevent me from attending), but I am looking forward to seeing you at the Charles Frankel Prize ceremony on January 9.

With my very best wishes, as always,

Rita Dove
Rita Dove

Ent through to
Se - alert

Handwritten note: "Kunitz's a fine guy"

Capricia
Shut to POTUS ASK
ann

FAX TRANSMISSION FROM THE OFFICE OF
RITA DOVE

Commonwealth Professor of English

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
219 BRYAN HALL
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22903

BARBARA LeVAN,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
TEL (804) 924-6618
FAX (804) 924-1478

Ann Stock, Social Secretary, The White House

To: _____
202-456-6235 December 18, 1996

Fax #: _____ Date: _____

1 of 2 pages

Dear Ann,

I am faxing you, on the next page, a letter to the President. Would you be so kind and see to it that it is brought to his attention? Thank you!

I hope you're thriving, and wish you a joyous holiday season.

Best wishes,



Rita Dove

12-06-96 08:48AM FROM JIM&DIANE BLAIR TO 12024566703

P001

~~ICKES~~

Rebecca
Fax to Jim
at 2:00 PM
done
PMB

sent to Barry
Inaug.

'96 DEC 19 AM 10:01

DIANE D. BLAIR

Phone: (o) 501-575-3356
(h) 501-521-1066

Fax: (o) 501-575-2642
(h) 501-521-8373

To:

Nancy Herweich

Number of pages including this page

2

Wanted to make sure
you got this -

Diane

12/05/1996 10:20

5815756844

UA PRESS

PAGE 01

'96 DEC 19 AM 10:00

Miller Williams has served as Visiting Professor of U.S. Literature at the University of Chile and Fulbright Professor of American Studies at the University of Mexico. For seven years he was a member of the poetry faculty at the Bread Loaf Writers Conference. In 1976 he was made a fellow of the American Academy in Rome.

He has represented the State Department on reading and lecturing tours throughout Latin America, Europe, and the Middle and Far East. He has published stories, translations, poems, and critical essays in most of the seminal journals and mass circulation magazines in the United States and many in Canada, Latin America, and Europe. His own poems have been translated into several languages.

He is Director of the University of Arkansas Press, University Professor of English and Foreign Languages at the University of Arkansas, past-president of the American Literary Translators Association and served as Latin American editor for The Reader's Encyclopedia.

His work has been recognized by the Henry Bellman Poetry Prize, the Amy Lowell Award in Poetry presented by Harvard University, the New York Arts Fund Award for Significant Contribution to American Letters, the Prix de Rome for Literature of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a Doctor of Humanities degree from Lander College, a Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Hendrix College, the Poets' Prize, the Charity Randall Citation for Contribution to Poetry as a Spoken Art, the John William Corrington Award for Literary Excellence, and the Academy Award for Literature of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and has been named Socio Benemerito dell'Associazione of the Centro Romanesco Trilussa in Rome.

His twenty-six books include a history of American railroads (with James Alan McPherson), critical works on John Ciardi and John Crowe Ransom, translations from the Spanish of Nicanor Parra and from the Romanesco of Giuseppe Belli, Patterns of Poetry: An Encyclopedia of Forms. How Does A Poem Mean? (with John Ciardi), and several volumes of his own poems, the most recent of which are Living on the Surface: New and Selected Poems. Adjusting to the Light. and Points of Departure. Spoken Arts has released on LP and cassette Poems of Miller Williams, on which Williams reads twenty-three poems from the span of his career. Miller Williams and the Poetry of the Particular, a book of critical essays by thirteen scholars and poets, is available from the University of Missouri Press.

12-11-96 10:23AM FROM JIM&DIANE BLAIR

TO 12024566703

P001

Takes

'96 DEC 19 AM 10:01

DIANE D. BLAIR

Phone: (o) 501-575-3356
(h) 501-521-1066

Fax: (o) 501-575-2642
(h) 501-521-8373

To:

Nancy Heneich

Number of pages including this page

2

Re: *file on
poet for me
please*

3.10.1990

*cc
Herald of Halpern
Harry letter*

December 11, 1996

To: Nancy Hernreich, Harry Thomasson
From: Diane Blair
Re: Halpern letter

Sorry that The Great Poet Controversy continues. Since I think the more poetry the better, I see no reason why The Poet Laureate should not also read a poem, somewhere, sometime during Inaugural festivities -- Jim Dickey read a poem at some black-tie affair during the Carter inauguration -- but I think it would be ludicrous to have poems read by both Miller Williams and Robert Hass at the inaugural itself. (As though the Arkansas pal couldn't do a sufficient job, so a real poet was necessary as a backup. You've seen Miller's bio.)

Just for everybody's information, being Poet Laureate does not entitle one to writing an inaugural poem. Robert Frost, whom the world remembers at Pres. Kennedy's inauguration, was not the Poet Laureate. Maya Angelou, who did such a magnificent job at Pres. Clinton's first inauguration, was not the Poet Laureate. Republicans don't do poetry, so there's no precedent there. The Poet Laureate (I think the title was changed by Congress in recent years to sound more like the British) is appointed by the Librarian of Congress to be a poetry consultant. The President-elect should be able to choose a poet of their own choice if they wish a poem to be read at their inauguration.

And if, like this particular President, they happen to actually like poetry, then let many flowers bloom and ask the Poet Laureate to deliver a poem at some other inaugural occasion.

96 DEC 19 AM 10:00

96 DEC 19 AM 10:00

Diane

*cc
Herald of Halpern
Harry letter
Lillian
out letter
through
go go
ask for
copy
cc Jim
March
for info
for letter*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 12/20/96

TO: Ruth Englin / Bob Nash

FROM: Staff Secretary

This letter is from a friend
of the President's, and Nancy
Wernreich wanted to be sure
that you saw it, ^{and} forwarded
a response.

Thank you. Helen Howell

Elyse Lanier

December 17, 1996

Ms. Betty Curry
Office of the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

'96 DEC 19 PM4:00

Dear Ms. Curry:

Enclosed please find a letter from me to the President relative to a presidential appointment for Arthur Schechter. I would greatly appreciate your assistance in conveying this letter to the President and a copy to Mrs. Clinton. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Elyse Lanier
Elyse Lanier

Elyse Lanier

Josh

December 17, 1996

'96 DEC 19 PM4:00

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Congratulations on your great victory! You and Mrs. Clinton have worked very hard, and we all appreciate your efforts.

I am writing on behalf of Arthur Schechter. He is one of Texas' finest! He is an outstanding citizen, a wonderful attorney, wonderful husband, wonderful father - a most devoted, loyal, hard working friend and supporter.

You won't find anybody that would work harder than "Butch" on your behalf. I personally have known him for many many years (as a teenager!) He adores you and Hillary - he truly wants to serve you. I know that being an Ambassador would mean more to him than anything at this point in his life, and I hope that you will give him strong consideration for the position that he so desires.

Besides being so smart, he has a wonderful personality, great sense of humor, very outgoing - well, he would first fit the "job description" perfectly!

Thank you so very much for your consideration of this fine Houstonian.

Warmest regards,

Elyse
Elyse Lanier

cc: Mrs. Hillary Clinton

Elyse Lanier

*Just
body*

December 17, 1996

Mrs. Hillary Clinton
Office of the First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

Congratulations on your great victory! All of us who campaigned for you in this area are proud and pleased to have been part of your victory.

I am writing this letter of support for a presidential appointment for Arthur Schechter. Arthur has been an inspiration and a role model for so many people in Houston for his remarkable record of service, civic leadership and dedication. I personally have known him for many years since I was a teenager! I know that being an Ambassador would mean more to Arthur than anything at this point in his life, and I hope that the President will give him strong consideration for the position that he so desires.

Thank you so very much for your consideration of this fine Houstonian who greatly respects you both, and please accept our very best wishes for a distinguished, productive, and happy term of your office.

Warmest regards,

Elyse Lanier
Elyse Lanier

12-20-96

December 19, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
THE FIRST LADY

'96 DEC 19 PM 3:36

CC: ANN JORDAN
TERRY MCAULIFFE
DEBBIE WILLHITEFROM: Harold Ickes 

SUBJECT: The Inaugural Gala

Gary Smith would like to know if any of the following are unacceptable to you as possible performers at the Inaugural Gala. Given the press of time for Gary to contact talent for the Gala, I would appreciate your reaction by tomorrow (Friday) at the latest.

- Bette Midler
- David Copperfield (CBS considers "huge" draw)
- Baby Face... with Kenny G
- James Taylor/ Martin Luther King tribute with Eastern H.S. Choir
- Morgan Freeman
- Santana

*OK with
feeling of her don't care?
any other performers come?
can think of?*

THE RESIDENT HAS SEEN

1120196

18 December 1996

99 DEC 19 PM 4:55

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT
THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE FIRST LADY
MRS. GORE

CC: Leon Panetta
Evelyn Lieberman
Erskine Bowles
Maggie Williams
Ron Klain
Skila Harris
Don Baer
Ann Jordan (w/o enc.)
Terry McAuliffe (w/o enc.)
Deborah Willhite (w/o enc.)

From: Harold Ickes

Re: "An American Journey: Weekend on the Mall",
Saturday and Sunday 18 and 19 January

Attached is the most current draft of the proposal for the activities on the Mall during Saturday and Sunday of Inaugural weekend. Entitled "An American Journey", this draft, dated 17 December 1996, summarizes the proposed physical set up and the various proposed events and activities to take place on the Mall. In addition, museums adjacent to the Mall are being encouraged to put on exhibits and sponsor events that fit in with the overall thematics of the events on the Mall.

Quint Davis, the long time producer of the New Orleans Jazz Festival, and who "produced" the events on the Mall for the 1993 Inaugural, has been retained by PIC 97 to "produce" these two days on the Mall.

The basic focus of the Mall events will be a celebration of America's families and its children. Through music, exhibits and other presentations, these events will focus on America's past, present and future.

It is contemplated that there will be 7 large tents between 7th street and 14th street. The tent on each end will present a history of American music from its earliest days to the present.

The next tent in from each music tent will be for food, presenting regional and other American gastronomic delights.

Of the center 3 tents, one will be focused primarily on education and younger children.

The second of the 3 center tents will focus on computer and information technology.

The third of the 3 center tents will present top level actors, entertainers, noted authors and others presenting American history and culture through various ways.

Please call if you have any questions or wish to discuss.

16 December 1996

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12/20/96

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT
THE VICE PRESIDENT

CC: Leon Panetta
Erskine Bowles
Maggie Williams
Ron Klain

From: Harold Ickes *W*

Re: Debra DeLee

'96 DEC 19 PM4:54

*Copy
copied to [unclear]
12-20-96 [unclear]
Nash
[unclear]
T.*

On 13 December I met with Debra DeLee who is very interested in joining the Administration, preferably in the White House, although she would certainly consider an appropriate position in an agency. She is winding down the Convention and will be occupied in that regard until the end of January, after which she will no longer be on the payroll.

For many years she worked at the National Education Association where she rose to the position of Director of Government Relations. As such she was responsible for NEA's legislative operation, political operation, and policy as it related to NEA's legislative agenda. She was also responsible for managing NEA's political action committee, then the third largest in the country. As Director for NEA she managed a large staff and several budgets.

During January 1993 she became the Executive Director of the DNC, at the very strong urging of the White House. She became Chair of the DNC during November 1994 after David Willhelm resigned. In early 1995 she became CEO of the 1996 Democratic National Convention.

She has considerable managerial talent. She did an excellent job both at the DNC and at the National Convention. In my view, 1996 was the best Democratic National Convention in decades. In addition, she has close links with a number of key groups which are critical elements in the base of the Democratic Party. At the request of the White House, she has taken on several very difficult jobs, at times when few others showed the slightest interest, and performed very well at each. Given her talent, her handling a number of very difficult situations at the DNC, her outstanding performance in connection with the Democratic National Convention, and her unquestioned loyalty to this Administration, I urge that she be given every possible consideration.

United States Department of State

*Under Secretary of State
for Economic,
Business, and Agricultural Affairs*

Washington, D.C. 20520-7512

'96 DEC 20 11:15
December 18, 1996

Dear Mr. President:

Serving you and Secretary Christopher as Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs has been a great honor and a great personal pleasure. After four wonderful years, it is now time for me to return to my home and my family in New York. I am thus submitting this letter of resignation.

Participating as a member of your Administration in the creation of a new international economic policy has been the most gratifying experience of my professional life. With your leadership, we have used economic policy to underpin our traditional goals of peace and security in the Middle East, Russia, and Haiti. Through the Uruguay Round, NAFTA, APEC, the Summit of the Americas and the New Trans-Atlantic Agenda, we have built a new economic architecture and laid the foundation for U.S. prosperity and influence. In your Administration, the State Department in Washington and our embassies around the world have supported U.S. businesses -- and thus U.S. jobs -- as never before.

Thank you for this unique opportunity. I wish you and your new team even greater success in the coming four years.

Sincerely,


Joan E. Spero

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


DORSEY, no
for
reply

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

12-20-96

Todd,

The enclosed is referred for
your information.

G. Thomas for

G. Timothy Saunders
Executive Clerk

*we have provided a copy
to Dorskind to prepare reply*

ET