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# Indonesia's Cynical Crackdown

Few people outside Indonesia have heard of Muchtar Pakpahan, but his problems are a good index of how the country's democrats are faring. The Government is carrying out the most severe persecution in years of independent organizations and leaders such as Mr. Pakpahan, who is the head of the nation's largest independent labor union.

There has been little international outcry, and most of that from trade unions, partly because the Suharto Government is currently not bothering Megawati Sukarnoputri, the daughter of Indonesia's first President and the leader of the opposition to President Suharto. When the Government engineered Ms. Megawati's removal as head of her party last June, Indonesians rioted. Afterward, she was repeatedly called in for questioning. Since she has come to symbolize Indonesia's democracy movement, as Daw Aung San Suu Kyi does in Myanmar, her safety is taken internationally as a sign that all is well.

The current trials of political opponents are evidence of the Government's anxiety over Indonesians' support for the opposition, especially because parliamentary elections are scheduled for May. The Government arrested Mr. Pakpahan on July 30, just after the riots, and charged him with inciting them. Unable to find evidence for the charge, the Government is instead trying him for subversion. He faces a long prison term and possibly the death penalty for criticizing Mr. Suharto's rule, Indonesia's brutal occupation of East Timor

and the nation's economic gap between rich and poor.

Mr. Pakpahan is important not just as a political activist but as head of an independent trade union in a country that has repeatedly used troops to put down attempts by workers to strike or unionize. His trial is one reason the United States Trade Representative is sending a delegation to investigate labor rights in Indonesia next month. This is a welcome step, as Washington's desire for a good business relationship with Indonesia has led it to minimize abuses of workers there.

The Clinton Administration should resume a review of whether Indonesia's labor practices make it ineligible for a trade status that currently allows it to export some products duty-free to the United States. Besides Mr. Pakpahan, 12 labor or student leaders are being tried on charges of subversion. The Government is putting pressure on Mr. Pakpahan's lawyer, Bambang Widjojanto, to testify against his client. The Government is also monitoring the activities and auditing the books — in one case going back to the 1970's — of environmental and human rights organizations.

Harassment of non-governmental organizations is not the kind of repression the world gets excited about. Americans, especially, like to think of political events in terms of their effect on people we have heard of. But the real measure of a country's political health is the fate of those the world does not know.

WSC-Sandy → admin

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THE NEW YORK TIMES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1997

Rahm (B) 12/22/97

Look like a  
good idea - How  
can the lawyers  
oppose choice?  
Br

## Ending the Litigation Gravy Train

Trial lawyers contribute heavily to state and Federal politicians, largely because they want to block reforms that would eliminate excessive litigation that follows automobile accidents and other mishaps. For the most part they have succeeded, but their gain is the average driver's loss. Americans pay punishingly high premiums, much of which land in lawyers' bank accounts. Now, however, bipartisan proposals in Washington and New Jersey would give drivers, especially those who are poor, substantial relief.

Most earlier proposals to cut down litigation costs would have restricted a victim's right to sue for recovery of "pain and suffering" damages — intangible losses, say from permanent disfigurement, that exist over and above monetary costs like medical bills and lost earnings. The trial lawyers have swatted most of the plans aside with the justifiable argument that denying people access to the courtroom is not the American way.

But a bipartisan group in the Senate, led by Mitch McConnell, Republican of Kentucky, and the Democrats Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York and Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, is backing a smarter idea. Last week Gov. Christine Todd Whitman of New Jersey jumped on board.

Under these proposals, no driver would be deprived of his right to sue. But drivers could choose between a policy that allows them to seek damages for real as well as intangible losses, and a cheaper policy that that would, regardless of fault, quickly reimburse them for all monetary costs but would eliminate the option to sue for non-monetary losses.

Drivers who make this litigation-saving choice would reap huge savings. One study put the savings

at about 30 percent of typical premiums. For families in New Jersey, that saving could be \$400 per year. The new option would benefit low-income families, which sometimes spend one-third of their annual income on car insurance. Their savings could reach 45 percent of their current insurance premiums.

The sponsors of "auto-choice" make a good case. No one buys home insurance policies that cover the pain and suffering of having one's house burn down. No one buys health insurance policies that cover the pain and suffering associated with open-heart surgery. Given the choice, many families will choose to give up the luxury of suing others for non-monetary losses in exchange for saving hundreds of dollars each year that can be spent on food, clothes and other essential needs.

Under the system handed us by trial lawyers, every driver is forced to pay for policies that provide a largely unlimited right to sue. Of course, once policyholders are involved in an accident, however minor, they have every incentive to sue for anything they can get. But even though this system has driven insurance premiums through the roof, especially in New Jersey, the rewards are uneven. Accident victims with monetary losses above \$25,000 typically collect only about half of their damages. Victims whose losses exceed \$100,000 recover less than 10 percent.

The new proposals would give families the option of forgoing suits for non-monetary losses in exchange for quick and complete reimbursement for every blow to their pocketbook. Everyone would win — except the lawyers.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1997

② Guns → worth a discussion  
about what we can do

## Health Care Costs Edging Up And a Bigger Surge Is Feared

A1

By MILT FREUDENHEIM

Medical costs, which have risen less than inflation for the last three years, are beginning to inch ahead and may be poised for a sharp rise, especially for small businesses, according to employers, actuaries and industry consultants.

Employers across the country said their health care costs were headed for a 4 percent increase this year, according to a survey released yesterday. And some health care experts project 5 to 10 percent growth in medical costs in 1998.

Prices are under growing pressure as managed care companies strive to make up for the thin profits they tolerated while holding down prices and pushing for new members.

And the underlying forces that drove up health care costs in the 1980's are still powerful: the aging population, compounded now by middle-aged baby boomers who require more medical services; more expensive medical technology like bone marrow transplants to help cancer patients, and new drug combinations, like those for AIDS that can

cost \$12,000 a year.

Costs might also rise fractionally from new Federal and state laws that prohibit some cost-cutting efforts, such as insurers' limiting of hospital stays after childbirth.

Hospitals and doctors in some cities, meanwhile, have increased their ability to demand higher fees by forming alliances and merging into bigger entities.

Higher prices are expected to fall especially heavily on private employers as the Government squeezes Medicare payments to hospitals, doctors and health maintenance organizations. Many H.M.O.'s have been getting relatively generous Medicare fees, which make it easier to offer low prices to employers and workers in the private sector.

Employers predicted that their medical costs would grow by 4 percent in 1997, a jump from the 2.5 percent average rise last year, according to a survey of 3,200 employers with 10 or more workers pub-

lished yesterday by the Foster Higgins benefits consulting firm.

The combined annual premiums paid by employers and employees averaged \$3,915 an employee in 1996, compared with \$3,821 in 1995 and \$3,741 in 1994, which was the only recent year when premiums fell (by 1.1 percent), the Higgins survey said.

The Labor Department said consumers' medical costs rose 3 percent last year while the overall Consumer Price Index was up 3.3 percent.

Aetna Inc., for example, one of the biggest health insurance companies, said its premiums were 3 percent to 6 percent higher than last year in managed care plans and up to 10 percent higher for traditional fee-for-service insurance. Premiums had been flat during 1996 at both Aetna and its U.S. Healthcare unit.

Some who track medical costs say the increases, which are already reflected in managed care premiums in some regions, may surge in 1998 as a number of inflationary trends come together. "With the changes in Medicare, we might see a return to double-digit health care inflation in 1998," said John Erb, a principal at Foster Higgins and the chief analyst for the survey.

Peter Reilly, an actuary with Milliman & Robertson, another benefits consulting firm, said his calculations projected increases of 3 to 5 percent this year and 5 to 8 percent in 1998.

"Everything we hear is that prices are beginning to tick up again to high single digits and even double digits," said Rob Fowler, executive director of the Council of Smaller Enterprises, a coalition of 12,500 employers in northeastern Ohio.

Beverly Sloan, executive director of health benefits at U.S. West, the Denver-based telecommunications company, said the company's health costs rose 5 percent in 1996, after three years of increases of 2 percent or less.

"Medicare is the 800-pound gorilla," she said. If the Government clamps down on Medicare to reduce Federal spending, that will increase the pressure on insurers and health care providers to raise charges to private employers, she said.

Trying to fend off that possibility, U.S. West, like many big companies, is requiring its health plans to offer three-year contracts.

Bob Dankmyer, a vice president of Marriott International, said his company was demanding "multiyear rate guarantees" that would limit

increases to the growth in the Consumer Price Index.

"If you are big and strong and a good negotiator, you pay less," said Kenneth S. Abramowitz, a health care analyst at the Sanford C. Bernstein & Company securities firm.

But small employers may not be able to stop the H.M.O.'s and providers of health care from "slam-dunking the private sector," as Ms. Sloan put it. BB Graphics, a printing company with seven employees in Merrillville, Ind., had a 25 percent rise in its costs last year and expects a further 7 percent increase in May, said William Stack, the owner.

Stuart Altman, a health policy professor at Brandeis University, said, "We haven't broken the cycle of people wanting more health care." As evidence, he pointed to the popularity of health plans that still allow members to select physicians and influence their own care.

"Most managed care companies have done a decent job of getting discounts from providers," he said, "but they have not fundamentally changed the practice of medicine. With managed care, health care costs are going up more slowly, but they are still going up."

Mr. Fowler of the Ohio coalition said, "We may have squeezed out all that we can through managed care."

And Mr. Abramowitz said: "The pendulum is swinging. The news media tell you to consume more health care. You have your rights to the drugs and doctors you need. Drug companies are advertising direct to the consumer and hospitals are marketing themselves." All the pressure to consume adds to costs, he said.

In New York State, higher hospital charges following rate deregulation may add 2 percent to costs in 1997, for a total increase of 6 percent, said David Snow, an executive vice president with Oxford Health Plans. Paul Philpott, a senior vice president of Physicians Health Services, said deregulation might raise premiums beyond 6 percent in New York.

Professor Altman of Brandeis said the return of medical inflation would reflect "the old insurance cycle: they overestimate their ability to control costs and lose money for a couple of years, then they make it up by raising their premiums."

Mr. Reilly of Milliman & Robertson said insurance companies and H.M.O.'s "don't forecast the future growth of costs very well."

"They look at their past experience," he said. "It's like they were driving a car with their eyes on the rearview mirror."

Continued on Page D20, Column 1

# Health-Care Costs May Be Heading Up Again

By RON WINSLOW

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Corporate America's three-year winning streak in the war on health-care costs may be coming to an end.

Since 1994, the migration of the nation's work force into managed-care plans has enabled employers to hold the annual growth of their medical costs below 3%—less than the overall inflation rate and a stunning accomplishment after a decade of annual increases of as much as 19%.

But sagging profits at managed-care companies, consolidation throughout the

## MEDICINE

health-care industry and consumer resistance to some cost-cutting strategies are rekindling price increases. Adding to the pressure: an aging work force and expensive new drugs and technologies.

"The record of a lack of cost increases at health plans is about to end," says John Erb, a principal at benefits consultant Foster Higgins and the chief author of its annual health-cost survey, a widely followed barometer of employer health costs. The latest edition of the survey, released today, shows the average cost of health benefits per employee rose just 2.5% last

year, to \$3,915 for coverage and care. But Mr. Erb forecasts a higher overall rise in the coming year—perhaps 4%—and argues that costs could grow 10% in 1998. "What's going to happen going forward will be a lot tougher for employers," he says.

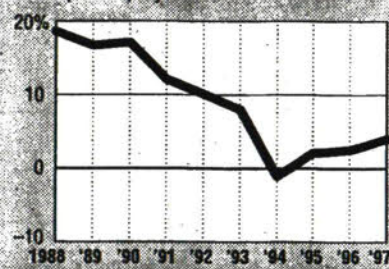
And employees. A resurgence of health-cost inflation could jolt workers and their families, who have already had to adjust to restrictions on their choice of doctors and access to specialists because of managed care. Employers are likely to further curb coverage for retirees, especially those who retire before they turn 65 years old and can qualify for Medicare. Many active employees will have higher co-payments for doctor visits.

Moreover, active workers with so-called point-of-service plans, which let them seek care outside a managed-care company's specific doctor network for an additional charge, could face much higher out-of-pocket expenses.

Certainly no one is predicting an immediate return to the 15%-plus inflation of 1988-90, and plenty of experts contend that any increases for the foreseeable future will be modest. "We're seeing an uptick, but I don't think it's going up much," says Jon Gabel, senior manager at KPMG Peat Marwick, a consulting firm.

## Rebounding Costs

Average annual increase in health-benefit costs per employee



Source: Foster Higgins

\*Projection

In Houston, Ralph Smith, president of the Houston Healthcare Purchasing Organization, acknowledges that "the downward trend may have at least leveled off." But he thinks talk of a return to significant cost increases "may be two parts reality and three parts fear."

But other experts say some health-care providers will be forced to raise their prices as a matter of survival. Employers "have been spoiled by four great years," says Kenneth S. Abramowitz, health-care analyst at Sanford C. Bernstein & Co. "Any

[managed-care company] that doesn't raise prices 5% in 1998 will be out of business," he says.

Ameron Inc., a Pasadena, Calif., maker of construction materials, switched most of its 2,300 employees to managed care three years ago and "achieved significant savings," says Gary Wagner, chief financial officer. But for this year, the company's main provider, Prudential Insurance Co. of America, raised rates more than 7%. Ameron shopped around but couldn't find a better price. "There is no place else to go," Mr. Wagner says.

Any return to higher costs is certain to vary by market and affect smaller employers, which have less negotiating clout, more. But signs of increased price pressures are beginning to emerge even in California, one of the nation's most competitive health-care markets.

Foundation Health Corp., a large health-maintenance organization in Rancho Cordova, Calif., dropped coverage for 8,000 employees at the University of California, effective Jan. 1, after the university refused to accept a proposed increase. "We were losing a million dollars a year on that account under the pricing structure we

Please Turn to Page B5, Column 4

Continued From Page B1

had, so after several discussions with them we just agreed we wouldn't be able to continue," says a spokesman. Foundation has been putting through rate increases of 2% to 3% for big plans and 5% to 6% for smaller groups, he says.

"Everybody is trying to get their rates up," says Dale L. Waters, president of Benefit Insurance Services, a Sacramento, Calif., insurance broker that handles small accounts. "All of a sudden in September we started seeing prices moving up in the 3½% to 20% range, after three years of lower or flat premiums."

PruCare of California has raised rates 12% in Northern California for groups with fewer than 50 members, Mr. Waters says. Blue Shield of California has raised rates on some preferred-provider plans and has raised patients' out-of-pocket payments for

doctor visits to \$15 from \$10 for some plans and to \$25 from \$15 for others.

Elsewhere, Aetna Inc., which operates in all 50 states, set rate increases ranging from 3% to 7% across its product line for 1997. After two years of flat or declining insurance premiums, "there is a catch-up period" that must occur, says Joseph Sebastianelli, co-president at Aetna.

Many HMOs bid aggressively to win new members over the past two years just as medical costs were beginning to rise. That led to a decline in their profits—and stock prices—in the 1996 second half, setting the stage for higher rates. In addition, HMOs are under less price pressure as mergers reduce some of the competition, says John Garner, president of Garner Consulting Inc. in Pasadena, Calif.

Higher medical costs, especially for drugs, are also pushing premiums higher. New medicines to treat depression, diabetes and high cholesterol have helped increase prescription budgets by more than 10% at many HMOs. At Foundation Health, protease inhibitors, the new AIDS drugs, have "added two percentage points to our drug budget, even though we have only a few hundred members taking them," says Michael Cartier, president of the HMO's pharmacy-benefit unit.

A lull in the HMO sign-up boom could also reignite health-care costs. In 1996, for the first time in the 11 years of the Foster Higgins survey, the percentage of workers in traditional HMOs didn't rise, remaining at 27%. Meanwhile, the more costly point-of-service plans grew to cover 19% of workers, up five percentage points.

Another cost booster: Many HMOs, under fire, have begun to back away from limits on hospital stays and strict "gatekeeper" policies that restrict access to specialists. "HMOs have gotten hurt by offering more freedom at the old prices," says Sanford Bernstein's Mr. Abramowitz. "If society wants more freedom, society has to pay for it."

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-22-97

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1997

Chris Jennings  
What do you think?  
see you at 10  
PR

## New Research Bolsters Case for School Choice

By HOWARD L. FULLER

The big news about Milwaukee's pioneering school choice program is supposedly that a Wisconsin judge struck it down.

But there is a more important development, one not yet reported: New research has found "quite large" gains in math scores for the low-income, mostly minority students in Milwaukee's choice schools. Long after last week's ruling is appealed, the significance of the new research will be felt. It's why I believe choice eventually will be as successful in the courtroom as in the classroom.

The new research is from Cecilia Elena Rouse, an assistant professor of economics and public policy at Princeton University and a research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Hers is the second study in five months to find positive outcomes from Milwaukee's six-year-old program. The other was by a team from Harvard University and the University of Houston.

Ms. Rouse's findings are especially significant because her independent research set a higher threshold for measuring academic success than did the Harvard-Houston team. The magnitude of the math gains surprised her, she said: Her findings, confined to one program in one city, "absolutely" support the need for more school-choice experiments.

A review of earlier research helps define the importance of Ms. Rouse's work. University of Wisconsin political scientist John Witte evaluated Milwaukee's program from 1990 to 1995. He found high parental involvement and satisfaction and was positive about the discipline, leadership and teacher morale in choice schools. He said choice gave new opportunities to families with very low income and to stu-

dents who were among the lowest performers in the Milwaukee Public Schools. These findings largely have been eclipsed in the media by his separate conclusion, now much in dispute, that choice students showed no academic gains. While choice opponents for years have seized on this to claim that choice "doesn't work," Mr. Witte's data were unavailable for independent review until 1996.

Harvard's Paul Peterson, a distinguished political scientist, questioned Mr. Witte's comparison of low-performing, low-income choice students with more advantaged, higher-performing Milwaukee Public Schools students. When Mr. Witte released his data, Mr. Peterson and Houston's Jay Greene performed an independent analysis. They say Mr. Witte erred by not comparing randomly selected choice students with those who had applied for choice but were randomly rejected. Using the latter comparison, the Harvard-Houston team found significant math and reading gains for students in the choice program at least three years.

Ms. Rouse also began her research last year, when Mr. Witte's data became available. Her study puts forth her independent analysis of the Milwaukee data and sheds light on important questions raised by Messrs. Peterson and Greene's report. First, is choice effective? While Messrs. Peterson and Greene studied students in the program for at least three years, Ms. Rouse imposes a tougher standard. She analyzed all students selected for choice, whether they attended a private school for two years, one year or not at all. She says this is the most comprehensive measure of choice's effect on eligible students.

Against this more demanding test, Ms. Rouse says: "I find the Milwaukee

Parental choice program . . . likely increased math scores by 1.5 to two percentage points a year. . . . [R]eading scores were quite mixed. . . . When I total the math and reading scores, I estimate that [choice] students gained approximately 1.3 percentage points a year."

Using the Harvard-Houston comparison (third- and fourth-year choice students with those who were rejected), Ms. Rouse agrees that math gains cited by Messrs. Peterson and Greene are "statistically significant." She does not concur that their reading findings are significant.

Ms. Rouse addresses the question of the appropriate comparison to make to determine if gains have occurred. She says the random acceptance and rejection feature of Milwaukee's program theoretically allows a near "idealized experiment," a conclusion consistent with Messrs. Peterson and Greene's. Significantly, she also compares choice students with the better-off sample of Milwaukee Public Schools students (Mr. Witte's preferred comparison) and still concludes that choice students achieved math gains.

The math gains cited by Ms. Rouse are, she says, actually somewhat stronger than Messrs. Peterson and Greene's. With scores for students entering choice at about the 39th percentile, sustained gains of 1.5 to 2.0 points a year are a major achievement in U.S. education. Considering the choice program's greater high parent satisfaction and involvement, it is reasonable to hypothesize that many of these youngsters will graduate from high school and attain other successes.

As a former school superintendent, I know that had the gains cited by Ms. Rouse occurred in a public school experiment, the educational establishment

would have arisen as one to hail their significance. Educators would be scrambling to take credit for a program that might reduce the academic gap between low-income, mostly minority students and more affluent children.

In this case, I predict a different reaction. Despite Ms. Rouse's findings, despite her call for more choice experiments and despite positive findings from Messrs. Peterson and Greene, choice opponents will intensify efforts to stop existing Milwaukee and Cleveland programs and to block new programs in other states. They will turn the word "accountability" on its head, claiming that to be accountable private schools must come under the regulatory burden that has stifled urban public schools.

Ms. Rouse and Messrs. Peterson and Greene correctly call for more experiments and studies to draw firmer conclusions. Among other things, these studies could address their differing views on choice reading scores. Messrs. Peterson and Greene have performed a new analysis that they say reconfirms the positive reading outcomes.

Meanwhile, new national data show that the public school gap between low-income and more advantaged students is persistently and unacceptably large. Milwaukee's choice program has become one of the best efforts anywhere to show that more educational opportunities might be a way to close this gap. Our courts and elected officials need to pursue every path to let this experiment continue.

*Mr. Fuller is a distinguished professor of education at Marquette University and director of the university's Institute for the Transformation of Learning. From 1991 to 1995 he was superintendent of the Milwaukee Public Schools.*

To Be Read  
What do you  
Think?

THE NEW YORK TIMES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1997

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-22-97

# The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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## The Politics of Reconciliation

Inaugural addresses often evoke a sense of triumph and a vision of battles to come. For lovers of such sailing rhetoric, President Clinton's address yesterday was distinctly earthbound. But it was also notable for its ennobling appeal to conciliation and what he called "a new spirit of community for a new century." The overarching theme of the entire ceremony, in fact, was of racial healing, drawing from the celebration the same day of the Rev. Martin Luther King's birthday. The selection of speakers such as the Rev. Jesse Jackson at a morning prayer service and a series of inclusive religious and musical events during the day were especially appropriate for the swearing in of Mr. Clinton and another Southerner, Vice President Gore. Dr. King's message was that Southern politicians could one day become the healers rather than promoters of what Mr. Clinton called the "constant curse" of racism in American history.

Looking beyond race, Mr. Clinton appealed for an end to partisan squabbling in Congress. That was exactly the right sentiment at a time when, paradoxically, the nation's unusual run of economic prosperity has been accompanied by rising bitterness and resentment, cutting across racial, cultural and political lines.

But there was also an element of strategy in Mr. Clinton's plea, which came after a week in which he called for a resolution to House Speaker Newt Gingrich's ethics case, and awarded a Medal of Freedom to Senator Bob Dole. His actions challenged Mr. Gingrich and Trent Lott, the Senate majority leader, to join his crusade against "petty bickering" or emerge as defenders of gridlock.

For government to work, of course, it needs to regain the people's trust. The President's only reference to the scandals of the last year came when he looked toward a time when "the people will always speak louder than the din of narrow interest." These were perfunctory words for a public hungering for cleaner politics.

To offset its more plodding passages, the speech contained a fine sense of history, as if the President were attempting to respond to some of the memorable phrases and moments of his predecessors. Sixteen years ago, for example, Ronald Reagan declared in his first Inaugural Address: "In this present crisis, government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem." Mr. Clinton updated that moment with a nice populist flourish when he said: "Today we can declare that government is not the problem, and government is not the solution. We the American people — we are the solution." He was clearly savoring the consensus in the last election that government is something more than the enemy of Americans.

The President's appeals for racial harmony sprang in part from a central accomplishment of his first term. By tackling welfare and gun control and presiding over a decline in crime, he has eased the ugliness of race in American politics and restored the Democrats' authority on racial issues. We continue to feel that the welfare law, if left as Mr. Clinton signed it, will hurt the poor. But if he keeps building on what he has done, he can carve a revitalized consensus in support of jobs and education for those on welfare.

Mr. Clinton waited until the end of his speech to mention his "bridge to the 21st century." More interesting was his invocation of other turns of the century in American history. The transition from the 18th to the 19th century brought a continent conquered and tamed. The transition to the 20th was more similar to what Americans face today. Rising economic inequality and ethnic diversity in the country led to the Progressive Era and the government activism that Mr. Clinton seeks to revive. History was a reminder, then, that for all the President's desire for harmony, it is government — and in these next four years a mixture of Presidential determination and Congressional cooperation — that will make his dream succeed or fail. \*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DATE: 1-22-97

TO: Jack R.

FROM: Staff Secretary

Any view on  
this?

*[Signature]*

'97 JAN 22 AM 11:47

20 January 1997

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

From: Harold Ickes   
Re: Kimba Wood (Federal Ct. Appeals, 2nd Circuit)

Mr. President, there are 3 vacancies on the federal court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Judge Amalya Kease is the only woman currently sitting on that court. Despite what occurred in the past, I very strongly urge that you nominate federal district court judge (Southern District, NY) Kimba Wood for one of those positions. (She was "sponsored" for her current position by Senator D'Amato.) I urge this because she has been an outstanding district court judge, she will be a renowned appellate judge, and she is very much in the tradition of your judicial appointments.

I understand that her divorce from Michael Kramer has been finalized. I am confident that the tabloid sensationalism about her a year and a half ago was just that -- tabloid sensationalism. It in no way tarnished her personally or the excellent professional reputation she enjoys.

Judge Wood has the support of a number of distinguished second circuit court judges for this position who know her work and admire her abilities, including: Senior Judge James L. Oaks (Dem. VT, appointed by President Nixon); Judge John M. Walker (President Bush's cousin, appointed by him); Judge Pierre Leval (appointed by you); and your friend Judge Richard Arnold.

Her intellect and personal qualities are of the highest. She would be an outstanding appointment.

1-22-97

Lee -

If checked  
ones are OK with  
you, then fine with  
us Phil

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

✓ =  
Nancy's  
preference

William J. Clinton ✓

William J. Clinton ✓

William J. Clinton

William J. Clinton

William J. Clinton

William J. Clinton

William J. Clinton

BILL CLINTON

✓ = Nancy

Bin Clinton .

Bin Clinton

Bin Clinton ✓

Bin Clinton

Bin Clinton

Bin Clinton ✓

Bin Clinton ✓



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

January 17, 1997

JAN 17 4:51 PM '97

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: KATHLEEN A. MCGINTY *preliminary for*

CC: LEON PANETTA  
ERSKINE BOWLES

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
1-20-97

RE: CEQ WEEKLY REPORT

BISON

*Q-eri* As I stated last week, the bison at Yellowstone National Park have been leaving in search of food, and ranchers fear that the bison are carrying brucellosis. Seventy more bison have been sent to the slaughterhouse as a result of the extreme weather conditions in the Yellowstone National Park. The Superintendent of Park has sent a letter to Governor Marc Racicot (R-MT) asking that we enter into Federal-State talks about how to resolve this issue without the destruction of more bison. Indications are that the Governor Racicot is willing to consider options, and that we are likely to get a reply to the letter early next week agreeing to look at options. Options range from feeding the bison in the park to leasing non-federal lands for foraging. The solution will probably be a collage of several options. I am hopeful that we are on the path to a solution early next week. I will keep you posted.

NATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVE ALASKA

This week the Administration announced that Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt, would begin a planning process for the northeastern portion of the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska to examine whether any areas are appropriate for oil leasing and whether any areas require additional protection for wildlife or other resources. The planning will include preparation of an environmental impact statement, will involve all interested stakeholders, and is expected to be completed in about 18 months. We began consideration of this issue because of renewed oil industry interest in the area and the concerns expressed by Governor Tony Knowles (D-AK). We worked hard with the Governor's office, and were able to make this announcement in time for the Governor to discuss it in his State-of-the-State speech last Tuesday.

Because the process will be open to input from all stakeholders, it does not presume the outcome and could result in additional wildlife protection. As a result, the environmental community was generally supportive, as was the oil industry (although they would have preferred an immediate lease sale). This decision does not affect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, which is a completely separate area. The National Petroleum Reserve has been set aside as a potential petroleum source since 1923.

## THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

THE PRESIDENT HAS  
1-20-97

✓  
C. Chou  
Yesterday I transmitted to you a Progress Report prepared by the President's Council on Sustainable Development. The report contains a recommendation that the Administration "create a metropolitan policy that recognizes the interdependence of cities and suburbs in our metropolitan areas and reflect the understanding that this interdependence extends to economic viability, environmental quality, and social equity." This recommendation is entirely consistent with a report supporting "metropolitan strategies" that Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Henry Cisneros, released last fall. These reports represent a growing consensus that to revitalize our communities we must develop metropolitan approaches that identify the common ground between city and suburb. Such strategies would seek to grow small business, provide access to transit, clean up brownfields, move people from welfare to work, improve public schools, and spur home ownership.

## HOMESTEAD AIR FORCE BASE TRANSFER

✓  
Following, consultation with Mr. Panetta, I announced today in Florida the Administration's response to environmental concerns that have arisen in connection with the proposed transfer and reuse of Homestead Air Force Base. Our policy was developed through extensive consultations among White House and agency staffs, including Intergovernmental Affairs, NEC, OMB, the Departments of Defense, Interior and Transportation, and EPA. There was considerable media interest in the announcement.

We have adopted a phased approach that, in effect, separates the decision to transfer the base from the decisions about how the base will be redeveloped -- particularly whether and how a second runway might be built and used. This approach represents a middle course that, by its very nature, will not satisfy extreme viewpoints, but should appropriately reconcile tension between efforts to strengthen the economy of Dade County and protect the environment.

In cooperation with Marcia Hale, CEQ performed pre-announcement outreach to environmental groups, Metropolitan Dade County Mayor Alex Penelas, Governor Lawton Chiles, Lt. Governor Buddy MacKay, and the South Florida Water Management District. These parties offered varying degree of support for our approach; none opposed it.

After summer  
strategic planning  
for Dade County  
work on transportation  
for

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

DATE: 01/22/97

NOTE FOR: ANDREW CUOMO

The President has reviewed the attached, and it is forwarded to you  
for your:

Information ☒

Action ☐

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo  
Department of Housing and Urban  
Development

VIA SPECIAL MESSENGER



Thank you.

Staff Secretary  
(x6-2702)

cc:

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 18, 1997

20197

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HELEN HOWELL *Helen*

SUBJECT: Recent Information Items

We are forwarding the following recent information items.

**Bill Daley memo to Erskine Bowles on management reforms at Commerce.** Daley proposes that the Department: 1) Suspend trade missions for 90 days, and develop rules to determine when and where missions will go, the criteria for selection of companies to participate, and who makes those decisions. *Erskine would like to see this accomplished in a shorter time period. Perhaps a 60-day suspension, and the adoption of rules within 30 days;* and 2) Reduce the number of political appointees in the Department mainly within the Special Assistant and Confidential Assistant categories, as well as by reorganizing the International Trade Administration (reducing the number of divisions from four to three). *Erskine notes that if Daley doesn't reduce the number of political slots by 50, Congress probably will, and he stresses the need to focus on an overall reinvention plan to both save the Commerce Department, and more effectively utilize it.*

**Sperling memo on child health investments and Medicaid.** *Child health.* Your budget includes a new 5-year, \$8.5 billion investment to cover uninsured children. Chris Jennings and Nancy-Ann Min believe it will cover 4-5 million uninsured children by the end of 2000, when combined with your Workers Between Jobs Health Initiative.

*Medicaid.* Although your child health initiative is likely to be popular, base Democrats, governors, liberal health advocates and providers will be less enthusiastic about your \$22 billion Medicaid reduction which uses a per capita cap and disproportionate share payment cut to achieve the savings. However, your proposal will protect the guarantee of Medicaid, provide more coverage for uninsured children, provide states with flexibility, and have a budget safeguard that ensures that outyear spending does not rise too quickly. Leon, Erskine, Chris, Nancy-Ann, and Gene have started discussions with the governors and the AARP. *Gene includes a Sec. Shalala memo, and one by Chris and Nancy-Ann.*

(C) Emanuel follow-up on various questions. *Letter from Sheldon Hackney.* Rahm believes we should seek Hackney's assistance on reaching out to historians. *Cabinet Report note about Brady Law.* You highlighted the two cases involving domestic violence. Rahm will publicize these if you'd like, but urges caution. "We cannot afford to make this issue more volatile with police groups than it already is right now." *Eli Segal memo.* Rahm and Bruce met to discuss Eli's memo, and plan to meet with Eli and

ok  
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1  
(B) Alexis about it. **Harris Wofford memo.** One option is to do a radio address on citizen service. Rahm talked with Bruce, and they both agree that national service must have a defining mission such as education -- all citizens can contribute to the education of our children. **George Will piece.** Rahm thinks "micro-solutions to end macro-problems" should be in future talking points. He sent Will a piece from the Harvard Crimson that discusses a similar issue and attaches a copy here for you.

cc: ~~Palmer~~  
(B) **Myers memo on bombings of women's health clinic and new survey.** Betsy received a number of calls about your quick response to the bombings in Atlanta. She notes that just as the bombings were taking place, Planned Parenthood, the Feminist Majority, and the National Abortion Federation were releasing a new survey showing the high level of violence that continues to plague family planning clinics. Although the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act has helped somewhat, 29.5% of the nation's clinics faced severe violence in 1996, and 45.8% experienced some form of violence, harassment, or intimidation. The choice advocates recommend implementing a comprehensive plan like that developed to address the church burnings, and re-classifying acts of violence against clinics as acts of domestic terrorism.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN  
1-20-97

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

DATE: 01/22/97

NOTE FOR: BILL DALEY

The President has reviewed the attached, and it is forwarded to you  
for your:

Information ☒

Action ☐

The Honorable Bill Daley  
Department of Commerce

VIA SPECIAL MESSENGER



Thank you.

Staff Secretary  
(x6-2702)

cc:

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                                | DATE       | RESTRICTION      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| 001. memo                | From Harold Ickes and Doug Sosnik re: DNC Officers (3 pages) | 01/14/1997 | Personal Misfile |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
Staff Secretary  
Todd Stern  
OA/Box Number: 8789

### FOLDER TITLE:

Chron Files: Wednesday, January 22, 1997

2019-0774-S

rs3349

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

1-22-97

'97 JAN 21 PM 2:33

January 20, 1997

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

CC: THE VICE PRESIDENT  
ERSKINE BOWLES  
SANDY BERGER  
BOB NASH  
DEBRA DELEE

FROM: Harold Ickes *HB*

SUBJECT: Debra DeLee

*HB*  
*we need to help her*  
*BS*

✓ This follows up on our several conversations about Debra DeLee. As you know, I think she has done an outstanding job in connection with everything the Administration has asked of her, including as Executive Director of the DNC (for which she resigned one of the very top positions in the National Education Association where she had worked for many years) at the very strong urging of the Administration; as Chair of the DNC; and as CEO of the 1996 Democratic National Convention -- the best run Convention in my memory.

Although she was interested in again becoming Chair of the DNC, that was not to be. Other than a position in the White House (which also apparently is not to be), there are few jobs in the Administration she is particularly interested in.

In the alternative, she is now very interested in being nominated for an ambassadorship. Specifically, she is interested in one of the following:

Barbados  
Costa Rica  
Uruguay  
Chile  
Portugal  
Luxembourg  
Trinidad/Tobago

No one has been more loyal to you personally (beginning early in 1992 she managed NEA's considerable political resources on behalf of the Clinton campaign) or your Administration. She has risen to every occasion. Few are more deserving. I very strongly urge that she be given every possible consideration.

---

## DEBRA DELEE

412 Eleventh Street, S.E.

Washington, D.C. 20003

Office: 202.314.2295

Home: 202.543.2176

---

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

Twenty years of successful government relations, political strategy, political organization development, management and leadership. Institutional management, media relations, legislative, political, policy, and fund-raising skills. National political party management, state executive, congressional relations and professional association experience.

### CAREER HISTORY

#### *Democratic National Convention Committee*

**Chief Executive Officer, 1995-1997.** Designed, developed and managed entire organization required to produce the enormously successful 1996 Democratic National Convention attended by 20,000 delegates and guests and 15,000 members of the media. Operating with a budget of \$50 million, assembled and led 13-member executive team and 400 person paid and volunteer staff and many local contractors that performed and managed all functions required for preparation and conduct of the 4-day convention including logistics, construction, production, housing, credentials, transportation, administration, national/international press relations, creative programming and community relations.

Managed all convention development and production aspects to satisfy needs and preferences of The White House and elected officials. Negotiated and managed strategic working relationships with the City of Chicago as well as the national and international press corps.

Worked closely with Chicago business community to ensure optimum impact of the convention's \$120 million economic benefit, which included creative community investment and loan programs, as well as expanded contracting opportunities for minority-owned, woman-owned and small businesses through creative bank loan programs and non-traditional funding sources.

Deployed a \$4 million, state-of-art communications program composed of satellite radio, TV and innovative internet programming that enabled convention access and non-delegate participation for many millions of voters. A convenient *Communications Mall* near the convention floor enabled an unprecedented 376 televised interviews and 400 radio actualities with elected officials and other prominent Democrats and the maiden internet programming resulted in approximately four million hits on the convention web site and 32 internet chat sessions.

### *Democratic National Committee*

**Executive Director and Chairman, 1993-1995.** As Executive Director, managed day-to-day operations, \$42 million annual budget and staff averaging 200 persons. Hired, Supervised and coordinated activities of 10 DNC Division Directors for fund-raising, communications and media relations, research, constituency outreach, technology, administration, budget/finance, campaign/elections and legal. Also served as DNC liaison to all constituencies including local elected officials, corporate donors, state party chairs, Governors, Members of Congress and The White House.

Significant accomplishments included budget debt reduction requiring staff downsizing from 250 to 150 persons; increased contributions from large donors and direct mail; increased involvement and participation with mayors, governors and other intergovernmental groups.

Appointed by President Clinton to position of **DNC Chairman** after party losses in November of 1994 with responsibility for maintaining organizational order and continuity until the election of new chairmen. Participated with The White House Deputy Chief of Staff in selection of new chairmen; helped negotiate roles and procedures for the new chairmen and supervised leadership transition. In addition to routine duties of Chairman, acted as chief DNC spokesperson and maintained ties with elected officials, donors, state party chairs, Trustees, Business Leadership Forum members and similar groups in order to assure smooth leadership transition.

### *National Education Association*

**Director of Government Relations, 1990-1994.** Directed legislative policy, lobbying and political operations for 2.2 million member national professional association. Supervised a staff of 60 persons and managed a annual budget of \$8 million.

**Director of NEA-PAC, 1983-1994.** Determined appropriate allocation of \$5.5 million political action committee budget consistent with NEA objectives during each campaign cycle.

**Associate Director, Government Relations, 1986-1990.** Responsible for all NEA political activities. Supervised a staff of 20 persons and managed a budget of \$4 million.

**Political Action Manager, 1984-1985.** Responsible for political program planning and implementation of strategies required to advance NEA objectives. Managed both staff and budgets to assure effective use of resources.

**Political Education Specialist, 1981-1983.** Designed, developed and implemented all political education training programs.

### *Office of Governor Bob Graham, State of Florida*

**Special Assistant to the Governor, 1978-1981.** Served on Governor's management team and policy council with duties as political issues advisor; Executive Director of Governor's Council on the Status of Women; Director of the Florida Office of Voluntary Citizen Participation; liaison to Florida Commission on Hispanic Affairs and Florida Council on Indian Affairs. Special assignments included formation of Governor's Commission on the

Status of Women; supervision of federal grant for the Florida Office of Voluntary Citizen Participation after preparing winning federal grant proposal; refugee issues coordination and represented Governor during the Mariel Boat Lift.

*Florida Teaching Profession-National Education Association, Tallahassee, Florida*  
Political Director, 1976-1978. Responsible for all aspects of political operations as well as lobbyist for education and labor issues.

*Broward County Classroom Teachers Association, Broward County, Florida*  
Uniserve Director, 1974-1976. Responsible for contract bargaining and enforcement.

*Glendale Heights, School District, Glendale Heights, Illinois*  
Teacher, 4th Grade, 1970-1974.

#### EDUCATION, HONORS AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| College:          | University of Wisconsin, Madison<br>B.S. with Honors, Speech & Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Languages:        | Read French and Hebrew                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Civic Activities: | National Advisory Board, Center for National Policy, 1992-94<br>Trustee, Citizens Research Foundation, 1991-94<br>National Advisory Board, Emily's List<br>Board of Directors, Women's Campaign Fund, 1983-92<br>Vice Chair, Democratic National Committee, 1993-Present.<br>Presidential Inaugural Advisory Committee, 1992<br>Democratic National Convention Site Selection Committee, 1992/96<br>Democratic National Platform Drafting Committee, 1992/96<br>At-large Member, Democratic National Committee, 1991-92<br>Board of Directors, Save Our Security, 1990-92<br>Board of Directors, American Assoc. of Political Consultants, 1988-90 |
| Honors:           | John A Wilson Award for Community Service<br>(With Stevie Wonder and Kweisi Mfume)<br>1994 Democrats 2000 Leadership Award<br>(With Congressman David Bonior and Richard Trumka)<br>Democratic Governors Service Award, 1994<br>1995 Communicator of the Year, United Jewish Appeal<br>Selected by <i>Campaigns and Elections Magazine</i> as one of<br>"74 Women Who Are Changing American Politics"                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

1-22-97  
From the Oral  
Send a WSC?

BRAZILIAN EMBASSY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Yes ☒

No ☒ Reply  
ASAP

No. 013

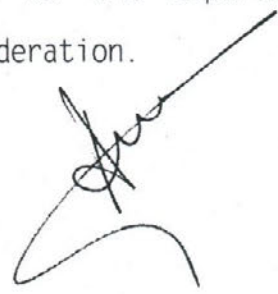
C.  
from Phil Caplan  
Staff Sec Ofc.

1/22/97  
Per Phil - Please  
keep on credenza -  
original w/WSC  
C.

The Brazilian Embassy presents its compliments to the Department of State and, in response to the plea conveyed by Mrs. Viviane Waltrick, a Brazilian citizen, whose daughter Joviane was recently killed in an automobile accident, has the honor to request that the attached letter be forwarded to President William Clinton.

2. The transmittal of Mrs. Waltrick's letter by the Brazilian Embassy is grounded in humanitarian reasons and does not represent any intention on the part of the Brazilian Government to interfere in the ongoing talks that are allegedly taking place between the United States and the Republic of Georgia regarding the incident.

The Brazilian Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of State the assurances of its highest consideration.



Washington, D.C., January 15, 1997



1997 JAN 21 PM 2:45

ESW/1.B.8/97

The Embassy of the Republic of the Sudan presents its compliments to the Department of State, Office of Protocol, and has the honor to enclose herewith a New Year's Greeting Card to The President of the United States of America, First Lady, Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Daughter, Chelsea, from His Excellency Mahdi Ibrahim Mohamed, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Sudan to the United States of America.

The Embassy of the Republic of the Sudan avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of State, Office of Protocol, the assurances of its highest consideration.

1-22-97

From the Oval  
Send to WSCP?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Washington, D.C.

January 02, 1997

C

From Phil Caplan  
Staff Sec Off.

1-22-97  
From the Oval  
Send a WSC

BRAZILIAN EMBASSY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Yes ✓

No Reply  
PSA

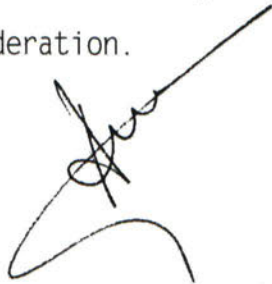
No. 013

C.  
From Phil Caplan  
Staff Sec Ofc.

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The Brazilian Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of State the assurances of its highest consideration.



Washington, D.C., January 15, 1997

600 Sign

97 JAN 17 PM 5:06



RECORDING FOR THE BLIND & DYSLEXIC

January 8, 1997

Ritchie L. Geisel  
PRESIDENT

Mr. Franklin S. Reeder  
Assistant Director for General Management  
OEOB 350  
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Reeder:

I am writing to request a Presidential proclamation declaring the week of May 4 through May 10, 1997, to be **National RFB&D Record-A-Thon Week**. During that week, **Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D)** will be conducting its second National Record-A-Thon with participation by its 30 recording studios and 4,800 volunteers across the United States. As a national nonprofit organization, RFB&D provides recorded and computerized educational books to students and adults who are print-disabled. We have more than 75,000 books in our C.V. Starr Master Tape Library and expect to add 250 more during Record-A-Thon Week.

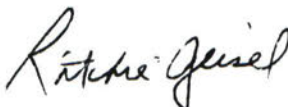
RFB&D has three key goals for our National Record-A-Thon: to increase the number of books available in RFB&D's master tape library; to raise funds so we can get more books more quickly into the hands of our borrowers who are blind, dyslexic or who have other print-disabilities; and to increase national awareness of RFB&D's services to students, teachers, parents and school administrators. A Presidential proclamation honoring National RFB&D Record-A-Thon Week will aid us tremendously in reaching these goals. In addition, our work to bring electronic texts to those visually impaired students utilizing specially adapted computers will help further the President's Educational Technology Initiative.

In 1948 when RFB&D was first created, it provided recorded textbooks to veterans blinded in World War II who were attending college through the G.I. Bill of Rights. Today, RFB&D is the only national nonprofit that provides recorded and computerized texts at all academic levels to people who cannot read standard print because of a visual, perceptual or other physical disability.

Over nearly half a century, RFB&D has built a collection of master tapes which has become the nation's education library for people with print disabilities. It is the largest and most comprehensive resource of recorded educational books in the world. Thousands of dedicated volunteers continue to record new books to ensure the ongoing expansion and enrichment of this library. Last year, our volunteers gave 370,000 hours of their time to produce 3,228 new texts for our library.

A draft of the proclamation is attached for your use. If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Barbara Vanderkolk, our vice president for Financial Development and Public Affairs at (609) 520-8042. Thank you for considering this very special request.

Sincerely,

  
Ritchie L. Geisel  
President

1-22-97  
✓  
TO Jim Derskind  
for reply -  
per Phil Caplan -

20 Roszel Road  
Princeton, NJ 08540

DIRECT 609-520-8011  
MAIN 609-452-0606  
FAX 609-520-7990  
<http://www.rfbd.org>

RLG/n  
Enclosure

# **DRAFT**

## **THE WHITE HOUSE** *Office of the Press Secretary*

For Immediate Release  
April 22, 1997

### *National RFB&D Record-A-Thon Week, 1997* *The President of The* *United States of America* *A Proclamation*

The White House is pleased to honor **Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D)** and its **National Record-A-Thon** which takes place from May 4-10, 1997. RFB&D is a national nonprofit volunteer-based organization that serves as the *nation's education library* for people who cannot effectively read standard print because of a disability. Last year, RFB&D provided 225,000 copies of textbooks to nearly 40,000 individuals across the nation who are blind, severely dyslexic or otherwise physically disabled.

RFB&D utilizes the services of over 4,800 volunteers, comprising 96 percent of its workforce, to record textbooks, reference works and other educational materials. Working in 30 recording studios nationwide, these highly trained volunteers are subject experts, familiar with the academic content of the books they read. The hours of labor donated annually by RFB&D's volunteers were valued last year at \$10 million by RFB&D's independent auditors.

RFB&D was founded in 1948 by Anne T. Macdonald and has become recognized as a unique national resource. Anne Macdonald knew that by providing books in an audio format to people who cannot read standard print, the most significant obstacle to success in the classroom would be effectively removed.

RFB&D's tape and digital text library contains 75,000 texts covering all academic subject areas, at all educational levels -- from elementary and secondary school through college, graduate and professional schools, continuing education and in support of professional careers. It is the largest resource of its kind in the world.

The goals of RFB&D's National Record-A-Thon are: to increase the number of books available in RFB&D's C.V. Starr Master Tape Library; to raise funds so that it can get more books more quickly into the hands of its borrowers who are blind, print-disabled or who have other visual impairments; and to increase national awareness of RFB&D's services to students, teachers, parents and school administrators.

It is estimated that RFB&D's average weekly recording time of 1,700 hours will triple during Record-A-Thon week, as its volunteers set their sights on adding over 250 new books to RFB&D's library.

As we celebrate National RFB&D Record-A-Thon Week, we give thanks to RFB&D and its dedicated corps of volunteers for providing books in an accessible form to people who cannot read standard print and helping to educate the many print-disabled individuals throughout the United States of America.

Through its services, RFB&D is improving the availability and flow of information to people with disabilities and furthering the mission of equity of access to information for all Americans. RFB&D also helps America by helping those with print disabilities fulfill their education and career goals, *thus turning potential tax users into taxpayers.*

By utilizing a workforce largely composed of volunteers, by raising the majority of its funding from private sources, by following sound management principles and business practices, by undertaking partnerships with private sector corporations and other agencies, and by applying advances in new technologies, RFB&D is maximizing the federal funding entrusted to it, and is ensuring a sound and lasting return on that investment.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 4, 1997, through May 10, 1997, as National RFB&D Record-A-Thon Week. I urge all Americans, as well as their elected representatives at the Federal, State and local levels, to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-second day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-first.



**You're Invited  
to  
Remedy Corporation's  
Free Introductory Seminar  
Showcasing The  
Action Request System Version 3.0**

On November 4th, Remedy announced the Action Request System, Version 3.0 (AR System 3.0)! The new release provides customers unparalleled power to scale and adapt applications, ensuring the flexibility necessary to quickly embrace change and rapidly address shifting enterprise needs. AR System 3.0 achieves this by offering a dramatic new user interface, unprecedented power for administrators, and broader enterprise access through joins and direct SQL interface.

Remedy customers have realized the power of the AR System for their help desk, and many of them are now using the system to consolidate and streamline their internal operations beyond help desk - from change and asset management to defect tracking, customer support and more. With AR System 3.0, Remedy is addressing your need for these important operations management demands.

**Date:** February 4th, 1997

**Agenda:** 8:00 - 8:15 Registration  
8:15 - 8:45 Corporate Overview  
8:45 - 10:30 Action Request System 3.0  
10:30 - 11:00 Open Forum for Questions

**Location:** Salon 1 @  
The Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner  
1700 Tysons Boulevard  
McLean, VA. 22102  
703-506-4399

Reservations are required and space is limited. Call 301-571-2436 for our automated registration or e-mail to [drieger@remedy.com](mailto:drieger@remedy.com). Parking Vouchers provided.

Be sure to check out our home page at <http://www.remedy.com>.